



# GO AND DO NEWS

July 2015

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## From Gina's desk: At the table

Dear ELCA World Hunger Leaders and Friends,

My year of service with ELCA World Hunger through the Lutheran Volunteer Corps (LVC) is coming to a close. I am thankful for the experiences I've shared with the ELCA World Hunger team, with many of you, and with my fellow Lutheran Volunteer Corps members.

This year, a significant part of forming intentional community with my LVC housemates was sharing meals. The LVC commitment entails sharing resources and responsibilities with your house. One way we did this was to take turns cooking dinner for each other and sharing the meal together around the same table. The conversation around our table ranged from reviewing the latest episodes of our favorite TV shows to venting about challenges or celebrating workplace accomplishments to digging into issues of social justice and sustainability. Around the table we learned to listen to each other and to hear each other's perspectives and needs. We lived into the tension of sitting around the table with diverse opinions and backgrounds. We moved from being strangers to being in community.

Last week, I had the opportunity to attend my first ELCA Youth Gathering as part of the ELCA World Hunger team at Walk for Water. In addition to hosting thousands of youth in the Walk for Water space over the course of the event, I was also able to attend several of the evening "Main Stage Events" at Ford Field in Detroit. Pastor Emily Scott spoke to the crowd of 30,000 one night. Pastor Emily founded St. Lydia's in Brooklyn, N.Y., a congregation that worships around a table through what they call "Dinner Church." Emily shared that she is captivated by this question: *Why aren't we all around one table?*

In the last few days I too have become captivated by this question. Why aren't we all at the same table? What if we truly followed Jesus' example and always had an open seat at our table for neighbors near and far? What if we put our trust in God's abundance and practiced the hospitality to which we are called? As our very own Mikka McCracken shared at Ford Field, "We produce one and a half times enough food to feed every person on the planet. Yet, 1 billion people in the world experience food insecurity. Hunger is not caused by scarcity. Hunger is caused by inequality."

If we were all around one table, we could be equals. If we were all around one table, we would see and be seen more fully. We could hear the needs and dreams of those around us and better accompany each other in our journeys. If we were all around one table, we would all be fed.

In peace,

Gina Tonn

Program Assistant, ELCA World Hunger



**ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water**

ELCA Youth Gathering - Detroit  
July 15-19, 2015

Attendees of the ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit were invited to participate in ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water. Youth and adults alike experienced just a taste of what it would be like if we had to travel to collect water for ourselves every day, like so many people around the world do. At the ELCA World Hunger space, Gathering attendees carried a 5-gallon, 40-pound jerry can of water around a 1/10th



*Bishop Eaton joined the ELCA World Hunger team at the Walk for Water on opening day.*



mile track. A handful of walkers took on the challenge to walk 37 laps - equal to 3.7 miles, or the average distance women in Sub-Saharan Africa walk to collect water each day. Following the stories of people in countries around the world where ELCA World Hunger supports water-related projects, participants learned that our ministry is about much more than safe drinking water. Our work together also supports sustainable livelihood, gender equality, sanitation, health and the opportunity for children - especially girls - to get an education.



After our week in Detroit and thanks to the generosity of so many individuals, youth groups and congregations, ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water has raised over **\$402,000** toward our **\$500,000 goal**. With our generous dollar-for-dollar match, that amount is doubled. Thank you!!

*Below: Stopping in the "heat tent" along the track.*



The Walk for Water isn't over yet! Our efforts to support water-related projects continue through the end of 2015. Bring the Walk for Water track experience home to your congregation with our Do-It-Yourself brochure, available for [download online](#). The Rise Up Together Tour will also be supporting ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water. See page 3 of *Go and Do News* to learn about the tour.

[See more pictures and stories from the event online.](#)



*Above: Showing off a 3.7 button after walking 37 laps, equal to 3.7 miles, with a jerry can.*



*Left & above: Youth stop at the Clinic to learn about water-related illnesses, such as malaria and diarrhea.*

### Wyatt's Good Gift

Wyatt Engen of Crow Lutheran Church in Belgrade, Minn. looked at the ELCA Good Gifts catalog and decided that he could raise enough money for a well. This would be a daunting task for most 10-year-olds. But with the help of his church Wyatt raised the \$2,500 needed by doing odd jobs for congregation members and holding a silent auction at his congregation's Memorial Day Dinner. Wyatt chose to raise funds for a well because he "wanted to help people have clean water to drink so they don't get sick from drinking water." Wyatt also noted that a well would make a difference for a long time not just a few days. This, along with the realization that his gift could be doubled through ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water motivated Wyatt to reach his goal. Wyatt's story shows that a desire to make a sustainable difference can motivate us to engage our community and reach our goals. Wyatt's gift will support water projects funded by ELCA World Hunger that make a sustainable change in communities across the world. Thanks to Wyatt and his congregation!



### Coming soon: Fall events

We want to see YOU at a fall regional event! Invitations and registration for events in these regions will be coming soon, so keep an eye out for more information.

- Region 1: No event for 2015
- Region 2: Nov. 19-20; Santa Ana, Calif.
- Region 3: Nov.12-14; TBD
- Region 4: Nov. 20-22; Argyle, Texas
- Region 5: Oct. 29-31; Dubuque, Iowa
- Region 6: Feb. 4-6, 2016; TBD
- Region 7: Oct. 23-24; Highland Lake, N.Y.
- Region 8: Sept. 17-19; Waynesboro, Pa.
- Region 9: April 28-30, 2016; Atlanta, Ga.

### ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water continues on the Rise Up Together Tour

Friends and wonderful supporters of ELCA World Hunger, Rachel Kurtz and Dave Scherer (AGAPE\*), will tour together this fall with Joe Davis, to raise proceeds for ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water. They are competing to see how much money they can raise using our online fundraising tool; [support Team AGAPE\\* here](#) or [support Team Rachel here](#) See the show at one of their concert stops!

July 21: Atlanta	Sep 12: Minot, N.D.	Oct 9: Stevens, Pa.
July 23: Lamoni, Iowa	Sep 18: Detroit Lakes, Minn.	Oct 25: Minneapolis
July 25: Stewartville, Minn.	Sep 26: Oshkosh, Wis.	Oct 30: Northfield, Minn.
Aug 5: Racine, Wis.	Sep 30: Tomahawk, Wis.	Nov 7: Massillon, Ohio
Aug 23: Sioux Falls, S.D.	Oct 3: Somerville, N.J.	Nov 8: Leechburg, Pa.
Aug 30: Milaca, Minn.	Oct 4: York, Pa.	Nov 11: Fairmont, Minn.
Sep 9: Cresco, Iowa	Oct 7: Hudson, Wis.	Nov 15: Everett, Wash.

### Monthly Network Webinar: July link and August meeting date

This month we featured a re-cap of ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water at the ELCA Youth Gathering and ideas about how to bring the Walk for Water home to your congregation. Take a listen [here!](#) The recording is broken down by topic below :

- 00:00 - 02:10** Introductions
- 02:10 - 15:10** Walk for Water Recap
- 15:10 - 18:15** Rise Up Together Tour
- 18:15 - 21:39** Do-It-Yourself Walk for Water track experience
- 21:40 - 24: 45** Walk for Water questions
- 24:45 - 28:30** Farewell to Gina
- 29:30 - 35:30** Jenny Sharrick, Hunger Leader & ELCA World Hunger intern
- 35:30 - 43:15** Questions

#### Next month's webinar:

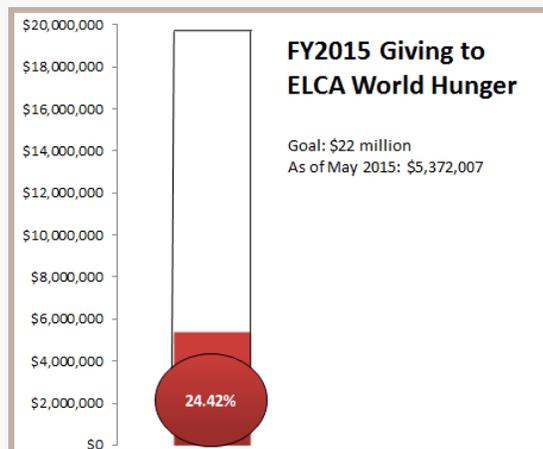
**Tuesday, Aug. 18**

8:30 p.m. Eastern/7:30 p.m.  
Central/6:30 p.m. Moun-  
tain/5:30 p.m. Pacific

## By the numbers: *The Campaign for the ELCA*

### A historic moment for ELCA World Hunger and the Walk for Water!

When Arne and Ruth Sorenson took the main stage at Ford Field in Detroit at the 2015 ELCA Youth Gathering, the moment was ground breaking in shaping the impact financial gifts make to ministries like ELCA World Hunger! Their \$500,000 challenge and match for a total \$1 million Walk for Water initiative will make a difference for decades. And they inspired fantastic giving at the Youth Gathering of over \$400,000. As gifts were made at the “Donation” booth, ELCA youth, parents and leaders expressed an eagerness to be part of such a great effort and to Rise Up, meet and exceed the challenge by the Sorensons. Now we look to a future where we are church together, and that is expressed in the ways we worship, live and give!



<i>Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA — Totals as of the close of May 2015</i>	
<b>ELCA World Hunger</b> (toward <i>The Campaign for the ELCA</i> goal of \$115 million by end of FY18)	\$24.70 million
<b>ELCA Malaria Campaign</b> (toward overall goal of \$15 million by end of FY15)	\$14.47 million
<b>Overall <i>The Campaign for the ELCA</i></b> (toward overall goal of \$198 million by end of FY18)	\$52.67 million

## ELCA World Hunger churchwide organization staff

### ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal

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Robin Brown, associate director

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Benjamin Brown, intern

### Constituent Engagement

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Order all of our resources online at:

[www.ELCA.org/resources](http://www.ELCA.org/resources)

Join us in the “[ELCA World Hunger Leaders and Friends](#)” Facebook group.