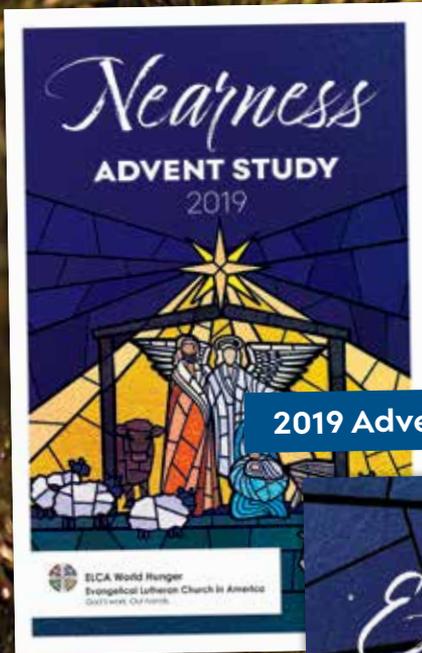


ACTION GUIDE

for CONGREGATIONS

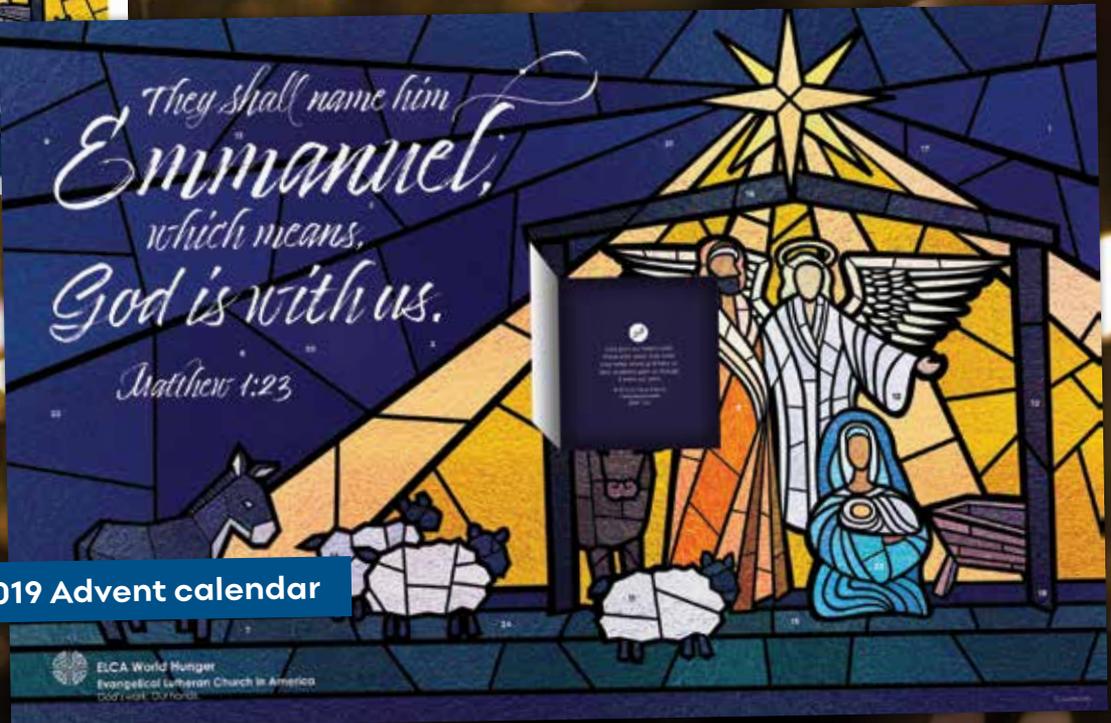


2019 Advent study



God's Global Barnyard coin box

New
for 2019!



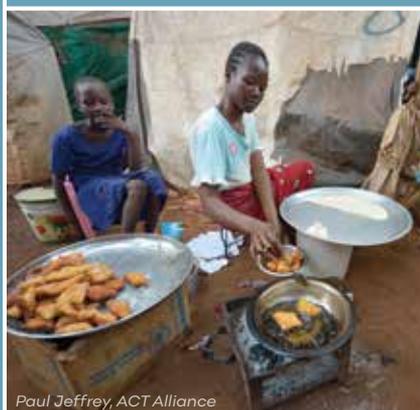
2019 Advent calendar



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

HOW TO

USE THIS GUIDE



Paul Jeffrey, ACT Alliance

As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we are called to share in God's work in the world. Through ELCA World Hunger, our church creatively and courageously works toward a just world where all are fed. Together, we act, pray and hope that through economic life and justice there will be truly sufficient, sustainable livelihood for all.

Chances are that your congregation is already making a difference in the fight against hunger and poverty by accompanying its neighbors, raising funds and collecting in-kind donations. This guide is designed to equip you with some of the newest and most popular resources to activate your congregation as you continue that fight. Through this work and together as a church, we are achieving things on a scale and scope we could never do otherwise.

FIND

Find nearly all resources featured in this guide (and more): [ELCA.org/hunger/resources](https://elca.org/hunger/resources).

CONNECT

Engage with the latest news and stories from ELCA World Hunger:

 Facebook.com/ELCAWorldHunger

 Twitter.com/ELCAWorldHunger

 Instagram.com/ELCAWorldHunger

TELL US

Did your congregation host an event recently? Tell us about it! Send your photos and stories to hunger@elca.org or post them to ELCA World Hunger's Facebook page at Facebook.com/ELCAWorldHunger.

LEAD!

Do you want to become a hunger leader within your congregation? Join a network of passionate leaders and receive a monthly newsletter, exclusive webinar invitations, direct access to our newest resources and more. Visit ELCA.org/subscribe to sign up today.

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"END HUNGER SUNDAYS"

Show your congregation's commitment to ending hunger and poverty by dedicating an "End Hunger Sunday" once a month or once a quarter. During worship on these Sundays, offer prayers for those in need, collect a special offering and share stories of your gifts at work by showing videos or using reproducible stories in your bulletins. To receive sermon-starter emails or liturgies from ELCA World Hunger, email hunger@elca.org.

SPECIAL DATES TO CONSIDER:



16 WORLD FOOD DAY

Join ELCA World Hunger and people around the world to commemorate World Food Day, a day for raising awareness and taking action as we work toward ensuring food security for all. With hunger around the world on the rise after a decade of steady decline, these efforts are more important than ever.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Take a special offering for ELCA World Hunger and help fight hunger in more than 60 countries, including the U.S.
- Find ELCA World Hunger resources at ELCA.org/hunger/resources and help educate or activate your congregation.
- Learn about important ways your congregation can be involved in ELCA Advocacy initiatives at ELCA.org/advocacy.
- Plan an intergenerational activity using the toolkits available at ELCA.org/hunger/resources.



1 WORLD AIDS DAY

Donate, advocate, learn and pray on World AIDS Day, an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in fighting HIV/AIDS, supporting those who live with HIV/AIDS and mourning those who have died. Learn more at ELCA.org/HIV, where you will find resources for worship and "AIDS and the Church's Ministry of Caring," the first social message of the newly formed ELCA, which is as relevant today as when it was first adopted in 1988.

In 2009, the ELCA Church Council adopted the ELCA Strategy on HIV and AIDS, identifying the areas to which we are called and the unique, strategic roles the church can play in the larger response to HIV. Since 2010 the ELCA has been living into its 10-year commitment to fund the response to HIV domestically and through partnerships with others around the world.

This is part of ELCA World Hunger's health work — an integral component of our comprehensive approach to ending hunger. Your gifts help in numerous ways, from education and support to testing, medication and counseling.

EDUCATE, ENGAGE, INSPIRE



Visit ELCA World Hunger's Vimeo channel to find a series of short videos you can share with your congregation during worship, temple talks, youth lessons and Bible studies. Choose from a variety of videos designed to connect your congregation to people and communities in the U.S. and in 60 countries around the world whose lives have been changed through your gifts to ELCA World Hunger.

Check out all of ELCA World Hunger's videos at **[Vimeo.com/Channels/ELCAWorldHunger](https://vimeo.com/Channels/ELCAWorldHunger)** or on the ELCA World Hunger playlist at **YouTube.com/ELCA**.

New!



Education Opens Doors for Young Women in Guatemala

360 VIDEO!



The Seeds of Change in Malawi



East Boston Community Soup Kitchen



Kanchan's Story



Rebecca's Story



DIKO Marie's Story



Holistic Ministries



Kenneth's Story



Until All Are Fed



Virginia Quispe's Story

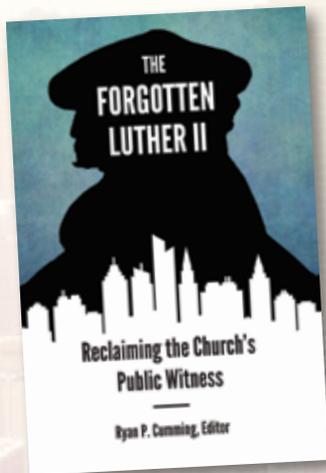


Robyn's Story



The Lingson Family's Story

“THE FORGOTTEN LUTHER II”



In the book “The Forgotten Luther II: Reclaiming the Church’s Public Witness,” Lutheran scholars argue for a cogent, clear, biblically based and theologically grounded rationale for how the church speaks and acts in the political arena. This book looks carefully at the public witness of Martin Luther and its meaning for preaching, teaching and carrying out public ministry today. Luther’s conviction was that government is responsible to God for containing evil and maintaining peace and good order, and for ensuring that no person lives in hunger or want.

The book asks critical questions: When should the church support the state’s agenda? When should it resist? What are the options for critical but constructive cooperation?

“The Forgotten Luther II” comes with discussion questions to guide reflection, and video interviews with the authors are available online.

Purchase the book for \$16.99 from Fortress Press at fortresspress.com/forgottenlutherii.

A portion of the proceeds will support the ongoing work of ELCA Advocacy through ELCA World Hunger.

SHARE STORIES



REPRODUCIBLE STORIES

Your congregation’s gifts to ELCA World Hunger are changing lives in the United States and around the world. Photocopy or print out these real-life stories for your Sunday bulletin to illustrate the impact those gifts are making every day. Or use a story as the centerpiece for a sermon, adult study or confirmation class.

🌐 Find these stories and more at ELCA.org/hunger/resources.

Click on the “Stories & Videos” tab.

ELCA WORLD HUNGER BULLETIN INSERT

Include this ELCA World Hunger insert in your Sunday worship bulletin or as a brochure on your resource table. Learn more about how your gifts are making an impact and get an overview of our church’s response to hunger and poverty.

🌐 Find this insert at ELCA.org/hunger/resources. Click on the “General” tab.



ADVENT LITANY

Use this litany in your worship service or include it in newsletters as you prepare for Christ's coming.

Grace to you and peace from God, our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Come let us go up to the mountain of the Lord
that we may walk in the paths of the Lord.

They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of its roots.

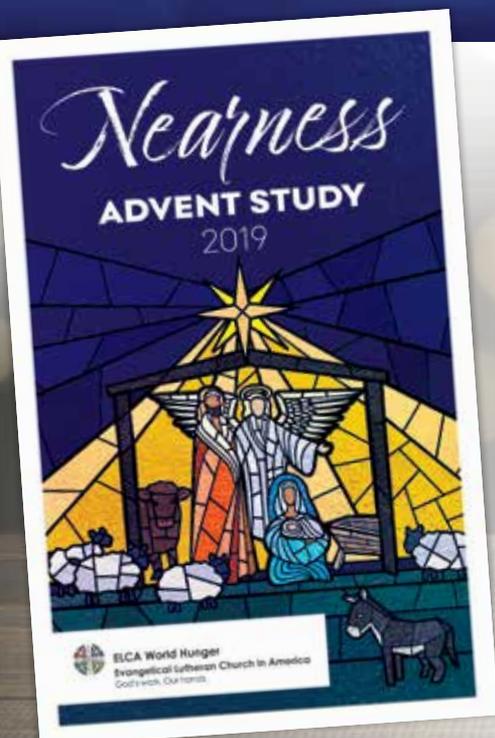
The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom.

The dead are raised,
and the poor have good news brought to them.

Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means, "God is with us."

Prepare the way of the Lord;
make straight the paths of the Lord.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.



ADVENT STUDY

Rejoice and reflect this Advent season through study, prayer and worship. ELCA World Hunger's 2019 Advent study is full of new weekly devotions. Use this resource during weekly worship or adult study, or encourage members to take it home and read it each week during Advent.

🌐 Download and print for free at [ELCA.org/hunger/resources](https://elca.org/hunger/resources) under the "Seasonal" tab.

ADVENT TREE

Decorate a tree with ornaments that represent ELCA Good Gifts as well as your congregation's fundraising goal. Invite families to select ornaments representing the gifts they'd like to give and to take them home as a reminder of their giving. If you have multiple entrances or gathering spaces, consider using several trees. Keep the tree full of ornaments to encourage participation and to celebrate the work we're doing with the whole church!

🌐 Visit **Resources.ELCA.org** to order a free pack of 34 assorted ornaments, or opt for a free pack of 10 matching ornaments and decorate a whole tree with bees, pigs or goats.



ADVENT CALENDAR

Celebrate the excitement, anticipation and wonder of Christ's birth with the 2019 ELCA World Hunger Advent calendar. Each day is a reminder of the reason for the season, with hymns, prayers, Bible verses and stories of how ELCA Good Gifts make a difference in the world.

🌐 Visit **Resources.ELCA.org** to order free calendars to distribute to families in your congregation. Each pack contains 10 calendars, and we recommend one calendar per household.

"We have an ADVENTure of Christmas All Ages Celebration on the first Sunday of Advent. We handed out the calendars there and then had them available in our narthex throughout the Advent season with other Advent devotional materials."

— Carrie Ryan, coordinator of spiritual development at Advent Lutheran Church in Harleysville, Pa.

ELCA GOOD GIFTS

The average American spends more than \$700 on Christmas gifts each year.

When we think about the best gifts we have given or received, it is often not the gift itself but the meaning behind it that makes it significant. Rethink traditional gift-giving this Christmas with ELCA Good Gifts. Give a gift to a loved one that also touches someone who is supported by ELCA ministries. ELCA Good Gifts go beyond your regular congregational offering to support the ministries of the ELCA that mean the most to you and your loved ones.

Check out some fun and educational ways to get your congregation involved with ELCA Good Gifts, especially during Advent:



ELCA Good Gifts catalog

Spread the word! ELCA Good Gifts is a fun, interactive way to support ELCA World Hunger. Leave multiple copies of the catalog out in a prominent place and encourage people to take one home. Make an announcement to your congregation and encourage a different way of giving gifts this year. With more than 50 giving options, your members are sure to find gifts that inspire them to help people in need.

New and Popular Good Gifts!



FAMILY FARM



PAIR OF GOATS



SEEDS AND GARDENING TOOLS



PIGLET



MANURE



CHICKS

Send a card

When you give ELCA Good Gifts in honor of friends or loved ones, our cards make it easy to tell them about it! Visit ELCA.org/goodgifts to give online and personalize free, printed cards to be sent directly to your loved ones. You may also opt to send the cards to yourself, print them at home or have them delivered via email.





Breaking the cycle of hunger starts with *health care.*

Hunger, poverty and health are deeply connected. When a person is sick, going to school or supporting a family becomes even more difficult — deepening the cycle of hunger and poverty.

ELCA World Hunger is our church at work, doing what Christ called us to do. We walk alongside our companion churches and partners as they find local solutions to problems, including programs that engage in health care, agriculture, water and more. Together, we are creatively and courageously working toward a just world where all are fed.

Thank you for your prayers, your partnership and your gifts.



Ending the cycle of hunger starts with *education.*

Jasmeen is a refugee from Darfur, Sudan, living in Cairo, Egypt. She is learning math, science and more as a student at St. Andrew's Refugee Service, a program supported by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger.

Hunger and poverty are complex issues. And we believe the solutions aren't "one-size-fits-all." That's why your gifts to ELCA World Hunger are at work in more than 60 countries, where we are walking alongside our companion churches and partners as they identify the unique needs of their communities to put an end to hunger — for good. In Cairo, Egypt, your gifts help provide primary education to refugees and the building blocks to a bright future. Together, we are creatively and courageously working toward a just world where all are fed.

Give today.

ELCA World Hunger • P.O. Box 1809 • Merrifield, VA 22116-8009
ELCA.org/hunger



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

HANG A POSTER

Hang a poster that tells the story of someone affected by your congregation's generous gifts to ELCA World Hunger. Display these on a bulletin board or in a prominent spot to show your support for the ministries we do together.

 Order posters for free at Resources.ELCA.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS — PLAN FOR LENT 2020!

ELCA World Hunger's **40 DAYS** *of Giving*

ELCA World Hunger's "40 Days of Giving" will continue next year. Join thousands of ELCA members and congregations during Lent who are supporting the life-changing work of ELCA World Hunger through worship, gift and prayer. Look for more information and new resources coming soon!

Questions? Email us at hunger@elca.org.



START A BACKPACK BUDDIES PROGRAM

Help children receive the nutrition they need to learn, grow and engage! Approximately 16 million kids in America live in households without consistent access to adequate food. Your congregation can help provide elementary school children who qualify for free or reduced-price meals with backpacks full of healthy and easy-to-prepare food for the weekend. Developed in partnership with ELCA congregations already engaged in backpack buddy programs across the country, this helpful guide contains tips for starting a backpack ministry in your community.

🌐 Order our free how-to guide at Resources.ELCA.org.

START PLANNING A COMMUNITY GARDEN

What makes a garden a community garden? How can growing food for ourselves and our neighbors transform our congregations? Learn this and more from ELCA World Hunger's "Community Gardens How-To Guide." The guide is filled with wisdom harvested by ELCA congregations whose community gardens have become vital parts of their ministry. You'll find practical tips on logistics, crafting a vision and incorporating your garden into the life of your congregation.

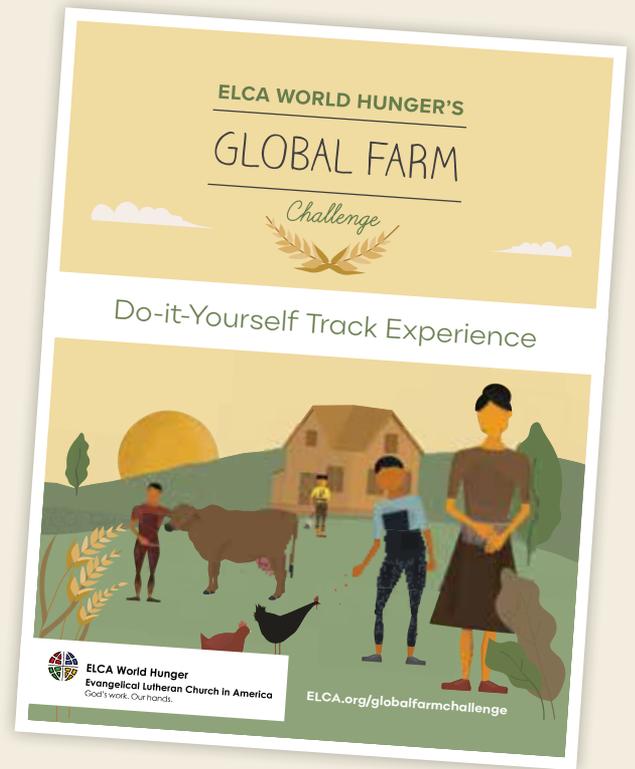


🌐 Download the guide for free at ELCA.org/hunger/resources under the "Hunger Ed" tab.

GLOBAL FARM CHALLENGE DIY EXPERIENCE

Almost 80% of the world's food is produced on small farms, where parents and children often work side by side. Growing food is just one of the many ways farmers care for God's creation and help share God's gifts with others so that all are fed. Yet half of the world's 821 million undernourished people live on farms themselves.

Inspired by the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering experience, the Global Farm Challenge do-it-yourself guide allows you to create your own Global Farm Challenge track in your church. A 360-degree virtual-reality video is also available at youtube.com/ELCA.



🌐 Download the guide for free at ELCA.org/hunger/resources under the "Hunger Ed" tab.



"GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD"

An animal can make a world of difference for a family in need. It provides food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops, and milk, honey or eggs to sell at the market. Use the following ideas and resources about animals to educate people about "God's Global Barnyard" and raise money through ELCA Good Gifts. Children can have fun looking at the animal images and learning about each of them.

COIN BOXES

Encourage your congregation to support ELCA Good Gifts by taking these coin boxes home to collect change throughout Advent. Invite them to use the money they collect to purchase ELCA Good Gifts, either on their own or through your congregation.

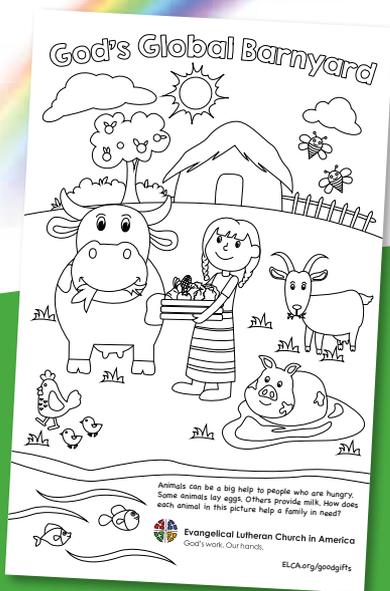


Children can color in this God's Global Barnyard interactive coin box which shows how different animals can help a family in need.



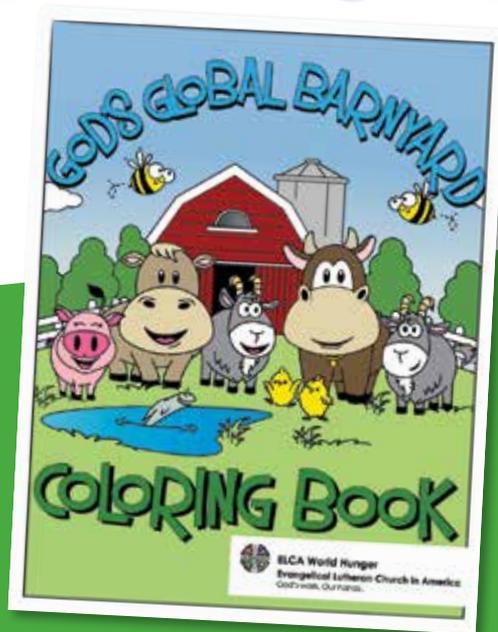
Saving in this piggy bank is easy!

Just \$30 provides a family with a piglet that grows up, gives birth to other piglets, and provides both fertilizer for fields and food to eat or sell at the market.



COLORING BULLETIN INSERT

Distribute these coloring-sheet bulletin inserts to children during worship or Sunday school. The back side of the coloring sheet provides pictures and information about each animal.



COLORING BOOK

Order this coloring book for Sunday school or as a special handout at worship. As children color each of the eight animals, teach them the significance livestock can have in communities around the world. Pair the activities with an ELCA Good Gifts fundraiser to support ELCA World Hunger.



STICKERS

Share a pig, cow, chicken or other barnyard friend during a children's sermon or Sunday school class while teaching children about the difference an animal makes to a family in need.

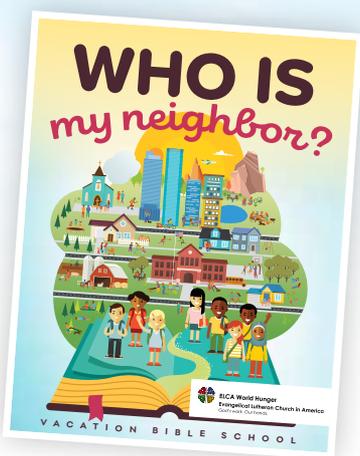
 Order free coin boxes, coloring books and sticker sheets at Resources.ELCA.org.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

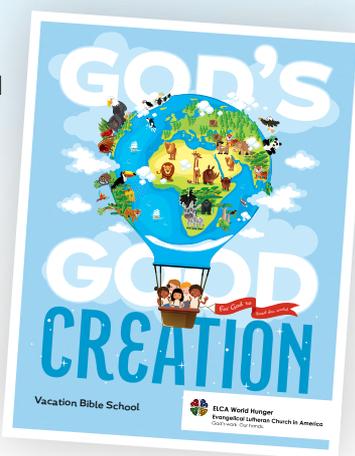
Coming Soon

"On Earth As in Heaven" is a vacation Bible school program that helps children learn about hunger, hope and the work to which God calls us in the world. The five-day program highlights ELCA World Hunger's work and includes a schedule, educational activities, hymns/songs, skits, and snack and craft ideas.

Also available!



This vacation Bible school curriculum explores the theme "Who Is My Neighbor?" Participants will learn about some of the people around the world who are our neighbors in the kingdom of God, and the work of ELCA World Hunger. Includes skits, schedules, snack and craft ideas, and more.



"God's Good Creation" is a vacation Bible school study that helps children learn about hunger, hope and the work to which God calls us in the world. The five-day program highlights the work of ELCA World Hunger and includes a schedule, educational activities, skits, and snack and craft ideas.



HUNGER CATECHISMS

These lessons for confirmation students and youth groups cover Martin Luther's interpretation of the Fifth Commandment, the Seventh Commandment and the fourth petition of the Lord's Prayer. The easy-to-use format is perfect for classes or one-on-one conversations with parents or mentors.

Download and print from ELCA.org/hunger/resources under the "Hunger Ed" tab.

Featured resource!

ELCA GOOD GIFTS ADVENT TREE ORNAMENTS

1. **Order** free ornament packs at resources.ELCA.org. One pack contains 34 assorted ornaments totaling \$1,500 in donations. Single packs of 10 pig, bee or goat ornaments are also available.
2. **Set** a fundraising goal.
3. **Choose** ornaments that will help you reach your goal.
4. **Decorate** your tree.
5. **Invite** people to select an ornament and make a donation in that amount.
6. **Encourage** people to take the ornament home as a reminder of their support of ELCA Good Gifts.



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