

From: Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod synod@gulfcoastsynod.org
Subject: News from Around the Synod for the week of July 6, 2026
Date: July 6, 2026 at 3:45 PM
To: Warren and Penny theschicks839@gmail.com



Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

*A Network of Christ-Centered, Outwardly-Focused, Faith-Growing
Communities for the Sake of the World*

Weekly News & Announcements

July 6, 2026



Support Earthquake Relief in Venezuela

You've likely seen the news that two powerful earthquakes struck Venezuela last week. Entire communities have been shaken to the ground. More than 1,700 lives have been confirmed lost so far, thousands more are injured, and countless families are now without shelter, safety or access to necessities.

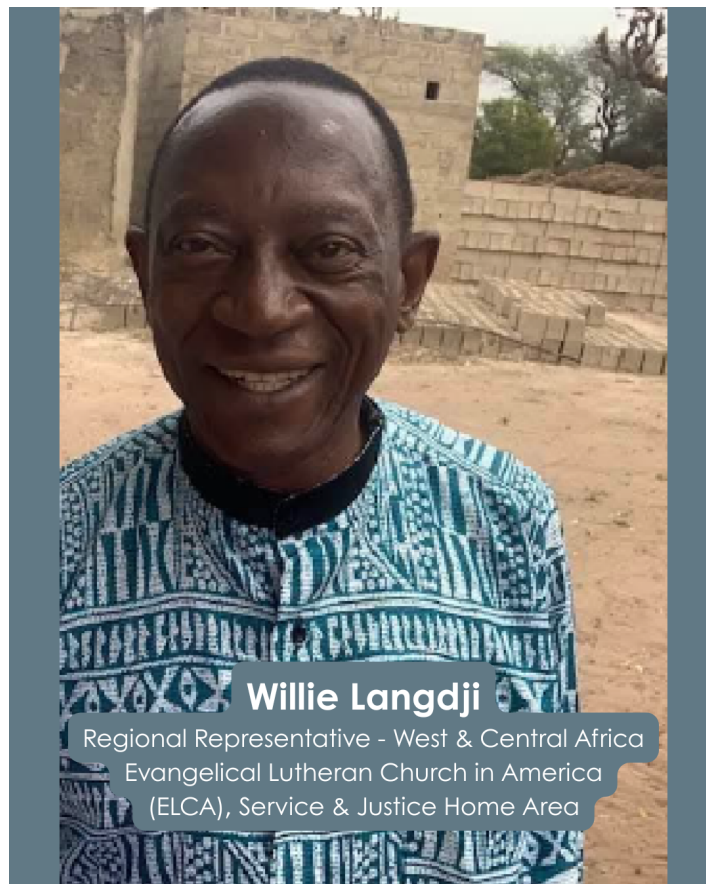
Countless families are now without shelter, safety or access to necessities.

Lutheran Disaster Response is already responding through trusted, long-standing partners in the region, including the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Venezuela (IELV). ELCA partners have deployed assessment teams to affected areas, working together to identify urgent needs, provide immediate relief (e.g. food, shelter, water) and coordinate a plan for long-term assistance.

Your gifts enable this church to provide fast and effective support to communities in need and to remain for as long as recovery takes, whenever and wherever a disaster occurs. Will you give today to provide critical aid in these early days and, crucially, in the months and years to come?

Please consider a generous gift today. In Venezuela and around the world, your support makes a difference for families facing unimaginable loss.

[Donate](#)



News from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic

The synod CAR Team is pleased to announce the upcoming visit of Willie Langdji, ELCA Regional Representative for West and Central Africa. His portfolio includes extensive work within the Central African Republic (CAR) on the programs of the Lutheran Church of CAR.

On Sunday, August 9, Willie will speak during the 9:30 am worship service at Faith Lutheran in Bellaire (4600 Bellaire Blvd, Bellaire, TX 77401) and will lead a presentation with a Q&A session from 10:30 am. Then, he will be at Christ the King in Houston (2353 Rice Blvd, Houston, TX 77005) for a CAR Companion Synod Presentation from 3:00 pm. Additional visit locations and events will be announced in the coming weeks.

All who are interested in learning about the Gulf Coast Synod's companion synod relationship with the Central African Republic are warmly welcome to these learning and fellowship opportunities.



Watch Live

By the grace of God and by the call
of the Church,

Angela Fleeger

will be ordained to the

Ministry of Word and Sacrament

on **Saturday, August 8, 2026, 2:00
p.m.** at

Peace Lutheran Church
2201 Rio Grande Blvd
College Station, TX 77845

Bishop Tracey Breashears Schultz,
presiding & preaching

Your prayers and presence are
requested.

*Clergy are invited to vest and
process. The color of the day is red. A*

reception will follow in the fellowship hall.



Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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SPiritUAL Care TRAINING

Join this three-session cohort in spiritual care, equipping lay leaders to accompany others with Christ's compassion and presence. Grounded in our shared baptismal call, we will grow together over three sessions—participants are asked to be present for each one.

SATURDAY
SEPT 19TH, OCT 24TH, NOV 21ST
Martin Luther Lutheran Church,
Carmine, TX
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
FREE | Lunch provided

Registration Opens August 2026

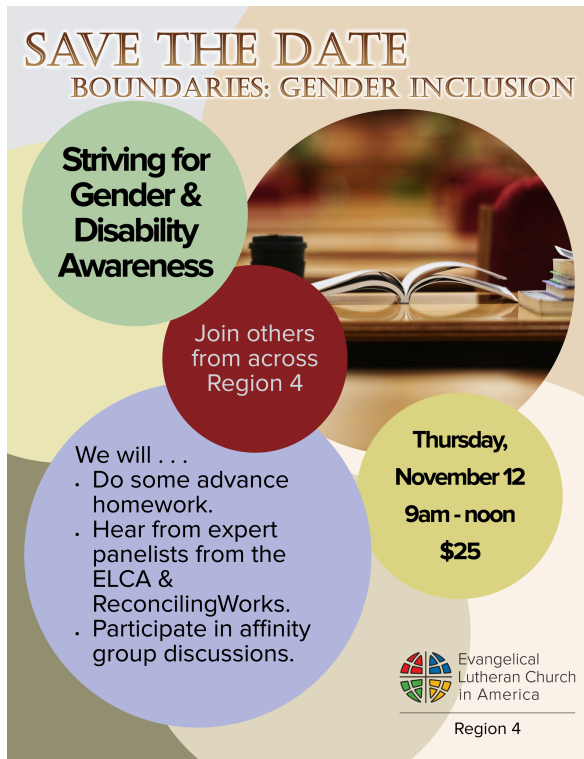
For more information contact
DEACON AIMEE ELLES
Bishop's Associate for Candidacy & Education



Join this three-session cohort in spiritual care, equipping lay leaders to accompany others with Christ's compassion and presence. Grounded in our shared baptismal call, we will grow together over three sessions—participants are asked to be present for each one on **Saturday, September 19, October 24, and November 21, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM** at Martin Luther Lutheran Church, Carmine, TX. Registration opens August 2026 and is free. Lunch will be provided.

[Download Flyer](#)

[Contact Deacon Aimee Elles](#)



Join others from across Region 4 on **Thursday, November 12, from 9am-12noon** for a boundaries training on gender inclusion, “Striving for Gender & Disability Awareness.” We will:

- Do some homework in advance.
- Hear from expert panelists from the ELCA & ReconcilingWorks.
- Participate in affinity group discussions.

Cost is \$25. More information coming soon!

Upcoming Events

August 8, 2026
[Ordination of Angela Fleege](#)

August 9, 2026
[Willie Langdji \(CAR\) Worship & Q&A, Presentation](#)

August 13, 2026
[Intentional Interim Ministry Discernment Event](#)

September 12, 2026
[Lutherhill Ministries 20th Annual S'mores & Champagne Gala](#)

September 15, 2026
[Intentional Interim Ministry Discernment Event](#)

September 19, 2026
[Spiritual Care Training begins](#)

September 19-20, 2026
[Faith Lutheran Church Celebration](#)

November 12, 2026
[Boundaries: Gender Inclusion](#)

Synod Partners



LEAD: Living Every Day As Disciples
[LEAD](#) is a Christian leadership development organization that is nurtured by this synod to be a gift to the whole church.



Lutheran Men In Mission
Opportunities
For more information on [LMM](#),
contact [Randy Bratsven](#),
[Ambassador-Grams](#) (right side)



Lutherans Restoring Creation
For more information on [LRC](#),
contact the [Lisa Brenskelle](#). The
team is seeking additional
members.



Creation Care
For more information on [Creation
Care](#), contact [Lisa Brenskelle](#).



Lutherhill Ministries
Lutherhill Ministries is a Summer
Camp and year-round Retreat



Live On
[Live On](#) is the endowment fund of
the Gulf Coast Synod. Together with

Center at two locations – [Lutherhill in La Grange, TX](#) and [Lutherhill in Galveston, TX](#).

the synod, we are developing Lutheran leadership through a culture of generosity.

ELCA

News

Resources

Our Work

Job Openings

Monthly Mission Support Memo



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