



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



ELCA GLOBAL LINKS

APRIL 2019



Sharing the Goodness of God

The [Lutheran Church in Malaysia](#) (LCM), a companion of the ELCA, works alongside the indigenous Orang Asli people of West Malaysia. In this south-to-south partnership, Christ's love between the LCM and the Orang Asli is lived out in many ways, including worship life, education, sustainable farming, land-rights awareness and income-generating projects. The [ELCA works with the LCM to support these important evangelism ministries](#), helping to build relationships rooted in the love of Christ so that God's goodness is shared far and wide. Give a gift of today at [ELCA.org/GlobalGive](#).

A new era of storytelling

Over the next few months you might notice some changes in Global Links and other places where we share the stories of God's global church. As we near the end of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, we will transition to new ways of lifting up the ministries of our global companions. ELCA Global Church Sponsorship has been an important way to support these global ministries – including our ELCA missionaries, Young Adults in Global Mission, International Women Leaders and global ministries. As we transition into a new era as a church, we will continue to support the same critical ministries and lift up the stories of global engagement and the work of our companions under the name: Global Mission. Thank you for being part of this journey – we look forward to the road ahead!

Lutherans respond in aftermath of Cyclone Idai

Cyclone Idai made landfall in Mozambique on March 14, bringing catastrophic winds, rain and flooding. Over 1,000 people have been killed across Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe. Hundreds of thousands of others are now homeless and at risk of waterborne illnesses and malnutrition. [Lutheran Disaster Response](#) is working with our global companions and partners in the region to respond to those in need. Alongside the [Lutheran World Federation](#), [ACT Alliance](#) and members of Lutheran churches in all three affected countries, we are committed to helping rebuild the lives of those who have lost so much, but [we need your help to continue this work](#). [Learn more about how we are responding as a church](#) and [please consider making a gift today](#).

Love Along the Journey

"Love Along the Journey" is the title of a blog written by Erica Bryer, who recently began a three-year term as an ELCA missionary in Japan. In a recent [newsletter](#), Erica shares insights into Japanese culture, as well as her six months of in-country orientation and the experience of living into her call as a missionary. Erica will be working with two congregations, Murozono Lutheran Church and Kumamoto International Service, helping with worship, music, their children's program and congregational planning. You can learn more about Erin and her work by [signing up for her newsletters](#) and by [supporting her with a gift](#).

Walking in the footsteps of Jesus

In March, the Rev. Said Ailabouni, area desk director for Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, and Andrew Steele, director for global mission funding, led 10 ELCA members on a mission immersion trip to the Holy Land in Jerusalem and the West Bank. They spent time with our companions at the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land](#) (ELCJHL). Andrew said, "During our trip we visited the holy sites and stones of the past, rich with religious history and significance. But it was the 'living stones,' the Palestinians we encountered, where we found Christ most during our visit. We spent time in family homes, in schools, churches and other spaces where we witnessed how the occupation is adversely affecting life for Palestinians, both Christian and Muslim." The group is now discerning how to [invest in ministries of the ELCJHL and other companions through the ELCA](#) and how to share the important stories of the Holy Land with others.

Global Mission immersion trip to Tanzania and Rwanda

Join us on a trip to Tanzania and Rwanda to witness the transformative work taking place and experience the power of Lutheran evangelism beyond church walls. Immerse yourself in the hospitality and faith of our companions in Christ, witness the impact of projects funded by the ELCA and rejoice in our ongoing global partnerships. Upon returning home, we invite you to make transformative gifts to sustain and grow the ministries you witnessed firsthand. To register or for more information, please contact Rahel Mwitula Williams, director for mission funding, at Rahel.Mwitula-Williams@elca.org or 773-380-2647.

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 Church Sponsorship donation page](#) and select "ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission Endowment" from the drop-down menu.

Follow and like ELCA Global Church on Facebook!

The [Facebook](#) page for ELCA global church offers photos, links to stories, and all the most recent updates.

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!

Give today!

[Make an online gift to God's work around the world today](#) – thank you!

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