

R O C K Y M O U N T A I N S Y N O D

ACTION GUIDE

For Congregations,
Endowments & Foundations



next
faithful
step **BETTER
TOGETHER**
C A M P A I G N

LET'S JOURNEY

AN INVITATION FROM THE BISHOP

Let's Journey 2
Introduction Letter

Campaign Resources 4

Invite a Speaker 6

Generosity 7
Study Guide & Litany

As the ELCA Rocky Mountain Synod we are called to share in God's work in our communities, our synod, and far beyond. Through the **Next Faithful Step – Better Together Campaign** we are creatively and courageously working toward God's vision of a just world where relationships matter and where *Grace, Gratitude, and Generosity* can flourish. Together, we are taking the next, right steps into that future.

Every congregation invests in our life together as the Rocky Mountain Synod through its mission support gifts as well as the engagement of its members in the committees, boards, ministries, and initiatives of our synod. For that, I thank you. The Rocky Mountain Synod truly is *all of us, bound together by our commitment to proclaim and embody God's unconditional love for the sake of the world.*

We are Church – Better Together!

In 2020, we launched a campaign to address four critical synod initiatives. Two of the initiatives focus on our life together as leaders and neighbors. Two of the initiatives focus on properties that God entrusted to our care. Each initiative came to us as pure gifts!

- **Educate, Equip, Enact (3E)** – a matching dollar grant from the Lilly Endowment
- **Excellence in Leadership (EiL)** – inspired by a leadership development program of the Episcopal Church in Colorado
- **Messiah Mountain Retreat Center (MMRC)** – a gift from Messiah Community Church in Denver, CO
- **The Lutheran Center (LC)** – a gift from Valley Lutheran Church in Denver, CO

As important as those initiatives are on their own, we knew there was one additional area that needed to be addressed. The Synod Council included a tithe in our campaign and committed those funds to advance our work of **Racial Justice**.

The **Next Faithful Step – Better Together Campaign** began with a **First Step** goal that invited 3-year pledges from individuals throughout our 5-state synod to raise \$950,000.

We accomplished the First Step goal this fall, for which we are exceptionally grateful, and we continue to welcome gifts and pledges from individual donors.

The **Next Step** goal seeks to complete our campaign by generating \$620,000 in gifts from endowments, foundations, and congregations throughout our synod – above and beyond Mission Support.

This Action Guide is designed to equip you with resources that will activate your congregation, endowment, or foundation in participating in the campaign at the pace and scale that is right for you. Follow these easy steps and join us on the journey!

- 1 Take time to review this Action Guide and the Campaign Prospectus with your leadership team.
- 2 Determine the right amount & complete a Pledge Form.
 - We invite Endowments and Foundations to consider a 2-year pledge: 2021 & 2022, or 2022 & 2023.
 - We invite Congregations to consider a 1-year pledge for the year 2022.
- 3 Find your Congregation ID #.
- 4 Engage your membership to explore each initiative through the marketing materials, including: a worship litany, special speakers, or the study guide for adult education; and give a gift.



Thank you for your partnership on this journey and for your commitment to our life together as the Rocky Mountain Synod!

Yours in Faith,


Bishop Jim Gonia

FIND

All campaign resources online at www.RMSELCA.org/next-faithful-step

CONNECT

Engage with the latest news and stories from the Rocky Mountain Synod:

-  Rocky Mountain Synod, ELCA
-  eConnect Newsletter

SHARE

What are you doing to support this campaign? We would love to hear about it! Send your photos and stories to Rev. Kent Mueller at kmueller@rmsselca.org

LEAD

Do you want to become a synod ambassador for your congregation or organization? Join a network of passionate leaders to learn more about how the Rocky Mountain Synod supports our members and congregations.

Email: office@rmsselca.org



CAMPAIGN



Digital images for bulletins, newsletters, posters, presentations, and social media.



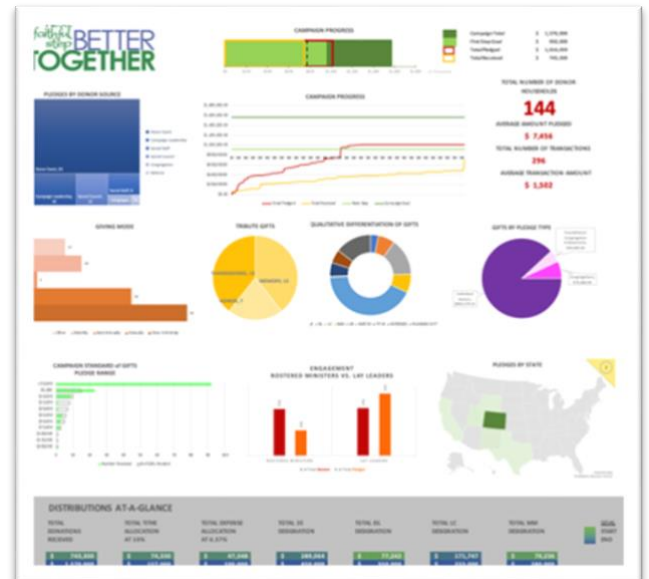
All resources are available for download at:
www.RMSELCA.org/next-faithful-step

RESOURCES

Videos highlighting each of the campaign initiatives.



Newsletter articles and campaign progress reports.



All resources are available for download at:
www.RMSELCA.org/next-faithful-step



SYNOD STAFF

Rev. Jim Gonia¹, Bishop
Rev. Ron Beckman¹, Director for
the Next Faithful Step
Campaign
Rev. Kent Mueller¹, Assistant to
the Bishop for Administration &
Communication
Tina Kvitek¹, Director for
Development & Lutheran
Center Manager
Rev. Michael Tassler¹, Director for
3E Program
Deb Elstad, Associate Director for
3E-Stewardship
Julie Nelson, Associate Director
for 3E – Ministerial Excellence
Fund
Rev. Dana Peterson¹, Director for
Evangelical Mission & 3E – Vital
Right-Shaped Ministries
Rev. Sarah Moening, Director for
Excellence in Leadership
Jen Engquist & Matt Bishop,
Co-Directors for Messiah
Mountain Retreat Center

SYNOD COUNCIL

Ruth Hoffman, Vice President
Susan Mitchell, Secretary
Kris Adams, Treasurer
Rev. Eric Allert
Jody Brammer-Hoelter¹
Rev. Julie Brooks
Terry Cole
Jeff Fairfax¹
Ray Ferry
Debra Frank Dew
Rev. Chris Hjelmstad
Rev. Debra Jimenez
Kenny LaJoy
Susan Sharkey
Wyatt Smith
Rev. Dan Tisdell²
Jim Wasseen
Rev. Matthew Weber

1: Also serving on the Campaign Advisory Team
2: Also serving as a Conference Dean
3: Also serving on RMSynod Staff

CONFERENCE DEANS

Rev. Barbara Berry-Bailey³
Rev. Carrie Baylis
Rev. Jeff Carlson
Rev. Katie Chullino
Rev. Nicolé Raddu Ferry
Dc. Ro Fesser
Rev. Christine Higuera-Street
Rev. Dan Holt
Rev. Nathan Keith
Rev. Stephanie Lord
Rev. Barb Martens
Rev. Gordy Sandquist
Rev. Kristin Schultz

CAMPAIGN ADVISORY TEAM

Ferol Menzel
Jim & Clayette Kashner
Betty Boyd
Harold Stitt
Rev. Hal & Shirley Nilsson
Rev. Russ Sorenson

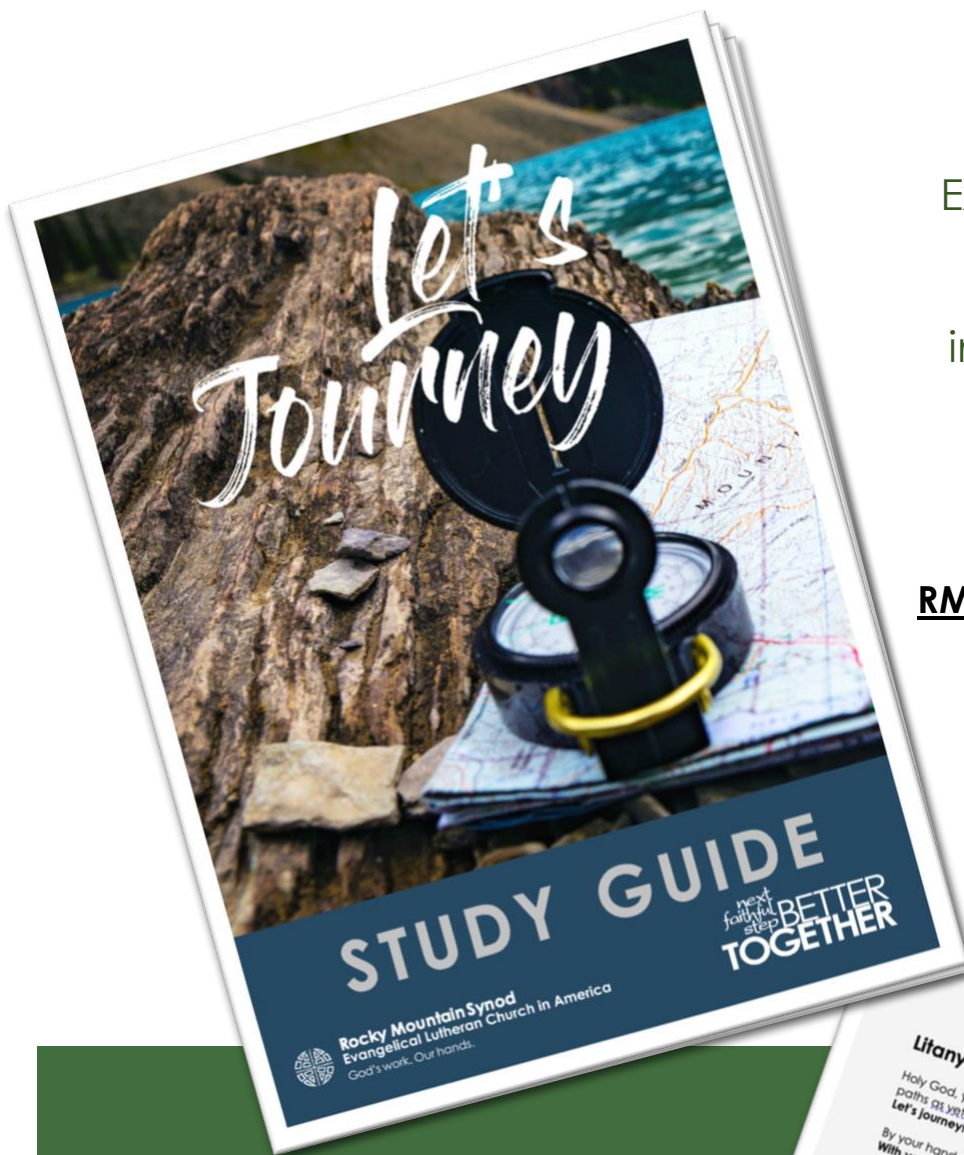
Speakers are available for either in person, or by Zoom
engagement, based on congregation protocols.

Contact Tina Kvitek to schedule at: tkvitek@rmselca.org

STUDY

Explore your generosity through a 6-part Study Guide that incorporates scripture, video, and group conversation.

Download and print at:
RMSELCA.org/next-faithful-step



WORSHIP

Invite the Holy Spirit on your journey with the Generosity Litany.

Download at:
www.RMSELCA.org/next-faithful-step



Step 1: View the Action Guide & Campaign Prospectus

Step 2: Make a Pledge

Step 3: Find your Congregation ID #

Step 4: Give a Gift

Let's
Journey

We have fulfilled our **First Step** goal!
Please join us on the journey towards
reaching the **Next Step**!

INITIATIVES	FIRST STEP	NEXT STEP
Racial Justice Tithe	\$ 95,000	\$ 62,000
3E Lilly Grant	\$ 350,000	\$ 100,000
Excellence in Leadership	\$ 250,000	\$ 100,000
Messiah Mountain	\$ 80,000	\$ 200,000
Lutheran Center	\$ 75,000	\$ 158,000
Campaign Expenses	\$ 100,000	
SUBTOTAL	\$ 950,000	\$ 620,000
TOTAL CAMPAIGN GOAL		\$ 1,570,000



Rocky Mountain Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

next
faithful
step
**BETTER
TOGETHER**
C A M P A I G N

For more information:
www.rmselca.org/next-faithful-step

View the campaign prospectus:
www.rmselca.org/prospectus

Get your CONGREGATION ID to
count new individual gifts toward a
Congregation pledge:
www.rmselca.org/congregation

Give a gift!
www.rmselca.org/give