



Celebrating Global Church Sunday

A Toolkit for ELCA Congregations



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

Introduction

WHAT IS GLOBAL CHURCH SUNDAY?

Every fall, ELCA congregations and ministries are invited to celebrate our church's connections and common mission within Christ's global church by celebrating Global Church Sunday.

It is a day to rejoice in our relationships with companions around the world, to learn more about how the ELCA is connected globally, and to support our church's global ministries in collaboration with our companions in Christ.

WHEN IS GLOBAL CHURCH SUNDAY?

You can choose a day that fits best in your congregation's busy calendar. You may want to consider coordinating your Global Church Sunday celebration with the International Day of Peace (Sept. 21, 2014), World Communion Sunday (Oct. 5, 2014) or Lutheran World Federation Sunday (Oct. 26, 2014).

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR GLOBAL CHURCH SUNDAY?

Your celebration might include:

- music from the global church in worship
- prayers for the global church in worship
- treats from around the world at coffee hour
- an adult forum or Bible study about our global connections
- a special offering to ELCA Global Church Sponsorship, to support one of our global missionaries or ministries
- stories of our church's global ministry
- a letter, video or Skype visit from an ELCA missionary or Young Adult in Global Mission
- more!

On the cover: This young man, Thompson, lives in the village of Kanyibombu in northwest Zambia, where the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is engaged in a companion relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zambia. As part of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, we are responding to a request from our companions in Zambia to help build as many as 15 new church buildings that will provide much-needed meeting space for congregations that are without a permanent place to worship. Learn more, including how you can support this work, at www.ELCA.org/globalchurch.

How to use this toolkit

Each section of this toolkit contains suggestions and discussion questions to help you use your congregation's gifts, talents and ministries to make Global Church Sunday a wonderful experience for all.

When and *where* are important decisions to make early in the process.

Then we'll talk about *who* might serve as good resources and leaders for your celebration.

And we'll talk a little about *what* activities you might include in your Global Church Sunday celebration.

Why comes before all the other questions, though: Why do we want to celebrate our church's global connections? Because, as our Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton reminds us, we are church together for the sake of the world.

CONTENTS

Part I: Organize	p. 3
Part II: Plan	p. 7
• Worship	p. 7
• Religious Education	p. 15
• Coffee Hour	p. 15
• Special Offering	p. 15
• Other Activities	p. 16
Part III: Celebrate the Global Church	p. 17
Part IV: Keep Celebrating	p. 18

Part I: Organize

Who can make your Global Church Sunday happen?

First, invite a few people – no more than four or five – to serve as the coordinators of your celebration. Where can you find a handful of friendly, energetic, effective, encouraging leaders for this important task?

Does your congregation have:

- Global Mission group
- Youth group
- Social justice or outreach ministry
- Musicians
- Seniors group
- Small group fellowship and group leaders
- ELCA Malaria Campaign or ELCA World Hunger teams
- Women of the ELCA or men's group
- Sunday School
- Knitting or crafting group
- Scouts
- Community garden committee
- A neighboring ELCA congregation that might like to partner with you
- Young adults group
- Stewardship committee
- Other?

What global interests or connections does each of these groups already have? Perhaps the music ministry loves global music; perhaps the women's circle promotes fair trade coffee or chocolate through Lutheran World Relief; or perhaps the youth group sponsors and follows an ELCA Young Adult in Global Mission volunteer. The gardeners might enjoy showcasing their harvest with recipes from different countries.

People among these groups who have an interest in our church's global connections might be delighted with an invitation to help make Global Church Sunday the most exciting and inspiring event it can be.

Ask around outside these groups, too! It's always a wonderful thing to see someone new take their place among the lay leaders of the congregation.

People who speak a language other than English and people of diverse cultural backgrounds should definitely be included in the planning.

And if someone turns down your invitation to serve, ask who they think might be interested. That's always a good way to expand your networks!

As you invite people to serve as coordinators, make sure to give them the job description: They'll be making the decisions and accomplishing the tasks in the checklist that begins on the next page.

The coordinators can divide the work among themselves – or invite others to share in it – in whatever way seems best to them.

GLOBAL CHURCH SUNDAY CHECKLIST

- Decide the date of your Global Church Sunday
- Arrange the necessary spaces and places
- Decide on the activities that will be part of your Global Church Sunday
- Invite people to lead the activities, such as facilitators for an adult forum, hosts for coffee hour, song leaders to teach new music, and so on
- Invite people in the congregation to participate in your Global Church Sunday
- Invite people outside the congregation to participate in your Global Church Sunday
- Document the day with photos, tweets and Facebook posts
- What else?

FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Our way of doing global work is called “accompaniment,” which means, among other things, that church leaders in other countries invite the ELCA to enter into relationships with them, and we respond as we are able. Often, this means sending missionaries to work alongside our companions in their ministry. In other words, our church doesn’t engage in mission in another country uninvited. A simple way to understand that is to think about the way people usually get together – by invitation. Gracious hosts invite, and gracious guests respond. Graciousness (and grace!) lead to closer relationships.

How can this way of looking at the world inform our planning for Global Church Sunday?

2. As you consider who to invite to your coordinating group, think like a host planning a banquet. Does the invitation list reflect the whole congregation? As the group begins to take shape, does it continue to reflect the whole congregation – people of different ages, backgrounds, languages, neighborhoods, races, abilities, interests?
3. Once your coordinating group is together, you might act out this little phone conversation and then talk about it. Some discussion questions appear below.

Host: [dials phone] Ring ring!

Guest: [answers phone] Hello?

Host: Hi, Guest, this is Host. How are you?

Guest: Oh, hello, Host! I’m just fine. How are you?

Host: Fine, thank you. The reason I’m calling is to invite you and your family to dinner at my family’s house one evening later this week. We would love to have you over so we can get to know each other a little better.

Guest: Thank you so much! I have to check my family’s schedules, but I know we’d be delighted to join you. Is there anything we can bring?

(continued on next page)

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Host: Well, you know, I've heard that you make really good potato salad. Would you be interested in sharing some with my family?

Guest: Oh, yes! Maybe we can talk a little more tomorrow afternoon, after I check with my family, and we can decide just how much potato salad I should bring. And if you like, I can print out the recipe and bring that along, too.

Host: Thank you! That'll be great. We'll talk tomorrow afternoon, all right?

Guest: Yes, I'm looking forward to it! Talk to you then. Thanks!

Host: Bye.

Guest: Bye. [both hang up]

- A. If the Host hadn't mentioned the potato salad, would the Guest go ahead and bring a big bowl of it anyway? Why or why not?
- B. What do you think this has to do with how our church goes about our mission and ministries with global companions?



Part II: Plan

What activities will be part of your Global Church Sunday? In this section, we'll consider ways to fold global ideas, images and interests into worship, religious education, coffee hour and other after-worship activities.

WORSHIP

Introduction

These worship resources were gathered together to help congregations and worshipping communities of this church celebrate our connections and common mission in Christ's global church.

The texts and prayers included below help bring to expression our understanding that we are united by the Spirit of God through the means of grace with our sisters and brothers in Christ throughout the world.

The texts and prayers may be adapted for local celebrations. Two examples of this appear on page 13. These prayers may be tied to specific people in global service with the ELCA. You can share real-life stories from the global church – and then pray for those involved – with the regularly updated resources at www.ELCA.org/resources/gobalchurch.

Gathering Dialogue (based on Ephesians 4:4–5)

This dialogue may be used at the beginning of the service or following the greeting before the prayer of the day.

Come, let us gather in the one unifying Spirit,
the Spirit of God in the church throughout the world.

There is one body and one Spirit
one Lord, one faith, one baptism
one God and Father of all,
who is above all and through all and in all.

Come, let us gather in the one unifying Spirit.
Let us gather in unity with our sisters and brothers throughout the world.

Confession and Forgiveness¹

The congregation response below, "Kyrie," may be sung using ELW #153, 155, 158 or another appropriate setting.

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The presiding minister continues with the prayer of preparation.

God of all mercy and consolation,
come to the help of your people,
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit
that we may confess our sin,
receive your forgiveness,
and grow into the fullness
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
in baptism you have joined us to Christ
in his death and resurrection,
and you have united us with all who are baptized in Christ's name;
but too often we fail to live as one people
and to seek the unity of your church.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison or Lord have mercy.

In baptism you have called the church
to witness to Christ in all realms of life;
but too often we do not seek to discern your will
and to carry out your mission in the world.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison or Lord have mercy.

In baptism you have sent us to serve
all for whom Christ died;
but too often we have ignored the suffering
of the oppressed and the needs of the poor.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison or Lord have mercy.

¹ The text of the confession was taken from *Koinonia: Services and Prayers*, © 2004, The Lutheran World Federation. Used with permission.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

God, who is rich in mercy,
loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of + Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

Thanksgiving at the Font

This thanksgiving may be used during at the gathering or during an Affirmation of Baptism by the Assembly.

Blessed are you, O God, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things.

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom. In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.

By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. He sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your daughters and sons, no longer slave and free, no longer male and female, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

ELW Assembly Edition, page 70

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars; beneath the sea;
within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water; by night and day;
across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering; within this meal;
among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

Amen.

ELW Assembly Edition, page 68

Propers for Christian Unity

The following readings, prayers and texts may be used for a service that celebrates the unity we share with Christians throughout the world.

Preface of the season or Sunday
Color of the season

Prayer of the Day

God our Father, your Son Jesus prayed that his followers might be one. Make all Christians one with him as he is one with you, so that in peace and concord we may carry to the world the message of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Bear with one another in love,* making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. *Alleluia.* (Ephesians 4:2–3)

Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 2:2–4

Psalm 133 *How good and pleasant it is to live together in unity.* (Psalms 133:1)

Ephesians 4:1–6

John 17:15–23

Suggested Hymns and Songs

Amen, We Praise Your Name	<i>Amen siakudumisa</i>	846
Arise, My Soul, Arise!	<i>Nyt ylös, sieluni</i>	827
Behold, How Pleasant	<i>Miren qué bueno</i>	649
Blessed Be the Name	<i>Heri ni jina</i>	797
Come, All You People	<i>Uyaimose</i>	819
Come Now, O Prince of Peace	<i>Ososõ, Ososõ</i>	247
Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading	<i>Njoo kwetu, Roho mwema</i>	401
Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather	<i>Sekai no tomo to te o tsunagi</i>	530
In Christ Called to Baptize		575
In Christ There Is No East or West		650
Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ		674
Lord, Who the Night You Were Betrayed		463
Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord		875
Praise to the Lord	<i>Louez l'Eternel</i>	844
Veni Sancte Spiritus	<i>Holy Spirit, Come to Us</i>	406
We Are All One Christ	<i>Somos uno en Cristo</i>	643
When We Are Living	<i>Pues sí vivimos</i>	639
You Are Holy	<i>Du är helig</i>	525

Numbers correspond to *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

For more global song resources, see the “Global Songs” collections by Bread for the Journey: *Global Songs/Local Voices*, *Global Songs 2*, *Pave the Way*, *Global Songs 3*, available from Augsburg Fortress at www.augsburgfortress.org.

Additional Prayers

Church unity

Most high and holy God, pour out upon us your one and unifying Spirit, and awaken in every confession of the whole church a holy hunger and thirst for unity in you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. (*ELW Occasional Services*, page 389)

The human family

O God of all, with wonderful diversity of languages and cultures you created all people in your image. Free us from prejudice and fear, that we may see your face in the faces of people around the world; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
(*ELW Occasional Services*, page 398)

The mission of the church

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
(*ELW Occasional Services*, page 392)

Global mission

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to yourself. We praise and bless you for those whom you have sent in the power of the Spirit to preach the gospel to all nations. We thank you that in all parts of the earth a community of love has been gathered together by their prayers and labors, and that in every place your servants call upon your name; for the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever. (*ELW Occasional Services*, page 392)

Peace

O God, it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows, and give peace to your church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
(*ELW Occasional Services*, page 393)

Peace

Gracious and holy God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
(*ELW Occasional Services*, page 393)

Peace among the nations

Gracious God, grant peace among nations. Cleanse from our own hearts the seeds of strife: greed and envy, harsh misunderstandings and ill will, fear and desire for revenge. Make us quick to welcome ventures in cooperation among the peoples of the world, so that there may be woven the fabric of a common good too strong to be torn by the evil hands of war. In the time of opportunity, make us be diligent; and in the time of peril, let not our courage fail; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (*ELW Occasional Services*, page 393)

Prayers to accompany stories of the global church

See page 7 for more information.

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to yourself. We praise and bless you for those whom you send to witness in word and deed among the nations. Bless *name/s* in the work you have called *her/him/them* to do, so that *she/he/they* may faithfully accompany those among whom *she/he/they* are sent, show your love to all people, and glorify your name; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. (*ELW Occasional Services*, page 257)

Gracious God, as you have called workers to varied tasks in the world and in your church, so you have called *name/s* to ministry in *global context/s*. Grant *her/him/them* joy and a spirit of bold trust, that *her/his/their* work may stir up in the church throughout the world lives of fruitful service; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. (*ELW Occasional Services*, page 256)

A Litany of Thanksgiving

For people, families, communities and churches
around the world who pray to you in every language,
we thank you, Lord.

We thank you, Lord. We thank you, Lord.

For neighbors in the United States
and companions in Asia, the Americas and Europe
who speak Spanish,
we thank you, Lord.

We thank you, Lord. *Gracias*. We thank you, Lord.

For neighbors in the United States
and companions in India who speak Hindi,
we thank you, Lord.

We thank you, Lord. *Shuckreeya*. We thank you, Lord.

For neighbors in the United States
and companions in North Africa and the Middle East
who speak Arabic,
we thank you, Lord.

We thank you, Lord. *Shuckran*. We thank you, Lord.

For neighbors in the United States
and companions in Europe, Africa and South America
who speak Portuguese,
we thank you, Lord.

We thank you, Lord. *Obrigado*. We thank you, Lord.

For neighbors in the United States
and companions in East Africa and Central Africa
who speak Swahili,
we thank you, Lord.

We thank you, Lord. *Asante*. We thank you, Lord.

For neighbors in the United States
and companions in Asia who speak Mandarin,
we thank you, Lord.
We thank you, Lord. *Sheh sheh.* We thank you, Lord.

For neighbors in the United States
and companions in West Africa, Asia,
Europe, the Americas and the Pacific Islands
who speak French,
we thank you, Lord.
We thank you, Lord. *Merci.* We thank you, Lord.

For neighbors in the United States
and companions in South America who speak Quechua,
we thank you, Lord.
We thank you, Lord. *Sulpayki.* We thank you, Lord.

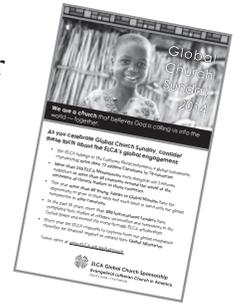
We thank you, Lord,
for our companions in the global church
who are engaged in Global Ministries
of evangelism and education,
for International Leaders
who are furthering their development through scholarship,
and for those Missionaries
and Young Adults in Global Mission
from our own church
who are called to walk with our global companions.
May these global relationships flower
into the justice and peace you desire
for all humankind and all the earth.
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

You might also consider other ways to highlight our global connections in:

- Preaching
- Prayers
- Music
- Art
- Paraments, vestments, flowers
- Other?

Resources

Be sure to include a Global Church Sunday bulletin insert highlighting facts about our church's global engagement in your bulletin. You can download it for free at www.ELCA.org/resources/globalchurch. Find it on the Global Church Sunday tab.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- Children
- Youth
- Adults
- Intergenerational
- Other?

Resources

Make sure to order plenty of copies of the free Global Mission Map Brochure 2014! See http://resources.elca.org/Products-Global_Mission.html to order. Request enough for every household in your congregation. Distribute them at worship and in the narthex. Invite your members to put them on their refrigerator door or bulletin board, and then read one story a day and pray for the people and place in that story.



COFFEE HOUR

- Fair trade coffee, tea and chocolate
- Treats from around the world
- Fair trade fair
- Other?

Resources

The free downloadable Global Church PlaceMaps are a great way to highlight our connections. See www.ELCA.org/resources/globalchurch; choose the General tab and scroll down to the Global Church PlaceMaps. You can print them out on 11"x17" paper on your own printer, or order copies to be mailed to you. Invite Sunday School students to color the maps and then display them on a bulletin board.



SPECIAL OFFERING

Supporting one of the church's many global ministries or missionaries is a wonderful way to make a difference in the world – and make your congregation's connection with the global church even stronger.

You might order a special giving envelope to be used during worship by visiting http://resources.elca.org/Products-Global_Mission.html.

Resources

See www.ELCA.org/globalchurch for ways to connect with Young Adults in Global Mission, missionaries, and global ministries. You might order an additional copy of our 2014 annual directory, *Our Global Church*, from the website or by calling 800-638-3522, and then choose a ministry or missionary to support or sponsor. Consider ordering additional free copies of this resource that is annually sent to congregations to display in your congregation's narthex.



Did you know? All your gifts in support of ELCA Global Church Sponsorship help us build up Christ's global church and are deeply appreciated. And all these gifts also count toward our global church priorities as part of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA!*



OTHER ACTIVITIES

Depending on your congregation's unique resources and facilities, your Global Church Sunday could include anything from a slideshow to a speaker series to a full-scale global music festival. Try something new alongside something familiar – stretch a little!

- Global ministries fair
- Adult forum
- Children's games
- Guest speaker
- Youth service project
- Drama
- Bible studies

In person: Invite a missionary whom you sponsor, or a former missionary, to visit. For referrals of former missionaries to invite, email globalchurch@elca.org or call 800-638-3522, ext. 2657.

Connect to the diversity in your community and around the world by inviting a community or family of color or whose first language is other than English to share a story or song at a meal where food of their culture is served.

By Skype or YouTube: If your sanctuary or fellowship hall has this capability, ask a missionary or Young Adult in Global Mission to read the lessons by Skype or post a video greeting on YouTube.

Resources

- 2014 Global Church Sunday posters
- Mission of the Month stories
- ELCA Global Church Sponsorship brochure
- ELCA Global Events resources



You can find these and many more resources to support your activities at www.ELCA.org/resources/globalchurch, www.ELCA.org/resources/Global-Mission and http://resources.elca.org/Products-Global_Mission.html.

FOR DISCUSSION

1. How do your chosen activities represent the latitude (and longitude!) of our global church – from Angola, Argentina and Australia to Vietnam, Zambia and Zimbabwe, from Norway in the north all the way to the southern tip of Chile?
2. How can you arrange for activities that everyone in the congregation can take part in and benefit from? A carefully planned mix of active learning and receptive learning activities will make room for everyone.

Part III: Celebrate the Global Church

During the week before your celebration of Global Church Sunday, check in with the coordinating group and the activity leaders to make sure they have everything and everyone they need.

On the day of the celebration, let the coordinating group circulate among the activity leaders to make sure everything's going smoothly.

As the event unfolds, take lots of pictures and notes to share in your bulletin, on your Facebook page and elsewhere – including our ELCA Global Church Sponsorship Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/GlobalLinks or the linked Global Church Sunday Facebook event page. If people have questions about our church's global engagement that can't be answered right away, take notes so that someone can respond later.

Most important – have fun! Rejoice that together, as church for the sake of the world, we have the honor and privilege to continue the apostles' mission and serve as Jesus' witnesses “to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8). Thanks be to God!



Part IV: Keep Celebrating

Once your Global Church Sunday is over, gather all the leaders who helped make the day happen – from the kitchen cleanup crew to the senior pastor – and celebrate the joy of service.

A GLOW OF GRATITUDE

- Thank leaders by mail, in hand-written thank-you notes
- Thank leaders in person, face to face
- Thank leaders in public, in front of the whole congregation
- Thank leaders with hospitality! Invite them to a meal and arrange for someone else to cook and serve and clean up.

You might consider sparking reflection and conversation at that meal or another gathering with these discussion starters.

- What was the most fun part of your service on Global Church Sunday? Why?
- What was the most interesting thing you learned? What made it interesting?
- What part of Global Church Sunday would you like to experience again?
- Has this experience inspired new ideas or new feelings about our church's global connection? How are you acting on these new thoughts?

GLOWING GLOBALLY

You can help keep the glow of Global Church Sunday going with a slideshow of photos from the event. Show it at the celebration gathering, congregational meetings and similar events. Put a rotating selection of photos on the congregation's homepage, Facebook and Twitter pages, and in the bulletin. Reminding people of the event is a great way to help raise awareness of and support for your congregation's ever-growing engagement with the global church.

- Add some globally inspired music or art to the congregation's regular worship.
- Make sure that global joys and concerns are regularly lifted up in prayer. You can keep up with our church's engagement in the global church by visiting the Stories from the Global Church blog or subscribing to the Global Links e-newsletter at www.ELCA.org/GlobalLinks.
- Keep in touch with your global ministries, missionaries and companions and include their stories in the bulletin and your homepage, Facebook page and other communications. The Mission of the Month stories (available at www.ELCA.org/resources/globalchurch) are another good way to raise awareness of our global connections.
- Make it easy for people to support ELCA Global Church Sponsorship ministries and missionaries with regular offerings and reminders of ways to give. Special pew envelopes and copies of our annual directory are free to order at <http://resources.elca.org/Products-GlobalMission.html>.
- Make note of ELCA Global Events near you and make it easy for people to attend. See www.ELCA.org/global for current dates and locations.

And please email the photos and stories that you would like to share with others to the ELCA Global Church Sponsorship office – your celebration will inspire others throughout our global church! Our email address is globalchurch@ELCA.org.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. What lasting result would you like to see in your congregation's engagement with our global church?
2. What commitments can your congregation make to continue its enthusiasm and engagement with our global church?
3. Does your congregation have an interest group with a heart for global engagement? Might your Global Church Sunday celebration lead to the formation or revitalization of such a group? How? Who would be part of it? What might the group do next?

Thank you!

Thank you for your service and dedication to the local and global church. Every day, thanks to you, we are building up Christ's global church – together! **Thank you!**

