

# Florida Bahamas Synod Global Mission News Bulletin – September 2017

In view of the recent events with Hurricane Irma – this will serve as an update to our Global Mission friends to help spread the word of how our Companion Churches fared and important events coming up in the FB Synod.



Global Mission Sunday in the FB Synod is Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>! Please check with your pastor and worship and music committees to schedule a special service or even just include prayers and music lifting up our companion church relationships. Special offerings should be sent to the Synod office clearly marked for Global Mission. Thank YOU!

**Haiti** – Unfortunately, the northwest area of Haiti and the town of Jean Rabel, was again raked over by Hurricane Irma. This area was devastated by Hurricane Matthew, and as I write this, Hurricane Maria is heading towards the Caribbean and will most likely cause additional damage. The area of Les Cayes, to the very south west of Haiti, continues to suffer from massive flooding due to the heavy summer rains. Both areas are requesting financial assistance from the FB Synod and Lutheran Disaster Response in order to provide food and hygiene products (bleach to ward off cholera, etc) similar to what was done last December after Hurricane Matthew. Pr. Livenson also shared an urgent request for money to build a temporary tin roof for the New Jerusalem church in Les Cayes. They lost their roof in Hurricane Matthew and have been trying to continue worship, but they are hampered by the rains. The Haiti Task Force will review this request and hopefully will be able to respond.

## CUBA -

We have received numerous email reports from Bishop Benito indicating that the Isle of Youth (where he is located) was spared damage. For this, we give thanks. Other areas on the main island incurred a lot of damage and there were ten deaths. Bishop Benito also indicated that the Cuban government is receiving aid from many countries (Latin America, Europe, Asia, Africa). Prayers for safety and recovery have been shared by Bishop Benito for the FB Synod and the Cuba Team has been lifting up Cuba as well.

**Guyana and Suriname** – located on the northeast coast of South America, these Latin American nations have been spared damage from the hurricanes and storms that have roared through the Caribbean.

## Global Church Sunday

**The ELCA Global Mission asks that congregations set aside one Sunday in October or November to raise awareness and support for Global Church initiatives – Young Adults in Global Mission, missionaries, and the Companion Church program. Resources for celebrating church around the world are available on the ELCA website.**

Be sure to check out the Global Mission/Global Church displays at the Synod Assembly October 12-14. All our companion churches and the seminary in Jamaica contributed to the display.