THE NEED

Since 1963, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) has grown from 500,000 members to 6.1 million – approximately 13 percent of the population of Tanzania.

During a time when global Christianity declined in membership, the ELCT and other Christian churches in East Africa thrived. Now, the ELCT and the environment in East Africa offer a learning opportunity on effective evangelism for the global Lutheran church.

Through a Global Ministry evangelism project, “Tanzania: Effective Outreach in the Twenty-First Century,” ELCA members and supporters have the opportunity to expand the ELCT’s reach even further while uncovering important lessons on evangelism and outreach strategies.

With a goal of $300,000, the project will support the development of an outreach training course at Tumaini University-Makumira, facilitated by the university’s professors and the ELCT’s deputy secretary general for evangelism. Students will learn to analyze their settings and utilize various evangelism strategies to most effectively conduct mission outreach efforts.

Following an initial pilot group of students from East African churches, participants from the ELCA and its companion churches will be invited to partake; this will be a crossroads where the Global South will share its gifts of witness with the Global North and with participants from around the world.

“The church belongs to God himself; it’s the church of Christ. And all of us are members of that one body. That means that we can learn from one another,” said the Rev. Dr. Angela Olotu, dean of faculty for the School of Theology at Tumaini University-Makumira. “In this case, we will strengthen our way of worshiping God and evangelism by working together.”
ABOUT ELCA GLOBAL MINISTRIES

The ELCA has deep, long-standing relationships with more than 80 Lutheran churches around the world. As part of a global Lutheran community, we work alongside our brothers and sisters to spread the good news of Jesus Christ near and far.

Because we can do more together than we can as individual congregations, the ELCA listens to our companion churches around the world and responds to their requests for financial support to expand their ministries – to start new congregations, extend outreach in urban areas, and train pastors and evangelists. We call these joint evangelism projects Global Ministries.

The initiative in Tanzania is one of 14 new Global Ministries introduced as part of Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA.

HELP US DO MORE!

Make a gift to “Tanzania: Effective Outreach in the Twenty-First Century.”

ONLINE Make a secure credit card donation by visiting community.ELCA.org/Tanzania.

MAIL Make checks payable to ELCA Global Church Sponsorship with “Tanzania: GCS4034” in the check’s memo line. Mail checks to: ELCA, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.

OTHER WAYS TO GIVE For other ways to give, including multiyear pledges, gifts of securities or real estate, and planned gifts, please call 800-638-3522, ext. 2612, or email CampaignforELCA@elca.org.

Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA is our moment to look toward the future of this church and boldly respond to the needs of the world with a living, daring confidence in God’s grace. This five-year, $198 million campaign will help our church grow our communities of faith, form new leaders, welcome our neighbors, overcome malaria, confront hunger and poverty, accompany our global churches and so much more. Together, we can achieve things on a scale and scope we could never do otherwise.