



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



ELCA GLOBAL LINKS

Stay informed. Be inspired. Get involved.

APRIL 2017

#SouthSudanNow

The stories and news coming from South Sudan over the past few weeks have been extremely troubling. Ongoing civil war and famine have led to mounting food insecurity, leaving more than 5 million people at risk. This number is staggering, and because of this, [the ELCA has increased its commitment to our brothers and sisters in South Sudan](#). From providing immediate relief through Lutheran Disaster Response, to providing sustainable food security and sustained ministry through ELCA World Hunger, to helping to found the South Sudan Lutheran church and build a [Lutheran center and health clinic](#) in the capital city of Juba, the work of the ELCA in this country is significant, and **we need your support to keep it going.**



ELCA presiding bishop issues pastoral message on Syria

ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton [issued a pastoral message](#) regarding the situation in Syria. In her message, she writes, "Let us continue to pray, assist those in need, offer refuge to those fleeing violence, and encourage all efforts toward peace for all of the children of God created in God's image. We continue to place our hope in the Lord our God, the Prince of Peace."

What are these Global Ministry Projects, anyway?

Throughout the span of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, Global Links has shared updates about [the Global Ministry Projects](#) that are happening around the world. In an effort to better show the impact these projects are having, we invite you to [watch this video](#) about what \$100,000 is going to do in Senegal and The Gambia. Each one of these 13 projects is an opportunity to support incredible and life-changing ministries, and we hope this video inspires you to consider how you and your congregation can become more involved in them.

An update from *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*

The ELCA's campaign has [entered its fourth year and has raised \\$113 million](#), 57 percent of the five-year \$198 million goal. The Rev. Ron Glusenkamp, director of the campaign, shares, "We are making tremendous progress because of the generosity of our members. Just imagine what more can be done as we continue to grow in supporting the people, communities and projects that are a priority for us. All gifts – great and small – really make the difference for our church in the world."

'An Afternoon of Football'

Mallory Gonia is an ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission volunteer in Cambodia this year.

[Read her blog](#) about how an afternoon of playing football (read: soccer) with some of the children in the village in which she lives helped her understand accompaniment in a deeper way. Mallory finishes her blog with this thought: "And I've realized another thing. Suzan, in her invitation to simply be with her and her friends in this moment, her desire to share a part of her life with me, knows far more about accompaniment than I do. Without knowing it, she's teaching me how to accompany her."

'Stations of the Cross from Liberia'

The Rev. Linda Johnson-Seyenkulo is serving as a missionary in Liberia and recently wrote a blog, "[Stations of the Cross from Liberia](#)." She encourages those who read it to reflect, meditate and pray throughout the 13 stations. Not only is this blog a powerful opportunity for reflection this Lent, it is also a wonderful opportunity to read the stations of the cross through the lens of someone living in Liberia.

Global Church Pentecost Sunday booklet

To continue providing resources for you and your congregation as we celebrate the Global Church theme year of *The Campaign for the ELCA*, another resource has been created. Please check out our new [Pentecost Sunday booklet](#), and take a look at a variety of ideas for engaging your congregation and celebrating the Global Church.

An idea for your congregation

We receive questions from congregations from time to time seeking ideas on how to foster deeper engagement with the missionaries they are sponsoring. One congregation said it has started posting its sponsored missionary as a staff member in its bulletin. This has helped the members of the congregation feel more connected to not just the missionary but also to the work that they are a part of. Try this today, or share with us other ways that have helped your congregation become more connected to the missionary you are sponsoring.

Give today!

To make an online gift to God's work around the world, [click here](#). Thank you!

Share Global Links

Stay connected with Global Links by sharing resources and content with your congregation. [Click here](#) to download the latest edition of Global Links.

Learn more

To find out how you can sponsor a missionary or global ministry or support International Leaders through ELCA Global Church Sponsorship, visit ELCA.org/globalchurch.

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