

# PASTOR KEVIN L. JACOBSON

ELCA Missionary to Suriname

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WEBSITE FOR THE ELKS: [WWW.ELKSURINAME.ORG](http://WWW.ELKSURINAME.ORG)

For me Advent came early this year. As it is a time to prepare for Jesus' coming I ask the congregation of Martin Luther Church "How do we prepare?" We prepare by keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus and our hands busy serving in the world. Christ encourages us to fellowship with his people, reach out for those most in need, study his word and prepare ourselves and our homes for the coming of Christ. In Suriname we did the best cleaning we could in a building that is 180 years old, will give 50 Christmas packets to people in need, have a Christmas breakfast and several celebrations within the community. If you are marked with the cross of Christ and your hope is in him, then you are ready. Happy Advent and Merry Christmas as you prepare your heart, your mind and your home. Thanks be to God.



Pr. Tom Unrath (left) is coordinator for the Florida - Bahamas Companion Synod relationship to Suriname with ELCA missionary Pr. Kevin Jacobson (center) and Pr. Kenneth Kross (right) from the ELKS. Tom was in Suriname for the anniversary celebrations. He led an evening presentation and discussion on the theme "Being the Church Together".

\*\*\*Thanks to Chris Klafs from F/B Synod for the photos in this newsletter.



## "Too Blessed to be Stressed"

From my sermon on the occasion of the 270th Anniversary celebration: "Let me give you a very brief English lesson on three words: "two, to and too". The number "two" - two dogs, cats, people, chairs, and disciples. Two means you are not alone there is someone or something with the other. "Too" adds emphasis, it means there is much, many, or something more. "Too big" - at birthday parties we say 'zo groot' "too" is that 'zo groot'. The word "To" shows movement, going somewhere, there is action. So two - we are not alone, too - adding emphasis, and to - showing movement. Let's go together to tell the exciting news of Jesus Christ.



On Sunday morning November 13, 2011 Martin Luther Church was prepared for an outdoor worship service. 300 plus people attended the service including international visitors from the Lutheran Church in Guyana and the ELCA.



Altar in Martin Luther Church is prepared for the 270th anniversary worship service on Tuesday, November 15. Why the swan? Go to [www.elcguayana.org/home](http://www.elcguayana.org/home) to find out more. Tell the story to your Sunday School and color a swan.