



GO AND DO NEWS

October 2015

IN THIS ISSUE:

ELCA World Hunger's
40 Days of Giving

ELCA World Hunger's
social media
relaunch

Advocacy matters:
2015 Advocacy
Convening

Upcoming
opportunity with the
United Nations

Upcoming regional
events

ELCA Malaria
Campaign monthly
news

By the numbers: *The
Campaign for the
ELCA*

ELCA World Hunger's
Walk for Water:
We did it!



From Dan's desk: On a quest

For some time now I have been trying to discern what helps ELCA World Hunger thrive in some congregations and seem to languish in others. How is it that our basic faith instincts lead us to address the hunger of those outside our parish and in our neighborhoods and do so together as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?

It goes back to the old adage that we need to get the right people on the bus doing what they do best, and those congregations that seem to excel have three leadership roles that we see working. In many cases these roles are filled by three people, but sometimes by one or two:

There is the Vision Caster, the Gate Keeper, and the Champion. There needs to be an opportunity around which they can gather the community to learn about and actively support ELCA World Hunger. It sounds like a quest in a role-playing game.

The Vision Caster – conveys how a link to ELCA World Hunger is consistent with the core mission of the congregation and something that will be meaningful to the members.

The Gate Keeper – makes sure that the vision is right and the actions are appropriate for the time. A congregation without a gate keeper becomes a place with 52 weekly hunger emphases, of which ELCA comes around once a year.

The Champion – is the person who can help get other people excited. Enthusiasm (look up the roots of this word) is the gift. They need to be willing and able to ask for financial support.

And they must have an opportunity around which to gather the congregation for fun, for learning, and especially, for action, including giving for the cause. In this *Go and Do News*, in the recent congregational packet, and in the material that is being encouraged as part of the ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving, our Lenten Challenge for 2016, you will find many opportunities for action.

Finally, I'd like to know if this resonates with the understanding of who it takes to make this a going venture in your congregation. What has worked? What road blocks have you experienced on your quest to overcome hunger? When has ELCA World Hunger been effective for you? Please allow us the opportunity to share in your successes and challenges. Then through that, help others learn from your experience. Send me an email at hunger@elca.org with your thoughts, ideas and questions.

With gratitude for your leadership,

The Rev. Daniel Rift, Director
ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal.

ELCA World Hunger's 40 DAYS of Giving

Next year marks *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA* year-of-emphasis on ELCA World Hunger and we want you to join us! Beginning Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016, congregations across the ELCA are encouraged to join ELCA World Hunger in a Lenten journey to support and engage in this life-changing work at a new and exciting level. Stay tuned! New resources for Lent, including an exclusive 40-day devotional, and special Super Bowl, Valentine's Day, Leap Day and other initiatives will be mailed to congregations in late November. Information will also be included in next month's *Go and Do News* along with a preview devotion!

Advocacy matters: 2015 Advocacy Convening

ELCA World Hunger supports advocacy efforts to help break the cycle of poverty and hunger through systemic change and good governance. Through offices at the United Nations in New York, the federal level in Washington, D.C., and in 10 states, we truly do more together. From visits with members of Congress to letter and opinion pieces, there are many ways we can be part of participating in the laws and policies that govern our communities and society.

Last month ELCA, Episcopal and community leaders from around the country met in Washington, D.C., for a two-day advocacy event. The 2015 Advocacy Convening brought together bishops and grassroots leaders in a common call to action the week of Pope Francis' first papal visit to the United States. Participants of the convening explored the role of deliberative democracy and faith in informing public service and examined the ways our shared faith perspective can cultivate mutual respect, moral reflection, and honest conversation with our government.

On the day of Pope Francis' joint-address to Congress, convening participants met with more than 60 congressional offices and 24 members of Congress. There, leaders and advocates with first-hand experience urged their lawmakers to pass a responsible budget that provides funding for programs that fight extreme poverty, climate change, and protect children fleeing Central America. At the same time, more than 250 advocates from across the country sent letters to Congress through the ELCA Advocacy Action Center.

During this time, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and other North American church leaders wrote an op-ed in USA Today about the urgency of addressing climate change. <http://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2015/09/22/we-must-all-unite-safeguard-gods-creation-pope-francis-column/72330588/>

For more information and to sign-up for ELCA Washington Office e-Advocacy alerts, visit www.ELCA.org/advocacy.

ELCA World Hunger's social media presence

This past Friday, Oct. 16, ELCA World Hunger celebrated World Food Day with the launching of our new public Facebook and Twitter pages! Be sure to like us on Facebook: [ELCA World Hunger](https://www.facebook.com/ELCAWorldHunger), follow us on Twitter: [@ELCAWorldHunger](https://twitter.com/ELCAWorldHunger), and share our pages with your friends so they can learn more about the work we do together and get involved with ELCA World Hunger as well.

If you have not already become a member of our closed Facebook group where you can find information and network with other ELCA World Hunger leaders, please, feel free to join at [ELCA World Hunger Leaders and Friends](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ELCAWorldHungerLeadersandFriends/).



ELCA World Hunger Director Mikka McCracken, right, meets with U.S. Rep. Joseph Kennedy III, D-Mass., and Ali Brauner of Cathedral in the Night.

Upcoming opportunity:**U.N. Sustainable Development Goals: What's gender got to do with it?**

In September, the United Nations launched the next generation of global partnership for global good – the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals. ELCA World Hunger supports advocacy at the U.N. level and has also been training a group of young adults as participant advocates and local change makers – the ELCA Young Adult Cohort.

This year through an application process, ELCA World Hunger will put together a small delegation of ELCA World Hunger leaders to attend the 2016 U.N.

Commission on the Status of Women, which is meeting under the theme "Women's empowerment and its link to sustainable development." This small group will be

required to be available in New York from **March 10-17, 2016**, and will also be expected to pay and/or fundraise full support to attend. You need not be a woman to attend, but working knowledge and experience in gender justice is important.



If this opportunity appeals to you, please contact Tashina Good (Tashina.Good@elca.org) for more information!

Last minute fall 2015 regional event date and registration information reminders:

- **Region 2: Nov. 19-20; Pacifica Synod Office; Santa Ana, Calif.**
 - For more information and to register, please contact your synod office.
- **Region 3: Nov. 12-14; Ramada Plaza Suites and Faith Lutheran Church; Fargo, N.D.**
 - Register by Nov. 2 online (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/region-3-opening-our-networks-tickets-18105431834>)
- **Region 4: Nov. 20-22; Briarwood Retreat Center; Argyle, Texas**
 - Register by Nov. 5 online (<https://ntnl.org/event/2015region4gathering>).

Monthly network webinar: October link and November meeting date

This month we had a briefing on the 2015 Advocacy Convening, went through program updates and more. Take a listen [here!](#) The recording is broken down by topic:

- 00:00 - 07:42 2015 Advocacy Convening update
- 07:43 - 12:28 ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water update
- 12:29 - 16:42 ELCA World Hunger's social media
- 16:43 - 22:00 ELCA Malaria Campaign update
- 22:01 - 37:20 Lifelines, Lent and Advent
- 22:01 - 43:00 Regional events update
- 43:01 - 54:55 Questions and closing

Next month's webinar: Tuesday, Nov. 17
8:30 p.m. Eastern/7:30 p.m. Central/6:30
p.m. Mountain/5:30 p.m. Pacific

As the ELCA Malaria Campaign coming to a close at the end of FY2015 and with the success of reaching our \$15 million goal, the ELCA World Hunger team is excited to bring stories and information regarding the ELCA Malaria Campaign to our monthly issues of *Go and Do News* as we move malaria related efforts under the ELCA World Hunger umbrella.

Swatting out Malaria

On Sept. 17, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) announced that malaria deaths have dropped by 60 percent since 2000. This translates into 6.2 million lives saved over the past 15 years. Over that same time, the death rate among children under 5, who have historically made up more than two-thirds of all malaria deaths, fell by 65 percent. The sizeable drop in the death rate among children means an estimated 5.9 million children's lives have been saved. Furthermore, since 2000, the rate of new malaria cases has dropped by 37 percent.

The report "Achieving the malaria MDG target" maintains that the United Nation's goal to "have halted and begun to reverse the incidence" of malaria by 2015 has been met "convincingly." Since being named as a goal, funding for malaria treatment and interventions has increased twentyfold, to \$2.7 billion per year. Along with providing support for other forms of intervention, the increased funding has been used to distribute insecticide treated mosquito nets. The use of treated nets is credited with preventing 68 percent of malaria cases since 2000.

Increased funding also has helped expand the work of malaria programs that have distributed more than 1 billion mosquito nets in sub-Saharan Africa in the past 15 years alone. Despite the large number of nets in the region, many of the countries with high incidence and malaria death rates are in sub-Saharan Africa. So far in 2015, these countries accounted for 80 percent of malaria cases and 78 percent of malaria deaths globally.

Other key findings from the UNICEF-WHO report

- In 2015, 89 percent of all malaria cases and 91 percent of deaths were in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Of the 106 countries and territories with malaria transmission in 2000, 102 are projected to reverse the incidence of malaria by the end of 2015.
- Between 2000 and 2015, the proportion of children under 5 sleeping under a mosquito net in sub-Saharan Africa increased from less than 2 percent to an estimated 68 percent.
- 1 in 4 children in sub-Saharan Africa still lives in a household without a mosquito net and no protection provided by indoor residual spraying.
- In 2015, only an estimated 13 percent of children with a fever in sub-Saharan Africa received an anti-malarial drug.

Though we have come a long way in the fight against malaria, there were approximately 214 million new cases and about 438,000 malaria deaths in 2014. Even today, approximately 3.2 billion people – close to half of the world's population – are still at risk of malaria, a preventable and treatable disease.

Next steps for UNICEF-WHO

In May 2015, the World Health Assembly adopted a 15-year plan to further reduce the rates of global malaria incidence and mortality by 90 percent. According to the plan, annual funding for malaria programs would have to triple, from \$2.7 billion today to \$8.7 billion in 2030, to reach this lofty but attainable goal.

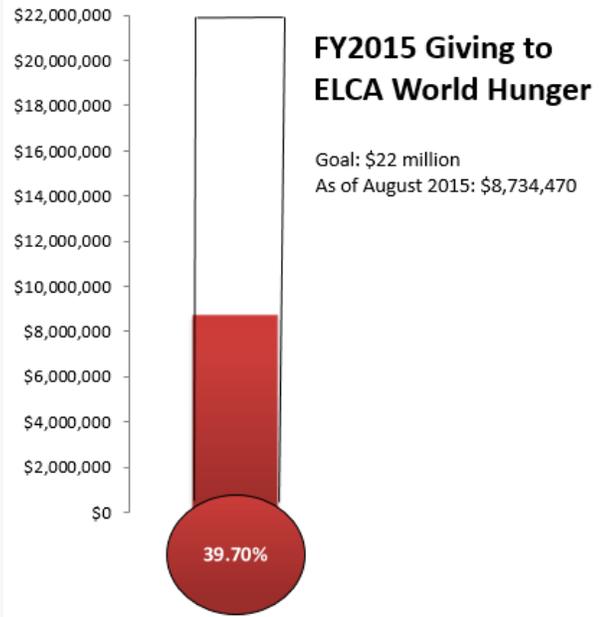
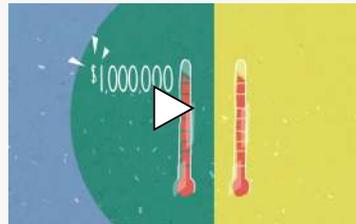
This was written using statistics featured in articles by the United Nations and the World Health Organization. To read these articles, go to www.undispatch.com/the-world-historic-news-today-that-you-may-have-missed/ and www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2015/malaria-mdg-target/en/.

By the numbers: The Campaign for the ELCA

ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water: We did it!

We are so excited to share with you the big announcement that ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water has officially reached it's \$500,000 goal! Remember, thanks to a generous family in the ELCA that amount will be matched, meaning we've actually raised more than \$1 million to support the water related work of our neighbors and companions. We know you set up walks at your congregations, organized your youth and really went the extra mile – THANK YOU! Please share the good news and join with us in celebrating this wonderful milestone. Go to <https://vimeo.com/142532352> or click on the picture to open our celebration video to watch and share.

Remember we will continue to take gifts for ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water through the end of the fiscal year.



<i>Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA — Totals as of the close of August 2015</i>	
ELCA World Hunger (toward <i>The Campaign for the ELCA</i> goal of \$115 million by end of FY18)	\$28.05 million
ELCA Malaria Campaign (toward overall goal of \$15 million by end of FY15)	\$15.02 million
Overall <i>The Campaign for the ELCA</i> (toward overall goal of \$198 million by end of FY18)	\$58.16 million

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