

MISSION-FOCUSED AREAS

In the context of structural renewal, what's an area? Essentially, it is a grouping of congregations based on geography or other mission-related criteria. Areas will not exist as a governance function, but as a way of encouraging local outreach and ministry. The intent is to encourage congregations to work together so we can be "better together". With combined resources, and support, training and encouragement from the synod office, areas will be equipped to answer God's call to mission in your area.

What will it look like? It will look different in every area. Some areas might work together for vacation Bible school, youth groups or confirmation ministries. Areas will be encouraged to look at the needs of their local community or region and decide what kind of outreach ministry they can best provide together. Areas will address questions such as: Is there a crack in the system? A need for senior's day programming? A food bank? Some areas may even choose to have their rostered ministers work cooperatively. As Christ calls us we will bear each other's burdens and share each other's joys. In the end, your creativity and God's call to ministry are the only limits!

Areas will be supported by an area leadership team, charged with representing and communicating with the bishop's office, encouraging joint programming and cooperation, and providing pastoral care to rostered ministers as needed.

We believe that when we work together our mission and our ministry is multiplied. That's why it's "better together!"

For further information on the ELCIC's structural renewal process,
visit elcic.ca/structural-renewal.

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