



# *the* **Oasis**

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Monthly Newsletter of Elim Lutheran Church  
*August 2014*

## **Worship Times**

Saturday, 5:00 pm  
Communion Weekly

Sunday, 9:00 am  
Communion 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

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## **Radio Ministry**

Sunday, 11:05 am  
KFJB AM dial 1230

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## **Reflecting the name "Elim"**

*We commit ourselves to be an oasis for our time,  
where we are refreshed by the Holy Spirit, that  
we may praise and serve God, loving all people,  
using Christ as our model.*

*Exodus 5:27*

## **Elim Lutheran Church**

302 W. Church Street  
Marshalltown, IA 50158

Office: 641-752-4213

Kitchen: 641-752-4214

Children's Center: 641-752-8760

Pastor Karen's Email  
[pastor@elimlutheranmarshalltown.org](mailto:pastor@elimlutheranmarshalltown.org)

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Website: [www.elimlutheranmarshalltown.org](http://www.elimlutheranmarshalltown.org)

# Pastor's Message

*The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.  
The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.  
I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.  
I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.  
Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.  
For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.  
You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy;  
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Psalm 16:5-11*



Pastor  
Karen  
Cluts

One of the things that is great about the Psalms is that there is a psalm for almost every occasion and for every emotional state that we experience as humans. I was paging through the first fifty Psalms and was struck by Psalm 16. In my Lutheran Study Bible, it is titled “Song of Trust and Security in God”. But what caught my attention the most was the reference to the right hand “... *because [God] is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.*”

Before I left on sabbatical many people asked rather disbelievingly, “You aren’t going to Germany on your own, are you?” It struck me as a funny question in that I have spent my whole life going places alone as a single person. A long time ago, I realized that if I ever wanted to experience things outside the spectrum of my day to day life, I had to do them on my own. I couldn’t wait for a boyfriend, a husband or even a female companion to go with me. But after falling at the train station in Wittenberg, Germany on a Sunday afternoon with no one else around, I do see there are times when a companion would be beneficial!

I see a spiritual director regularly for guidance and prayer. Although I wasn’t able to drive to our regular meeting, we made a phone conference for the month of July suffice. One of the things that she asked me was how the fall, the subsequent travel and the disability had affected my spiritual life. I have never been one to linger on the negative. I think I easily laugh at myself and although I empathize with those who get angry with God in difficult times, that has not been my approach to life’s situations. Even though there was no human being around to help me after my accident, God was at my right hand. I don’t know how exactly I managed to get up without the help of my right arm. I know I tried several approaches and finally just readied myself for the moment of pain, knowing I was in God’s right hand as well.

I know as well that God was in those people who assisted me along the way—the hotel staff in Erfurt who made a temporary sling for my arm and helped me pack my suitcase; the seatmate on the train to Berlin who offered to help me get my very large suitcase off the train at the station; the hotel staff in Berlin who allowed me to call home on their phone, helped me shower and dress in clean clothes and even buttered my toast in the morning; the doctors and nurses who were compassionate and caring; and even the little Asian woman who helped buckle my seatbelt on the flight from Chicago to Des Moines!

God’s presence in our lives does not leave us on our own. God always holds us in his right hand even when our own right hand is out of commission. Thank you to all those people who gave me rides to therapy or the doctor, who helped me shower and dress, who took me grocery shopping or had me over for dinner and who prayed for me and sent me cards or called. You were God’s right hand at a time when I needed it most.

In Christ,

Pastor Karen

# Marshall County ELCA Hunger Ministries

In response to Elim's decision to address hunger issues, the three ELCA churches in Marshalltown have joined forces.

## **Our Mission:**

To come together, shoulder to shoulder, as ELCA congregations to support the programs currently in place in Marshalltown which alleviate hunger and food insecurity.

## **Our Plan:**

Educate congregations  
Provide resources to existing programs which we have identified as Emergency Food Box, House of Compassion, and Senior Meals Programs  
Provide education to people who are living with food insecurity

## **Our Task Force:**

Elim Lutheran Church  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
Trinity Lutheran Church

## **Kick Off Event**

### **Run for the House**

**Saturday, September 6th, 2014**

We are inviting all of our ELCA congregations to support the House of Compassion through this fund raiser. You can help in a variety of ways: Register to walk or run (see registration form on page 5), be a volunteer, sponsor someone or simply make a donation, help with refreshments after the race.

We are taking orders for ELCA God's Work. Our Hands. T-shirts for sale at each congregation. We will be wearing these at many different events to promote our joint Hunger Ministry program. We will all be gathering at Elim's fellowship hall after the Run for the House for additional refreshments. Mark the calendar and plan to join in the fun.

## **T-Shirt Orders:**

We hope many of you will purchase a t-shirt to wear at various times throughout the year.

The shirts are yellow with GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS. on the front. The back will have Elim and the ELCA logo.

They are 100% preshrunk cotton.

Cost: \$6.00 each, due at time of pickup.

Sizes available: Youth Small through Adult 5XL

Deadline to order: August 4.

To order your shirt, you can use the order form on the next page, call the church office at 641-752-4213 or contact Terry Gray.



# Marshall County Hunger Ministries T-Shirt Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

QTY.	SIZE Youth Small through Adult 5x	PRICE	TOTAL \$
		\$6.00	
		\$6.00	
		\$6.00	
		\$6.00	
		Total \$	

**\*\*Payment due at time of pickup.\*\***

## House of Compassion Volunteers

Those serving at the House of Compassion on Wednesday, August 6 are Nancy Dickkut, Bobbi Brandenburg, Beth Grumstrup, and Nora Rico.

## Emergency Food Box Supply Closet

August is Elim's opportunity to donate to the Supply Closet. You may bring your items to the church and put them in the white box.

## German Supper

The 20th Annual German Supper will be celebrated on November 2, 2014. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us! We will need volunteers to help in different areas, so a sign-up sheet can be found on the table in the narthex. We thank you for your continued support!

## Rally Sunday

Please mark your calendars! On September 7, 2014, we will celebrate Rally Sunday at Riverview Park. We will have our worship service there and a picnic will follow. Watch for more information to come.



# RUN FOR THE HOUSE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th, 2014 8:00AM

Send completed registration form & entry fee to:

House of Compassion  
211 W. church st.  
Marshalltown, IA 50158

Questions can be emailed to:

andicwalker@gmail.com

Additional registration forms can be found at:

[www.facebook.com/RunForTheHouseMarshalltown](http://www.facebook.com/RunForTheHouseMarshalltown)

Make checks payable to:

House of Compassion

Packet pickup: Saturday, September 6th

6:00-7:45 am, race starts at 8:00 am.

Parents please note course will be run on OPEN roads.

**NO DOGS ALLOWED AT THIS EVENT BY ORDER OF  
THE CITY OF MARSHALLTOWN**

## REGISTRATION

- > NAME: \_\_\_\_\_
- > ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_
- > CITY: \_\_\_\_\_
- > STATE: \_\_\_\_\_
- > ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_
- > EVENT:  5K  10K
- > AGE:  13 & under,  14-19,  
 20-29,  30-39,  40-49,  
 50-59,  60+
- > TSHIRT SIZE:  S  M  L  XL  
 XXL
- > ENTRY FEE:  
 \$25 early registration  
 \$30 late entry\*

\*(no shirt guaranteed)

### RELEASE OF LIABILITY

In consideration of your acceptance of this entry form, I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against individuals associated with this event, its agents, successors and assigns, for any and all injuries suffered by me in said event. I attest and verify that I have full knowledge of the risks involved in this event and I am physically fit and sufficiently trained to participate in this event.

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
parent if participant is a minor



5K/10K start and end at The House front door. 10K racers run the route twice.



## Prayer Concerns

B.O. Bryngelson, Lee Hedum, Eltha Holm, Mike Runneals, Eric Wilson, Kaisley Hulin (great-granddaughter of Jim & Charlene Hulin), Marilee Youngman (daughter of Jan & Ron Sherman and mother of Elias & Jaden Youngman), Preeti & baby (friend of Tina & McKenna Coleman), Atlas (friend of the Hickie's), and for those who are not gathered with us because of illness, disability, or inactivity. We pray for those in the military, past and present, including Michael Adams, Craig Brandenburg, Erick Eggers, Bradley J. Gehling, Logan Heckman, James McKibben, and Justin Schade.

## Wednesday Evening Bible Study

**\*\* DATE CHANGE\*\***

To avoid a conflict with VBS, the Wednesday evening Bible study in August has been changed to the 2nd Wednesday, August 13. We will meet at Smokin' G's on Main Street. Come at 6:00 pm for dinner and Bible study starts at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome. Plan to join us and bring a friend.

## Elim Seniors & Friends

It has been decided that there will not be an August or September Seniors & Friends Luncheon. It is planned to start again in October.

## Save the Radio Ministry!!!

Elim is participating in a 4-week trial of the Sunday radio broadcast on KFJB AM dial 1230. **Please note the broadcasts begin at 11:05 am now**. The program is guaranteed until August 10, thanks to Herb & JoEllin Dickkut. However, after that, KFJB will require a one-year contract in order to continue the broadcast. Therefore, at that time, Council will reevaluate congregational support of the program and decide the future involvement, as the program will only continue if the sign-up sheet has all 52 weeks sponsored. The cost is \$75 each week. Please take a look at the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex or call the office to sign up to sponsor at least one week and save this ministry to the community.

## Pop Cans Wanted

Help send the youth group to Detroit in 2015 for the youth gathering. Drop off your pop cans in the recycling boxes located in the back hallway by the custodial closet. Who knows? If we get enough pop cans, maybe we can even bring the kids back!

## Cupboards for Sale

In preparation for the kitchen remodeling, the current kitchen cupboards are for sale for a reasonable donation. If you are interested, please contact Peg Kelly or Joanne Callen.



# Vacation Bible School



## WHO

3-year-olds - 6th graders

## WHAT

VBS - Weird Animals  
Where Jesus' Love is  
One-of-a-Kind

## WHERE

Elim Lutheran Church

## WHEN

Sunday, August 3rd  
through  
Thursday, August 7th  
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.



## RALLY SUNDAY SERVICE PROJECT

This year Elim will collect personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. Each person that wishes to contribute is asked to donate an entire kit.

The kit needs to include:

- 1 lightweight bath towel (dark color, at least 52 x 27")
- 1 wash cloth to match towel
- 2 bars of bath soap (4-5 oz size)
- 1 adult toothbrush (in original package)
- 1 sturdy comb or hair pick
- 1 metal nail clipper with attached nail file.

Please wrap items in the towel and tie with string, yarn, or heavy rubber bands.

Lutheran World Relief will add the toothpaste when they ship them. It costs them \$2.65 to add the toothpaste and ship it, so donations for these are also welcome, cash or check (made payable to Elim Lutheran Church). Give all donations to Marla Cluts. You are asked to bring your kit to Church on Rally Sunday to be boxed up that day.



## You Are Invited

Aaron Thomas, Principal at Aplington-Parkersburg (A-P) and son of the late Ed Thomas, legendary A-P football coach, will be speaking on August 3 at 2 p.m. in the East Marshall High School new gymnasium on "**Faith, Family, and Football.**" Aaron shares his family's journey of showing uncommon strength during the darkest of times. Aaron's message speaks of how to deal with adversity and making the most of all opportunities. He will challenge you to look at your life, your family, and your job to see if you are being a difference maker. Please contact us at [lfc@iowatelecom.net](mailto:lfc@iowatelecom.net) or 641-479-2025 if you have any questions or need further information.

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

3001 S 6<sup>th</sup> St., Marshalltown

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

4-7 P.M.



### MENU

BBQ beef & pork sandwiches

Potato salad

Baked beans

Homemade pies & cakes

Homemade ice cream

Lemonade, iced tea, & COFFEE

Wheelchairs available

Carry-outs welcome!

**EVERYONE INVITED!!!**



## House of Compassion Project



## School Supplies "Stuff the Bus"

**Buy Supplies; deposit in store's donation box, church, or the bus.**

For several years, The House of Compassion has offered the community an opportunity to make a significant difference in the education of students of low-income families by soliciting and distributing basic school supplies to Marshall County children in grades Pre-K-12. Items needed are as follows:

pocket folders (assorted colors)	spiral notebooks
notebook paper	10-12 pencils
erasable pens (black or blue)	scissors
eraser and pencil-top erasers	red pens
facial tissues	glue or glue sticks
box of <u>24</u> crayons	pencil box
box of <u>12</u> colored pencils	

Stuff the Bus will be at the Walmart parking lot on July 26 & 27 and August 2 & 3. Any monetary donations will be used to buy supplies we have in short supply. School Supply distribution will be August 9 & 11 at St. Paul Episcopal Church, 201 E Church St.



08/02 Alejandro Rico  
 08/04 Tony Roberts  
 08/05 Beverly Rabbitt  
 08/06 Kaylee Otto  
 08/07 Dr. Larry Weiss  
 08/07 David Gray  
 08/08 Vicki Bolen  
 08/08 Royce Hickie  
 08/09 Travis Wolken  
 08/09 Matthew Erney  
 08/10 Elias Youngman  
 08/11 Dennis Anderson  
 08/12 Kami Otto  
 08/13 Dustin Hutcheson  
 08/14 Ruth Karl  
 08/14 Zarhona Pennington-Farmer  
 08/19 Kevin Sharp  
 08/19 Jennifer Shook  
 08/20 Barbara Fisher  
 08/20 Emily Hazen



08/20 Joseph Roberts  
 08/22 Beulah Baskerville  
 08/22 Lyle Niemeyer  
 08/22 Raymond Struble  
 08/23 Deb Padilla  
 08/23 Rich Otto  
 08/23 Shona Otto  
 08/23 Mandy Diggins  
 08/24 Bobbi Brandenburg  
 08/24 Zada Hill  
 08/25 Annette Palmer  
 08/26 Fern Olson  
 08/26 Sue Winter  
 08/27 Robert Palmer  
 08/27 Brenda Ellefson  
 08/27 Shannon Duff  
 08/28 Zander Pennington-Farmer  
 08/30 Bill Smothers  
 08/31 Evan Roberts



08/06 James & Brenda Ellefson  
 08/06 David & Charisse Scott  
 08/06 Mike & Kathleen McCune  
 08/08 Bill & Charlene Smothers  
 08/10 Lyle & Ruth Niemeyer  
 08/24 Ralph & Rosalyn Allen



## THOSE ASSISTING WITH SATURDAY WORSHIP IN AUGUST AT 5:00 P.M.

	August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30
<b>GREETERS</b>	Deloris Heim	Mary Christiansen	Marilyn Diggins	Nancy Wilson	Don & Ann Nasalroad
<b>USHERS</b>	Bill & Barb Fisher	Brian & Tammy Plowman	Marilyn Diggins Cecil Buschbom	Steve & Dee Ryan	Teresa Lang
<b>READER</b>	Teresa Lang	Nancy Hookie	Marilyn Diggins	Steve Ryan	Nancy Butler
<b>COMMUNION</b>	Nancy Wilson Sharon Arment	Brian & Tammy Plowman	Char Smothers	Bud & Rosie Struble	Teresa Lang Deb Padilla

## THOSE ASSISTING WITH SUNDAY WORSHIP IN AUGUST AT 9:00 A.M.

	August 3	August 10	August 17	August 24	August 31
<b>NARTHEX GREETER</b>	Ron & Jan Sherman, Jim & Tina Coleman				
<b>FOYER GREETER</b>	Bonnie Ray, Jim & Kristi Curtis				
<b>USHERS</b>	Alfredo & Nora Rico, Austin Rico, Matt Erney				
<b>READER</b>	April Hill	Charlene Hulin	Barb Runneals	Emily Hazen	Millie Kosar
<b>PROJECTIONIST</b>	Matt Erney	Austin Rico	Ian Hernandez	Elias Youngman	Kami Otto
<b>RECORDER</b>	Bruce Grumstrup	Jim Hunt	Eldon Ott	Herb Dickkut	Daryl Bennett
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	Kami Otto	Mackenna Curtis	Ian Hernandez	Taylor Duff	Ashlyn Plowman
<b>ALTAR GUILD SET UP</b>	Iris Thoreson	No Communion	Iris Thoreson	No Communion	Iris Thoreson
<b>COMMUNION ASSISTANT</b>	Jan Wolken	No Communion	Jan Wolken	No Communion	Jan Wolken
<b>ALTAR GUILD CLEAN UP</b>	Donna Keen Jan Wolken	No Communion	Donna Keen Jan Wolken	No Communion	Donna Keen Jan Wolken
<b>FELLOWSHIP TREATS</b>	VBS	Diana Muckelroy Rich & Shana Otto	Earl & Sylvia Best Ron & Janette Sherman	Dr. Robert & Dorothy Mandsager Noel Lund	Emily Hazen Karen Gale
<b>OFFERING</b>	Iris & Barb	Sandy & JoEllin	Nancy & Joanne	Audrey & Millie	Iris & Barb
<b>RADIO MINISTRY</b>	Herb & JoEllin Dickkut	Herb & JoEllin Dickkut	Ken & Joanne Callen	Ione Curtis	Gene & Esther Seim



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					01  Peg in office AM OFFICE CLOSED PM Denise Vacation Day 5:30pm» Gavagan Wedding Rehearsal	02  2pm» Gavagan Wedding 5pm» Worship/Communion
03  9am» Worship/Communion 10am» Fellowship 5:30pm» Vacation Bible School	04  5:30pm» Vacation Bible School	05  1pm» Clergy Text Study 5:30pm» Vacation Bible School	06  Elim House of Compassion 7am» Bible Study at Tremont 5:30pm» Vacation Bible School	07  8am» Quilting 9am» Men's Coffee Group 5:30pm» Vacation Bible School	08	09  5pm» Worship/Communion
10  9am» Worship 10am» Fellowship	11  6:30pm» Children's Center Board Mtg.	12  12pm» Hunger Committee Mtg 1pm» Clergy Text Study 7pm» Committee Meetings	13  7am» Bible Study at Tremont 6pm» Dinner; 7:00 Bible Study at Smokin' G's	14  8am» Quilting 9am» Men's Coffee Group	15  OFFICE CLOSED PM Denise Vacation Day Char S. in Office AM 2pm» Women's Circle	16  5pm» Worship/Communion
17  9am» Worship/Communion 10am» Fellowship	18	19  1pm» Clergy Text Study 7pm» Church Council Mtg	20  7am» Bible Study at Tremont	21  8am» Quilting 9am» Men's Coffee Group	22	23  5pm» Worship/Communion
24  9am» Worship 10am» Fellowship	25  Oasis Deadline	26  1pm» Clergy Text Study	27  7am» Bible Study at Tremont	28  8am» Quilting 9am» Men's Coffee Group	29	30  5pm» Worship/Communion
31  9am» Worship/Communion 10am» Fellowship						

## Elim Children's Center Corner

August 2014



As we prepare to send our little ones to school, Elim is getting ready for some big changes also!

Elim will be holding a parent night on Tuesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30p.m. You will have the opportunity to visit your child's next classroom and ask the teacher any questions you may have! We will begin the evening with a special guest, Patrick Stansberry. He will be sharing information with you on our positive behavior program and assessment tools. This is especially good information for our preschool parents! Please save the date and time! We encourage all parents to come and help prepare your child for their transition. As of Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, all children will be moving to the age appropriate rooms. We like to move them as a group, as this seems to be easier with friends! If you have any questions, please ask me! I will be sending home an official agenda for the evening as we get closer. I thank you in advance for your attendance!

I hope you are enjoying the new calendars I have made for you! It will have all the center happenings listed for your convenience!

On Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, we will be taking the preschoolers to the zoo in Des Moines! Please be sure to sign up as soon as possible! Due to planning transportation, we will not be able to take any late sign ups. All fees and names will need to be in no later than July 30<sup>th</sup>! Thank you. Cost is \$10.00 and does include a lunch!

We want to wish all our school kids a great year ahead! We will miss you and look forward to no school days with you!

Elim Lutheran Church will be holding Vacation Bible School August 3-7 from 5:30-7:30p.m. All are welcome! Please call 752-4213 for any questions you may have!

Enjoy the rest of summer!

Melinda & Staff



**August 2014**

## **Back to School**

For children who are struggling at school or are in trouble, what happens during the summer months? Suddenly, all the structure of the school year is gone.

That's where LSI helps. This summer LSI's behavioral health intervention services (BHIS) have been busy helping keep children and youth stable so they can head back to school this August in great shape to have a terrific school year.

LSI's BHIS program helps children and teens who have a mental health diagnosis build skills in areas such as anger management, coping, healthy decision making, communication, positive self-esteem and more. Thanks to your caring support of LSI, children in this program achieve positive outcomes at home, in school and in the community!

*LSI is proud to be an affiliated social ministry organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Learn more at [www.LSIowa.org](http://www.LSIowa.org) and [www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa](http://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

### **“Having someone come to your home is amazing.”**

Roycene had just turned her life around and had been sober for two years. When her son Lucas returned home from over a year in foster care, the transition wasn't easy for either of them.

“Lucas came home with a lot of behaviors,” she said. “It was almost unmanageable. It was a transition for him and for me.”

Thankfully, LSI's behavioral health intervention services (BHIS) program was there to help. LSI caseworker Heidi helped Lucas, age seven, learn anger management, communication skills and coping skills, or as Lucas calls them, “scoping” skills.

“Having someone come to your home is amazing,” Roycene said. “Lucas is more comfortable here. I learn a lot from Heidi, and it's really neat watching my son learn how to express his feelings. One of the awesome things about Heidi coming to my house is she can actually see what's going on. I could go to a therapist or doctor and try to explain, but it's not the same. I would be almost glad when Lucas was having a tantrum, so she was able to see and help us learn how to handle it. It's nice having someone professional help coach me in my parenting and decisions. It makes me more confident.”

Heidi also helped Lucas learn how to make friends at school and helped Roycene find ways to talk to him about his father's incarceration. Lucas has grown leaps and bounds, Roycene said.

“Any time I get frustrated, I think about how it's not like it was,” she said. “I'm just really grateful for this service. When friends are having problems, I tell them about how I have someone from LSI who supports me.”

See more stories, past and present, at LSI's anniversary website: [www.LSIowa.org/150](http://www.LSIowa.org/150).

## PRAYER VENTURES

### August 2014



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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

**1** Pray for the safety of all the people threatened by the violence in the conflict between Israel and Hamas in the Gaza Strip, including the members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. Pray for an end to the violence and that negotiations for a lasting peace will be pursued.

**2** Pray for the state of our world, a world in which unaccompanied children flee across borders in search of better life. Pray for the ELCA members who are working through Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and Lutheran social service ministries to help find foster care for these children.

### **3 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

Ever-loving God, quiet our souls before you, speak to us from your word and refresh us with the living bread of life that is Christ, through Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

**4** As stewards of God's creation, we pray with the leaders of the ELCA and The Episcopal Church that limits on carbon emissions be approved in an effort to limit climate change, which particularly threatens low-income communities that lack the resources and technology to adapt to rapid environmental changes.

**5** As they begin their six-year terms in service to this church, pray for the six new ELCA synod bishops who were elected at their 2014 synod assemblies: John Macholz – Upstate New York Synod; Gerald Mansholt – East-Central Synod of Wisconsin; Patricia Lull – Saint Paul Area Synod; Abraham Allende – Northeastern Ohio Synod; Terry Brandt – Eastern North Dakota Synod; Michael Rhyne – Allegheny Synod; and the nine bishops who were re-elected.

**6** Pray for the ministries of the ELCA that work with people who have served time in prison and now are trying to start a new life, such as Living Gospel Ministries in Philadelphia.

**7** Remember in your prayers ELCA missionaries the Rev. Lancelot Themba and Kwena Mkhabela, regional representatives for West Africa.

**8** Lift up the participants in the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program as they conclude this month their year of accompaniment with Lutheran companion churches overseas. Pray for God's guidance as they finish this journey and prepare for the next chapter in their lives.

**9** Remember in your prayers the ELCA military chaplains and the people they serve – people who are too often facing difficult days in which ending their lives may seem to them the only option. As we give thanks for their service, pray that God's unconditional love will become a light in their darkness.

### **10 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

We thank you, O God, for teachers throughout the world. Give them strength, patience and guidance as many prepare to begin a new school year; in the name of Jesus we pray.

**11** Give thanks that the ELCA Malaria Campaign has raised more than \$12 million toward its goal of \$15 million and that through the generosity of ELCA members, the campaign is making a difference in 13 African countries.

**12** Give thanks for the new worshiping communities of the ELCA, such as Faith in Action in Detroit, and the impact their ministries have on the daily lives of many.

**13** Remember in your prayers the six members of the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program who will begin a year of service in Rwanda this month – the first group to serve in that country.

**14** Lift up the ELCA's Ethnic Specific and Multicultural Ministries, which help us work toward realizing a truly multicultural church that works together to understand and address life's issues, complexities and questions.

**15** Remember in your prayers ELCA missionary Chandran Paul Martin, the regional representative in India.

## PRAYER VENTURES

### August 2014



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

**16** Pray for those who are hearing the call to turn their lives to service in the global church. May the Holy Spirit will help them discern how they can do God's work by accompanying those in other cultures, be it as missionaries, health workers, teachers or other servants of God.

#### **17 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

God of compassion and justice, we lift up those who are unemployed. May they find work and receive just payment for their efforts; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**18** Give thanks for the generous financial support ELCA members provide this church – from support for the local needs and ministries overseen by their congregations to providing aid in times of international disasters to supporting the growth and work of the global church.

**19** Pray for the ministries of the ELCA that help refugees fleeing difficult conditions begin anew in the United States, such as Welcome House at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in South Carolina.

**20** Lift up in your prayers the ELCA Lay Schools for Ministry program as it equips and supports people for ministry and service in their community, congregation and the world.

**21** Remember in your prayers ELCA missionaries in Japan Patrick and Jacqueline Bencke, who are teaching English as a second language.

**22** Give thanks for the many ELCA congregations that have taken their ministry beyond their walls and immediate community by sponsoring an ELCA missionary or Young Adult in Global Mission.

**23** Pray for a world in which no one lives with daily hunger pains and the mission of ELCA World Hunger – providing solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty – would not be needed.

#### **24 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

O Lord, we thank you for all ELCA missionaries especially those who have retired. They dedicated their lives to working and living with your people throughout the world. We thank you for their commitment, knowledge and faith; in the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

**25** Lift up in your prayers this church's effort to accompany and equip 1,000 congregations in their renewal efforts through ELCA synods – one of the goals of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*.

**26** Give thanks for the many supporters of the ELCA Vision for Mission whose contributions help open doors to new ministries, revitalize existing congregations, share the gospel with others and grow the church for the sake of the world.

**27 As** the new school year begins, remember in your prayers the ELCA campus pastors who daily reach out to all who teach and learn, inviting them to experience the challenge of following Jesus.

**28** Remember in your prayers ELCA missionaries the Rev. Erik and Tauna Roth and their parish ministry in Tokyo.

**29** Remember in your prayers those students who are beginning seminary this fall. Pray for God's guidance as these future leaders of the ELCA prepare for a life of "God's work. Our hands."

**30** Remember in your prayers the 64 new participants in the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program who this month begin a year of accompanying our brothers and sisters in eight country programs around the world.

#### **31 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

Merciful God, fill us when we are empty. Strengthen us when we are weak. Warm us in your love so that we may love our neighbors as ourselves. Help us serve our brothers and sisters worldwide for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.