

*Share
your story*

**Skip the Coffee.
Feed the Hungry.**

Many are familiar with the tradition of giving something up during Lent. Last

year, Pastor Steve Biegner of Zion Lutheran Church in Clarence Center, N.Y., decided to add something to his Lenten tradition. For forty



days, he stopped drinking coffee. And in its place, he gave whatever money he normally spent to support ELCA World Hunger.

“What does giving up coffee have to do with my relationship with God?” Pastor Steve asked. “Nothing. But focusing on the problem of hunger does. It helps ‘enlighten my eyes’ to the ongoing problem.”

He placed a large, empty pickle jar outside the sanctuary of his church and asked others to join him. Each day, members of the congregation would sacrifice their favorite morning beverage and save the money they would have spent. By Easter Sunday, the pickle jar was full of donations to help end hunger and poverty.

✉ Do you have a story to share? E-mail Krystal at Krystal.McClinton@elca.org

Lectionary Connection | SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Luke 5:1–11 *Jesus Calls the First Disciples*

What does it mean to become fishers of people?

Immediately following the miraculous catch of fish and the call to the disciples, Jesus cleanses a leper (5:12–16), heals a paralytic (5:17–26), welcomes outcasts and outsiders (5:27–32), teaches on eating (5:33–6:5), and finally heals a man with a withered hand (6:6–11).

In short, to fish for people is to bring health and wholeness. How might we respond to this calling today?

The Souper Bowl of Caring is February 7

On Sunday, February 7, nearly 100 million Americans are expected to tune in to watch the Super Bowl. At the same time, nearly 1 billion people around the world will be hungry.

The Souper Bowl of Caring is an ecumenical, youth-led movement that unites young people under a single cause: to end hunger. More than 2,000 Lutheran youth groups participate in the movement each year. It’s easy to get involved—congregational efforts may include raising funds, collecting canned goods, or organizing a service event.



One hundred percent of the money raised is donated to a hunger-related charity of your choice. This Super Bowl, consider sending your financial gifts to ELCA World Hunger.

Getting started is easy. Visit www.souperbowl.org to receive a free starter kit and begin your Souper Bowl of Caring preparations.



BULLETIN-READY

Find this piece in .pdf and .doc formats at www.elca.org/hunger/connections

On Sunday February 7, nearly 100 million Americans are expected to tune in to watch the Super Bowl. Many of them will be hosting or attending parties with abundant food, friendship, and fellowship. At the same time, nearly 1 billion people will be hungry—some worrying about staying warm, finding shelter, and securing the next meal.

Please join us in remembering the hungry this Super Bowl Sunday. Please give a donation to help end hunger after worship on February 7. Your gifts will benefit ELCA World Hunger and support the projects of this church that respond to the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 50 countries. Thank you for your support!



ELCA World Hunger
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

www.elca.org/hunger