



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

**Our Call to Advocate for the Hungry**  
**ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton Weekly Video Message**  
**July 31, 2020**

During this pandemic and especially while sheltering in place, getting groceries can sometimes be a challenge. If you can make it to the grocery store, you might not find what you're looking for. Shelves might even be bare. But none of this can come close to the actual hunger that hundreds of thousands of people experience in this country, and millions around the world.

None of it comes close to children going to bed hungry night after night after night. We know that food aid is necessary not just here in the United States but also around the globe. Right now, before Congress is a \$1 trillion COVID relief bill, but it contains very little about SNAP, or food stamps, for domestic hunger and nothing about aid around the world.

Farmers won't be able to plant seeds in our companion countries. This is a real, significant and sustained crisis. But we can do something about it. Jesus said, "I was hungry and you fed me."

So now is the time for us to contact our members of Congress and tell them that in fact it is our call as people of faith to advocate for those who are hungry and to make it possible that children go to bed with dreams and not with hunger pangs. Get ready to advocate, dear church. Be well.