



**Assistant to the Bishop, Director of
Evangelical Mission
Indiana-Kentucky Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

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How many people can we get around the table in the I-K Synod?

It has been said that change is the only constant. While I think change is a pretty safe bet, for Christians Jesus is the only constant. Because we are anchored in his life, death and resurrection, change is not threatening to us. It is an opportunity to more fully participate in the Kingdom of God. My call has recently changed and this report outlines those changes. They were brought about by Stephen Bouman, the new executive director of Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission (EOCM). You will notice a lot of language about tables. The idea here is to connect the table image to the many banquet images in scripture, especially the communion table. *How many people can we get around the table in the Indiana-Kentucky Synod?*

- I. Changes in the structure of EOCM
 - a. My new title is Director of Evangelical Mission – effective 2/1/09.
 - b. I remain an Assistant to the Bishop but become deployed EOCM staff
 - c. And I will only have responsibility for outreach and stewardship (and Book of Faith)

- II. Changes to the structure of synod outreach
 - a. Stephen Bouman, EOCM Executive Director, has requested that we restructure in the following way
 - b. Mission Table – Oversight of New and Renewing Congregations (This will be a new table that will have oversight of the new and renewing congregations)
 - c. Mission Support Table – This table will be comprised of the former Stewardship team.
 - d. Mission Strategies Table (MST) – This table will be composed of local mission strategies, conference outreach teams, and ethnic strategies.
 - i. Synod Outreach and Evangelism Team transitions to MST

- ii. Continues with Mission Initiative grants (information is now on the web)
- iii. Budget contains a new line for Latino ministry grants
- e. I am going one step further and planning a joint meeting (Mission Round Table) once a year.
- f. The Academy for Mission has decided on its own that it has done its work and is ready to disband.

A special thanks to all those who have served on the Academy for Mission over the years. Your work has been a blessed and valuable ministry to the synod. The work of the Academy for Mission has made these changes possible and has set the stage for even greater outreach efforts in the Indiana-Kentucky Synod.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.