



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



## ELCA GLOBAL LINKS

OCTOBER 2018



### **'Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus, the Great Healer'**

Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson have been serving as ELCA missionaries in Arusha, Tanzania, since 2013. Walking in Jesus' footsteps, they live out a gospel of mutuality, healing and wellness alongside the people of Arusha. The Swansons, as well as other ELCA missionaries throughout the world, are supported through contributions to [ELCA Global Church Sponsorship](#).

### **Young adults and the narrative of a dying church — A YAGM's reflection**

In a recent [blog post](#), Hannah Johnsrud, a Jerusalem/West Bank volunteer with Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM), shared her experience of worshiping and communing with 76 fellow young adults at the 2018-19 YAGM orientation. Read her reflection on what the experience taught her about young adults and the narrative of a dying church.

### **Global Mission Updates — Fall 2018 edition now available**

Curious to know more about recent happenings in the global church? Check out [Global](#)

[Mission Updates](#), a biannual report on important programs, activities and events in ELCA Global Mission and around the world with our companion churches. The [Summer/Fall 2018 edition is available now for download](#).

### **Zambia: Missionaries share update on church needs**

Longtime ELCA missionaries the Rev. Deborah and Joe Troester have begun a new chapter of their mission work alongside our companion church in Zambia. In a recent [blog post](#), they shared their experience worshipping at two Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zambia (ELCZa) churches, including one in Mulimba that does not have a roof. Mulimba Lutheran is one of several ELCZa churches in need of building repairs or a permanent structure. Learn more about how you can [help the ELCZa build up Mulimba](#) and congregations like it through ELCA Global Ministry Projects.

### **Work abroad with the ELCA — new positions open**

ELCA Global Mission has recently posted five new openings for globally based positions: a pastor in Kenya, a communications coordinator in Kenya, a regional representative for the Asia and Pacific region, an English teacher in Hong Kong, and multiple openings for English teachers in Japan through the three-year “J3” program. These openings are full-time salaried positions with benefits. Follow the link to view these and other [open global service positions](#), or email [globalservice@elca.org](mailto:globalservice@elca.org) for more information.

### **Siberia: Equipping the faithful**

After many years of repression and abandonment during the communist era, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia is now working to re-engage in its ministry and mission activities publicly. The ELCA has been invited to [support](#) the church in Siberia in developing new learning opportunities for pastors and lay leaders, including online curriculum, workshops and scholarships to further develop leaders of this newly public church.

### **Women leaders of the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria hold first conference**

In September, [women leaders from the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria \(LCCN\), an ELCA companion, gathered for their first joint conference](#). Of the 90 participants, 76 were ordained ministers and lay theologians. In addition to affirming their support for the Lutheran World Federation Gender Justice Policy and their commitment to internalize it in the LCCN, the women discussed their role in matters of gender injustice in their country and around the globe.

### **YAGM Endowment Fund**

Thanks to a major gift from a generous ELCA family, an endowment fund in support of the Young Adults in Global Mission program has been created. The endowment fund will support the program in perpetuity. Make a gift to the fund at [ELCA.org/YAGMGive](https://ELCA.org/YAGMGive). Select “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: [community.ELCA.org/globallinks-newsletter-subscribe](https://community.ELCA.org/globallinks-newsletter-subscribe). Download the latest edition of

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