



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

June 2017

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I am pleased to share with you further information on ELCA Future Directions 2025. I am excited and grateful that the Church Council (our board of directors), the Conference of Bishops (representing our 65 synods), and the churchwide Administrative Team (the officers, unit executive directors and the executive for administration) have all said yes to the goals and priority action areas identified in Future Directions 2025. You will recall that Future Directions 2025 was developed from the Called Forward Together in Christ process held last year across this church. Our members, congregations and networks participated and contributed greatly to the content of this work. Thank you for your time and interest.

This church is poised to move forward together with the Church Council and Conference of Bishops in ways we have not been previously. We need your help to move forward the aspirations and dreams for the church we are becoming. This is our time to work together to share the good news of God's grace in Jesus Christ.

As you consider Future Directions 2025, you will see there is much to be done. Hopefully, you will also see we are already doing a lot of the ministry that is named. We must ask questions about what needs to be changed, done differently, what is missing, and what may have served its purpose already for this church. I know there are questions. We have prepared a Frequently Asked Questions sheet that should help answer some of the most pressing questions. It is included in this toolkit for your reference.

Thank you for your faithful service with and on behalf of this church. Together, by God's grace, we can do what God is calling us to. I look forward to moving forward with you and your congregation.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth A. Eaton".

Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop

ELCA.org/Future