

25 We give thanks for Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, thought by many to be the greatest hymnwriter in the English language and whom our church commemorates on this day. Inspire all who offer their gifts of music in glorifying God.

26 As we near the end of a church year and calendar year, we give thanks for the ELCA Foundation, whose gift planners assist this church with financial plans that address our questions concerning year-end charitable gifts.

27 On this day of thanksgiving in the United States, we are grateful for the abundance of the good things of God's creation. Paul reminds us that our thanksgiving overflows into generosity. As the body of Christ in the world, we give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.

28 We give thanks for ELCA Good Gifts, and its mission to help grow the church, fight hunger and transform lives. We are a church that is freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. With our hands, we do God's work of restoring and reconciling communities in Jesus Christ's name throughout the world.

29 We give thanks for the ELCA Mission Investment Fund, celebrating 100 years of strength and stability in offering investments and ministry loans to individuals and congregations.

30 We give thanks for the apostles, especially Andrew, whom we celebrate on this day. The first of the disciples to be called by Jesus, give grace, oh God, to all who are called by your holy word.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

PRAYER VENTURES

NOVEMBER 2014

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 On this All Saints Day, we celebrate and give thanks for the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ.

2 We give thanks for all who work for justice among all people and nations, especially Martín de Porres, renewer of society, whom we commemorate today.

3 We pray for all nations that are struggling with Ebola outbreaks. Through ELCA World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster response and the ELCA Malaria Campaign, we walk together with our Lutheran companions all over the world as they respond to hunger, disaster and disease with compassion and action.

4 We give thanks to all in this church who are committed to help fight for equal rights in all ways of life, including voting rights, as also shared in the ELCA social statement "Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture."

5 We give thanks for the ELCA Fund for Leaders, a scholarship program that attracts men and women of promise to study at one of eight ELCA seminaries with full-tuition or mission developer scholarships.

6 We lift up the ELCA's observation of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. ELCA members and congregations are encouraged to participate in the observation.

7 Raise up, in every country, all who herald the gospel and who make the good news known, especially John Christian Frederick Heyer, Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, and Ludwig Nommensen, early missionaries who we commemorate today.

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.

8 We give thanks for the work of the Word and Service task force. Formed by the ELCA Church Council, the task force is charged with exploring the possibility of forming a single ELCA roster for ministers of Word and Service.

9 With compassion, love and support, we reflect on this church's "Message on Suicide Prevention" as a call to members, congregations and affiliated institutions to learn more about suicide and its prevention in our communities.

10 We give thanks for the Ecclesiology of a Global Church task force, which is exploring how the ELCA can affirm its self-understanding as part of The Lutheran World Federation, a global communion of 144 member churches representing more than 72 million Christians. The ELCA is the communion's only member church from the United States.

11 We raise up the faithful bishops of this church, especially Martin, Bishop of Tours, whom we commemorate today. And we give thanks for Søren Aabye Kierkegaard, teacher, whom we also commemorate on this day, and all teachers who lead us to knowledge.

12 We lift up the ELCA Renewal/Prayer/Revival team in partnership with the ELCA Metropolitan Chicago Synod, and their commitment to ending global, community and domestic violence.

13 As we seek to learn more about the influx of unaccompanied and migrant children entering the United States, we give thanks for this church's continued response efforts. Pray especially for children who have crossed over borders by themselves to become our new neighbors and for their well-being and safety.

14 We give thanks for Monthly Partners and the generous gifts from those who provide consistent, ongoing support for ELCA churchwide ministries that impact the mission and ministry of this church.

15 We celebrate our church's five-year, comprehensive campaign, *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, which seeks to raise funds to sustain and grow the ministries of the ELCA. We give thanks for the strong response in the areas of ELCA Malaria Campaign, New Congregations, ELCA Fund for Leaders, and Global Church-International Leaders: Women.

16 Merciful Lord, we remember all the lives lost to gun violence, weapons of war that have flooded our communities. Bless us with the wisdom and strength to put down our swords and be peacemakers.

17 We give thanks for all who work for justice among people and nations, especially Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, whom we commemorate today.

18 Creator God, you trusted us to protect the earth, to protect our future and the future of our children. We give thanks for this church's global partnerships that work to offer a unique understanding of the impact climate change is having on the food security and livelihoods of vulnerable people and communities around the world.

19 We give thanks for the men and women who work or who have worked to protect our nation and world. We especially pray for our veterans and the chaplains and volunteers of this church who bring them comfort.

20 Gracious God, we are a church that believes you are calling us into the world together. We give thanks for ELCA World Hunger and its work and mission of reaching communities in need with innovative solutions that get at the root causes of hunger.

21 We give thanks for Lutheran Campus Ministries and the 26 colleges and universities of the ELCA, rooted in the liberal arts and sciences and a Lutheran expression of the Christian faith and committed to global education.

22 We give thanks for Lutheran World Relief, an ELCA partner, dedicated to ending poverty, injustice and human suffering around the world.

23 We raise up the faithful bishops of this church, especially Clement, Bishop of Rome, whom we commemorate today. Inspire us with the memory of Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, whom we also commemorate on this day, and all men and women who have given their lives in witness to your love and truth.

24 We raise up the pastors of our church, the men and women of the ELCA who shepherd your people, and we give thanks for Justus Falckner, Jehu Jones, and William Passavant, early pastors in North America, whom we commemorate today.