

Stories of Faith in Action

YOUR OFFERING AT WORK



Reflection:

One body, belonging to Christ

In January I attended Elisha's Call, a gathering of young adult leaders of African descent hosted by ELCA Ethnic Specific and Multicultural Ministry. It was refreshing and exciting to be with so many other enthusiastic young leaders. To be able to engage in thoughtful conversation with my peers gave me hope about things we could rebuild in my community and congregation, especially where the youth and young adults were concerned. My home congregation is the historic Frederick Evangelical Lutheran Church in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, where we are humbled to be celebrating our 350th anniversary of worship and service in October.

My May visit for the Multicultural Summit gave me the feeling that so much can be accomplished if we just come together and work as a team. Even though

everyone at the summit was from a different area, the sense of belonging and welcome I felt was almost overwhelming. We are all one body, belonging to Christ and that easily overcomes all the things that make us different.

One part of the "body" is no more or less important than another and we need every part in order to accomplish that which God has set us apart to do. We need only ask God to help us and keep us all of one mind, for where we are gathered and agree, there God is also and nothing can stand in our way.



— *Arlene Williams,*
Frederick Evangelical Lutheran Church
in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

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God's work. Our hands.