

26 Pray for the ELCA Peace Not Walls campaign as it works for justice and peace in Palestine and Israel through accompaniment, advocacy and awareness-raising.

27 Remember in your prayers the ELCA Conference of Bishops as the 65 synod bishops and Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton begin their winter meeting today.

28 Lift up in your prayers the ELCA Global Mission ministry of the Rev. Ann Klavano and her work in theological education in Papua New Guinea.

This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact info@elca.org for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.



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PRAYER VENTURES

FEBRUARY 2014

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

1 During this Black History Month, pray especially for African American leaders in communities, congregations, families and all contexts, that they might be supported, uplifted, encouraged and blessed in all the ways they serve.

2 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany and Presentation of Our Lord

Almighty God, blessed are you for you have sent us our savior Jesus, whose presentation at the temple we celebrate today. Like Simeon, may we depart in peace for our eyes have seen your salvation.

3 Pray for the people of the Central African Republic suffering amid political unrest, our companion church the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic, and the ELCA missionaries temporarily displaced from their work. Pray that peace will replace the violence and deaths occurring in the country.

4 We give thanks for the ELCA congregations across the country that have embraced the ELCA Malaria Campaign. We lift up the efforts of the members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Cedar Falls, Iowa, and their three-year fundraising goal.

5 Pray that the vision of peace and unity that made possible the recently completed Evangelical Lutheran Church at Bethany-Beyond-the-Jordan will spread from the banks of the Jordan and throughout the Holy Land and the world.

6 Remember in your prayers the five Young Adults in Global Mission who are walking in accompaniment with our neighbors in Hungary.

7 Give thanks for the beauty in God's creation, and therefore in all of us, that we may be inspired to find and nurture that beauty in our neighbors.

8 Include in your prayers new ELCA missionary in Hong Kong Abraham Peterson, who teaches English at the Lutheran Theological Seminary to students who come from all parts of Asia.

9 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

O Lord our God, thank you for your loving guidance. Visit those who are alone in this world. Send your Spirit and the light of Christ to warm and guide those who feel helpless and hopeless.

10 Pray for the work of the Lutheran church in Costa Rica, Iglesia Luterana Costarricense, which recently ordained its first female pastor, Geraldine Alvarez.

11 Pray for the many ELCA associates in ministry – lay leaders who serve in congregations and other ministries of the ELCA in such areas as youth ministry, social services, music and parish nursing.

12 While the ELCA has six full communion partners, pray that our relationship and dialogue with other partner churches, such as the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the Mennonite Church USA and the Roman Catholic Church, will continue to foster unity and mutual understanding.

13 Lift up in your prayers the work of the Rev. Lindsay Mack and Omar Turcios Mixco, ELCA missionaries serving as coordinators for the Young Adults in Global Mission program in Mexico.

14 On this Valentine's Day, pray that the love of Jesus Christ is welcomed into hearts that are in need of more than roses or chocolates.

15 Give thanks for the many congregations and individuals who support the work of ELCA missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission through covenant sponsorships.

16 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Merciful God, receive the prayers of your people. We ask for your blessings on those living in Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico and Southern Africa.

17 Pray for the work of ELCA Mission Builders, who use their God-given skills to help ELCA congregations, schools, camps and social ministry organizations construct or improve their facilities.

18 On the day that Martin Luther died in 1546, give thanks that through the grace of God we are saved by faith.

19 Include in your prayers the nine members of the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program serving for a year in Malaysia in various ministries.

20 Give thanks for the many adults who mentor the youth of this church and the innovative methods they use, such as the wrestling program that operates through Redeemer Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

21 Remember in your prayers ELCA missionaries in the Holy Land Danae and Steven Hudson and their work in communications.

22 Pray for the bishops and staffs of the ELCA's 65 synods as they unite the work of congregations within their areas, serve as regional support, and guide pastoral staff.

23 Seventh Sunday in Epiphany

O God, we give thanks for the churches of Portugal, Spain, Italy and Malta and their ministries among people who are sick and elderly.

24 Pray for the large and growing Christian church in China and its ongoing relationship with the ELCA as together we go about God's work.

25 Remember in your prayers the seven people who are spending a life-changing year serving in Madagascar as part of the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program.