Gender Justice in Nicaragua

The women’s empowerment project of the Iglesia Luterana de Nicaragua “Fe y Esperanza” (ILFE), or the Nicaraguan Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope, advocates for gender justice so women can empower themselves to overcome barriers in a patriarchal system. “The Women Empowerment Project aims to initiate a sensitization process with women of ILFE, emphasizing the care of their bodies as living temples of the Holy Spirit,” explains an ILFE video.

On Nov. 25-26, 2019, ILFE held its annual women’s meeting in conjunction with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. The event was part of the ILFE women’s empowerment project, which is funded by the ELCA. Watch the video about the gathering here.

News Around the World
The ELCA mourns the death of the Rev. Dr. David Rakotonirina, president of the Malagasy Lutheran Church (MLC), who passed away on July 11 in Antananarivo, Madagascar. Rakotonirina died of COVID-19 at age 58, having served the church as president since 2016. Please hold his family, the MLC and the Malagasy people in your prayers. Read more in this article from the Lutheran World Federation.

Mission Personnel Reflection

Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) alum Sarah Henning recently returned from serving with La Sagrada Familia, a short-term migrant shelter, as part of her work with the YAGM Mexico country program. In a video for the ELCA’s PASSAGE ministry with recently graduated high school students, Sarah shares a story of holy hope. Watch the video here.

In another video, you can hear one mother’s story of bringing her son to the United States due to violence in their home country, El Salvador. As her son’s court case began, she appreciated support from the Guardian Angels program of the ELCA’s AMMPARO (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities) strategy. Hear her story.

If you want to support migrants and refugees in your community and around the world, check out the blog post “5 Ways to Support Refugees and Migrants” from Lutheran Disaster Response. You can also give a gift to AMMPARO here.

Get Involved
You can partner with Global Mission in multiple ways this upcoming month:

- Engage in the Companion Synod program. Global Mission recently updated its lists of companion synod relationships, sorted by synod and by country. See which companion churches your synod is partnering with by downloading the PDFs here.
- Urge your senators to oppose Israel’s plans to annex large parts of Palestinian territory in the West Bank. Take action here.
- Starting Aug. 20, YAGM alumni will be raising funds to support the program throughout the coming year. While YAGM is currently unable to send volunteers because of the pandemic, this sabbath year will be focused on strengthening the program. You can support this ministry at a key moment in its history! Follow YAGM on social media and give a gift to YAGM.

LEARN MORE

Give to the International Women Leaders endowment fund

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800-638-3522

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