



COMPANION SYNOD COMMITTEE

SASK SYNOD - ELCIC

IGLESIA EVANGÉLICA LUTERANA UNIDA

MATÉ OR COFFEE – BASIC EVANGELISM

When people meet together in Argentina, someone boils water. A gourd with its top cut off is filled with leaves to make maté, a native tea. A metal straw with a strainer on the lower end is passed with the gourd. As it passes from person to person, the water is refreshed in the gourd. Each person drinks in turn. This is very much a fellowship of the common cup.

Coffee is no longer the universal beverage in Canada. In some circles, the passing of a Big Gulp would be a direct equivalent to the passing of maté. However, it is coffee that we still associate with friendly conversation.

The Companion Synod Logo brings the image of the gourd and the coffee cup together in a symbol of companionship.

In both countries, sharing faith includes sharing beverages. It also includes sharing food, clothing, labour, and daily experiences.

The heart of all evangelism is friendship.

One aim of the Companion Synod committee is help Lutherans in Saskatchewan and Argentina to get to know one another.

We have received several visitors from Argentina. Many of you have met Angel Furlan, Roberto Stein, Gustavo Gomez and Patricia Vargas at church conventions or in your congregation. Several people from here have visited in Argentina. More such visits are being planned.

The first step in friendship is learning about one another.

Travel and hosting visitors are excellent ways to develop friendships. We make better use of such opportunities when do some preparation. Libraries and websites provide a wealth of information. A growing number of our communities have members who come from South America who can share experiences similar to our friends in Argentina. Bookstores offer self-help courses in Spanish.

Growing a church is growing friendships.

May is Companion Synod Month



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