



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

**Always**  
being made  
**New.**

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE ELCA

2016 REPORT



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



“We said about the campaign, ‘Together we can do more.’ I think we surprised ourselves. Responding to God’s generosity, our people have also been generous. Through the campaign, we have changed lives across this church and around the globe. But our lives have been changed, too. We have discovered that the ELCA is neither helpless nor poor, and that truly, with God all things are possible. Many thanks to members, congregations and synods for their faithful and adventurous participation in the campaign.”

– the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton,  
presiding bishop,  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America





**Through *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, we are strengthening and expanding ministries across this church and with our global companions around the world.**



**M**ore than halfway through this historic effort, ELCA members have come together to contribute \$113 million in support of these ministries. From growing communities of faith and welcoming our neighbors to confronting hunger and poverty, accompanying our global companion churches and forming new leaders, the campaign offers each of us an opportunity to get involved in God's amazing work.

This year, as we commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we are reaffirming our commitment to restoring and reconciling communities in Jesus' name throughout the world through the Global Church priority, including Missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission, International Women Leaders and Global Ministries. Through these programs, we are building up Christ's church by sending missionaries and volunteers, training leaders, planting new churches and growing existing ones. Join us by supporting this work and sharing the impact of these programs on the lives of our neighbors around the world.

The church owes a great deal of thanks to generous donors, congregations, synods, partner ministries and volunteer leadership tables – like the Campaign Steering Committee and Bishop's Advisory Council, who are stepping forward to extend the impact of the campaign. Thank you for your support!



# CAMPAIGN GIFTS

# *in action*

Your generosity is  
making a difference in  
the lives of our neighbors  
around the world.

**84**

## Young Adults in Global Mission volunteers

sent into service in August, with two new  
country programs – Senegal and Australia



**63**

## Countries

around the world with ELCA  
World Hunger-supported programs



**21**

## New or enhanced Youth and Young Adult ministries

received a campaign grant

**250**



## Seminary students

with an ELCA Fund for Leaders  
scholarship in the 2016-2017  
academic year



**17** Women

received International Women Leaders  
scholarships, including four-year  
scholarships to ELCA colleges  
and universities

**79**

## International Lutheran women

representing 38 countries participated  
in an International Women Leaders  
seminar in Wittenberg, Germany



**21**

## Renewing Congregations grants

in 18 synods distributed  
through the campaign



**372**

## New start ministries

currently under development  
across the ELCA



**225**

## Missionaries

served with the ELCA  
during 2016



**300**

## Domestic hunger grants

support sustainable solutions that  
get at the root causes of hunger  
and poverty across the U.S.

*Together,* we are doing God's work with our hands.



“I am grateful that the ELCA is investing in congregations that are collaborating for the sake of their surrounding neighborhoods. When we work together, we have greater ability to bless and be blessed by our neighbors and a greater understanding of God’s purpose for Lutherans in this part of our city.”

– **the Rev. Deborah Stehlin,**  
director for evangelical  
mission with the  
Minneapolis Area Synod



“I have a passion for supporting and mentoring pastors in their journey of discernment, study and transition to serving the church. It has never been more critical for the church to demonstrate such support through scholarships.”

– **Diane Hill, ELCA Fund for Leaders**  
donor and member of All Saints  
Lutheran Church, Palatine, Ill.





"Most revealing to me was the notion that being with these people [with disabilities] is not just a one-way act of charity that we provide for them. They give to us. They force us to slow down, to enjoy small moments of connection. And we realize that the true goal in life is not to achieve independence but to achieve community – to be in relationship with each other and with God."

– **Wartburg Seminary student and participant in an immersion course facilitated by Mosaic and funded by Disability Ministries**

"The work is so important because we know women support education around the world. If we support a woman, we support an entire family for the future."

– **Cindy Kraft, International Women Leaders donor and member of Good Shepherd Lutheran, Manchester, Mo.**





“Whenever I heard people talking about safe, clean water, I would never believe that at any time in my life I could have that for myself. My children were often missing school or arriving late. This is going to stop. Time that we normally spend looking for water can now be invested in other productive ventures like agriculture for income. I have my own water tank. It’s a dream come true.”

– **Wijanhi Asaph, community member, Uganda**



“I think our Change for Change in South Sudan project has helped our small congregation in rural Minnesota become more aware of our inclusion in the ‘greater church.’ It is a tangible response to our calling to be good stewards of all of God’s gifts.”

– **the Rev. Jeff Schmitz, Elmo Lutheran Church, Parkers Prairie, Minn.**

“The ELCA campaign allowed me to start my career in philanthropy by funding my internship with Ecumen. I can’t stress enough how essential it is for recent graduates to have the opportunity to explore a variety of careers while also receiving compensation.”

– **Helen Kyle, recent graduate of St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn.**



“After 500 years, grace is still a powerful lens on the gospel. It’s a word that doesn’t exist in the Aymara-Quechua language because society is so reciprocal. If I do you a favor, you do one for me. The idea of a free gift for people who have been marginalized, when they experience a church that looks after their needs with no obligation attached – it’s new and enlightening.”

– **the Rev. David Thorp, an ELCA missionary serving the Bolivian Evangelical Lutheran Church as a pastoral educator and trainer**



# Our progress

"Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above,  
coming down from the Father of lights."

**James 1:17a**



**\$113 million**

Current gifts and  
multi-year  
commitments  
to the campaign



**57%**

Campaign total  
raised to-date



**63%**

Congregations  
that gave to a  
campaign ministry



**\$22.5 million**

Planned gifts\* for  
campaign priorities

# Our progress

## C A M P A I G N   G I V I N G   B Y   P R I O R I T Y

### RENEWING CONGREGATIONS

**\$970,000**

12% of \$8 million goal

### ELCA NEW CONGREGATIONS

**\$1.1 million**

28% of \$4 million goal

### DISABILITY MINISTRIES

**\$167,000**

4% of \$4 million goal

### GLOBAL MINISTRIES

**\$1.5 million**

22% of \$7 million goal

### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN LEADERS

**\$1.6 million**

40% of \$4 million goal

### MISSIONARIES AND YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION

**\$11 million**

50% of \$22 million goal

### ELCA FUND FOR LEADERS

**\$12 million**

80% of \$15 million goal

### YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

**\$338,000**

8% of \$4 million goal

### ELCA WORLD HUNGER

**\$64 million**

56% of \$115 million goal

### ELCA MALARIA CAMPAIGN

**\$15.5 million**

103% of \$15 million goal

### CAMPAIGN "WHERE NEEDED MOST"

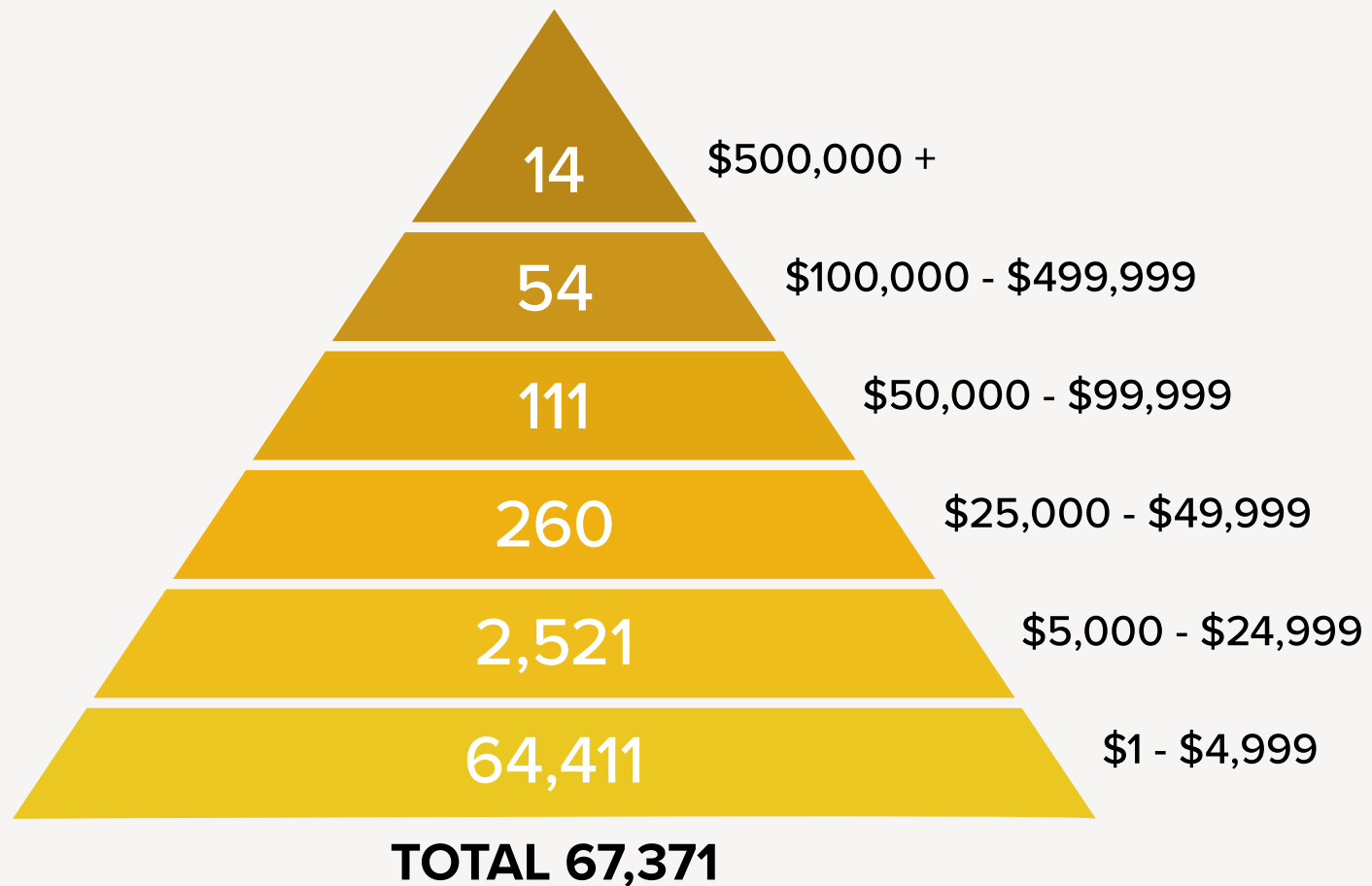
**\$5 million**

No goal



# DONORS TO CAMPAIGN PRIORITIES

Feb. 1, 2014 - April 12, 2017



**Dear brothers and sisters,**



“Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles” (Acts 2:43).

Awesome things are happening because of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*. The new reality that comes because of Jesus’ death and resurrection launches faithful people like you to give generously.

Thank you for your gifts, which make sure that many wonders and signs continue to be done around the world and in our own country. We are confident that we will reach our bold goals that total \$198 million dollars and change the lives of so many people. I am very grateful for the leadership of our campaign steering committee, led by Loren and MaryAnn Anderson, our congregations, synods, bishops and individual donors who all have brought us to where we are today.

As we enter the final two years of the campaign, imagine what more can be done as we continue to grow in supporting these priorities. With an annual theme of Global Church in 2017 – the year of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation – we are focused on Missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission, International Women Leaders and Global Ministries. Please join us in this important work. Share the “awesome” stories that are happening because of the campaign.

Thank you for your continued involvement and support. All gifts – great and small – really make the difference for our church in the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Ron T. Gluskamp". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Pastor Ron Gluskamp  
Director, The Campaign for the ELCA



Fellow ELCA member,

We are called to be a church in mission, in the words of Acts 1:8, to be His “witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Pursuing this great vocation as a church requires well-prepared and gifted leadership, vibrant and mission-filled congregations and a commitment to global outreach – supporting our companion churches, preparing global leaders and tackling the great issues of the day, including illnesses such as malaria and the scourge of world hunger.

As we close out and celebrate the first three years of *The Campaign for the ELCA*, we give thanks for all that has been given, for all the saints who have shared over \$113 million and all the great projects that have been accomplished. We stand in awe of the mission to which we are called, and the giftedness and potential of our church to be an even stronger and more powerful witness of God’s love and embrace as we seek to live out the full spirit of our Acts 1:8 calling.

So, it is with both thanksgiving and hope we look forward to the last two years of the campaign and to reaching our full goal of raising \$198 million, not just because the money matters, but because the mission – God’s mission – does!

Loren and MaryAnn Anderson  
Co-Chairs, Campaign Steering Committee



# CAMPAIGN STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Special thanks to our Campaign Steering Committee for their leadership.*

**Lauren Amundson**

Mariposa Lutheran Church  
*Mariposa, Calif.*

**Loren and MaryAnn Anderson**

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church  
*Minneapolis, Minn.*

**Sarah Bowers**

Redeemer Lutheran Church  
*Columbia, S.C.*

**Kent Dauten**

Lutheran Church of the Ascension  
*Northfield, Ill.*

**The Rev. Elizabeth Ekdale**

St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
*San Francisco, Calif.*

**Tim Krumm**

Zion Lutheran Church  
*Iowa City, Iowa*

**Bishop Brian Maas**

Nebraska Synod

**Christine Mummert**

St. Peter's Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
*Neffsville, Pa.*

**Jenny Peterson**

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church  
*St. Paul, Minn.*

**Tanisha Pitre**

Community Lutheran Church  
*Los Angeles, Calif.*

**Wayne and Phyllis Rickert**

New Hope Lutheran Church  
*Agoura Hills, Calif.*

**Bob and Becky Shaw**

Faith Lutheran Church  
*Clive, Iowa*

**Steve and Steph Smith**

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
*Minneapolis, Minn.*

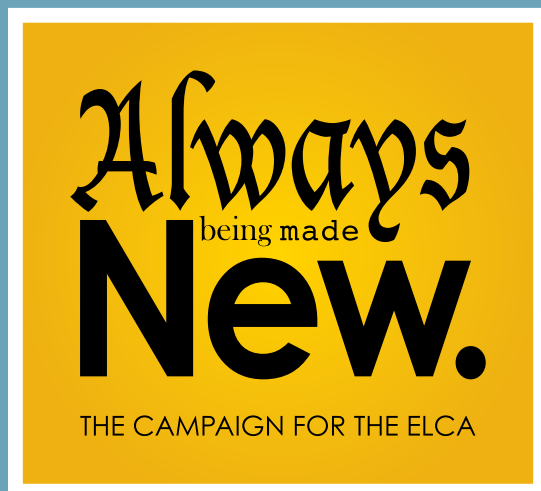
**Duane Sander**

First Lutheran Church  
*Brookings, S.D.*

**Rick Torgerson**

Normandale Lutheran Church  
*Edina, Minn.*





*Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA* is our moment to look toward the future of this church and boldly respond to the needs of the world with a living, daring confidence in God's grace. This five-year, \$198 million campaign will help our church grow our communities of faith, form new leaders, welcome our neighbors, overcome malaria, confront hunger and poverty, accompany our global churches and so much more. Together, we can achieve things on a scale and scope we could never do otherwise. Thank you for your support.

800-638-3522  
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ELCA.org/campaign



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