



Forward TOGETHER in Faith

A Campaign for the **Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod**

I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. – Philippians 1:6

This promise of Scripture affirms the good work we are doing as the church in Southeastern Pennsylvania. It also encourages us to accept the challenge of adapting to the ways in which **God is working here today**. We have listened intentionally to a wide range of congregation leaders to discern your dreams for the Synod of the future.

And we heard you! We have discerned your hopes to reshape the Synod as an **interactive network** that **equips** the saints, **innovates** ways of being church, and **communicates** what God is doing through us. The result is the Forward Together in Faith Campaign, which will raise \$2.5 million by 2018 to help all of us live into this new vision.

This is not the Synod's vision for you. This is your vision!

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COMMUNICATORS

Jesus used many communications styles to build relationships between people and God, and to create community.

Our Synod communications team has re-focused news, made **more resources available** on the web, and added newsletters to share the story of the ministries we do together. We also equip and encourage networking among congregation communicators.

Through Forward Together in Faith we will equip congregations to **improve all forms of communications** – print, email, web and social media. We will also innovate with new platforms and channels to keep ahead of rapidly changing technologies.

EQUIPPERS

Jesus invested in his key leaders and inspired them in deep relationship to God.

Our Synod has made it possible for two dozen congregations to receive a mission assessment to identify readiness and passion for change. We've brought in experts in stewardship, preaching and "dinner church" and co-sponsored a ministry resource day with the seminary.

As we raise funds, the assessment process will be **available to more congregations**. We will develop new ways to equip leaders and increase the **financial aid for our seminarians**.

INNOVATORS

Jesus included people on the margins and expanded his followers' view of faith community.

Our Synod is a leader in the ELCA in developing innovative **ministries among people living in poverty** – Welcome Church's "church without walls" with people living on the streets of Philadelphia, Living Gospel's outreach to persons returning from incarceration, and Rhawnhurst Turning Point's Christian youth center.

There are many other potential ministries, but we've not been able to start more for lack of funds. With the campaign's proceeds, we'll continue to innovate **new faith communities** and provide resources to help congregations **create new forms of church** in their neighborhoods.

NETWORKS

Jesus connected and empowered people, and sent them out for ministry together.

Our Synod is a network of congregations, leaders and ministries. With more than 40 teams doing shared ministries, **we do more together than we can alone**.

With resources raised we'll link congregations and leaders around **shared passions** and provide more ways for people to **use their gifts** in our common ministry.

10% of proceeds from *Forward Together in Faith* will be given to The Campaign for the ELCA.