
Resources

This section includes several pages of resources to help you conduct your work as hunger leader. There are samples of documents and print materials you can use in your synod or your own congregation, suggested hunger activities for congregations, a list of useful web sites, the names and phone numbers of World Hunger staff, and information about a mentor program if you'd like more personal assistance. We hope that not only will you find these resources useful for yourself, but that they may help you in assisting congregations in your synod that are looking for ideas and recommendations.



Hunger Leader Mentorship

When you become a hunger leader, you may have questions or be uncertain about how to accomplish some of your goals. There's no one who knows better than our veteran hunger leaders. They have knowledge and experience that can inspire and assist you as you get started. And as a new hunger leader, you have a refreshing enthusiasm and energy that can inspire and challenge the veterans. That's why we set up a voluntary mentorship program.

The hunger leader mentorship program is quite informal. We understand that “mentor” and “mentee” mean different things to different people. In this case, we are using the loosest definitions possible and leave it to each particular pair to decide what sort of relationship – if any – is meaningful and helpful to them. Our hope is that people find connections that give them support and enjoyment, and that fuel their dedication to fighting hunger. But in the short term, our goal is simply to provide a comfortable opportunity for you to talk to someone who has done what you are doing and can answer your questions. What you do from there is up to you.

If you would like to have a mentor or have any questions about it, contact Nancy Michaelis at 800-638-3522, ext. 2713 or Nancy.Michaelis@elca.org. She can pair you with someone who has volunteered to be a mentor, and will contact that person to let them know about you and pass along your contact information. From there, either you or your mentor can make the first call. If you live near each other, you might want to meet in person. Otherwise, you'll want to schedule a phone call to get to know each other. If you already have questions, you can ask those, too. But you don't need any specific reason to start talking. The next page has some suggestions about questions to ask each other when you first meet.

We can all learn from each other as we strive to serve God in this calling. Whether your mentorship experience results in a brief and interesting encounter or a lifelong friendship, it can be valuable. And if the ELCA World Hunger staff can assist you in this effort, please don't hesitate to call on us!

We look forward to working with you!
The World Hunger Staff

First Mentorship Meeting

The goal of the first mentor/mentee meeting is to get to know one another and decide how to proceed. The following are some questions to help you get started. But keep in mind they are only suggestions! Talk about whatever is important and of interest to you.

Getting To Know One Another

- ◆ Tell me about yourself.
- ◆ What brings you to this work?
- ◆ How did you get started?
- ◆ What are you good at?
- ◆ What do you like to do?
- ◆ What's important to you?
- ◆ What do you like about being a hunger leader?
- ◆ What do you find most difficult about being a hunger leader?
- ◆ What are you working on now and how is it going?
- ◆ What do you want to do next?

How To Proceed

- ◆ What do you hope I can offer you?
- ◆ What do you feel you can help me with?
- ◆ What would be important for us to work on together?
- ◆ What should we start with?
- ◆ How will we know when we've accomplished it?
- ◆ How do you like to communicate?
- ◆ What sort of time commitment do you have in mind?
- ◆ When will we meet next?

Sample Synod Hunger Goals

The following are sample goals a synod might adopt to focus, communicate, and guide their hunger efforts. Please keep in mind that these are only samples, meant to give you ideas. Some are the same idea written several ways. We encourage you to be creative and have fun in modifying them or creating entirely new goals that will meet the needs and interests of your particular synod.

Appeal

- ◆ Increase giving to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal by \$___ (or ___%) in one year.
- ◆ Increase number of congregations who give to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal by ___% or to ___ (specific number) in ___ (time frame).
- ◆ Raise \$___ for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal within/by ___ (time frame).
- ◆ Raise \$___ per confirmed/baptized member for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal in ___ (time frame).
- ◆ Encourage each member to give at least the equivalent cost of a loaf of bread per week ___ (time frame: throughout 2007, for 12 weeks, etc.)
- ◆ Each congregation will organize one or more opportunities for members to give to World Hunger Appeal in ___ (time frame).
- ◆ Double giving from the synod to ELCA World Hunger over a five-year period.
- ◆ By ___ (time frame), ___% of congregations in the synod will contribute to World Hunger Appeal.

Awareness/Education/Action

- ◆ Encourage each congregation to hold at least one educational event focused on hunger during ___ (time frame).
- ◆ Adopt and implement a “world hunger education” model for synod events like the synod assembly and annual synod youth retreat.
- ◆ Hold at least three events within congregations during ___ (time frame) that will build interest and participation in Hunger issues.
- ◆ Organize three volunteer/learning days at Domestic Hunger Grant recipient organizations in the synod by ___ (time frame).
- ◆ Inform at least ___ (number or percent) congregations about the availability of grants to support local hunger programs ___ (time frame: during the calendar year, over the next six months, etc.).
- ◆ Promote the use of Fair Trade coffee, tea, etc. through education, synod resolutions and recognition throughout our synod in ___ (time frame).
- ◆ By ___ (date), consult with the Director for Hunger Education about one workshop or presentation that you have planned.
- ◆ Each synod hunger leader will read one book on hunger or justice-related themes by ___ (time frame).
- ◆ All synod hunger leaders will familiarize themselves with the Hunger Packet twice a year.
- ◆ Offer at least one hunger education workshop at a synod event or assembly this year.

Advocacy

- ◆ Recruit and train ___ (specific number) individuals in the synod to engage in advocacy work during ___ (time frame).
- ◆ Hold at least one training class about advocacy for congregation hunger contacts in ___ (time frame).
- ◆ ___ (specific number) of people from the synod will join the e-Advocacy network on ELCA.org in ___ (time frame).
- ◆ ___ (specific number) of congregations from the synod will become ONE Lutheran Congregations by ___ (time frame).
- ◆ Assist congregations with the domestic hunger grant application process.

Lifestyle Stewardship

- ◆ Encourage each congregation to hold at least one program on lifestyle education in ___ (time frame).
- ◆ Obtain commitments from at least ___ (specific number) congregations to include simple living emphases in their annual pledge drive this year.
- ◆ Invite all congregations in the synod to consider including simple living in their mission statements.
- ◆ During ___ (time frame), encourage congregation members and families to use one or more simple living resources.
- ◆ Write a series of articles for the synod newsletter that help congregation members make the connections between the economics of global hunger and the economics of consumptive materialism.
- ◆ Distribute copies of *Whose Birthday Is It, Anyway?* in synod meetings.

Organization/Operations

- ◆ Recruit and train hunger contacts in every congregation within three years.
- ◆ Obtain a hunger coordinator in each congregation by ___ (time frame).
- ◆ Recruit ___ (specific number) congregational hunger contacts this year.
- ◆ Plan and hold a World Hunger training event for congregational advocates and pastors by ___ (time frame).
- ◆ Offer a workshop each fall for congregational hunger contacts.
- ◆ Partner with a neighboring synod to hold a hunger awareness event in ___ (time frame).
- ◆ Once a month, gather information to send the synod office for their World Hunger Web pages.
- ◆ By ___ (time frame), share at least two “off the shelf” ideas that congregations interested in hunger ministry can implement.
- ◆ Provide a monthly motivation piece in synod mailing.
- ◆ Solicit and communicate innovative hunger education activities from within the synod’s congregations by ___ (time frame).
- ◆ Within the next ___ (time frame), identify and implement at least one way for congregational hunger contacts to communicate with each other.

Sample Synod Hunger Plans

July	August	September	October
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ July 14 – Attend synod meeting and propose hunger goals. ♦ Establish or update list of known congregation hunger leaders. ♦ Send email to congregations for which I do not have a hunger leader contact asking for on. ♦ Sign up on Ecunet for the ELCA World Hunger Leaders meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Demonstrate “Basics Show” presentation to congregation hunger leaders and give them suggestions about when to use it. ♦ Contact newly received hunger leader names and welcome them. ♦ Send congregation hunger leaders an invitation to set their own hunger goals and plans and offer assistance. ♦ Begin organizing a fall planning meeting for congregation hunger contacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Place order for hunger materials. ♦ Send congregation hunger leaders a suggestion for using bulletin inserts on specific Sundays in the next two months. ♦ Call pastors in congregations who do not have a hunger leader and ask for names. Then try to recruit! ♦ Invite congregational hunger contacts to fall planning meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Contact congregation hunger leaders to see how they’re doing. ♦ Contact congregation hunger leaders about selling Fair Trade items between Thanksgiving and Christmas in their churches. Also remind them to order and promote “Good Gifts”, the Alternative Giving catalogue. ♦ Encourage all congregations to provide an opportunity for giving to the Hunger Appeal around Thanksgiving.
November	December	January	February
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Speak at X church as a synod representative on hunger and seek congregation hunger leader. ♦ Hold fall planning meeting for congregational leaders (via conference call if not in person). Include information on becoming a ONE Lutheran Congregation. ♦ Urge congregations to contact and become involved with a domestic hunger grant site or local food pantry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Remind congregation hunger contacts about Domestic Hunger Grants application deadline. ♦ Include an article about hunger in the synod newsletter. ♦ Provide and promote year-end WHA giving envelopes & bulletin inserts. ♦ Email congregation hunger contacts and pastors a list of lifestyle stewardship ideas to help simplify life and maintain perspective during the busy holiday season. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Speak at X church as a synod representative on hunger and seek congregational hunger contacts. ♦ Send thank you to congregation hunger contacts for all their work. ♦ Send letter to pastors asking them to include at least one sermon in the next 6 months about hunger. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Encourage congregations to conduct a food drive now that the Christmas season is over. ♦ Provide information to congregation hunger contacts about community supported agriculture. ♦ Schedule a local speaker to address World Hunger in my own church. ♦ Call congregations for which I don’t have a hunger contact. ♦ Begin planning display for synod assembly meeting.
March	April	May	June
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Schedule a “Just Neighbors” course at my church. ♦ Speak at X church as a synod representative on hunger and seek congregation hunger contacts. ♦ Send congregation hunger contacts and pastors ideas about including hunger in their Easter messages. Also send information on fair-trade chocolate and palm fronds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Hold a conference call with congregation hunger leaders to share ideas. ♦ Contact nearby churches and tell them about my experience with the speaker in February. Encourage them to schedule the speaker, too. ♦ Create or gather everything needed for synod assembly display. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Send congregation hunger leaders a flyer about the Good Gifts catalog as an approach to Mother’s Day and Father’s Day. ♦ Attend the synod assembly meeting and staff our display. ♦ Provide updates to congregations about current levels of synod Appeal and the results of any hunger grants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Evaluate current level of congregation hunger contacts and plan for continued recruitment. ♦ Attend annual hunger leader gathering. ♦ Send congregation hunger contacts suggestions on summer family activities that incorporate good lifestyle stewardship. ♦ Meet with local Christian Education/Sunday School leaders to discuss how to incorporate hunger issues into fall curriculum.



ELCA World Hunger Web Sites and Phone Numbers for Synod Hunger Leaders



Web Sites and Pages of Note:

1. www.elca.org/hungerMain ELCA World Hunger Web site
2. www.elca.org/hunger/synodsELCA site for synod hunger leaders
3. www.elca.org/disasterELCA Disaster Response
4. www.elca.org/grantinghopeDomestic hunger grants program, recipients, and instructions
5. www.elca.org/advocacyELCA Advocacy page
6. www.elca.org/globalmissionELCA Global Mission
7. www.elca.org/organizingCongregation-based community organizing
8. www.elca.org/hunger/storiesStories about how ELCA World Hunger gifts make a difference throughout the world
9. www.elca.org/hunger/whatwedoInformation about how the ELCA helps those who are hungry
10. www.elca.org/openaworldOpen a World of Possibilities children's material
11. www.elca.org/hunger/gatheringInformation about the annual hunger gathering
12. www.elca.org/hunger/resources/packet.htmlInformation about the most current ELCA Hunger Resource Packet and its contents. Includes downloading instructions when available and ordering instructions for printed materials
13. www.elca.org/hunger/resources/top40.htmlTop 40 Resources with direct online ordering links as well as phone numbers and ISBN numbers for ordering by telephone
14. www.elca.org/ecardsElectronic cards to let someone know you donated a gift to ELCA World Hunger in their name
15. www.elca.org/giftsInformation about different ways to give to ELCA World Hunger
16. www.augsburgfortress.org/elcahungerStore for ordering hunger materials
17. <http://tinyurl.com/clswm>Ecunet online meeting for ELCA hunger leaders

Phone numbers for ordering materials

(e.g. bulletin inserts and offering envelopes)

1. Augsburg Fortress 800.328.4648 (use ISBN for each item)
2. ELCA World Hunger office in Chicago 800.638.3522, ext.2764

Contact information for ELCA World Hunger Staff

General Inquiries hunger@elca.org

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Activities to Try in Your Congregation

The following are a few ideas about things you can do in your own congregation to help members confront poverty and hunger, and raise money for the World Hunger Appeal.* But please do not feel limited by this list! Take the lead and approach your congregation in whatever way you think would be meaningful and exciting to them. Every church is different, so use or modify these ideas in whatever way makes sense for your group.

1. Order ELCA World Hunger pew envelopes. Ensure they are in every pew before Sunday services, included in worship bulletins, and/or in offering envelope boxes once a month.
2. Speak to your pastor about incorporating hunger concerns into liturgy, worship, preaching, and/or hymns.
3. Give a temple talk about hunger as part of the announcements during Sunday services. Include a World Hunger reproducible insert in the bulletin that week and the next 3 weeks.
4. Write an article about simple living for your congregation's newsletter.
5. Order "Hunger & Hope: Dramas about Poverty, Hunger & Mission" and stage one of the plays for your congregation.
6. Order Lutheran World Relief's Handcraft Project Catalog and sell Fair Trade items at a table in your fellowship area after Sunday services.
7. Work with the Sunday School teachers to include "Open a World of Possibilities: Nicaragua" in their curricula plans. Offer to help teach it.
8. Work with other congregations or synods in the area to offer and enroll a Hunger 101 program.
9. Hold a mission fair in church on a Sunday morning. Many relief agencies will set up and staff exhibits for you. Add free videos from Lutheran World Relief and Bread for the World.
10. Schedule a hunger speaker (or a series of them) for an adult education program.
11. Host a Bible study series of four weeks on hunger and justice.
12. Organize volunteer trips to food pantries or other relief agencies.
13. Hold a celebration dinner to renew efforts. Serve a meal from a different country (recipe suggestions and more at www.elca.org/countrypackets). Have a speaker or show a video.

14. Establish a book study group on hunger-related titles.
15. Start a hunger issues committee to facilitate discussions, organize events, and coordinate the congregation's involvement in service and advocacy in the broader community.
16. Encourage "alternative giving" in the congregation. Set up a special "Alternative Giving Fair" in Advent, around Mother's Day, or during a "Christmas in July" event.
17. Have silent auctions to raise funds to purchase something out of the Alternative Gifts catalog.
18. Provide links on the congregation's website to ELCA World Hunger.
19. Have a fund drive. The youth can collect pledges for an event like a bike ride, the CROP Walk (designate to ELCA World Hunger), or a volunteer-a-thon. Sunday School children can pledge a quarter for each shoe in the house – or light bulb or chair – anything which is scarce in poor countries. Have hand-outs prepared to go home each Sunday and have the parents get involved in counting the items.
20. Become a ONE Lutheran Congregation in support of the Millennium Development Goals. See www.elca.org/advocacy/one for more information.
21. Host a youth/adult forum about a contemporary issue and advocacy. Contact the ELCA Washington Office or your state ELCA Public Policy Office for ideas and support.
22. Begin a simplicity ministry in your congregation. Use the book, "Sustaining Simplicity: A Journal" by Anne Basye and its companion Web site as a starting point.

Reference List

The following are resources we recommend for learning more about poverty, hunger and injustice.

Print Materials

- Beckmann, David and Arthur Simon. *Grace at the Table: Ending Hunger in God's World*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1999.
- Johnson, George S. *Beyond Guilt: Christian Response to Suffering*. San Marcos, CA: George S. Johnson, 2000.
- Lakoff, George. *Don't Think of an Elephant: Know Your Values and Frame the Debate—The Essential Guide for Progressives*. White River Junction, VT: Chelsea Green Publishing Company, 2004.
- McGovern, George, Bob Dole, Donald E. Messer. *Ending Hunger Now: A Challenge to Persons of Faith*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2005.
- Moe-Lobeda, Cynthia. *Public Church: For the Life of the World*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2004.
- National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. *Eradicating Global Poverty: A Christian Study Guide on the Millennium Development Goals*. New York: National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, 2006.
 - Note: Appendix B of this booklet is a list of additional print, video and Internet reference materials about hunger and related topics.
- Nesson, Craig L. *Give Us This Day: A Lutheran Proposal for Ending World Hunger*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2003.
- Sachs, Jeffrey. *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Times*. New York: Penguin Press, 2005.
- Simon, Arthur. *How Much Is Enough: Hungering for God in an Affluent Culture*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books, 2003.
- Wallis, Jim. *God's Politics: Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It*. San Francisco: Harper, 2005.

Video

- *Hunger No More: Faces Behind the Facts*. Prod. Burton Buller and Mennonite Media for National Council of Churches through the Interfaith Broadcasting Commission. DVD. Mennonite Media Productions. 2004.