

WORLD AIDS DAY

On Dec. 1, all throughout the ELCA are invited to join the global community as we commemorate World AIDS Day. Each year, this day is set aside as an international time of remembrance, awareness and commitment to action. We specifically remember our calling, as set forward in the ELCA Strategy on HIV and AIDS, to a strong and faithful response.

Globally, approximately 36.9 million people are living with HIV and AIDS, and an estimated 1.1 million in the United States. In 2009, the church came together around the ELCA Strategy on HIV and AIDS that set forth the areas to which the church was being called into the response to HIV and AIDS.

Each member and congregation can be involved in one or more ways. You can:

- Advocate. Stay connected to ELCA Advocacy's updates and ask your elected officials to support policies that advance effective prevention, treatment and care, eliminate stigma and address systemic inequity.
- Learn. Take time to learn more about HIV and AIDS, and invite your congregation to participate in educational activities.
- Serve. Invite your congregation to partner with an agency that is involved in the response to HIV and AIDS in your community.
- **Pray.** As we gather, we join in prayer, remembering all affected by HIV and AIDS and for the ELCA, that it will respond faithfully to our calls as set forth in the strategy.
- Donate. You can give online at ELCA.org/HIV, by calling 800-638-3522, or by mailing your gift to ELCA World Hunger, ELCA Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. Please note "HIV and AIDS" on the memo line of your check.



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