

Your people are already asking AI about faith. The decision is who answers.

Without governed systems, every spiritual question defaults to generic AI trained on the open internet, with no theological accountability. Solace builds governed AI infrastructure for churches, denominations, and global ministries.

“This is not primarily a technology problem. It is an authority problem.”

Scott Lyon, Founder and CEO, Solace Manifesto 2026, p. 3

The decision in front of you

Leaders of the Northern Texas–Northern Louisiana Synod (ELCA) weighed three realistic paths.

Ignore AI adoption Allow informal drift. Congregants use whatever tools they find, with no theological grounding or institutional oversight.	Encourage experimentation Let congregations experiment independently. Queries and insights remain invisible. Denominational alignment is unlikely. No governance, no accountability.	Governed partnership Controlled deployment with a bounded, approved corpus. Defined roles, synod-level oversight, full visibility into usage and risk. The synod’s choice
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How NTNLT governs LutherBot

Synod authority	The bishop and designated synod leadership approve deployment intent, scope boundaries, and acceptable use.
Oversight and review	A Joint Steering Committee meets quarterly on adoption metrics and roadmap. A Joint Theological Review Board handles questionable outputs.
Operational admin	Named synod admins control dashboard and log access and escalate issues. Solace implements configuration changes.
Local churches	Congregations use the synod-level assistant, or layer in their own sermons, policies, staff, and service details.

Selected boundaries in this deployment. Out of scope: sacramental authority or pastoral counsel, speaking on behalf of the bishop or synod office, open internet retrieval or unvetted sources.

LutherBot: the NTNLT deployment

LutherBot answers from a curated, synod-approved corpus that includes the Bible, the Book of Concord, the Large and Small Catechisms, and ELCA and synod policy statements. It went live in July 2025, after an 11-month testing and revision period.

205

vetted documents
in the corpus

25+

churches using it
in active ministry

Reported in Solace’s
April 2026 case study

*“AI is here. The question is
who stewards it.”*

The Rev. Erik Gronberg, PhD
Bishop, Northern Texas–Northern
Louisiana Synod

Request an executive briefing

A conversation about what governed AI would look like inside your tradition.

Scott Lyon, Founder and CEO
Scott@WeAreSolace.com
wearesolace.com