26 We pray for those who are facing the challenges of mental illness. Lift up the ELCA social message "The Body of Christ and Mental Illness" and pray that as a church we will offer the companionship and encouragement they need to treat their illness.

27 Pray for the ecumenical ministries of this church — at home as congregations reach out to the other faiths in their communities and worldwide as the ELCA cooperates with other faiths to further God's work in the global church.

28 Give thanks for the welcome shown through the 340 ELCA new-start ministries under development in the United States and the Caribbean and pray that God's words of love and forgiveness will heard by those eager to hear.

29 Third Sunday after Pentecost

Dear Lord, We pray for the ELCA global ministries throughout the world. We especially lift up the Joint Christian Ministry in West Africa, a partnership of West African churches that supports outreach and service with the Fulani people across the region.

30 Pray for the Asian and Pacific Islander Ministries of the ELCA, which use God's gifts of culture, language and heritage to share the good news of Jesus Christ and to love and serve our neighbor in a multicultural world.

This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact info@elca.org for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.



PRAYER VENTURES —— JUNE 2014 ——

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

1 Seventh Sunday of Easter

O Lord our God, we cry out to you for all the children of this world who are in harm's way. In their time of danger and fear send your strong Spirit to comfort them. For the children who have been taken from those they love, make a way home for them in safety.

- **2** Pray for the individuals and communities affected by severe spring storms, tornadoes and flooding. Pray that those who have lost loved ones will find the strength and peace they need to go on with their lives and that the ongoing recovery efforts supported by the ELCA will help them toward that goal.
- **3** Pray for the ELCA synods and their voting members who have synod assemblies in June that their work will be guided by the Holy Spirit and that their decisions will reflect the glory of God.
- **4** Pray for the Rev. Tessa Moon Leiseth and Jon Leiseth, ELCA missionaries in South Africa who are the Young Adults in Global Mission coordinators for Southern Africa.
- **5** As the season of summer camps returns, pray that those who attend the many ELCA Outdoor Ministry facilities will be blessed with an experience that will enrich their faith lives long after they return home.
- **6** Give thanks for the support from ELCA members that allows this church to fight hunger through its \$1 million in annual hunger grants, which help support domestic hunger-fighting organizations.

7 Lift up the ELCA Malaria Campaign as it expands to Namibia, where 73 percent of the population is at risk for the deadly but preventable disease.

8 Day of Pentecost

Dear God, on this Day of Pentecost place the Holy Spirit in our hearts. Let your Spirit fill all who are empty, empower all who are weary and bring together all who are divided.

- **9** Give thanks for the ELCA International Leaders program and its scholarships, which help people like Nathalie Lassang of Cameroon attend medical school so she can provide health care in her home country.
- **10** Remember in your prayers the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program as it expands to Rwanda and the Rev. Kate Warn, a country coordinator, as she prepares for the arrival the first participants to serve in Rwanda.
- 11 Pray with the leaders of this church that a political solution will be found to end the warfare in Syria and that the loved ones of the 140,000 people killed in violence since 2011 will be supported by the comforting embrace of God.
- **12** Pray for the people of Namibia who are suffering from the worst drought in 25 years and for the efforts of Lutheran Disaster Response to help those affected survive until a crop can be harvested.
- **13** Include in your prayers the Rev. Kevin Jacobson, an ELCA missionary serving in Suriname, and his parish ministry and leadership development work.
- 14 Lift up in your prayers the efforts of the ELCA e-Advocacy Network, comprised of ELCA members who regularly press our federal and state governments to approve public policies that protect God's creation and those living in it.

15 Holy Trinity/First Sunday after Pentecost

Almighty and everlasting God, the one in three and three in one, we lift all those who care for children. We ask that you bless those who have "fathered" us in their roles as parents, mentors and guides.

- **16** Pray for the six members of the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program serving in Mexico as they walk in accompaniment with our neighbors to the south, many of whom are dealing with economic hardship.
- 17 Give thanks for the 2014 ELCA World Hunger domestic grants that are helping 384 organizations fight hunger in their communities.

 18 Give thanks for this church's Mission Builders, ELCA members who use their skills to help congregations, schools, camps and social ministry organizations construct or improve their facilities.
- 19 Pray for the efforts of the many people and organizations, including the ELCA, working to reduce poverty in the United States. Pray that the day will come when all of God's children will see an honest day's work rewarded with a living wage.
- **20** On this World Refugee Day, give thanks for the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, which for 75 years has been helping people around the world who are seeking to escape violence, persecution and economic hardship.
- **21** Remember in your prayers the Rev. Andrew and Barbara Hinderlie, ELCA missionaries serving in Tanzania as area program directors for East Africa.

22 Second Sunday after Pentecost

Lord, as we enter this season of summer we ask that you bless all who are far from home. Be their guide and protector. Keep them from all danger and misfortune. Travel with them and grant them peace.

23 Pray that the ministry of our ELCA military chaplains will be a source of comfort and strength for the men and women who are serving in harm's way while separated from their loved ones back home.

24 John the Baptist

Lift up our mission to engage more young people in the life of this church through expanded ministries to youth and young adults — one of the goals of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*.

25 Remember in your prayers the Rev. John Lunn, an ELCA missionary based in Tanzania. John is the international coordinator of Lutheran Global Health Volunteers, which places short-term volunteers into health care ministries in several countries.