



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

SEPTEMBER 2016

# GO *and* DO NEWS

A monthly publication for ELCA World Hunger Leaders

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## FROM EMILY'S DESK: CREATING AND SUSTAINING

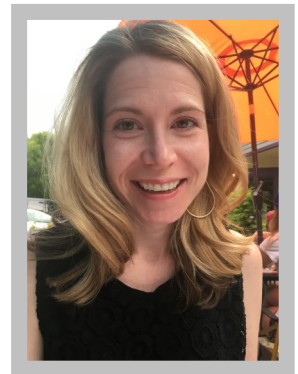
In May, I became a parent for the first time. It has been an exhausting, miraculous, fun and laborious three months! I can't begin to count the lessons my husband and I have learned, but some have revolved around joy, worry, hope, peace and a tangible reminder of God's ability to create and sustain. I'm often stopped in my tracks thinking how could we be so lucky to be used in this process and all the interworking of what that means?! I've been humbled by the strength and resilience of not only my body but my son's. How could something so small and delicate be so capable and strong? He is growing, thriving, creating joy, and learning to explore and take in the world around him so quickly.

None of this has been accomplished by our efforts, but merely by grace and God's provision. As I reflect on the past three months, I'm reminded that it's how we've always been sustained. Each of us. Everywhere. The same provision is true for all of us. Yet it looks different for each us. This same reality of creation and sustainability applies to the wonderful work being accomplished through ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response and each companion. God created and sustains the part of our hearts that wants to serve and demonstrate generosity. God created and sustains the part of our hearts that allows us to accept generosity. God has created everything necessary to ensure that all can be fed. We get to be a part of this glorious work! Providing for and sustaining what God has created.

In the life of ELCA World Hunger, you are one of God's provisions. Your energy, enthusiasm and commitment to ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response are part of how God has chosen to sustain this work of eliminating hunger around the world. We will probably never know the full outcome of this work, but my son's birth has reminded me that every day, in countless ways, God is involved in the most intricate details of creating and sustaining. I'm humbled to be called on this journey together. Praise be to God.

Emily Dubay

Associate Director, ELCA World Hunger



## WORLD FOOD DAY 2016

[World Food Day](#) is a day of action against hunger. On Oct. 16, people around the world will come together to declare their commitment to eradicate hunger in our lifetime. Because when it comes to hunger, the only acceptable number in the world is zero.

Each year, people around the world mark World Food Day as a special occasion to take action, learn more and join together to fight hunger. World Food Day 2016 falls on a Sunday, giving Christians concerned about hunger a special opportunity to worship, pray and serve together. Watch for a special Hunger e-news on Oct. 4 and a blog post from ELCA World Hunger with suggestions for actions you and your congregation can take. Need to subscribe to the ELCA World Hunger blog? Sign up at [blogs.ELCA.org/worldhunger/](http://blogs.ELCA.org/worldhunger/).



## A FOND FAREWELL: ELYSSA SALINAS



The ELCA World Hunger team bid farewell and Godspeed to our colleague Elyssa Salinas on Sept. 16. Elyssa had been with the ELCA World Hunger team for more than a year as the program assistant for hunger education. During her time, she wrote the Sermon Starters weekly emails, contributed to the blog, and was the project manager for the recent community gardens guide. Elyssa will begin her doctoral studies this fall, and we wish her the very best as she continues to study and serve in this way!

## RESOURCE OF THE MONTH: NEW VIDEOS NOW AVAILABLE

The 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, which gathered in New Orleans, La., in August, had the chance to preview two of the new ELCA World Hunger videos. Those are now finished and online for you to view and use in your congregations and synods! As with the other ELCA World Hunger videos, discussion guides and handouts are in production for these new stories. Check out the ["Stories and Videos" tab](#) soon to find those. In the meantime we invite you to:



### Meet Saroj

(Madhya Pradesh, India)

[vimeo.com/elca/saroj](http://vimeo.com/elca/saroj)

### Learn about Shobi's Table

(St. Paul, Minn.)

[vimeo.com/elca/shobistable](http://vimeo.com/elca/shobistable)



## COMING TO A MAILBOX NEAR YOU

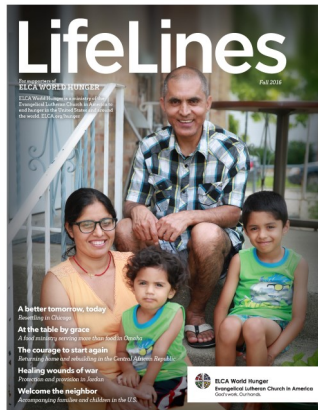


The **2016 Advent Packet** was mailed to homes and all congregations earlier this month! All resources are now available to [download or order](#).

Our **fall appeal letter** was mailed last week and features a story about human trafficking work in Thailand. It will be arriving in homes any day.



Photo: New Life Center Foundation



The **fall issue of LifeLines** is due to mail this week and should be in your mailboxes and available for download very soon.

## FALL REGIONAL GATHERINGS

The fall Regional Gathering season is right around the corner, and we're looking forward to seeing you! The regional gatherings give us all a chance for fellowship and learning together in between our ELCA World Hunger Leadership gatherings. The date for each gathering is below along with the email address for each regional coordinator. Your regional coordinator is responsible for registration so check with them now for more information and to express your interest in attending.

**Region 1:** Oct. 21-22, Spokane, Wash.  
Mark Nelson: [Mark.Nelson@elca.org](mailto:Mark.Nelson@elca.org)

**Region 2:** Nov. 17-20, El Paso, Texas  
Margy Schmitt-Ajer: [Margaret.Schmitt-Ajer@elca.org](mailto:Margaret.Schmitt-Ajer@elca.org)

**Region 3:** TBD  
Paul Baglyos: [Paul.Baglyos@elca.org](mailto:Paul.Baglyos@elca.org)

**Region 4:** Nov. 18-19, Kansas City, Mo.  
Herb Palmer: [Herb.Palmer@elca.org](mailto:Herb.Palmer@elca.org)

**Region 5:** Oct. 27-29, Elkhorn, Wis.  
Ramie Bakken: [Ramie.Bakken@elca.org](mailto:Ramie.Bakken@elca.org)

**Region 6:** Dec. 6-10 (these dates will be refined)  
Marilyn Smith: [Marilyn.Smith@elca.org](mailto:Marilyn.Smith@elca.org)

**Region 7:** March 2017, more information coming soon  
Peggy Wuertele: [Peggy.Wuertele@elca.org](mailto:Peggy.Wuertele@elca.org)

**Region 8:** Oct. 6-8, Waynesboro, Pa.  
Registration is now closed.

**Region 9:** Met in April 2016; future dates TBD

## MONTHLY NETWORK WEBINAR: SEPTEMBER LINK AND OCTOBER MEETING DATE

This month, the ELCA World Hunger webinar featured an update on giving so far this year from the fundraising team as well as a wealth of resources you can use in your congregation as we look toward reaching our \$24 million goal for fiscal year 2016. You can listen [here](#).

The recording is listed by topic below:

- 00:00 - 02:15** Welcome and introductions
- 02:16 - 45:51** Feature topic: Quarterly fundraising check-in
- 45:52 - 49:10** Networking discussions
- 49:11 - 54:23** Resource highlight
- 54:24 - 58:13** Questions and discussion

### Next month's webinar:

**Tuesday, Oct. 18**

8:30 p.m. Eastern/7:30 p.m. Central/  
6:30 p.m. Mountain/5:30 p.m. Pacific

**Featured topic:** Preview and share feedback on plans and upcoming resources for Lent 2017 — "ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving".

**BY THE NUMBERS: THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE ELCA**

July through October are our most anxious months of the year. Typically, after monthly increases in giving to ELCA World Hunger that extend from April through June, the income figures lag. About 20 percent of our income is received in these four months. The trend was especially dramatic for 2016 where the July income was about half of what we received in June.

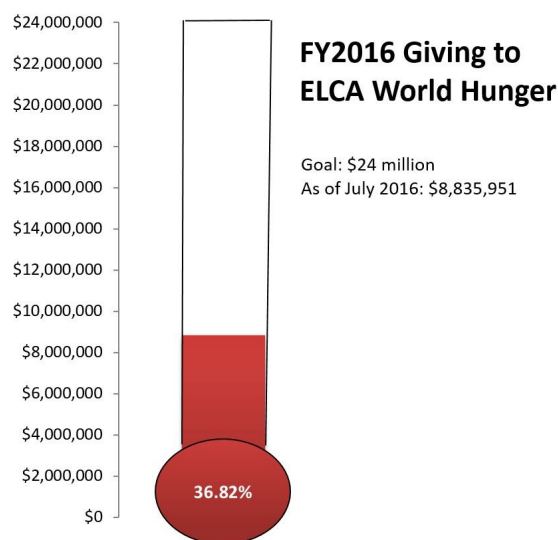
**Fear not**, this lag comes after having broken all-time income records for six of the last seven months. August is looking good.

We still have half the fiscal year to go, in which we hope to receive 63 percent of our income.

**Continue the generosity!**

Average percentage of income received by quarter (over last four years)	
Q1 (February-April)	15.6%
Q2 (May-July)	19.1%
Q3 (August-October)	15.7%
Q4 (November-January)	48.6%

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**Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA – Totals as of the end of July 2016**

<b>ELCA World Hunger year-to-date</b> (toward overall goal of \$24 million by end of FY2016)	\$8.84 million
<b>ELCA World Hunger</b> (toward <i>The Campaign for the ELCA</i> goal of \$115 million by end of FY2018)	\$50.10 million
<b>Overall <i>The Campaign for the ELCA</i></b> (toward overall goal of \$198 million by end of FY2018)	\$88.41 million

**ELCA WORLD HUNGER CHURCHWIDE ORGANIZATION STAFF**
**ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal**

Daniel Rift, director

Robin Brown, associate director

Emily Dubay, associate director

Sharon Magnuson, associate director

Ashley Debilzen, development assistant

Krystal McClinton, development assistant

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Mikka McCracken, director

Ryan Cumming, program director

Jessica Fairfax, program associate

Iain Chester, assistant

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