

The ELCIC Saskatchewan Synod became a Companion Synod with IELU in Argentina in July 2001.

Our relationship focuses on the vast Patagonia region of southern Argentina, which was served by Canadian Missionaries Ray and Bev Niebergall from 1991 to 1999 and Greg and Marla Kiel from 1999 to 2002.

Since 2002, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada supports two IELU pastors:

- ***Pastor Sergio Utz serves Congregation Hope of the South in Esquel and the Mission Point in Cushamen.***
- ***Pastor Gustavo Gomez serves the Congregation St. John the Baptist in the coastal city of Comodoro Rivadavia.***

Pastors Utz and Gomez were jointly appointed by the ELCIC and IELU. They will communicate with their sponsors in Canada and occasionally visit here. The first such visit occurred in March 2004 when Pastor Gomez traveled throughout Saskatchewan. In July 2005, IELU's newly elected President – Pastor Alan Eldrid – visited Saskatchewan briefly before attending the ELCIC national convention in Winnipeg.