

Four ways to use Stories of Faith in Action



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

Stories of Faith in Action is a free, annual publication highlighting how God is changing lives through the ministries funded by your congregation's unrestricted offering of Mission Support, which is shared with your synod and the ELCA churchwide organization. Together, we serve God's people across the United States and around the world through our 9,300 congregations, 65 synods and one churchwide organization.

How can you inspire ELCA members with this publication? Here are some ideas:

1

As part of a stewardship emphasis in congregations or within a synod

Order additional free copies of Stories of Faith in Action and distribute them in member stewardship packets and/or keep them near your stewardship bulletin board or display. Let your members know that their giving in 2015 helped make these stories possible.

2

In weekly bulletins, newsletters (print or digital) and social media

Selected stories from this publication are available as bulletin inserts to complement your existing communications. Download bulletin inserts and a copy of "Where does my offering go?" for printing at ELCA.org/Resources/Stories-of-Faith-in-Action. You can also highlight stories in your newsletter or via social media.

3

As devotions at council meetings and other gatherings

When devotions are needed, read one story and include a prompt for reflection. Questions might include:

- Where do I see myself or our congregation in this story?
- Which partnerships made this ministry possible?
- What potential for ministry do I see in our congregation?

Close your devotion with a prayer for the ministries and people featured in the story and for the continued work of the ELCA.

4

For retreats and leadership planning sessions

Looking for creative ways to spark new or expanded ministries? Stories of Faith in Action can provide fresh ideas for retreats and planning sessions. Prior to the event, assign selected reading in Stories of Faith in Action. During breakout sessions, use the stories as a springboard for brainstorming.



Get started today!

Visit ELCA.org/Resources/Stories-of-Faith-in-Action now to:

- Order free copies of Stories of Faith in Action to be delivered to your congregation. (All you have to cover is shipping!)
- Download bulletin insert designs containing selected stories from this publication.
- Download a Mission Support FAQ sheet for council, finance or congregational meetings.
- Download a copy of "Where does my offering go?" and share with your congregation.