

25 Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

God of hope, we give thanks for the diversity among the Caribbean nations, including Guyana and Suriname. We pray for the poor and disadvantaged, that they may have hope; for justice and the observance of human rights; for goodness in the midst of the beauty of the region; and for all people that they may live full lives as your children. Please continue to bless the companion synod relationship between the ELCA Florida-Bahamas Synod and ministries and churches in Jamaica, Haiti, Suriname, Guyana and Cuba.

26 James, Apostle

Remember all ELCA chaplains serving in the military, particularly those who are deployed, providing Word and Sacrament ministry in places where tensions run high and in combat zones.

27 Pray for the work of ELCA World Hunger among college and university students, that a lasting partnership might be formed to lift up ELCA anti-hunger and anti-poverty work with students and campus leaders across the country.

28 Thank God for the service of the Rev. Kim Erno, who directs the ELCA Immersion Program at the Lutheran Center in Mexico City. Pray for him and those who participate in the immersion experiences offered through the Center.

29 Pray for Pastor Rob James and GPS (God's People Serving), Machesney Park, IL, which organized in May, that God will continue to nurture growth in faithfulness, numbers, stewardship, and service. GPS, already averaging 230 people in worship, notes that it started to grow when it began serving its neighborhood.

30 Pray for seminary students in Clinical Pastoral Education this summer and for those who supervise this ministry preparation, including Minnesota Pastors Diane Greve at Fairview University Medical Center, Linda Campbell, Kyrre Kleyberg and Torstein Holten at the St. Cloud Veterans Hospital, Tim Thorstenson and Scott McCrae at Methodist Hospital, and Dave Carlson at Unity-Mercy Hospital.

31 Blessings upon the Rev. Tim and Mari McKenzie, who serve with the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church. Tim teaches church history at the Japan Lutheran College and Seminary, and Mari assists with orientation for new ELCA personnel who teach English at Lutheran schools in Japan. We give thanks for their dedication and witness.

This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Prayer Ventures is produced by ELCA Communication Services in cooperation with other units of the ELCA. Contact info@elca.org for additional information: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Communication Services, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

PRAYER VENTURES

JULY 2010

Prayer petitions for Sundays follow the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle and can be incorporated into the prayers at weekly worship. Weekday entries are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the church. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

1 Lenoir Rhyne University in Hickory, N.C., is hosting writing workshops for high school students this month, including a course titled "Beyond Texting." Pray for students and teachers as they enrich their God-given capacity to communicate.

2 Give thanks for all who are concluding service through Young Adults in Global Mission, the ELCA global mission program for young people ages 19-30, especially Sarah Dorman, Sara Higgins, Kaitlin Nelson, Peter Severson, and Katherine Sommer, who served in Mexico.

3 Thomas, Apostle

Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center, near Bemus Point, N.Y., offers summer camp ministries for children, youth and adults. Pray for director Lee Lindeman, other staff and volunteers and for all who take part in the programs there.

4 6th Sunday After Pentecost

Gracious God, bring healing to the political wounds felt amongst the people of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela. May their political authorities find ways to achieve peace among their countries. Grant them the peace and protection of your warm embrace.

5 Pray for Pastors Peter and Kathy Braafladt and Lynda Laird in the birth of Messiah Lutheran Church's second site ministry in Ridgefield, Wash. Ask God to empower Messiah's leadership as they engage in prayer, Bible study and worship, that those who have yet to hear the good news in the Ridgefield area.

6 Pray for Dr. Christine Wenderoth, director, and other library and seminary staff at the JKM Library, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, and all users, that the library may continue to help people receive the riches of the Word from many centuries and the present.

7 Blessings upon Mary Beth and Bayo Oyebade for their service with the HIV/AIDS ministry, the Mashiah Foundation, and the ministries of the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria.

8 Thank God for the gift of generosity that is being nurtured within Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, North Liberty, Iowa, one of the newly organized congregations of the ELCA. Existing families collectively increased their prior pledges so that the total pledged amount grew by 60%, and the number of pledges increased by 45% over the previous year.

9 Remember in prayers Heidi Hartwig, Rebecca Mason, Rachel Liptak, Megan Large, Mark Molter, Carol Anderson, Jennifer Christen and Stephanie Olson as they complete a year of teaching English as a Second Language in Tisovec and Liptovsky Mikulas, Slovakia.

10 Please ask the Holy Spirit to inspire and guide the church leaders who are involved in strategizing for ministry in Camden, N.J., that all might come together to develop a plan which will strengthen ministry for all God's children.

11 7th Sunday After Pentecost

God of peace, we thank you for the people of the Costa Rican Lutheran Church, the Salvadoran Lutheran Synod, the Lutheran Church in Nicaragua, and for the mutuality and solidarity that comes from their companion synod relationships with eight ELCA synods. Watch over them with your love and grant them the strength to rise with the sun to meet each day with joy.

12 Praise God for the work of the Rev. David and Mary Kuck in Jamaica. David teaches at the United Theological College of the West Indies, Kingston, and Mary teaches English both at The United Theological College and an international school.

13 Remember in prayer Bishop Michael Rinehart and the people of the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod who are responding to the synod's call to prayer and action as the area struggles with the largest oil spill in the nation's history.

14 Pray for the work of the "Synod Youth Ministry Band of Leaders" (SYMBOL), staff and volunteer leaders of synodical youth ministries, who gather next month for a retreat in Chicagao. The group's leader this year is Tammy Jones West, North Carolina Synod.

15 Lift up the ministry of Andrea and Luke Roske-Metcalf, who serve as the country coordinators for the Young Adults in Global Mission program in Mexico. Luke works with English speakers at El Buen Pastor Lutheran Church and accompanies AMEXTRA projects in Mexico City. Pray for their ministry of sharing the faith, strength, dignity, and culture of Mexicans with ELCA members.

16 Pray for the people of Haiti and the work carried out by ELCA World Hunger and ELCA Disaster Response through the Lutheran World Federation, the Lutheran Church in Haiti, and other partners, to support those who continue to rebuild their lives after a devastating earthquake.

17 Praise God for the Spirit's work in and among the members of Cristo Rey Lutheran Church in West Columbia, S.C.. Led by Dr. Andres Leone, a physician, this congregation-under-development is the fastest growing congregation in the South Carolina Synod. In 18 months, this spirit-filled faith community already has 100-140 people in worship on Sunday afternoons and has celebrated 40 baptisms, 13 first communions, and 11 confirmations.

18 8th Sunday After Pentecost

God of justice, bring to the people of Belize, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, especially those living in poverty, the hope and truth that you give to all your children through your Spirit.

19 Prof. Eric Barreto, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., President Jill Schumann, Lutheran Services in America, Baltimore, and Prof. Mark Alan Powell, Trinity Seminary, Columbus, Ohio, are three of the dozen speakers at "Rethinking Stewardship: Our Culture, Our Theology, Our Practices." The event is at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie, Minnesota, July 19-21. Pray for the leaders and all participants, that lives may be enriched.

20 Thank God for the ministry of the Rev. Charles Fredrickson and Elizabeth Borstad, who conclude service with the English-speaking Meito ministry of the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church in Nagoya, Japan, and for Meito's congregational and outreach programs.

21 Pray for the young people who give one year of their lives to serve the church around the world through the Young Adults in Global Mission Program. Pray especially for Lisa Cockerham, Emily Ewing and Joseph Helgeson, who served in Slovakia.

22 Mary Magdalene, Apostle

Pray that God will open the hearts of ELCA members to make time -- make room -- for those who differ from themselves. May all congregations invite, offer hospitality, and genuinely engage their neighbors for the sake of the Gospel.

23 Lift up the Rev. Ingebjorg Laugeland, who serves as children and youth pastor at Hjelmeland Lutheran Parish in Norway.

24 Pray for the ELCA Domestic Hunger Grants Program, that it may continue to provide renewed hope in hundreds of communities for people like Greg Washington in Milwaukee, who works in the food industry, serves food to others, but does not earn a living wage himself.