

## Get Involved

Celebrate LWF Sunday

**1st Sunday of October—USA**

**4th Sunday of October—Canada**

Use “Food for Life: Recipes and Stories on the Right to Food” (North American Edition) and accompanying Resources

Include LWF in your prayer

Learn more about our communion and its member churches

Share and support

LWF Endowment Fund

Diakonia programs on humanitarian assistance

Member Churches projects

Leadership Development

For more information and resources visit:  
[www.elca.org/lwf](http://www.elca.org/lwf) or [www.lutheranworld.org](http://www.lutheranworld.org)

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## Eleventh Assembly

20 – 27 July 2010 | Stuttgart, Germany

The LWF Assembly meets every six to seven years. It is the highest governing body of the 140-member communion.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Württemberg, Germany, is gearing up to host the LWF Eleventh Assembly, 20-27 July 2010. Representatives from across the globe will gather in Stuttgart to worship, debate issues facing their churches, and give direction to the Lutheran communion’s life and work.

“Give Us Today Our Daily Bread”

The Assembly theme is “Give Us Today Our Daily Bread.”

This fourth petition of the Lord’s Prayer challenges the LWF and its assembly delegates to define prophetic responses to all injustice that threatens life in abundance: exclusion, poverty, lack of safe water, HIV and AIDS, neo-liberal globalization, inter-religious conflict, human rights violations...

The vivid green bud of the Assembly logo illustrates this universal need for nourishment - how the petition for “daily bread” is both simple and vital, a basic commitment to ensuring life in dignity for all.

Explore the 2010 Assembly theme “Give Us Today Our Daily Bread,” at the LWF Global website, [www.lutheranworld.org/Assembly2010.html](http://www.lutheranworld.org/Assembly2010.html).



Lutheran World Federation  
North America

we belong

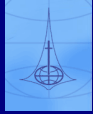


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# We Belong...The Lutheran World Federation—A Communion of Churches

## Who is LWF?

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) is a global communion of Christian churches in the Lutheran tradition. Founded in 1947 in Lund, Sweden, the LWF now has 140 member churches in 79 countries all over the world representing over 68.5 million Christians.



Initially established as a free association of churches, today united in the pulpit and altar fellowship, The LWF acts on behalf of its member churches in areas of common interest such as ecumenical and interfaith relations, human rights, humanitarian assistance and community development, theology, communication, and the various aspects of mission (proclamation, diakonia/service and advocacy).

There are seven regions in the Lutheran World Federation: Africa, Asia, Central Western Europe, Central Eastern Europe, Nordic, Latin America, and North America.

**Bishop Mark Hanson** serves as The LWF President. He was elected at the 2003 Tenth Assembly in Winnipeg, Canada and will serve until the next Assembly in Stuttgart, Germany in 2010. Bishop Hanson is the Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

**Rev. Dr. Ishmael Noko** serves as The LWF General Secretary. Originally from Zimbabwe, he has been serving in this capacity since 1994.

## Who is LWF NA?

Established only in 1998, The LWF North American Region is the last to be formed in the global communion's regional expression with only three member churches. Its uniqueness is not only because it has the smallest number of member churches of all regions, but also because of its special history with The LWF, the close historical relationship between its member churches, and its many other companion churches in the world.

Living in the wealthiest countries in the world, living out the gift of communion is a challenge to NA

member churches. It has always been our strength to share our material abundance, but communion means receiving as well as giving.



Communion means walking with one another, sharing our sufferings and joys, and acknowledging our gifts and weaknesses. It is in the multi-lateral relationship through The LWF that we come to the table as equals, growing in faith and mission.

Currently the three member churches representing 4.9 million Lutherans are:

**Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Abroad**

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada**

The LWF NA is governed by the North American Regional Committee composed of leaders from the three member churches.

## What do we do?

The Regional Office for North America has as a major responsibility facilitating the sharing of gifts among the member churches in areas such as mission outreach, renewal in church life, and witness of the church in society. This commitment is being taken seriously by all three churches.

Communion is both a gift and a task! We grow and work together. We give and receive from each other. We come together to support and carry each other's burden. We celebrate our joys and blessings together. To strengthen and deepen our regional expression, the LWF NA:

**Promotes awareness and increase knowledge about LWF through workshops and seminars**

**Organizes Communion Formation programs like January term class "Being Ecumenical In a Globalized World" for seminarians, and "A Communion of Communities: Being Lutheran in a Globalizing World" for church leaders**

**Provides resources for congregations in celebrating LWF Sunday**

**Organizes and coordinates LWF regional meetings and events**

**Acts as a liaison between the regions and LWF General Secretariat**

**Visits congregations, synods and seminaries for relationship building and further collaboration**

**Facilitates and coordinates regional projects like the *Food for Life: Recipe and Stories on the Right to Food - North American Edition***

**Raises funds for the work of the communion**