

# AMMPARO

*Southeastern Minnesota Synod ELCA*

Do justice. Love kindness. Walk humbly.



## WRITING CARDS FOR OUR IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS

### A Resource Guide

There is a need for welcoming messages and kind words for people seeking refuge and safety in faith-based shelters in the U.S./Mexico borderlands. In partnership with Border Servant Corps, the Southeastern Minnesota Synod's AMMPARO Team created a ministry for individuals and congregations to share the love of Jesus by creating a card with an encouraging word for migrant minors and their families.

There are a variety of ways congregations can inspire and encourage their members to write these cards of welcome. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- A bible study group writes cards as part of their time together
- Sunday School children copy notes and the younger children add a drawing to the cards as a service or craft project
- Pass cards out during worship for all present to write a message and then add them to the offering
- An at-home family project: send a packet of five cards home for family faith time and return them during worship
- Sponsor a "booth" to have people stop by and write a card of welcome



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## CONTACT

### **Kathy Chatelaine**

*Assistant to the Bishop for  
Global Ministry*

PHONE:  
507-280-9457

EMAIL:  
[chatelaine@semnsynod.org](mailto:chatelaine@semnsynod.org)

The cards of welcome can be in English or Spanish, but many people being served at border shelters have limited English. Below you will find three Spanish card messages you are welcome to use.

#### **CARD #1**

¡Bienvenidos! Sabemos que el camino a sido largo, esperamos que ahora puedan descansar y ser bien recibidos.

*Translation: Welcome! We know that the road has been long. We hope that you can now rest and be well received.*

#### **CARD #2**

¡Bienvenidos! Nos da mucha felicidad tener tu con nosotros. Ustedes son bienvenidos aqui, en esta nueva etapa de su camino.

*Translation: Welcome! We are very happy to have you with us! You are welcome here in this new stage of your journey.*

#### **CARD #3**

¡Bienvenidos! Estamos muy contentos que esten aqui. Esperemos que encuentres hospitalidad y amistad.

*Translation: Welcome! We are happy that you are here. We hope that you find hospitality and friendship.*

**Once you have created cards, please contact  
Kathy Chatelaine at the SEMN Synod office  
([chatelaine@semnsynod.org](mailto:chatelaine@semnsynod.org)) to coordinate delivery.**