



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



ELCA GLOBAL LINKS

JUNE 2018



'Hope Rising in Juba, South Sudan'

In November 2017, the Reconciliation Lutheran Church Community Center and Primary Health Care Clinic opened its doors in Juba, South Sudan, as thousands gathered to worship and celebrate. [Hear from those involved](#) in the opening as they share their insights about the impact they envision the center will have in the community. Since November, incredible work has been happening every day at Reconciliation, with youth programs and training classes seeing participation beyond their imagination and nearly 1,000 attending weekly worship. But the need continues, especially as programming and operational costs start to build. You can make a gift to this crucial ministry of hope by visiting ELCA.org/southsudan.

Young Adults in Global Mission endowment fund created

Thanks to a major gift from a generous ELCA family, an endowment fund in support of the Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program has been created! The endowment fund will provide support to the YAGM program in perpetuity. You may make gifts to the endowment fund by selecting "[Young Adults in Global Mission Endowment](#)" from the drop-down menu.

Help a YAGM volunteer reach their goal!

In mid-April, over 80 young adults were called to serve through the Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program, which sends volunteers ages 21-29 into a year of faith formation, relationship building and transformative service alongside our companions in one of 14 countries. On average, the total cost for the ELCA to support one young adult in the program is \$15,000, of which the volunteer is asked to raise \$5,000. If you or your

congregation is interested in supporting a volunteer from your synod or one who is serving with your synod's companion church, please contact globalchurch@elca.org. Supporters receive newsletters throughout the volunteer's year of service, and it may be possible to arrange a visit to your congregation before service begins in mid-August.

'Rewriting the narrative'

At Shekinah Chapel in Riverdale, Ill., 41 members came together to pledge \$33,000 toward constructing a new church with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zambia. As a congregation that also receives ELCA Mission Support, Shekinah is rewriting the narrative around giving in our church. Read more in this [Living Lutheran article](#).

Podcast with the Rev. Carrie Smith in Jerusalem

In May, the Rev. Carrie Smith, who serves Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Jerusalem, was featured on the [podcast](#) of Bishop James Hazelwood of the New England Synod. Amid heightened awareness around the world of the conflict in the Holy Land, Smith provides reflections on living in Jerusalem and accompanying our companions in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

An emerging church in Cambodia

In 2010, the ELCA accompanied the Lutheran Church in Singapore as it began a mission in Cambodia focused on service, evangelism and leadership development. In November 2017, the Lutheran Church in Cambodia ordained its first pastor and continues to grow today through evangelism and outreach, including sustainable development projects and teaching English. The ELCA is excited to witness and invest in the capacity building of this emerging church as it empowers families with the resources they need to know God's promise of life abundant for this world. Learn more about this [initiative](#).

Interested in having a YAGM volunteer visit your congregation?

This fall, three returning Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) volunteers will work with the ELCA to share stories of the global church and the ministries supported by *The Campaign for the ELCA* with congregations in their area. If you are a congregation in or around Wisconsin, Nebraska or the Carolinas and are interested in a visit, please email globalchurch@elca.org.

Campaign for the ELCA 2017 Report – now available!

2017 was year four of the ELCA's five-year campaign to raise \$198 million in support of existing and new ministries. The campaign's theme for 2017 was the Global Church, highlighting our missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission, the International Women Leaders initiative and our global ministry evangelism projects. Read about the campaign's progress this past year and view videos of the ministries supported in this [interactive flipbook](#).

Have you included ELCA Global Mission in your estate plans?

We would love to know! Leaving ELCA Global Mission in your estate plans or making Global Mission one of your beneficiaries sustains ministries for years to come. And your planned gift may be eligible to be counted in *The Campaign for the ELCA*, which would help us reach our campaign goals! If you've included Global Mission in your estate plans and would like to inform us, please contact Andrew Steele, director for ELCA Global Church Sponsorship, at andrew.steele@elca.org.

Spread the word

Do you 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!

Stay connected

Follow our ELCA Global Church [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) pages for photos, stories and news about the global church. [Download the latest edition](#) of Global Links to share with your congregation.

Give today!

[Make an online gift](#) to God's work around the world. Thank you!

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