

**Florida-Bahamas Synod Global Mission Committee welcomes new  
ELCA Global Mission Manager for Relationships for Latin America-Caribbean –  
Paulina Nisbet-Dasse**

Paulina Nisbet-Dasse has moved into Mary Campbell's former position and will be working closely with the FB Synod GMC and our companion church relationships in Cuba, Haiti, Guyana and Suriname. Paulina is from Chile and has worked with the ELCA Global Mission Division since 2010. We look forward to working with Paulina!

Paulina's contact information is: [Paulina.Dasse@elca.org](mailto:Paulina.Dasse@elca.org) 1-800-638-3522 X 2653

ELCA Campaign "~~ALWAYS BEING MADE NEW~~" 2017 theme is the  
GLOBAL CHURCH!

Resources are available to individuals and congregations for supporting this years' fundraising goals and programs. Go to [www.ELCA.org](http://www.ELCA.org) for resources and information!

GLOBAL MINISTRIES \* INTERNATIONAL WOMEN LEADERS \* MISSIONARIES AND YAGMS

Check out the "Global Church Minutes" that can easily be incorporated in your church newsletter or weekly worship service.

*And don't forget to pray for our YAGMs! (Young Adults in Global Mission)*

**Becca Williams in England** \* **Ben Smith in Madagascar** \* **Kyle Marie Jacobson in Cambodia**

Check out their newsletters and blog addresses on the FB Synod website – YAGM tab.

*Always*  
being made  
**New.**

*The Campaign for the ELCA.*

## Haiti Rainwater Cistern Project funded by St. Armand's Key Lutheran Church

Following a trip to Haiti in April 2015, Pr. Roger Arnolt of the Servant Ministry Team of St. Armand's Key Lutheran Church (SAKLC), Sarasota, recommended a project to complete a rainwater cistern just behind the church building of Temple of God Lutheran Church (TOGLC). Some years earlier, a partnership of TOGLC in Anse-a-Pitres and the surrounding community had pooled funds and initiated construction of a rainwater cistern. The funds also included \$3500 from the Florida Bahamas Synod Together in Mission (TiM Grant) funds. Unfortunately, funds ran out when only the first 7 feet of the cistern walls had been built in a pit behind the church. TOGLC had already demonstrated their commitment to this project as well as their commitment to be in a ministry that served the whole community.

A covenant was developed that represented the agreements among SAKLC, the Eglise Lutherienne D'Haiti (ELH) and TOGLC to *partner* in the rainwater cistern project.

The project was initiated in February 2016 and completed in the summer of 2016. All three covenant partners fully participated as planned. With the fall rainy season, and particularly Hurricane Matthew, the cistern was full to the top by November. The cistern was dedicated in a special service on December 18, 2016.

SAKLC would provide funds to purchase building supplies and skilled labor, as well as be present during construction to lend some "sweat equity" in the project.

ELH would provide staff time, Jorel Carte, to lead the project and supervise the construction.

TOGLC would provide all the water needed for mixing concrete, provide volunteer "sweat equity" to move construction materials and assist in the construction process, and provide midday meals for project workers.

A cistern management committee has been formed with members from TOGLC and from the general community. The committee will develop and implement policies on distribution of the rainwater and ensure maintenance of the rainwater gathering, piping, and cistern storage capacities.

This rainwater cistern project was "accompaniment" at its best, with the full investment of the three partners in planning and implementation. It was – and is – a blessing for everyone involved. But the real blessing is this: it was not really about the cistern, nor really about the water, nor really about the time and effort securing water required, but ultimately, it was about enhancing the quality of life for the members of and the community that surrounds TOGLC.



The abandoned cistern



Pouring the new floor



Pr. Michelet dips into cistern

## Companion Church Updates

CUBA	HAITI	GUYANA	SURINAME
<p>The Cuba Team has met and reviewed the available reports from Bishop Benito regarding the work accomplished in the first year of funding "La Finca". Additional information has been requested prior to sending the second installment of funds.</p> <p>The next Cuba Team phone conference is scheduled for March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm.</p>	<p>Pastors Steve Winemiller (Faith, Sarasota) and Anna Figueiro (St. Matthew's, Ocala) made a 4 day trip to Haiti in February to meet with Pr. Livenson and the ELH Executive Council. They discussed plans for a consultation meeting in the next few months that will address the ELH's priorities for rebuilding structures that were damaged in Hurricane Matthew. Several members of the GMC will make a trip the first week of April to meet with ELCA Global Mission personnel to discuss future plans for the ELH compound in Gressier. The next Haiti Task Force meeting will be on Thursday March 23<sup>rd</sup> at Faith Lutheran Church, Sarasota, time TBD.</p>	<p>The first meeting of the Guyana/Suriname Team attracted several new members! Welcome Pr. Kit Robison and Steven Rizzo!</p> <p>Plans are underway for the next "immersion" trip to Guyana to attend the ELCG Annual Convention in New Amsterdam. Details will be forthcoming but the trip will be <i>around</i> April 26<sup>th</sup> – May 5<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>The next Guyana/Suriname Team phone conference will be on Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 10am.</p>	<p>We continue to wait for a project plan from the ELKS regarding the parsonage renovation. A visit to Suriname will most likely be included before or after the ELCG Convention.</p> <p>For details and <i>getting your name on the list to go</i> – please contact Pr. Tom Unrath at <a href="mailto:tunrath.cfl.rr.com">tunrath.cfl.rr.com</a>.</p>

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO HURRICANE MATTHEW RELIEF EFFORTS  
and FLORIDA BAHAMAS SYNOD GLOBAL MISSION FUNDS IN 2016!**

### Contacts for Florida-Bahamas Synod Global Mission

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