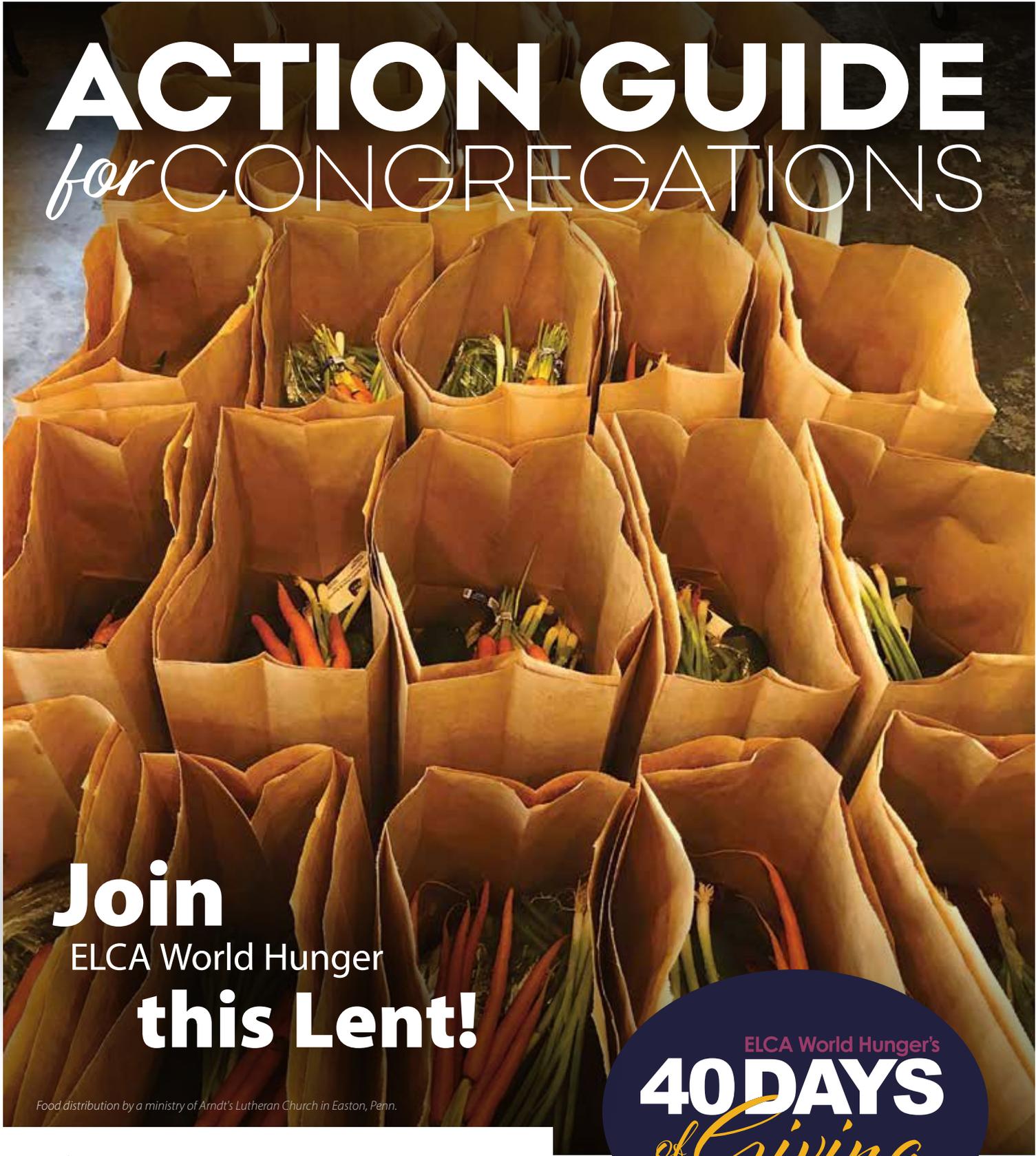


# ACTION GUIDE

*for* CONGREGATIONS



**Join**  
ELCA World Hunger  
**this Lent!**

Food distribution by a ministry of Amdt's Lutheran Church in Easton, Penn.



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

ELCA World Hunger's  
**40 DAYS**  
*of Giving*

# HOW TO

# USE THIS GUIDE



As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we are called to share in God's work in the world. Through ELCA World Hunger, our church creatively and courageously works toward a just world where all are fed.

Together, we act, pray and hope for truly sufficient, sustainable livelihoods for all. Chances are that your congregation is already committed to ending hunger and poverty by accompanying your neighbors, raising funds and collecting in-kind donations. This guide is designed to equip you with the newest and most popular resources to activate your congregation as you continue that work.

With the Holy Spirit and each other, we are achieving things on a scale and scope we could never do alone. Thank you.

## FIND

Visit [ELCA.org/hunger](https://elca.org/hunger) to find nearly all the resources you see here and more.

## CONNECT

Engage with the latest news and stories from ELCA World Hunger:

 [Facebook.com/ELCAWorldHunger](https://Facebook.com/ELCAWorldHunger)

 [Twitter.com/ELCAWorldHunger](https://Twitter.com/ELCAWorldHunger)

 [Instagram.com/ELCAWorldHunger](https://Instagram.com/ELCAWorldHunger)

## SHARE

Was your activity a success? We'd love to learn about it!

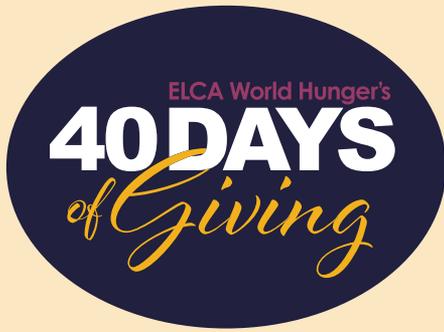
Send photos and stories to [hunger@elca.org](mailto:hunger@elca.org).

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Children and Youth 6

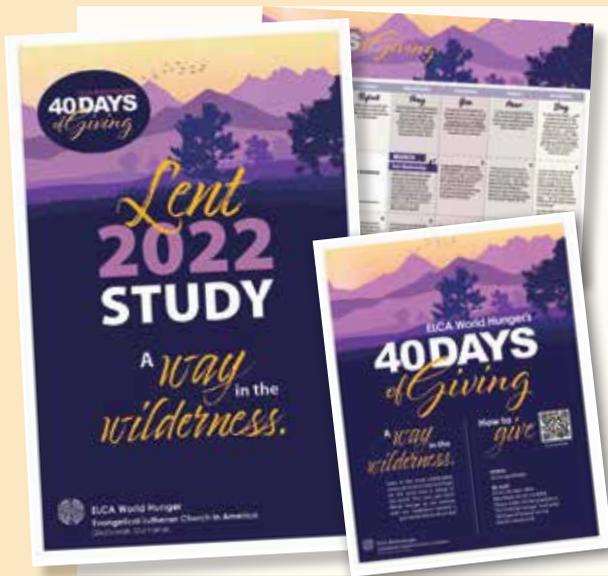
New and Popular Resources 8



For nearly two years, as the world has reeled from the effects of a deadly pandemic, we have seen the number of hungry people around the world rise sharply, watched as food pantries and soup kitchens expanded to serve an ever-growing number of guests, and longed together in hope for the time “when [we] will hunger no more, and thirst no more ... and God will wipe away every tear from [our] eyes” (Revelation 7:16).

This Lent, you're invited to journey into the wilderness with us and with God. Together with fellow supporters, you'll pledge to work to end hunger during ELCA World Hunger's **40 Days of Giving**. More than ever, your generosity is critical to supporting people around the world who face hunger and poverty.

Bring ELCA World Hunger into the life of your congregation and family with resources to use at home, online or in person. These include:



- 1) **A devotional calendar** with daily ideas for reflection, giving and action.
- 2) **“A Way in the Wilderness,”** the weekly study guide inviting you and your congregation into deeper reflection on faith and justice, with inspirational stories about how your gifts to ELCA World Hunger are at work in the world.
- 3) Additional resources, including an **inspirational weekly email series** and **online fundraising tools** to invite others into the practice of giving to programs to end hunger and poverty.

**We invite you to study, pray, be challenged and give** with us during ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving — for the good of our families, our neighbors and communities around the world.

Visit [ELCA.org/40Days](https://www.elca.org/40Days) for more information, to order resources and sign up for emails, and to begin planning your congregation's participation and fundraising.

**40 Days of Giving begins on Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022.**

# LENTEN LITANY

During Lent we wander, as though through a wilderness  
**with our ancestors in the faith, with Christ to the cross.**

We come face to face with our sin.  
**We see starkly our needs and those of our neighbors.**

Yet we are never alone.  
**We journey with God's sure and certain promises.**

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
**I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.**

Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.  
**So shall your descendants be.**

The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand  
**and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.**

So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground  
**that you, O Lord, have given me.**

O God, you are my God. I seek you; my soul thirsts for you;  
**my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.**

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters,  
**and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!**

The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land,  
and the Israelites no longer had manna;  
**they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.**

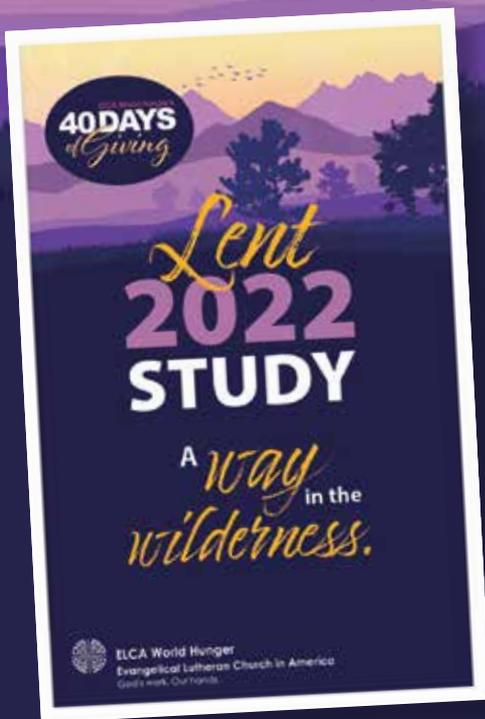
The 40 days of Lent are a journey with promise:  
**God's promises of the full table, the salvific cross and the empty tomb.**

*Thanks be to God!*

# LENTEN STUDY GUIDE

A *way* in the  
*wilderness.*

This five-session resource is perfect for congregations, small groups and individual study. Each session draws on the Scripture readings for Lent and a story of hope from a ministry supported by ELCA World Hunger, challenging us and inspiring prayerful thought about what it means to be church for the sake of the world.



# LENTEN DEVOTIONAL CALENDAR

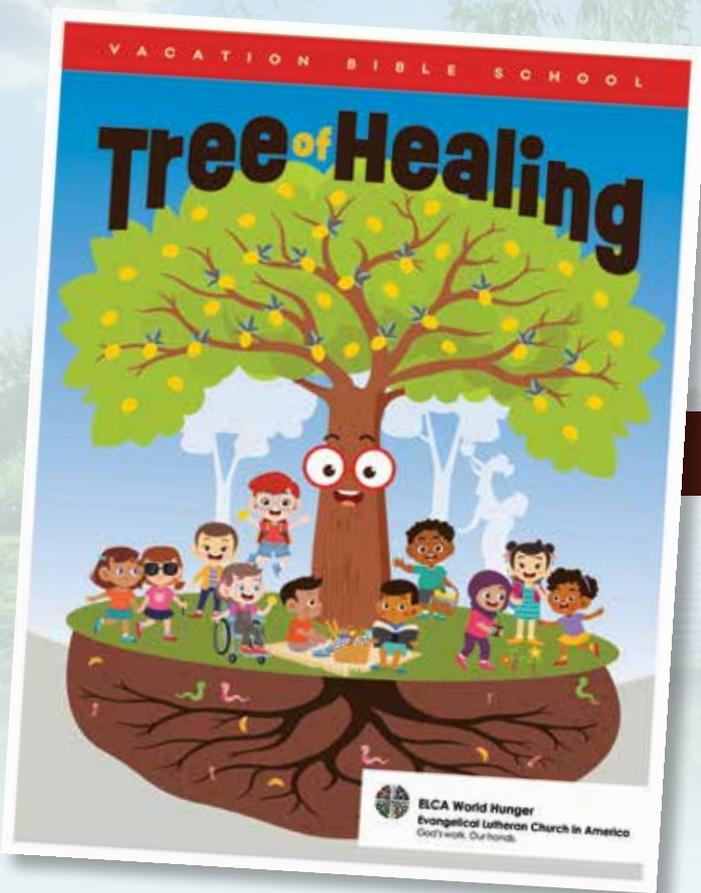
To order our Lenten devotional calendar, which is filled with ideas for daily engagement in cultivating hope and working for a just world where all are fed, visit [ELCA.org/40Days](https://elca.org/40Days).



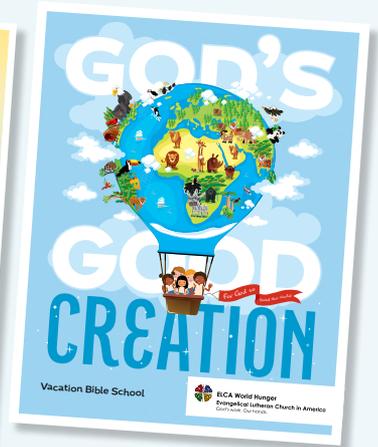
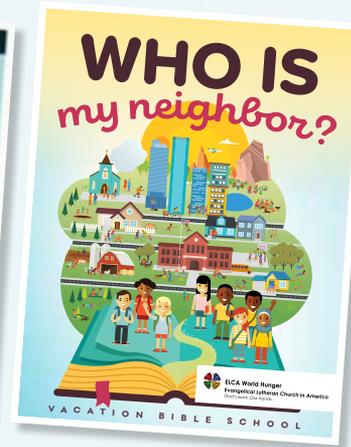
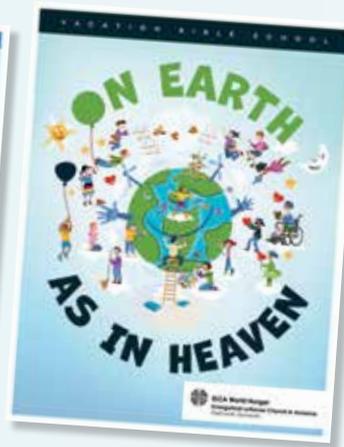
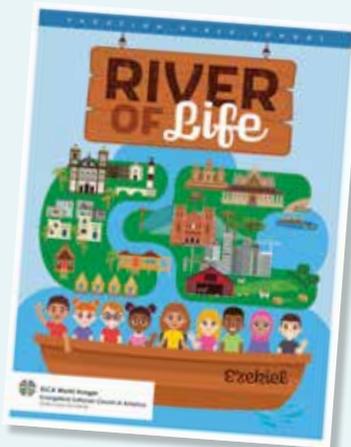
# “TREE OF HEALING” VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM

**New program for 2022!**

Come learn about health at the “Tree of Healing,” ELCA World Hunger’s Vacation Bible School program for 2022! Through skits, stories and activities, participants will learn what it means to be healthy in body, mind and spirit. This program includes sessions on grief, mental wellness, environmental health and more. The leader’s guide will offer suggestions for in-person and online activities for children of all ages, including new videos for 2022! We hope to see you at the “Tree of Healing” this year.



*Also available!*



Visit [Resources.ELCA.org](https://Resources.ELCA.org) to order free printed copies.

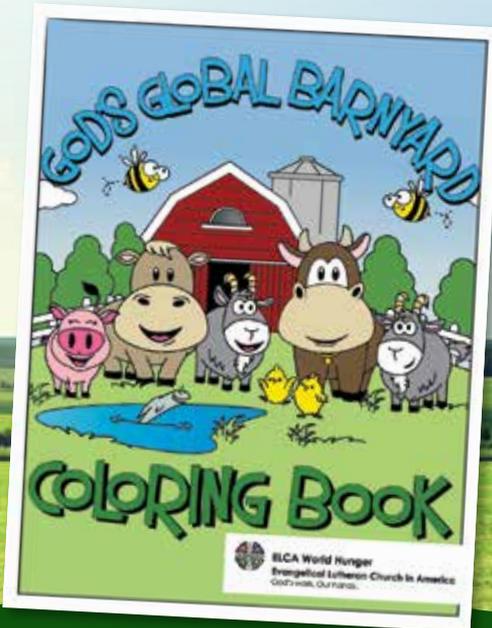
Download the full programs and find supplemental resources at [ELCA.org/hunger/resources](https://ELCA.org/hunger/resources) under the “VBS” tab.

# GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD

An animal can make a world of difference for a family in need, providing food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops, or milk, honey or eggs to sell at the market. Use the following animal-themed ideas and resources to educate people about "God's Global Barnyard" and raise money through ELCA Good Gifts. Children can have fun playing with the animal images and learning about each animal.



**GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD STICKERS**



**GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD COLORING BOOK**



**GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD COLORING BULLETIN INSERT**

## COIN BOXES



**These resources can also be used at home to enrich children's learning time, even if your congregation is not meeting in person!**

Visit [ELCA.org/GoodGifts](http://ELCA.org/GoodGifts) to order free coin boxes, coloring books and sticker sheets. Many items can also be downloaded and printed at home.

# EDUCATE, ENGAGE, INSPIRE

Visit ELCA World Hunger's Vimeo channel to find a series of short videos you can share with your congregation during worship, temple talks, youth lessons, Bible studies and more. Video links can also be shared in email blasts and digital bulletins.

Choose from a variety of videos designed to connect your congregation to people and communities whose lives are changed through your gifts to ELCA World Hunger in the United States and in more than 60 countries around the world.



**"Church Together – Apart:  
Our Response to COVID: Ohio"**



**"Church Together – Apart:  
Our Response to COVID: Washington"**



**"We're Chicken Women!"  
(the Manna From Heaven story)**



**"Supporting Strong Babies  
in Milwaukee"**



**"Education Opens Doors for  
Young Women in Guatemala"**



**"Until All Are Fed"**

Check out all of ELCA World Hunger's videos at **[Vimeo.com/channels/ELCAWorldHunger](https://vimeo.com/channels/ELCAWorldHunger)** or on the ELCA World Hunger playlist at YouTube.



## ELCA WORLD HUNGER BULLETIN INSERT

Include this ELCA World Hunger insert on your website or in your worship bulletin, or use it as a brochure. Learn more about how your gifts are making an impact and get an overview of our church's response to hunger and poverty.



## ELCA WORLD HUNGER POSTERS

Consider using our posters with your Sunday school and youth groups, and to show the public your congregation's support for ELCA World Hunger.

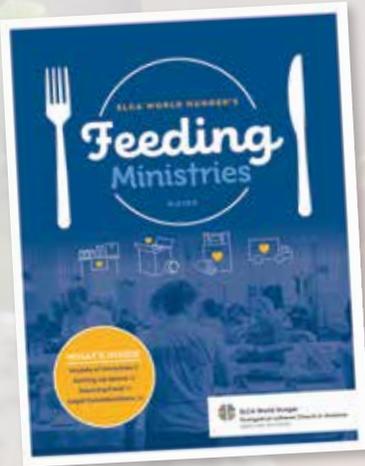
## "CLIMATE AND HUNGER TOOLKIT"

This updated resource from ELCA World Hunger offers a variety of activities to teach your group how our changing climate impacts hunger. With easy-to-use instructions, handouts, and opening and closing sections, "Climate and Hunger Toolkit" is perfect for groups of any size. The tool kit includes low-impact activities as well as activities for a high-energy event.

Download the tool kit for free at [ELCA.org/hunger/resources](http://ELCA.org/hunger/resources) under the "Toolkit" tab.



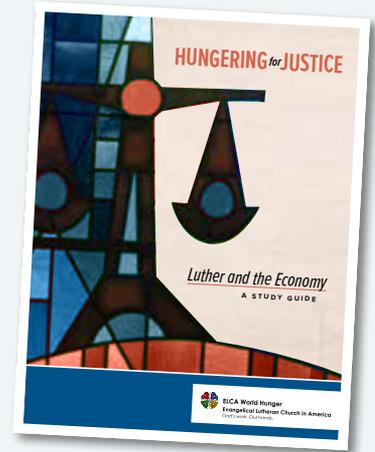
Visit [Resources.ELCA.org](http://Resources.ELCA.org) to order or download free bulletin inserts and posters today.



### START OR GROW A FEEDING MINISTRY

If you're passionate about addressing hunger in your community and want to start a feeding ministry, consult this guide for tips and strategies on planning, sourcing food, engaging volunteers and more. If you're part of an existing feeding ministry, check out the guide's ideas for growing, expanding or reimagining the work you're already doing.

### "HUNGERING FOR JUSTICE" STUDY GUIDE

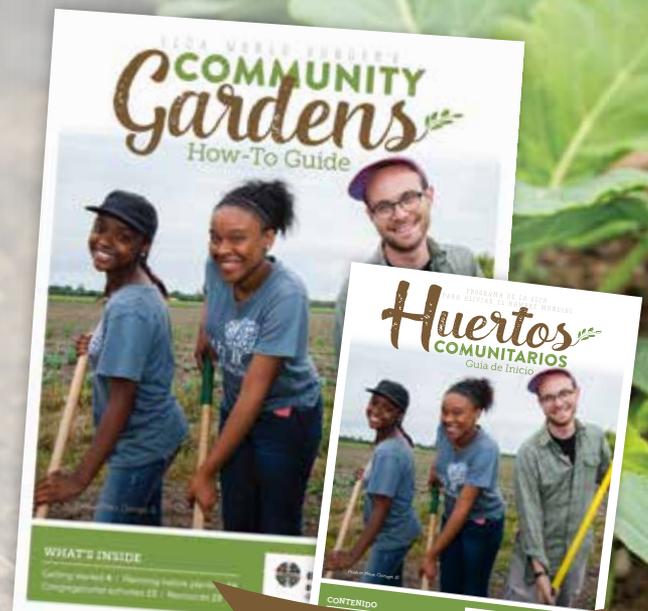


The five-week educational series "Hungering for Justice" uncovers how our Lutheran faith shapes our perspective and role in the economy. Each week's lesson looks at one key aspect of the economy and explores questions related to economic justice.

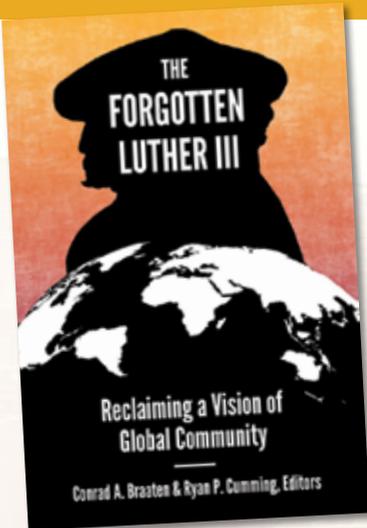
Download these guides for free at [ELCA.org/hunger/resources](https://elca.org/hunger/resources) under the "Hunger Ed" tab.

### START PLANNING A COMMUNITY GARDEN

What makes a garden a community garden? How can growing food for ourselves and our neighbors transform our congregations? Learn this and more from ELCA World Hunger's "Community Gardens How-To Guide." This guide is filled with wisdom harvested by ELCA congregations whose community gardens have become vital parts of their ministries. You'll find practical tips on logistics, crafting a vision and incorporating your garden into the life of your community.



Also available in Spanish!



## THE FORGOTTEN LUTHER III

*The Forgotten Luther III: Reclaiming a Vision of Global Community* invites congregations to consider the new shape of global mission in today's world, with essays by leading scholars, advocates and ministry leaders from around the world. This third book in the "Forgotten Luther" series examines the global implications of Luther's reforms and the theology that shaped them. The essays are informed by the ways churches in the global community address the systemic causes of hunger, poverty and injustice, and they invite congregations and study groups to consider where God is calling us to be at this critical time in history.

**The book is available for sale from Fortress Press and numerous online retailers.**

*A portion of the proceeds will support the ongoing work of ELCA Advocacy through ELCA World Hunger.*

## COMING SOON!



## A NEW RESOURCE ON HOUSING

We face a housing crisis in the United States that may have long-term and far-reaching effects. But it doesn't have to be this way — churches and communities can make a huge difference. In this new resource from ELCA World Hunger and the ELCA's advocacy office in Washington, D.C., you'll find the information and tools critical to accompanying neighbors who face housing insecurity, including:

- Faith reflections on housing.
- Common myths about homelessness.
- Tips and strategies your congregation can use to be part of the solution to the housing crisis.

The guide is perfect for advocates and would-be advocates, congregations interested in developing housing ministries, and seasoned leaders looking for the next step in their ministry. Follow ELCA World Hunger on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for updates, or subscribe to the ELCA World Hunger blog ([blogs.ELCA.org/WorldHunger](https://blogs.ELCA.org/WorldHunger)) to be notified when it's available.

## SAVE THE DATE

## GET READY FOR VALENTINE'S DAY

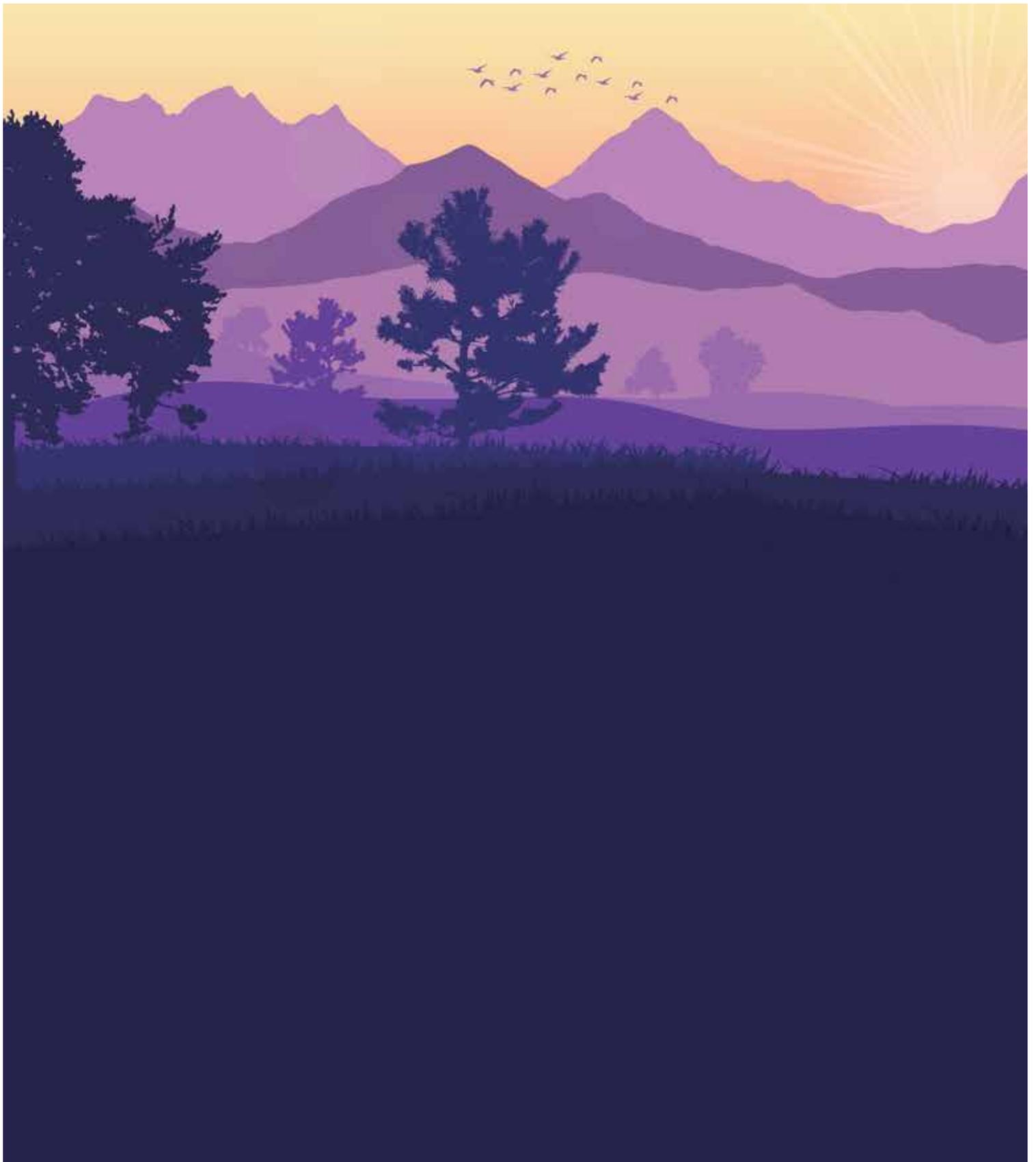
On the Sunday before Valentine's Day, spread the love to ELCA World Hunger's ministries throughout the world with ELCA Good Gifts—grams and children's color-your-own valentines. ELCA Good Gifts—grams may be purchased in honor of your friend, child or significant other to celebrate Valentine's Day. Take a donation for these ELCA Good Gifts—grams prior to Valentine's Day, either before or after worship, as a special way to celebrate the holiday while giving to ELCA World Hunger. Special coloring sheets are also available for kids of all ages!



Visit [resources.ELCA.org](https://resources.ELCA.org) to order your Valentine's Day—grams today. Coloring sheets are available for download at [ELCA.org/hunger/resources](https://ELCA.org/hunger/resources) under the "General" tab.

## WORLD WATER DAY MARCH 22

ELCA World Hunger supports projects around the world that help people access clean, safe water for drinking, handwashing and more. According to the United Nations, more than 2 billion people rely on a contaminated drinking-water source that puts them at risk for diseases such as cholera, dysentery and typhoid. For World Water Day 2022, consider collecting a special donation for ELCA World Hunger.



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

8765 West Higgins Road  
Chicago, IL 60631-4101  
800-638-3522, ext. 2616

**[ELCA.org/hunger](https://www.elca.org/hunger)**  
**[ELCA.org](https://www.elca.org)**