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**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



# GLOBAL LINKS



**Aug./Sept. 2022**

## **Becoming Conference**



For the first time in almost three years, ELCA Service and Justice staff, global personnel and representatives from over 30 partner networks met face-to-face, at the Becoming Conference in Chicago Aug. 22-28. The guiding phrase of the conference was "connecting communities through Service and Justice for transformation into the way of Jesus."

Over 400 people participated in a range of activities including strategic planning, educational workshops, worship, service learning and roundtable discussions. We give thanks for all those who were able to come, be and become!

This newsletter includes a few highlights from the conference. To see additional photos, visit the [Global Mission Facebook page](#).

## News Around the World

The Horn of Africa is suffering one of its worst droughts in recent history, which is severely impacting more than 15 million people across Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. Lutheran Disaster Response is supporting an ACT Alliance appeal to provide those affected by the drought with access to clean water and other immediate needs.

[Read more and donate here.](#)

## Mission Personnel



ELCA mission personnel discuss their work and communities at the Summer Missionary Conference during Becoming.

During Becoming, ELCA mission personnel attended the first in-person Summer Missionary Conference (SMC) since 2019. The gathering included all patterns of service including long-term and two-year global mission personnel, volunteers,



global mission associates, companion synod personnel and global mission co-workers. Together they:

- Renewed their call to service and justice.
- Connected their experiences with the ELCA future church emphases.
- Imagined new ways to collaborate in the future as they listen, welcome, advocate, witness and work for peace, reconciliation and justice with their neighbors, locally and globally.

[Learn more about global service here.](#)

## Get Involved



The Rev. Mike Busbey and Hellen Rios-Carrillo speak about their work as regional representatives in Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean and Gender Justice at the Becoming Conference.

- As part of the Becoming Conference, representatives from ELCA congregations heard presentations from some of the missionaries they support around the world. Learn how you and your congregation can [support missionaries here](#).
- The Advocacy Cafe brings people together on the last Tuesday of every month to engage with faith-based advocacy leaders and discuss important issues. The topic for Sept. 27 is "Bringing Down Barriers to Voting." [Learn more and register here](#).
- 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. Help share the story of our global church!

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International Women Leaders  
endowment fund



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