

A CENTER FOR TRAINING AND HOSPITALITY

What? A Women's Center/Guest House. The Central African women plan to use the center to train women in leadership, to teach literacy and skills for economic development, to start a banking and lending program, to operate a sponsorship program for the education of young girls and to provide a place for spiritual nourishment. The Guest House would provide much needed space for the church to use for seminars, classes, meetings and retreats. It will have a large meeting room and kitchen, offices, classrooms and guest rooms. The center will be operated solely by the women and would eventually be self-supporting.

Where? The Central African Republic, a land-locked country in the middle of Africa, is one of the poorest countries on the continent. This country, about the size of the state of Texas, has a per capita income of about \$250 per year. A majority of the population is Christian. Poor government over the years has devastated the economy and led to the breakdown of the country's infrastructure, including roads, schools, hospitals, electricity, telephone, and transportation.

Who? The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central Africa Republic (EELRCA) has about 60,000 members, a Bible school, and seminary. The church struggles to minister to its people by providing educational and medical services that are not provided by the government. The EELRCA is a growing church, in spite of the difficulties.

Three ELCA Synods (Western and Eastern North Dakota and Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast) have given priority to this project, but it is a large undertaking. About \$120,000 has been raised so far for this \$170,000 project. Fundraising will continue through the remainder of 2006.

With the help of the ELCA synods, the long-time dream of the African women is now being realized. They are busy formulating plans for the operation of the center and have begun fundraising within their own churches. These women now realize that this center is going to become a reality. They are excited!

But they need your help! With only \$50,000 left to raise, that represents only about 25 cents for each member of the three supporting synods (over 200,000 members) or about \$90 for each of over 560 congregations. Can you help?

Please send your gift directly to the synod office. It should be clearly marked CAR Women's Center:

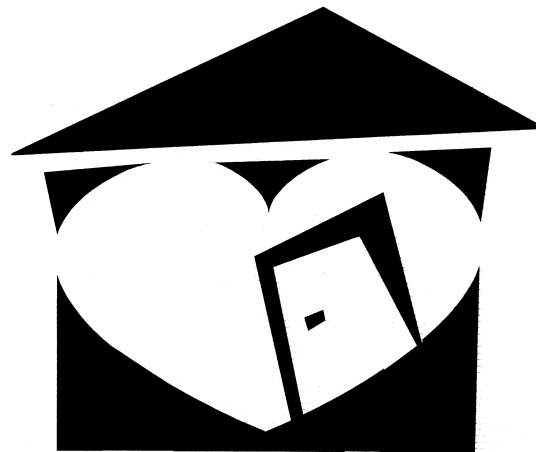
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ELCA Eastern North Dakota Synod
1703 32nd Ave S
Fargo, ND 58103

“To prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God”

Ephesians 4:12

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A HOUSE IN THE HEART OF AFRICA
C.A.R. TASKFORCE OF THE E.L.C.A.

The Eastern ND Synod C.A.R. Taskforce is looking for people from all over the synod who are interested in promoting C.A.R. projects and nurturing our relationship with the C.A.R. church. If you would like to join, please contact the synod office at 232-3381.

C.A.R. WOMEN'S CENTER

--a place for training and hospitality



Participating partners:

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic, ELCA Division for Global Missions, ELCA Companion Synods and congregations, MSAADA Architects, Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry