

28 Remember in your prayers Suzanne Strekal, an ELCA missionary in Bratislava, Slovakia, where she is a teacher.

29 Pray for Kaia Duffus and her work in youth outreach and teaching English as an ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission volunteer in Malaysia.

30 First Sunday of Christmas

Almighty God, give to all your people throughout the world the love of peace. Guide the leaders of all nations so that your kingdom will go forth in peace and the earth will be filled with your love.

31 New Year's Eve

Pray that in 2013, with God's guidance, we and our nation's recently elected and re-elected leaders will work together in a new spirit of cooperation and civility, putting aside self-interests and striving for a better life for all.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

PRAYER VENTURES

DECEMBER 2012

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 World AIDS Day

Remember in your prayers the people in the Caribbean and eastern U.S. struggling to recover from the devastation and loss of life caused by the storms of Hurricane Sandy.

2 First Sunday of Advent

O Lord, give us eyes to see the signs of your presence in the world. Help us to prepare our lives and our homes to receive Jesus who is the light of the world. Amen.

3 Pray for Wendolyn and Eric Trozzo, ELCA missionaries serving in seminary education in Malaysia.

4 Pray for the work of ELCA Disaster Response that ELCA members will give generously to provide help where needed to those affected by the damage caused by Hurricane Sandy.

5 Pray for ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission volunteer Andrea Hamer, who is spending a year working with youth in Argentina.

6 Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, died around 342

Remember the 16 first-year ELCA seminary students who recently received full-tuition scholarships from the ELCA Fund for Leaders and give thanks that God's work will be glorified through their calling.

7 Pray for Joseph Helgeson, an ELCA missionary in Tisovec, Slovakia, where he is a teacher.

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 Pray for the Basel Christian Church of Malaysia, which marked its 130th anniversary in November. The church of 120 congregations hosts an ELCA seminary professor and an ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission country program.

9 Second Sunday of Advent

Loving God, fill us with your Spirit and help us transform our lives and our communities. Give us the peace of knowing that you came to share our human life and redeem us for the sake of love. We ask these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

10 Pray for the Rev. Kevin Jacobson, an ELCA missionary in Paramaribo, Suriname, where he is serving in the areas of leadership development and parish ministry.

11 Pray for the Rev. Philip and Lou Marie Knutson, ELCA missionaries in Cape Town, South Africa, where they are regional representatives for Southern Africa.

12 Pray that the world will not forget and will continue to aid the people suffering in Guatemala after an earthquake on Nov. 7 killed dozens.

13 Remember in your prayers Ashley Debilzen, an ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission volunteer in Nyirtelek, Hungary.

14 Pray for the six hospitals in East Jerusalem, including The Lutheran World Federation's Augusta Victoria Hospital, that are facing difficulties because of the Palestinian Authority's financial crisis. Foreign aid for the Palestinian Authority has been reduced, directly affecting the work and resources of the hospitals and endangering the lives of patients, according to the head of Augusta Victoria Hospital.

15 Pray for the Rev. Anne Langerak, an ELCA missionary in San José, Costa Rica, who is serving in parish ministry.

16 Third Sunday of Advent

God of the nations, we give you thanks for the Christian communities in India, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Give them strength to be witnesses to your love and peace. We lift up to you the companion relationships among the South Andhra Lutheran Church of India and the ELCA Northeastern Minnesota Synod, and the Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church and the ELCA Northwestern Minnesota Synod.

17 Remember Erik Grayvold, who is spending a year in Jerusalem/West Bank as an ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission volunteer.

18 Pray for the children among the 50,000 people in the Kakuma Refugee Camp in northwestern Kenya – and the ELCA World Hunger work in the camp – that the children's dreams of a better life will be realized.

19 Pray for the Rev. Tessa and Jon Leiseth, ELCA missionaries in Haymarket, South Africa. They are coordinators for the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission volunteers in South Africa.

20 Katharina von Bora Luther, renewer of the church, died 1552
Pray for Kathryn and William Fredell as they continue their work as teachers and serving as ELCA missionaries in Bratislava, Slovakia.

21 Pray and give thanks for the live-saving and renewing health care provided by the Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre in Arusha, Tanzania, and the ELCA missionaries who serve there. Many of the patients are children with physical deformities.

22 Pray for Kate Griewisch as she spends a year in Madagascar as an ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission volunteer teaching English.

23 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Almighty God, we give you thanks for showering your Spirit upon the churches of Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland. May they find continued strength to engage the social, economic and political challenges within which they witness.

24 Christmas Eve

Pray that all religions on this holy night can put aside their historical differences and unite in the quest for peace on earth, good will to all.

25 Christmas Day

Pray that the light of the new-born Christ will shine throughout the world and that God's comforting grace will be felt by all those in need.

26 Stephen, Deacon and Martyr

Pray for Christine Kennedy and Linnea Stole, ELCA missionaries in Cieszyn, Poland, working as teachers.

27 Pray for Randy and Carol Stubbs, ELCA missionaries in Usa River, Tanzania, serving in music education.