

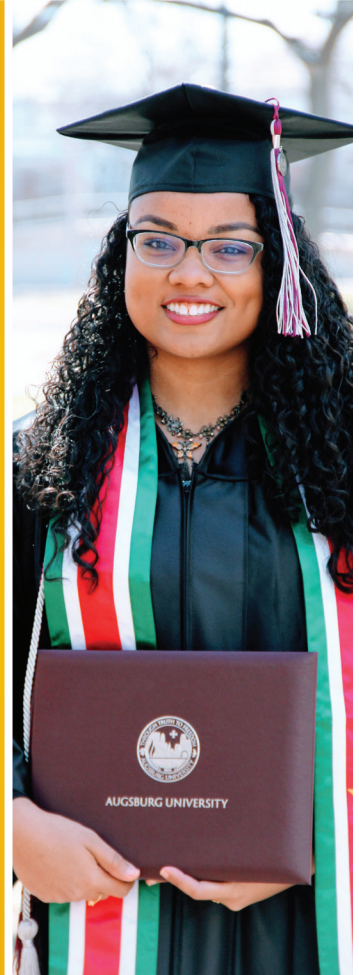


Always
being made
New.

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE ELCA

IMPACT REPORT

Feb. 1, 2014 – June 30, 2019



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

The church owes a great deal of thanks to the volunteers of the Campaign Steering Committee who stepped forward to extend the impact of the campaign.

Thank you for your leadership and support!

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**"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"**

(2 CORINTHIANS 5:17).

Dear friends in Christ,

With these words from 2 Corinthians, this church embarked on a courageous and unprecedented journey more than five years ago. Together, through *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, we envisioned new creation – in our communities, our church and our world.

Now, more than five years later, we have been richly blessed. At the close of the campaign on June 30, more than \$250 million was contributed in cash, multiyear commitments and planned gifts toward the priorities of the campaign. You were at the forefront of this new venture, and your eager participation and generosity made all the difference.

Because of you, people find themselves invited, empowered and unleashed by the good news of Jesus Christ. Seminarians are assisted with scholarships, which allow them to respond to God's call to ministry. International women leaders are identified and gathered together. The youth and young adults of this church are empowered and equipped to lead now and in the future. Through the grand vision "that all may be fed," our neighbors have food and solutions to food insecurity through ELCA World Hunger. And this is just the beginning.

Thank you for being a part of this new creation. Truly, together we can do more.

In God's grace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Elizabeth A. Eaton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop



CAMPAIGN PRIORITIES

With a goal of raising \$198 million by June 30, 2019, the ELCA focused campaign efforts on four priority areas: congregations, hunger and poverty, global church and leadership. The campaign goal represents a 64% increase in designated funding for these existing and new ministry initiatives.



CONGREGATIONS

As members of the ELCA, we have an important message to share, and people are ready to hear it: We are saved by God's grace and God's grace alone. Through the Congregations priority, we are sharing the love of Christ far and wide by starting more congregations, discovering innovative ways to grow and renew our existing communities of faith and expanding our ministries with people living with disabilities.

Renewing Congregations	\$8 million goal
ELCA New Congregations	\$4 million goal
Disability Ministries	\$4 million goal



HUNGER AND POVERTY

More than 820 million people — that's about 11% of people in our world today — are hungry. As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. Through the Hunger and Poverty priority, you are making it possible for the ELCA to support sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty, from health clinics and malaria prevention to microloans, from water wells to animal husbandry, from community meals to advocacy and much more.

ELCA World Hunger	\$115 million goal
ELCA Malaria Campaign	\$15 million goal



GLOBAL CHURCH

We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world — together. Today, more than 200 ELCA missionaries, including Young Adults in Global Mission, serve in 42 countries around the world. In addition, scholarships and other educational opportunities empower international women leaders from our global companions to take on even more significant leadership roles in their home countries. And ministry grants help build up Christ's church throughout the world. All this work is supported by your gifts to the Global Church priority.

Long-term Missionaries	\$16 million goal
Young Adults in Global Mission	\$6 million goal
Global Ministries	\$5.75 million goal
International Women Leaders	\$4 million goal



LEADERSHIP

The future of this church depends on its future leaders. Good, strong leadership matters in a church that is called to live and serve in a world full of complexities and ambiguities. Through the Leadership priority, we are encouraging and identifying leaders who will ground us in God's love and forgiveness and send us out to do God's work in the world. By accompanying youth and young adults in their faith journeys, and supporting talented, gifted students as they prepare to begin a life of ministry, we invest in the future of the ELCA.

ELCA Fund for Leaders	\$15 million goal
Youth and Young Adults	\$4 million goal



CAMPAIGN "WHERE NEEDED MOST"

Undesignated gifts to the campaign are used to support campaign priorities where they are needed most. From sharing the gospel with others to addressing the root causes of hunger and poverty, these gifts allow our church flexibility to respond when and where it can make the biggest impact.

"Where Needed Most"	\$1.25 million goal
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YOUR IMPACT

\$250 million
total impact,
including:



\$195 million

current gifts and multiyear
commitments to the campaign

84%

of ELCA congregations
gave to a campaign ministry

\$55 million

planned gift commitments
for campaign priorities

90,500

total number of individual
donors to the campaign

CAMPAIGN GIVING BY PRIORITY

RENEWING CONGREGATIONS

\$2.6 million

33% of \$8 million goal

ELCA NEW CONGREGATIONS

\$1.2 million

30% of \$4 million goal

DISABILITY MINISTRIES

\$860,000

22% of \$4 million goal

LONG-TERM MISSIONARIES

\$17.7 million

111% of \$16 million goal

YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION

\$7.6 million

127% of \$6 million goal

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN LEADERS

\$4 million

100% of \$4 million goal

GLOBAL MINISTRIES

\$3.8 million

66% of \$5.75 million goal

ELCA FUND FOR LEADERS

\$22 million

147% of \$15 million goal

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

\$2.3 million

58% of \$4 million goal

ELCA WORLD HUNGER

\$116.5 million

101% of \$115 million goal

ELCA MALARIA CAMPAIGN

\$15.5 million

103% of \$15 million goal

Contributions to the Campaign "Where needed most" fund allowed the ELCA to respond when and where the need was greatest. In total, \$7.6 million in cash and multiyear commitments was committed to the Campaign "Where needed most." These funds have been allocated to the various priorities of the campaign.

MILESTONES

Always
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New.
THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE ELCA

**August
2013**

ELCA Churchwide Assembly approves *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA.*

**February
2014**

The campaign is launched with a goal of **\$198 million.**

**October
2014**

The first International Women Leaders seminar takes place in Wittenberg, Germany, with 13 participants from 10 countries.



**November
2017**

The ELCA and local partners open the Reconciliation Lutheran Church Community Center and Primary Health Care Clinic in Juba, South Sudan.

**September
2017**

A **\$3 million** gift allows the ELCA Fund for Leaders to expand its scholarship program, empowering an additional 60 future leaders with full-tuition scholarships over the next three years.

**July
2017**

The **\$1 million** fundraising mark of the Renewing Congregations initiative is exceeded, funding 29 proposals submitted by synods in six grant cycles.

**January
2017**

The campaign concludes its third year with **\$113 million** in cash gifts and multiyear commitments.



**February
2018**

The campaign enters its fifth year with **\$144 million** in cash gifts and multiyear commitments.

**September
2018**

Fifty new full-tuition Fund for Leaders scholarships are awarded — the highest number in the ministry's history.

**October
2018**

Disability Ministries announces a new grant opportunity for synods, congregations and their affiliates, with the goal of funding 25 mental health ministry plans by January 2020.

**December
2018**

The \$16 million goal for Missionaries is exceeded, allowing 135 long-term missionaries to continue serving in 42 countries.





January 2015

The campaign's first year concludes with more than **\$48 million** in cash gifts and multiyear commitments.

May 2015

The ELCA reaches the milestone of 500 new congregations "planted, organized and joined" since the church was founded in 1988.

July 2015

ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water, an interactive experience at the ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit, raises **more than \$1 million** for water projects throughout the world.



September 2015

The ELCA Malaria Campaign hits its **\$15 million** goal, providing programming in 14 African countries.



August 2016

Two new country programs, one in Senegal and one in Australia, open as part of Young Adults in Global Mission.

January 2016

The campaign concludes its second year with **\$80 million** in cash gifts and multiyear commitments.

December 2015

Twenty-one ministries across the ELCA receive Youth and Young Adults Innovation Grants, with a total **\$530,000** distributed.

January 2019

The Youth and Young Adults initiative awards its second round of Innovation Grants, with 25 ministries receiving a total of **\$731,000**.

January 2019

ELCA World Hunger launches the Big Dream Grants program, providing 25 ministries with a total of **\$250,000** to anti-hunger ministries in the U.S.

February 2019

The campaign enters its final months with **\$181 million** in cash gifts and multiyear commitments.

May 2019

The first full class of International Women Leaders scholarship recipients graduates from ELCA colleges and universities.

June 2019

The campaign concludes with a total **\$250 million** in cash, multiyear commitments and planned gifts for campaign priorities.

\$250 million

CAMPAIGN GIFTS IN ACTION



ELCA ministries have witnessed unprecedented growth since the launch of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA* in 2014. This growth was made possible through the generosity of our faithful members and supporters. Thank you!



281

new-start congregations
approved during the campaign
— a record growth

453

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



1,300

seminary students
received ELCA
Fund for Leaders
scholarships

953

ministries
working to end hunger
in the United States



100

Disability Ministries grants
distributed for workshops, training
opportunities, education and camps



189

Lutheran women around the
world gained access to networking
opportunities and academic
scholarships and training



14

African countries
gained access to malaria programs,
including volunteer training, prevention
supplies and medication

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

135

long-term missionaries

working alongside
our companions
in more than
40 countries



29

**Renewing
Congregations grants**

distributed in synods
across the ELCA



46

New or enhanced Youth and Young Adults

ministries received grants to grow existing
programs or start new ones



11

new global ministry evangelism projects

initiated by companion churches in
Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East
and Latin America

62

countries around the world

- including the U.S. - implementing programs
supported by ELCA World Hunger





Modern Miracles

“Will you take me with you?” As Karen Castillo prepared to leave Playito Cerro Alto, a secluded village along Guatemala’s Rio Chixoy, she heard this familiar request from a girl. Castillo, a Lutheran pastor, knew the situation: if the girl stayed, she’d soon marry and get pregnant, which would stunt her educational opportunities. Castillo also knew the girl couldn’t accompany her to Guatemala City. She felt torn.

This girl’s situation is common among the indigenous, rural communities served by the Augustinian Lutheran Church of Guatemala (ILAG in Spanish). Families tend to be large, and due to poverty, culture and other factors, fathers marry off their daughters early. At 12 to 14 years old, girls are matched with husbands at least twice their age, sometimes older.

But things are changing, said Castillo, who grew up in the ILAG. Elected as its president five years

ago, she is the first woman to serve in the role. Under her leadership, women in indigenous communities are starting to demand a different life for their daughters and granddaughters.

“When [I was elected], our women started to feel more at ease and began to express their needs,” Castillo said. “They said that they didn’t want their daughters to go through the same experiences they had to go through or to have a life like theirs.”

Lack of educational opportunities is a frequent concern Castillo hears from Guatemalan women. Schools are often far from home, and even when education is accessible, boys take precedence over girls.

When Manuela was growing up, she wanted to attend school, but there were no opportunities for education. Like many of her peers, she married young and gave birth to her first child at 15. Now a mother of eight, she wants more for her girls.



"I don't want [my children] to get married so early in life or to leave school," she said. "I want them to move forward. I don't want them to be like me."

Manuela's dream of her children, especially her daughters, continuing their education is becoming a reality. With support from community leaders and ELCA World Hunger, ILAG is helping a new generation of women through its MILAGRO (miracle) Women's Education Center at the Augustinian Lutheran Center in Guatemala City. Opened in 2018, the facility equips girls from rural communities with education and training so they might become financially independent in the future.

"Some people were anxious about removing [the girls] from their context," Castillo said.

"We weren't as anxious because the girls live within a context where they're always told that [a better future is] not possible. They're always given a role in the kitchen, as caregivers of their siblings, tending to their fathers, having a husband.

"Here with us, they begin to hear a different message. We tell them they have intelligence; they are worthy, valuable, capable; they have gifts that they can discover along with the other young ladies; they can also discover their abilities. ... We think this is going to cause a positive impact on their lives and the community."

Through the curriculum, girls learn their rights as Guatemalan women. Johana, a 15-year-old, said she feels inspired by all that she's learning. "My future will be better because I've learned about equal rights," Johana said. "In my mom's case, she was very young when she got together with my dad. Since she didn't go to school, she didn't know about her rights. I think it's going to be different for me."

Johana hopes to pass on what she's learned to other girls in her church and community. Changing long-standing traditions and norms will take time, but the MILAGRO center is already having an impact, not only on the young women but also on their families and communities. "The moms are happy that their girls are here," Castillo said. "This happiness is transported to many areas of [their lives]."

Mothers are trying new things at home, she added, including seeking alternative sources of income. And young women at the center feel bolstered by the church's steady support. "We expect that the community – first the whole community of faith and then the extended community from the several villages – will be able to see this change in the long run," Castillo said.

There is another big change since the program was established – Castillo can now answer "yes" to girls longing to further their education.

Reprinted from Living Lutheran, May 2019



With your gifts to the campaign's Hunger and Poverty priority, the ELCA is able to support programs such as the MILAGRO Women's Education Center in Guatemala. Through the campaign, ELCA partners in 62 countries around the world, including the U.S., are implementing programs supported by ELCA World Hunger.

For This Church and for Our Future

What will the church look like 10 years from now? How about 20 or 100 or 500 years from now? As we move into this next chapter of our church's history, what is God calling us to next? It's a question that individuals, pastors, deacons and congregations are asking. It's a question that helps us look both inward and outward, to see our own gifts and imagine the way in which those gifts can be used collectively to do God's work in the world.

Brenda Greenwald, a seminarian at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary and an ELCA Fund for Leaders scholarship recipient, has been asking herself that very question for quite some time. Music and working with young people are among Brenda's many gifts. "I've been singing since I came out of the womb," she exclaims with a smile and a laugh. That love of music converged with her faith in a profound way the first time she visited an ELCA congregation. Brenda grew up with the Reformed tradition, but during college stumbled across a job posting for a children's choir director position at a local ELCA congregation. She remembers that first encounter with the Lutheran liturgy with excitement, "We were singing it ... alive in this liturgy that was so rich in song. Music has always been the way the Spirit speaks to me. I had found my home,

liturgically." From that time onward Brenda felt a deep sense of belonging within the ELCA and has been involved in the life of the church through her gift of music.

For 14 years, Brenda was an elementary music teacher. "That was my first call," she says. "I was called to teach music ... that was extremely fulfilling." But over time she began to feel another call, one that would lead her to a deeper commitment to this church. While she was serving as a cantor at Bethany Lutheran Church in Denver, she felt a pull toward ministry, which led her to ask the question, "Am I supposed to just be a really involved church lady, or am I meant to be a woman of the church?" It was a question that began the journey into her second call, a call to the ministry of word and sacrament. That journey led her to seminary at Pacific Lutheran and her internship at First Lutheran Church and School in Torrance, Calif., where she shares her gifts of music with the congregation and students. Her Fund for Leaders scholarship has allowed her to explore those gifts freely and deeply.

Brenda remembers the day she found out that she was going to be a Fund for Leaders scholarship recipient: "I remember I had walked out to my mailbox. I was still teaching at the time. I opened the mail, and I just remember, boom, I fell to my knees. I mean

who opens a letter like that? A letter that literally changes your life. The letter that says the (Fund for Leaders) is willing to believe in you, is willing to support you, is willing to give you the chance to not let money and financials be the stumbling block from connecting with God's people." It was in that moment that Brenda knew that God was clearing the way for her to use her gifts as a leader of this church at a time when we are reimagining what church looks like.

Brenda sees the Spirit at work in exciting ways. "Something is bubbling in this church," she says. "We are looking at church differently. We are looking at how we do church differently. While I have no clue what that will look like because I can't picture what city I will be in, I don't need to. Because all I picture are the people that will be beside me in this ministry – the ministry in the streets, in the soup line, on the corners and in the pews."



Through your generosity to the Leadership priority, 1,300 seminary students received Fund for Leaders scholarships throughout the campaign. Together, we are empowering those whom God calls into ministry to serve as the church needs and the Holy Spirit leads.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church and the Village Exchange Center

“We are on a journey of discovery — difficult but rewarding — into the ways of the gospel for our time and place,” said the Rev. Marcel Narucki, pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Aurora, Colo.

As a member of Aurora Church Together Strategy, St. Matthew’s joined hands with several other ELCA congregations in Aurora on a journey toward renewal, buoyed by a grant from ELCA Renewing Congregations through *The Campaign for the ELCA*. The journey has brought new life to St. Matthew’s in an unexpected way.

Deacon Cindy Robles, who directs ACTS, worked with St. Matthew’s on a visioning process. “The congregation had become quite small but has a huge building, in a great location,” she noted. Deacon Robles helped them to ask the question, “How can we steward our building in a way that helps us reach out to and care for the community? What kind of a legacy can we create?”

At the time, St. Matthew’s was renting out space to several other congregations. But it had no relationship with these sisters and brothers in Christ. Through their visioning process, the congregation of St. Matthew’s came to realize that “it’s not about renters; it’s about relationships,” said Deacon Robles. The people of St. Matthew’s began to build relationships with the members of the Nepalese, Congolese and Kachin congregations that shared their space.

As the relationships grew, so did the vision. In 2017, reported Pastor Narucki, “the church of St.

Matthew, in response to diminishing resources and wanting to be responsive to serve our neighborhood,” had donated “the church property to the Village Exchange Center, a nonprofit which serves refugees and immigrants.”

The congregational vote was unanimous. Ownership of the 15,000-square-foot building was transferred in March 2017, and the congregation of St. Matthew’s continues to worship there, along with many others.

And so new life was created — in the form of a nonprofit organization that serves as a welcome center for all, especially refugees and immigrants, and the locus of mutual encounter and exchange.

On Sundays, the sanctuary is filled from sunup to sundown with praises in multiple languages, denominations and styles. Church offices and Sunday school rooms have been transformed into a food pantry; offices for immigrant case management; classrooms for ESL, entrepreneurship, computer training and citizenship; a youth broadcasting studio; an international after-school program; and a bookshop and café. Special events fill the space with laughter, dancing, and singing in many languages.

The purpose of the Village Exchange Center, Narucki explained, is to promote “a celebration of cultural and religious diversity with the greater goal of creating a bridge to the larger Denver community for a mutual encounter and exchange.”

The center’s first year was filled with milestones and celebrations. The center began operating in June 2017. In October, Steve Hogan, mayor of Aurora, and James Gonia, bishop of the Rocky Mountain Synod, spoke at the inaugural event, where friends from all over the world gathered for a bazaar, dancing, blessings, speakers, festivities and great food. Community celebrations have been held for Dia de los Muertos, Ramadan and World Refugee Day.





The city of Aurora has welcomed the Village Exchange Center with open arms and has entrusted several of its important operations to the nonprofit group. The center has merged with the Aurora Welcome Center and houses Natural Helpers, an award-winning program that trains volunteers to help their immigrant communities connect with information, community resources and social services. The center is an important part of Aurora's comprehensive Immigrant Integration Plan.

A growing number of nonprofits that welcome refugees and immigrants are now located in this new and dynamic space, including St. Matthew's, the generous congregation that made the Village Exchange Center possible.

Pastor Narucki hopes that in giving this extravagant gift, the members of St. Matthew's will in turn be renewed in faith and life. "We invite and welcome anyone interested to journey with us as we interface and participate in the evolution of this new community center," he said.

"Our faith perspective is to be outward-looking, serving and engaging, and to be inward-looking to see how our encounters and engagements influence and inspire our love and worship," he added.

"Come and see. Walk with us."



With your gifts to the campaign's Congregations priority, 29 Renewing Congregations grants were distributed in synods across the ELCA, including the Rocky Mountain Synod.



Reconciliation Lutheran Church Community Center and Clinic spread hope in South Sudan

Situated in eastern Africa is the newest country in the world. But newest isn't the only way to describe South Sudan — it's also one of the most volatile.

After decades of civil war and unrest, South Sudan gained its independence from Sudan on July 9, 2011. But two years later internal conflict broke out among the country's two major tribes.

According to the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, an estimated 1.9 million South Sudanese are internally displaced and many more have fled to neighboring countries due to poverty, food insecurity, a lack of education and health care, and extreme violence against civilians. While the government struggles with the situation, many have turned to the church to be a healer and peacemaker.

"With all of this suffering, we still see God has a promise for us," said Hilary Garang Deng, bishop of the Malakal Diocese of the Episcopal Church of Sudan. "He gave us a mission to testify

about the great God who created the world."

Part of this mission includes establishing the Evangelical Lutheran Church Africa Mission in South Sudan. With the assistance of local partners, including ELCA congregations that are Sudanese, the Episcopal Church of Sudan, and the South Sudan Council of Churches, the ELCA raised more than \$1 million to enable this work as part of *The Campaign for the ELCA*.

In November 2015, the partners broke ground on a Lutheran center and clinic in Juba, the nation's capital. The center is situated near Juba's Hai Referendum area, which lacks basic health and education services, making it difficult for people who are displaced to improve their lives, said Rafael Malpica Padilla, executive director for ELCA Global Mission.

"It is precisely in that community that we are planting a center to provide these opportunities,"

he said. "This center will be a place of encounter for a community that has experienced the horrors of war; a place of hope for the next generation of leaders; an instrument through which we will touch people's lives; and where the good news of the gospel will be proclaimed."

Opening its doors two years later in November 2017, the Reconciliation Lutheran Church Community Center now offers courses, including English language lessons, vocational and computer training. This will be the first formal education for many South Sudanese adults. "Most of them were in the war and couldn't get an education," said Mawien Ariik, an ELCA pastor and missionary who coordinates outreach for the new church.

The Reconciliation Lutheran Clinic also opened its doors with the support of ELCA members and gifts to the campaign. It is now offering a variety of services, including prenatal and postnatal care, primary healthcare and community health education.

"You've come at the right time, because our situation cannot settle," said Angelina Michael Lasuba, administrator of the Reconciliation Lutheran Center. "But the love that you are

giving us, shows us that we are all Christians and we all have a love of brothers and sisters. As they say, 'The brother who comes to you in a hard time is a brother that loves you.'"

Hope continues to be a common thread connecting and motivating these leaders in South Sudan. Amid conflict, violence, poverty and famine, they are growing the Lutheran church, spreading the message of God's love and bringing hope for a peaceful future.

"[In the U.S.] there's a season when ... the trees lose their leaves, but it doesn't mean that they're dead," Ariik said. "For those who believe our congregations are dying, they are not dying; they may come back to grow again, so there should be a hope for that. Like in Africa now – the Lutheran church is growing here."



Your support of the campaign's Global Church priority enabled 11 new global ministry evangelism projects, such as the one in South Sudan, to get underway. Together, we are sharing God's promise through Jesus and advancing our companions' ministries.



THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP COUNCILS AND TABLES

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First Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn.

Diane Hill

All Saints Lutheran Church, Palatine, Ill.

The Rev. Jennifer Michael

St. Peter Lutheran Church, Battle Creek, Mich.

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Cindy and Brian Dobberke

*Mount Olive Lutheran Church,
Mukwonago, Wis.*

Chris Davis and The Rev. Mary Forell

*Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,
Weehawken, N.J.*

Frank and Melanie Hobden

*Desert Cross Lutheran Church,
Tempe, Ariz.*

Linda and Rick Knapp

*Bethlehem Lutheran Church,
Santa Rosa, Calif.*

Cindy and Glenn Kraft

*Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,
Manchester, Mo.*

Becky and Jon Stellmacher

*First English Lutheran Church,
Appleton, Wis.*

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NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Jan and Dr. James Dennis

*St. John's Lutheran Church and
St. Mark's Lutheran Church,
Jacksonville, Fla.*

Dr. Jim "Gus" Gustafson

*Lutheran Church of Hope,
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Cathy and Dr. Chuck Hays

*Trinity Ecumenical Parish,
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*Prince of Peace Lutheran Church,
La Crescent, Minn.*

Beverly and Richard Moody

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*First Lutheran Church,
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Carlos and Diane Peña


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Ruth Sorenson

*Augustana Lutheran Church,
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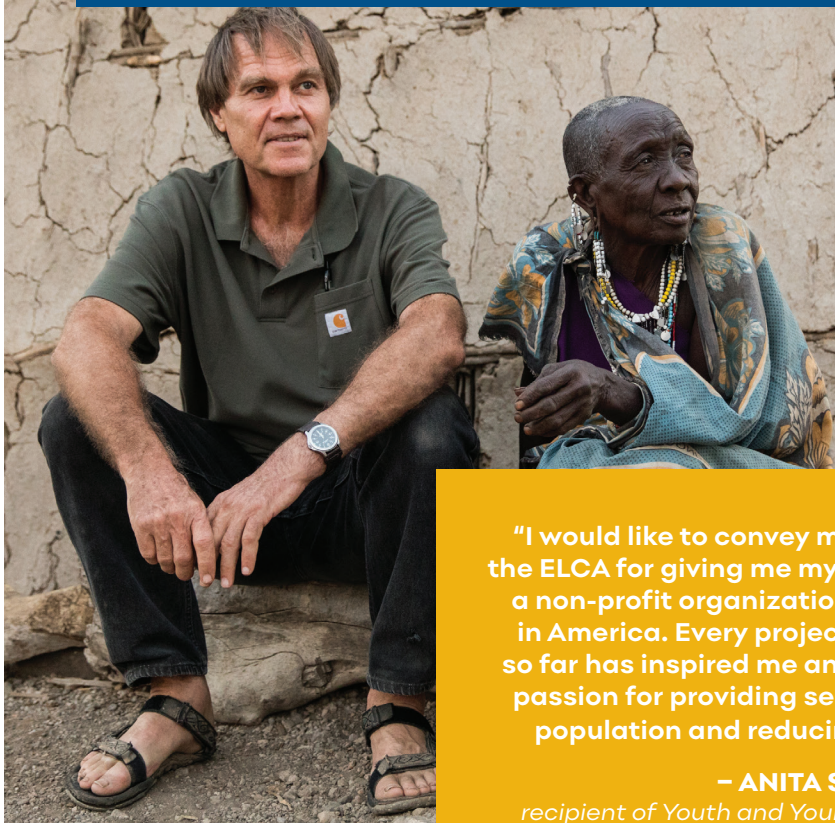
*Bethany Lutheran Church,
Bainbridge Island, Wash.*



"Living abroad for a year, let alone in Madagascar, was never something I had planned for my life. I have been challenged in ways I never thought I would be, have grown more than I ever thought possible, and am constantly surprising myself with what I'm able to accomplish."

– BRYN

Young Adults in Global Mission volunteer



"I would like to convey my heartfelt gratitude to the ELCA for giving me my opportunity to work with a non-profit organization like Lutheran Services in America. Every project that I have worked on so far has inspired me and they resonate with my passion for providing service to an underserved population and reducing health disparities."

– ANITA SHARMA

recipient of Youth and Young Adults internship grant



"I've had a chance to understand and learn more about the Lutheran structure through the planting of this church, and I've been really impressed by the commitment to growing and building new congregations and the investment that the church as a whole is making in that."

– KIM SAUNDERS

leadership team member at Salt House, an ELCA new congregation in Seattle



"It's one thing to say we care and are concerned. It's another to do something about it. If we're truly welcoming, we need to take time and set up ministries to understand the person's and family's needs. More importantly, we need to see the preciousness, spirit and joy these individuals bring to the congregation."

– **THE REV. ROLF MORCK**

pastor of Central Lutheran Church in Mondovi, Wis., recipient of a Disability Ministries grant



"Feeding a person is not enough if that well-fed person lives in a world of danger and harm. So we are passionate about more than ending hunger. We want to help our community eliminate the obstacles to living healthy, fruitful and enjoyable lives."

– **STEVE GOOD**

president of the Emanuel Community Center board of directors, a Domestic Hunger Grant recipient



"Since the day I got off the plane until today, each day has been as life-changing as the previous, thanks to you."

– **FAYE LEE**

International Women Leaders scholarship recipient from Malaysia



Always being made New.

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE ELCA

**"So if anyone is in Christ,
there is a new creation:
everything old has passed away; see,
everything has become new!"**

(2 CORINTHIANS 5:17).



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

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