

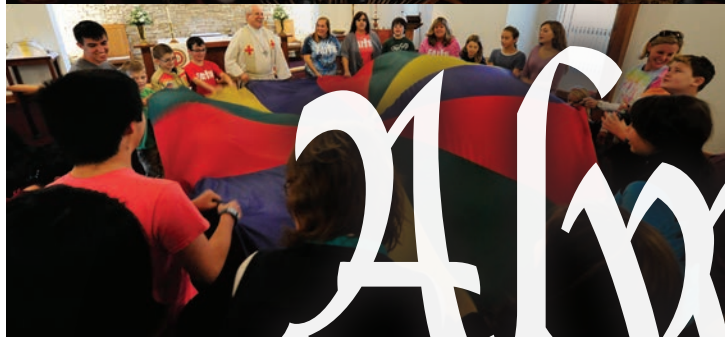
Always
being made
New.

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE ELCA

2017 REPORT



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Always being made New.

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE ELCA

Four years ago,

we set the bold and daring goal of raising \$198 million in a five-year span – a significant increase in support for existing and new ministries.

Through this first-ever effort, *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, we made a commitment to invest in the future of this church, deepen our relationships and expand ministries that serve our neighbors and communities here at home and around the globe. Now, as we enter the fifth year, we have been richly blessed. Your generosity and vision inspire us, and it is our privilege to be working beside you on behalf of this church to make all things new through Christ.

In this final year of the campaign, we are investing in the future of the ELCA through the Leadership priority, including ELCA Fund for Leaders and Youth and Young Adults. With your support, we are identifying, encouraging and supporting leaders who will ground us in God's love and forgiveness and send us out to do God's work in the world for years to come.

The church owes a great deal of thanks to the generous donors, lay and clergy leaders, and volunteers of the Campaign Steering Committee and the Presiding Bishop's Advisory Council, who are stepping forward to extend the impact of the campaign. Thank you for your support!



“Through this first-ever campaign, we made a commitment to invest in the future of the ELCA – and working together to do so. Something we learned and saw with the Malaria Campaign is that every gift counts. It is so important for us to do this together, because together, we can do more. Together, we are deepening our relationships and expanding ministries that serve our neighbors and communities here at home and around the globe.”

— *The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, ELCA presiding bishop*

CAMPAIGN GIFTS IN ACTION

Your generosity is
making a difference
in the lives of our
brothers and sisters
around the world.

11



New global ministry evangelism projects
initiated by companion churches in Africa, Asia,
Europe, the Middle East and Latin America



18

**Additional congregational
new-start ministries**
proclaiming the gospel
in a variety of contexts
and creative strategies

518

**Projects supporting
sustainable solutions**
that get at the root causes
of hunger and poverty
around the world



521

Seminary students
with an ELCA Fund
for Leaders scholarship

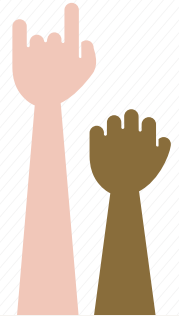
125

International Lutheran women with academic scholarships, and training and networking opportunities



315

Young Adults in Global Mission served or are serving in 15 countries around the world



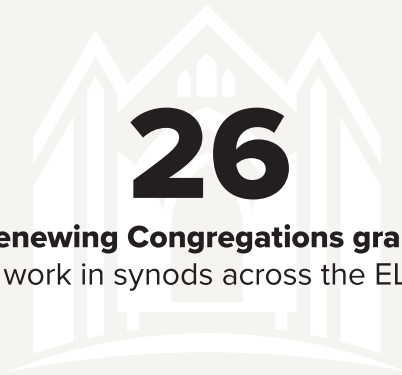
230

Missionaries working alongside our companions in more than 40 countries to proclaim the gospel, raise up leaders and care for those in need



26

Renewing Congregations grants at work in synods across the ELCA



62

Countries around the world with ELCA World Hunger-supported programs, including the United States



21

New or enhanced Youth and Young Adult ministries with a grant to grow existing programs or start new ones



31

Grants for workshops, training opportunities, education and camps distributed through Disability Ministries

Thank you

FOR SUPPORTING THIS WORK!





“We dreamed of an academy where different groups of people from various cultures could come together and have an opportunity to grow and learn together, where we could build young-adult leaders that we could then start dispatching throughout the world.”

THE REV. YEHIEL CURRY

Pastor and adviser to the Multi-Cultural Youth Leadership Academy, funded by the campaign



“We are shaping a generation of young adults [through Young Adults in Global Mission] who return to the United States. The work that I choose to do will be impacted by this experience. I feel deeply obligated to do work that honors the experience I had.”

JESSICA MOES

An alumna of the Young Adults in Global Mission program who served in Cambodia

“My concerns are about the future of the church and its decline in importance and centrality in the lives of people today. I am a firm supporter of mission efforts and new ways of ‘being church together.’”

ELIZABETH HAMMOND

ELCA New Congregations donor and member of Peace Lutheran Church, Grass Valley, Calif.





“This time of reformation challenges us to build a church where we have equal rights for all people, where we can live with respect, with tolerance, with peace and love.”

THE REV. ANA ISA DOS REIS

A pastor of the Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil and participant in an International Women Leaders seminar in Wittenberg, Germany



“We’ve got hope with this [water well] project. It’s not every man for himself here—we’re doing it together. We’re doing corn and beans, and vegetables too. And we’ll all get a share.”

ZULEMA LOPEZ

A farmer in the village of San Luis, northern Nicaragua



“Oftentimes, discernment can feel kind of lonely. You think, ‘Am I the only one asking these questions in this particular way?’ But if people are putting money behind you and placing value on what you’re doing, that’s very encouraging, in more ways than just financially.”

THE REV. SETH NELSON

Fund for Leaders class of 2012

“This [supporting ELCA World Hunger] has become the church’s priority. It is fundamental to the fact that the gospel comes down to God’s love and our love for each other. With this love, we need to share, and we need to see the needs of other people and uplift them. This is the basis of the gospel.”

THE REV. JACK TRAUTWEIN

Epiphany Lutheran Church, Ellicott City, Md.



Our progress

As of Jan. 31, 2018

\$144 million

Current gifts and multi-year commitments to the campaign

81%

ELCA congregations that gave to a campaign ministry

73%

Campaign total raised to-date

\$31 million

Planned gifts* for campaign priorities



Above and beyond the monies raised for the campaign, ELCA members continued to respond generously to numerous disasters in 2017, contributing an additional \$23 million in support of this lifesaving work. In total, \$41 million has been raised for Lutheran Disaster Response during the life of the campaign.

**While planned gifts for the campaign priorities are not included in the \$198 million goal, they are critical to the future sustainability of these ministries.*

“Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

– EPHESIANS 3:20-21

CAMPAIGN GIVING BY PRIORITY

RENEWING CONGREGATIONS

\$1.1 million

14% of \$8 million goal

DISABILITY MINISTRIES

\$280,000

7% of \$4 million goal

ELCA NEW CONGREGATIONS

\$1.2 million

30% of \$4 million goal

YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION

\$5 million

83% of \$6 million goal

GLOBAL MINISTRIES

\$2.3 million

40% of \$5.75 million goal

LONG-TERM MISSIONARIES

\$9.4 million

59% of \$16 million goal

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN LEADERS

\$2.4 million

60% of \$4 million goal

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

\$371,000

9% of \$4 million goal

ELCA FUND FOR LEADERS

\$15 million

100% of \$15 million goal

While the initial fundraising goal has been met, continued support is needed to achieve the program's long-range goal of providing full-tuition support for every candidate at an ELCA seminary.

ELCA MALARIA CAMPAIGN

\$15.5 million

103% of \$15 million goal

ELCA WORLD HUNGER

\$85.3 million

74% of \$115 million goal

With more than \$21.5 million contributed in a 12-month span, 2017 was the largest year of direct giving to ELCA World Hunger in the program's history – a 15 percent increase in annual giving since the campaign began.

CAMPAIGN “WHERE NEEDED MOST”

\$6.2 million

496% of \$1.25 million goal

April 2018



Dear friends in Christ,

“Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine” (Ephesians 3:20). The Lord has blessed this campaign, as have so many Lutherans, including you. It is my hope and prayer this report informs, inspires and invites you to continue to engage with the campaign in meaningful ways.

We have accomplished so much together since the campaign’s launch in February 2014. As we enter the fifth year of this effort, \$144 million (73 percent of our goal), as well as an additional \$30.5 million in planned gifts, has been contributed toward the priorities of the campaign. Yet, there is more work to be done. We have a goal, which – with God’s help – we strive to meet and surpass by Jan. 31, 2019.

In this final year of the campaign, we are focused on:

- reaching our \$115 million goal for ELCA World Hunger;
- investing in our future leaders through this year’s annual theme of Leadership – including Fund for Leaders and Youth and Young Adults;
- continuing to accompany our neighbors from around the world through the Global Church priority; and
- advancing congregational vitality, as well as enhancing ministries with those with disabilities.

Thank you for all that you do to support these priorities. I invite you to make a gift today at ELCA.org/campaign. Together, we can do more!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Ron T. Gluskamp". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Pastor Ron Gluskamp
Director, The Campaign for the ELCA

Special thanks

to our Campaign Steering Committee
members for their leadership.

Loren and MaryAnn Anderson

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church
Minneapolis, Minn.

Lauren Amundson

Mariposa Lutheran Church
Mariposa, Calif.

Dr. Sylvia Black

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Chapel Hill, N.C.

Sarah Bowers

Redeemer Lutheran Church
Columbia, S.C.

The Revs. Don Haven and Cindy Carroll

Emanuel Lutheran Church
Dallas, Texas

The Rev. Simon Fensom

Trinity Lutheran Church
Moorhead, Minn.

Tim Krumm

Zion Lutheran Church
Iowa City, Iowa

Bishop Brian Maas

Nebraska Synod

Christine Mummert

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

Joe Nolte

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Des Moines, Iowa

Jenny Norris Peterson

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
St. Paul, Minn.

Dr. Tanisha Godley-Pitre

Community Lutheran Church
Los Angeles, Calif.

Wayne and Phyllis Rickert

New Hope Lutheran Church
Agoura Hills, Calif.

Drs. 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.

Dr. Rick Torgerson

Normandale Lutheran Church
Edina, Minn.

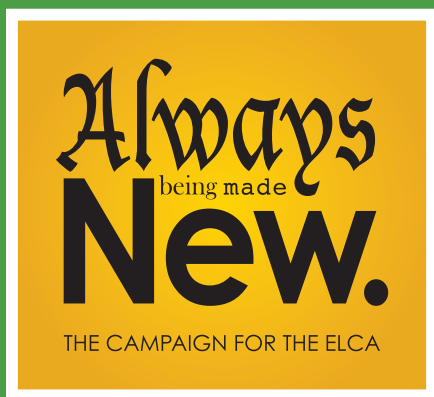


Fellow ELCA member,

Since the campaign's launch, we have had the opportunity to lift up and support various mission opportunities each year, including congregations, global church and hunger and poverty. Now, in the final year of the campaign, the focus shifts to the preparation of a new generation of leaders – ordained and lay, local and global. As we look to the future, what could be more important and more appropriate? For it is this new generation of leaders who will shape and enable the possible for our church, just as each of you are doing.

Releasing the potential of church possible requires resources. So, on behalf of your national Campaign Steering Committee, we say thank you to all of you who have contributed, and we challenge you to do as we have done – review where you stand today and consider doing a bit more as we push toward the goal line – and then invite your neighbors to join you. Much has been accomplished, and so much more is possible!

MaryAnn and Loren Anderson



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 and accompany our global churches. Together, we can achieve things on a scale and scope we could never do otherwise. Thank you for your support.

800-638-3522
campaignforELCA@elca.org
ELCA.org/campaign



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.