

26 Fourth Sunday of Easter We remember in our prayers the ELCA Alaska and Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Assemblies, that the Spirit will guide their members and leaders in God's work and service in the world.

27 We pray for our synod bishops and staff, that God may sustain their spirit, vision and body for serving congregations, leaders and the world.

28 When we experience doubts in our faith, we pray to be reminded that Jesus Christ is the son of God born human in our world and understands deeply our human nature and struggles.

29 We pray for deepening understanding and commitment in our global partnership and communion with The Lutheran World Federation and World Council of Churches.

30 For refugees who have been displaced from their homes and communities in areas of conflict around the world, we pray that their daily needs be met and they find safety and stability.

This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact info@elca.org for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.



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PRAYER VENTURES

APRIL 2015

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

1 During Child Abuse Prevention Month, and every month, we pray that all children and youth are kept safe from harm and may know the love and support of caring adults.

2 Maundy Thursday Mindful of the example of Jesus, we pray to be humble servants caring for all people, especially the poor and unloved.

3 Good Friday As we remember Jesus' journey to the cross, we pray that we may grasp the depth of God's sacrificial love for all humankind and creation.

4 Vigil of Easter Christ is risen! Alleluia! We pray that our lives and the work of this church will give witness daily to our risen savior who has set us free from the bondage of sin and death.

5 Easter Sunday Christ is risen! Alleluia! On Easter we give thanks that we no longer need fear judgment and death; through the resurrected Christ, we experience forgiveness, hope and new life.

6 We pray for survivors of sexual assault, especially during Sexual Assault Awareness Month, for their healing, safety and wellness. We pray for the end of violence and the growth of respect and compassion between all people.

7 As students return from spring break, we pray that they are renewed and eager for their continuing studies.

8 Remember American Indian and Alaska Native communities, native congregations and the American Indian and Alaska Native Lutheran Association. We give thanks for 350 years of Lutheran witness and ministry and for their work of reconciliation and proclaiming the gospel.

9 *Remembrance of Dietrich Bonhoeffer* On this day we remember the life, courageous Christian witness during the Nazi movement, and death of German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

10 Together, with our companion churches around the world, we give thanks that we are a church whose unity is in Jesus Christ, who gathers us around word and water, wine and bread.

11 We remember those communities prone to severe weather and flooding in the spring and pray for their safety and preparedness.

12 *Second Sunday of Easter* Today we hear the questions and doubts of Thomas and remember our own uncertainties. We pray that our trust and faith will grow in the promises and presence of God.

13 Water is a precious gift necessary for all life. We pray for the success of ELCA youth and the ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water to raise \$500,000 for water projects around the world.

14 We pray for the Moravian Church in America, an ELCA full communion partner, and for the continuing growth of our relationship as together we share the gospel and serve in the world.

15 We continue our prayers for lasting, peaceful resolutions and stability where conflict and unrest exist in the world.

16 We are a church together. We remember in our prayers the ELCA Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast and ELCA Eastern North Dakota Synod Assemblies, that the Spirit will guide their members and leaders in God's work and service in the world.

17 We pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ – a global community of more than 70 million Lutherans in 79 countries – who work to share God's love everywhere.

18 Remember the participants in the Ecumenical Advocacy Days in Washington, D.C., and our work – following the example of Jesus – of encouraging leaders and governments to act for justice, reconciliation, peace and wellness for all people.

19 *Third Sunday of Easter* We pray that in the midst of our busy lives and world we not forget to be light in the world, a witness to the good news of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

20 For farmers and ranchers who provide food for the world, we pray for favorable spring conditions and sufficient water for planting crops and raising livestock.

21 Remember the 38 companion churches and institutions the ELCA engages in 19 countries of the Asia and Pacific regions. Pray for local leaders and ELCA missionaries walking together to share the hope of God's grace and presence.

22 *Earth Day* On Earth Day, we ask God's forgiveness for where we have failed to adequately care for creation and ask for wisdom and courage in restoring and tending land, air, water, resources and all of creation – gifts from God.

23 We are a church together. We remember in our prayers the ELCA Northeastern Minnesota and Saint Paul Area Synod Assemblies, that the Spirit will guide their members and leaders in God's work and service in the world.

24 We remember in our prayers the ELCA Oregon and Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod Assemblies, that the Spirit will guide their members and leaders in God's work and service in the world.

25 *World Malaria Day* On this day we remember people and communities suffering from the impact of malaria, and we give thanks for the progress of our partners in fighting malaria with support from the ELCA Malaria Campaign.