Visiting with a Church Council

1. Sometimes, even the leaders of our congregations aren’t aware of the full scope of ministry and mission of our church.

2. People appreciate that you take the time to come and simply say, “Thank you for all you do to make God’s mission in the world possible!”

3. Lifting up the connectedness of the three expressions of the ELCA helps leaders make more informed decisions about their Mission Support.

4. Folks are always amazed by the work we do together as the ELCA.

5. Leaders want to know what happens with their Mission Support contribution: Whom it helps. Where it’s used. What it’s used for.

6. Once in the know, leaders enthusiastically share this information with the congregation.

7. Meeting with councils is a great way to get invited into the congregation for a temple talk, to preach, or other events.

8. Often council leaders can suggest someone in the congregation who might become a mission interpreter (or maybe it’s one of the council members themselves) so that mission stories can be told on a consistent basis.

9. Making it real — putting a face and a name to where our mission support goes makes it personal. Leaders are more apt to increase their mission support when they are connected to real people, here in our own country and countries around the globe.

10. Representing the mission and ministry of the ELCA is a great way to be remembered by council members.