

**27** Remember in your prayers the ministries of Women of the ELCA and Lutheran Men in Mission as their members make a difference in the world because God has made a difference in their lives.

**28** As all people are one in Christ, pray that we will strive to eliminate racism from our daily lives.

**29 Michael and All Angels**

Holy God, in your mercy grant that, as your angels serve and worship you in heaven, so by your choosing they may help and defend us here on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**30** Lift up the many volunteers throughout the ELCA who tirelessly give of their time and talents, enabling local ministries to function smoothly.



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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## PRAYER VENTURES

SEPTEMBER 2013

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*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 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

God of all people, guide and protect all who work in embassies and consulates throughout the world. We especially remember those whose duties take them to Egypt, Jordan and Madagascar.

**2** On this Labor Day pray for all those who labor, especially people working for low wages and – despite long, tiring hours – see no release from a life of poverty.

**3** Lift up in your prayers the Rev. Rodger C. Prois, the new bishop of the ELCA Western Iowa Synod. Also remember these re-elected ELCA synod bishops: the Rev. H. Julian Gordy, Southeastern Synod; the Rev. Ralph E. Jones, Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod; the Rev. Kurt F. Kusserow, Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod; the Rev. Lawrence R. Wohlrabe, Northwestern Minnesota Synod; the Rev. David B. Zellmer, South Dakota Synod; the Rev. Robert L. Driesen, Upper Susquehanna Synod; and the Rev. Richard H. Graham, Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Synod.

**4** Pray for the continuing domestic work of Lutheran Disaster Response, including its recovery efforts for the victims of this year's wild fires in Colorado, New Mexico and California and those affected by tornadoes in Oklahoma, Kansas, Illinois, Iowa and Texas.

**5** Pray for the 64 new 2013 ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission volunteers, who are in the first weeks of their year of service and learning to walk in accompaniment with new neighbors in a new culture.

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*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](mailto:info@elca.org) for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.*

**6** Remember in your prayers the theological education ministry of the Rev. Jeffrey Truscott, an ELCA missionary in Singapore.

**7** Include in your prayers ELCA missionary Patrick Meers and his work in Japan as a teacher of English as a second language.

**8 “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday**

We praise you, God, for this day of service. Be with us as we go forth in our communities, homes, and congregations today and always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**9** Give thanks and pray for God’s guidance for the legions of Sunday school teachers throughout the ELCA as they give of their time to share their faith with our young people.

**10** Remember in your prayers the 66,000 refugees in Uganda who have fled the violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo and are receiving aid from Lutheran Disaster Response.

**11** On the anniversary of the 9/11 terrorists attacks, pray that one day killing and violence will cease and that through mutual communication and listening all people will live in peace.

**12** Pray for the chaplains at the 26 ELCA-affiliated colleges and universities as they begin a new school year of helping students grow spiritually.

**13** Lift up in your prayers the Rev. Miriam Schmidt and Jeremy Blyth, ELCA missionaries in Slovakia. Miriam is the pastor of Bratislava International Church and is the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission regional coordinator for Central Europe.

**14 Holy Cross Day**

Pray for those who work for the dignity and rights of vulnerable people and people living with poverty in this country and abroad.

**15 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Gracious God, we pray that the churches of Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary may be your instruments of reconciliation, both locally and in the wider world.

**16** Remember today in your prayers the many people throughout the world who are forced by poverty to live and work away from

their families for long periods, sometimes in unsafe conditions, to earn a meager living.

**17** Pray for the new and returning students at the ELCA’s seminaries as they study and prepare for a life answering God’s call.

**18** Give thanks today for that special person who has been a mentor in your personal life, including aiding your relationship to God.

**19** Pray for Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, Calif., and California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, Calif., as the ELCA schools go forward together after a recently approved merger.

**20** Remember in your prayers the Rev. Tessa Moon Leiseth and Jon Leiseth, ELCA missionaries in South Africa, who are the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission regional coordinators.

**21 Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist**

On this annual World Day of Prayer for Peace, pray that all nations will place negotiation above armed conflict and that God’s love for all will be a guiding force in world politics.

**22 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

God of the ages, we give you thanks for the church in Russia and the Ukraine. Continue to guide the companion relationships among the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and the ELCA Central States and Northwest Washington Synods.

**23** Give thanks today for the many food pantries that ELCA congregations support and the lifelines those pantries provide for those in need.

**24** Remember in your prayers Patrick and Jacqueline Bencke, ELCA missionaries teaching English in Kumamoto, Japan.

**25** Pray for the continued success of the ELCA Malaria Campaign and give thanks for the efforts of the ELCA congregations that are helping to curb the deadly disease in Africa.

**26** Give thanks for the ELCA Domestic Hunger Grant program and its support of local efforts to eradicate hunger and poverty in the United States and the Caribbean.