



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



ELCA GLOBAL LINKS

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Photo: Y. Franklin Ishida / ELCA

The Bible Women of the Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church use creative storytelling methods to bring the story of Jesus and the Bible to villages in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India. Telling the story one-on-one is helpful in reaching women who may not be able to read. Combining drama, song and dance brings Bible stories alive so they are even more relevant to people hearing these stories for the first time. Traditional storytelling plus building friendships over years of visiting villages and families leads many to the Christian faith. Read more stories about God's work around the world in the [2020 Global Mission Directory](#).

Check out the 2020 Global Mission Map, Directory and How-To Guide

You can use these new 2020 resources to meaningfully engage your congregation in global mission. Browse the resources below, and then download them or [order your own copies here](#).

- [Global Mission Map](#): This brochure unfolds to reveal a large world map with photos from our global companions. Display this map in your church and inspire others to connect with God's work in the world.

- **Global Mission Directory:** This annual directory gives an overview of the ELCA's global engagement and how God calls us on the journey of accompaniment. Includes stories, stats and a missionary directory.
- **How-To Guide:** Learn how to use the directory and map in your congregation with this simple, easy guide.



Order Resources

Hurry! YAGM applications close Feb. 15

If you're a young adult aged 21 to 29, you should consider applying for an international service year through Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM). There are opportunities in 10 country programs around the world, with areas of interest ranging from education to environmental justice. You can walk alongside global church companions and learn what it means to serve in a spirit of accompaniment. Service will begin Aug. 11. [Apply for YAGM now!](#)

Lutheran Costa Rican Church recognized for refugee response

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) recently recognized the Lutheran Costa Rican Church (ILCO), along with other organizations, with the “Living Integration Seal” award for supporting refugees and asylum-seekers. UNHCR representative Milton Moreno expressed “a sincere congratulation to the church for being a fundamental actor in humanitarian response.” [Read more in the Lutheran World Federation article here.](#)

Sign a new charter for interreligious unity and peace

[The Alliance of Virtue](#) brings religious leaders together to work for peace and unity. Rooted in a shared understanding of God-given human dignity based upon the values of the Abrahamic traditions (Judaism, Christianity and Islam), the Alliance of Virtue and its newly launched charter provide an opportunity to promote peace and understanding. As we continue to live into “[A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment](#),” adopted by the ELCA Churchwide Assembly last year, we invite you and your congregations to learn more and consider [signing the charter as a sign of solidarity](#). The Charter of the New Alliance of Virtue was presented at the sixth assembly of the Forum for Promoting Peace, held in December in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Young Adults in Global Mission endowment fund

In 2018 the ELCA launched an endowment fund to sustain the ministry of the [Young Adults in](#)

[Global Mission](#) program. We are thrilled about this new opportunity to invest in our church's young leaders as they embark on a year of faith formation, learning and service alongside our global companions. To donate to the fund, [visit the Global Mission donation page](#) and select "ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission Endowment" from the drop-down menu.

Spread the word

Know someone interested in receiving these "Global Links" updates? Share this [subscription link](#) with family and friends or post it on your congregation's website. Download the latest edition of "Global Links" [here](#). Help share the story of our global church!

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