

ELCA WORLD HUNGER PROGRAM

The Outreach Mission Team will be sponsoring our annual ELCA World Hunger Appeal during Lent. This program does wonderful work helping many countries around the globe develop self-sufficiency for food and clean water resources. Over 821 million people in the world, 11% of the world's population, are hungry. In the United States alone over 40 million people are unsure where their next meal is coming from.

The ELCA World Hunger program is making a difference. Ending hunger is about more than just providing food; it is about providing a road to long-term sustainability and change. The ELCA is actively involved in connecting people with the resources they need to produce food and gain access to clean water. It also provides education, health care and sources of income to bring about long-term sustainability.

In 2017, the ELCA World Hunger program support topped \$21.3 million in aid and is active in 62 countries including the United States. It is a broad-based program supporting projects that include:

- Establishing health clinics
- Providing micro loans
- Building water wells
- Establishing animal husbandry programs
- Providing community meals
- Establishing advocacy programs to influence country and local governments

The program depends on financial support from ELCA congregations like ours and we can help support these efforts during this Lenten season. *Matthew 24:35* states this best; *“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.”*

Here are the various ways you can donate:

- Go to the Holy Spirit on-line donation form and enter your donation amount on the World Hunger line.
- Use your weekly offering envelope by entering “World Hunger” and your donation amount on the Special Gifts line or use the special Lenten Offering envelope, contributions to which will go to World Hunger this year.
- Send your check to the church office payable to Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, *noting World Hunger on the check memo line.*
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Your donations will be life supporting, sustaining, and appreciated. Thank you!