Other Mission Planning Website Links and Resources

[Book of Faith](http://www.bookoffaith.org/bibleresources.html) resources provide a starting point for encouraging all members of our congregations, from children to adults, to dig deeper into the Bible.

[One Body Many Members: A Journey for Christians across Race, Culture and Class](http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Ministry/Multicultural-Ministries/Multicultural-Education/One-Body.aspx)is designed to equip congregations to reach out and fully welcome persons whose race, culture and class is different than their own. Three sections provide a wide variety of tools.

[Talking Together as a Christians Cross-Culturally: A Field Guide](http://resources.elca.org/product.cgi?group=1002&product=1021)A practical, "how to" field guide to cross-cultural conversation and moral deliberation for congregations, judicatories, and other groups and organizations in which religious commitments and perspectives are included in the conversation. Includes specific information on 20 cultural groups in the U.S.

[Augsburg Fortress](http://www.augsburgfortress.org/) is the ministry of publishing of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Many congregational mission planning resources are available for purchase through their website.

[Church Innovations](http://www.churchinnovations.org/) is devoted to renewing the church’s focus on God’s mission in the world. They provide research and consulting tools, products and processes that increase a congregation's capacity to experience God’s renewal and transformation. The [Dwelling in the Word](http://www.churchinnovations.org/06_about/dwelling.html) resource focuses participants in listening to God and one another in the community of faith.

[Stewardship of Life Institute](http://www.stewardshipoflife.org/) contains a wealth of stewardship resources for congregations. Stewarding God’s abundance is essential to congregational mission planning.

Luther Seminary’s [Center for Missional Leadership](http://www.luthersem.edu/mission/default.aspx?m=3664) explores the Spirit's leading through a theologically framed missiology and work with theologically informed social scientific research approaches. We cultivate a co-generative learning ethos, environment and community.

[Advocacy](http://www.elca.org/Our-Faith-In-Action/Justice/Advocacy.aspx) - ELCA advocacy ministry speaks for biblical values: peacemaking, hospitality to strangers, care for creation, and concern for people living in poverty and struggling with hunger and disease.

[Congregation-Based Organizing](http://www.elca.org/Our-Faith-In-Action/Justice/Poverty-Ministries/Congregation-based-Organizing.aspx) - Focuses on the principles, methods, and positive stories blooming in and around the church related to the power and energy of community organizing. It emphasizes the growth and development of leaders in a variety of different arenas.

[Evangelism](http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Discipleship/Evangelizing-Church.aspx) - Marked by the sign of the cross we are sent to be an evangelizing church; Praying, Preparing and Renewing Leaders, Teaching Disciples, Starting and Renewing Congregations, we model and invite others to emulate the life of Christ by internalizing the Great Commission, a hope for our broken world.

[Stewardship](http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Discipleship/Stewardship.aspx) – Stewardship means “belonging to God" - all that we are and all that we have comes from God.

ELCA's [Research and Evaluation](http://www.elca.org/Who-We-Are/Our-Three-Expressions/Churchwide-Organization/Research-and-Evaluation.aspx) provides demographic data and analysis tools to help congregations in “listening to” and researching their own communities.

[Living into the Future Together](http://www.elca.org/lift) provides background on the ongoing work of the taskforce that brought recommendations to the 2011 Churchwide Assembly. The report of the task force is concerned with the future identify of this church as it faces the challenges posed by the major changes that have occurred in both our culture and the ELCA since the church’s founding in 1988.

[Research Strategies for Congregations: Tools for understanding the people in your church and community](http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/research/help4/)

provides do-it-yourself research tools to assist you in listening to and learning about your congregation and community. This resource of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) when combined with the information available to congregations through [ELCA's Research and Evaluation](http://www.elca.org/Who-We-Are/Our-Three-Expressions/Churchwide-Organization/Research-and-Evaluation.aspx) offers a wealth of data.