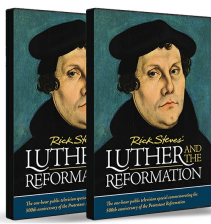


# Seeds Monthly

Jan. 2017 For leaders of ELCA congregations and synods [ELCA.org](#)



### Rick Steves' 'Luther and the Reformation'

Rick Steves' "Luther and the Reformation" is available for you to stream and share. This one-hour video is a wonderful resource to better understand our Lutheran roots and help us in our continued journey of understanding the gospel. Many thanks to Steves, who has generously given all members of the ELCA access to this video. DVD copies have been distributed to each congregation. Planning a viewing party? Find promotional photos, discussion questions and sample fliers at [ELCA.org/RickSteves](#).

[Watch now.](#)

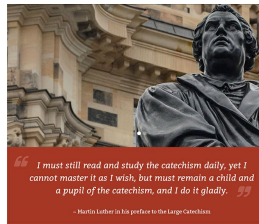
### New Reformation anniversary website launches

Do you have the Reformation anniversary resources you need or know how to submit your event information?

The new, more user-friendly [ELCA500.org](#) is the go-to information hub. It provides tools for understanding and commemorating the Reformation in worship, learning, ecumenical conversations, personal devotion and more. And, it's the central point for sharing information about and learning how to participate in events.

The refreshed With New Voices invites all to hear the Small Catechism and be renewed in one's own voice as a witness of Jesus Christ. The easily accessible materials are useful year-long, particularly for the upcoming Lenten season.

[Visit now.](#)



### Living Lutheran story features the ministry of parish nurses

In 1984, Granger Westberg, a Lutheran pastor, hospital chaplain, and divinity and medical school professor, built what is known as parish nursing – a bridge between healthcare systems and congregations. Also known as faith community nursing, parish nursing is a vital ministry in many ELCA congregations. "Holistic healing: Parish nurses care for body, mind and spirit" in the January issue of *Living Lutheran* explores the history of parish nursing, the many paradigms under which parish nurses function, and the important role they serve in people's lives.

[Read now.](#)

### WATCH THIS

['Beyond the Steeple'](#)



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**JAN 30** **BISHOP EATON VIDEO COURSE**  
Web series free now until Jan. 30.  
[LEARN MORE](#)

**FEB 15** **VIDEO SUBMISSION DEADLINE**  
Your hopes for our church.  
[LEARN MORE](#)

**FEB 15** **CONGREGATION PAROCHIAL REPORTS**  
Form A/C deadline.  
[LEARN MORE](#)

**MAY 15** **2018 YOUTH GATHERING VOLUNTEERS**  
Volunteer application opens.  
[LEARN MORE](#)

### FEATURED RESOURCES



#### Congregation Action Guide

ELCA World Hunger offers a wide range of resources for Lent.

[ORDER](#) | [DOWNLOAD](#)



#### ELCA Strategic Directions 2025

Called Forward Together in Christ outcomes paper.

[DOWNLOAD](#)



#### Valentine's Day Coloring Pages

Bee mine! 3 pages to encourage support of ELCA Good Gifts.

[HONEYBEE](#) | [PIG](#) | [FRUIT TREE](#)

[MORE RESOURCES](#)

### BULLETIN BLURBS

[These snippets are available for you to copy and paste into your bulletins.](#)

#### Send us your videos

What is your hope for the future of our church? Send us a short video that shares your thoughts and dreams for the ELCA. We are looking for quick, **15-second videos**. Grab your cellphone and start recording! Submissions are due Feb. 15, 2017. Email the video to [Future@elca.org](mailto:Future@elca.org), and if you share on social media, use #ELCAFuture. A few lucky winners may appear in a longer video and receive some ELCA prizes!

#### The Big Class: What Would Luther Do Today?

ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton leads a one-hour video course in which she applies Martin Luther's thoughts and writings to issues of today. The course is made available through ChurchNext, in partnership with Augsburg Fortress and United Lutheran Seminary. Register for the course free of charge through Jan. 30. Learn more and sign up here: <http://bit.ly/2iGnc6J>.



#### New Leadership Initiative scholarships

The ELCA Fund for Leaders helps raise up and financially support students studying at ELCA seminaries who have demonstrated outstanding leadership potential and exceptional gifts for ministry. As part of the Leadership Initiative, Fund for Leaders is granting 20 full-tuition Leadership Initiative scholarships to applicants who will be first-year students in the fall semester of the 2017-18 academic year. Completed applications are due Feb. 28, and recipients will be notified at the end of March. For more information, visit [ELCA.org/fundforleaders](#).



This year, as we commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we have the unique opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to serve and love our neighbors throughout the world through *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA* and its Global Church annual theme year.

One way to engage your congregation in this initiative is through a new resource, Global Church Minutes. These are short, one minute or less, prayers to be incorporated into weekly worship throughout 2017 and serve as a reminder of our connection to our brothers and sisters around the world. Download the Global Church Minutes [here](#).

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