

COMPANION SYNOD TEAM

PAPUA NEW GUINEA SUNDAY IN THE CENTRAL STATES SYNOD – APRIL 26TH, 2020

By resolution of the 2019 Synod Assembly, this Sunday, April 26th, 2020, the congregations of the Central States Synod are called upon to celebrate our partnership with the

Kote District of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea (ELCPNG)

In the midst of the current crisis with the Corona Virus pandemic it might be difficult to think about concerns beyond our own families, congregations, synod and nation. However, perhaps this Sunday can help us remember that this pandemic is a GLOBAL pandemic, and that our companion churches are not only battling this just as we are, but very likely battling with far fewer resources than are available to us.



Left to right, Keith Holste, Gary Teske, Emily Grebel and Amy Truhe at their farewell party following a visitation to the Kote District in late September, 2019

Realizing that many if not all of the Synod Congregations may not yet be gathering for worship on Sunday, April 26th, the Companion Synod Team is not calling for an extensive observance of this day. We are simply asking that congregations include a prayer for our Cousin Christians in PNG and also Russia. You are welcome to compose your own prayer, or if you wish, use the prayer suggested here.

Oh God of the Tropics and the Taiga, of the Rainforests and the Tundra, we pray for our companion Christians in Papua New Guinea and throughout Russia. We pray that you would deliver us, and that “us” would include Papua New Guineans and Russians and the people of every continent and Island. Deliver us, all of us, from the pandemic that has crossed every boundary and penetrated every border to sicken and to kill. We pray for those who are ill, those who mourn, and those who fear this invisible threat. Grant healing, comfort, and peace. This we pray in the name of our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen