

other traditions: Inba Inbasarasu, Seok Hwan Jeong, Stephen Kung, and Omega Varma.

**27** Thank God for the faithful service of Barbara Robertson in the area of the Morogoro Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania. Ask God to bless her work as she develops and implements a program to deal with HIV and AIDS for the surrounding communities.

### **28 Palm Sunday**

Lord, you entered Jerusalem with a peaceful heart. Be our example that we too can live as people of peace in this world.

### **29 Monday in Holy Week**

Please pray for William Okweari, a Sudanese lay minister (Anyuak tribe) whom God is using to gather Sudanese immigrants for worship in Minneapolis and Austin, Minn.

### **30 Tuesday in Holy Week**

Renton Lutheran Church., Renton, Wash., gifted its community upon its closure. Their generosity is creating apartments for homeless veterans and a new ministry called Luther's Table. Please pray for the former members of Renton Lutheran and for those who will be served by these new ministries.

### **31 Wednesday in Holy Week**

Give thanks for Waldorf College in Forest City, Iowa, and its century of partnership with the ELCA and its predecessors. Pray for Waldorf in the next phase of its life, now under private ownership, as it continues to educate young people. Pray for the Waldorf Lutheran College Foundation and its ongoing work along side the college to offer campus ministry, scholarships and other support.

*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

MARCH 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** During Women's History Month, give thanks for all the women and girls who heed God's call to leadership in this church, as rostered and lay leaders in many vocations, that God sustain them in their calls.

**2** Pray for God to heal our resistance to addressing all forms of oppression.

**3** Thank God for Pastors Claudia Bergmann and Scott Moore, serving in Germany. May Claudia and Scott's ministry help strengthen the church as it seeks to engage Germany's secular culture.

**4** Take a moment to reflect what it means to work together as women and men, girls and boys, to address sexism in church and society.

**5** Pray for Dorcas Wang as she teaches leadership development and capacity building of both the ELCA and its companions in China. She ministers to Chinese returnees and expatriates.

**6** We pray for ELCA congregations behind prison walls: Church of the Damascus Road, Ft. Dodge, Iowa; Followers of Christ, Firth, Neb.; Living Stones, Shelton, Wash.; New Beginnings, Aurora, Colo.; Prisoners of Hope, Appleton, Minn.; St. Dysmas, Jefferson, Md.; and St. Dysmas, Sioux Falls and Springfield, S.D.

### **7 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Holy God, we give you thanks for the witness of Christians in Austria, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, Andorra, Monaco, and San Marino. Grant renewal and strength to the churches in these countries, that the gospel might reach those who have not yet heard the words of our Lord.

**8** Praise God for the continued growth of churches in China, Hong Kong and Macao, as these countries journey through a long period of adjustment.

**9** Thank God for the companion relationships between the ELCA Southeastern Synod, the Lutheran Church in Singapore, and the Lutheran Church in Malaysia and Singapore.

**10 Harriet Tubman; Sojourner Truth; renewers of society**

Remember in prayer Elaina Styblo, a seminary intern from Trinity Lutheran Seminary. Elaina is serving her internship at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Mexico City.

**11** Ask the Holy Spirit to surround the people God is calling to be a part of Rivers of Life Community Church, Colora, Md., a new ELCA ministry in Cecil County, Md. Pray that God will strengthen the faith of these new Christians.

**12 Gregory the Great, bishop of Rome**

Remember in prayer Candise Heinlein, a volunteer at the Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church headquarters. Candise serves as a communication assistant and uses her expertise to provide various media services.

**13** Please pray for Redeemer Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minn., and Pastor Kelly Chatman. Ask God to bless their continued efforts to be a vital presence for healing and transformation in their community.

**14 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

We lift up to you, merciful God, the members of the emerging Christian communities in Myanmar and Thailand, that they may expand their holistic ministries in their countries.

**15** Praise God for Pastor Benjamin and Margit Coltvét, serving at the American Church in Berlin. The congregation capitalizes on its diverse membership to reach out to the changing population of the German capital.

**16** Pray for candidacy committee members and candidates as they work together to discern God's calling to the next generation of pastors, deaconesses, diaconal ministers and associates in ministry.

**17 Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland**

Pray for the staff and volunteers who are already busy planning for the next ELCA Youth Gathering to be held in 2012.

**18** Pray for confirmation students as they prepare to affirm their baptism in ELCA congregations and for the pastors and mentors who are walking with them at this important time in their lives.

**19 Joseph, Guardian of Jesus**

Remember in prayer Pastor Wayne Nieminen and Pastor Christa von Zychlin, seminary professors at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Hong Kong. Praise God for the dedication of the students, many of whom go forth to serve in countries including Cambodia, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand and Hong Kong.

**20** Thank God for the energy and commitment of young people to "God's work. Our hands." Thirty-eight youth and 12 adults from four Pittsburgh area congregations worked on the homes and yards of struggling families.

**21 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

We give you thanks, O God, for the vitality of the churches in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. Build up these dynamic communities, that they may encourage other churches within the Lutheran communion.

**22 Jonathan Edwards, teacher, missionary to American Indians**

Pray for Carol Anderson, Jennifer Christen and Stephanie Olson, volunteer teachers at Evangelické Gymnázium Juraja Tranoveskeho in Liptovsky Mikulas, Slovakia. The Gymnázium is one of several church-related schools to which the ELCA sends teachers.

**23** Pray for Dale Goodman, executive director of Ewalu Camp and Retreat Center, Strawberry Point, Iowa, and for all outdoor ministry staff as they prepare for another summer of activity. Pray for the children, youth and adults who will take part in outdoor ministry experiences in the months ahead.

**24** Thank God for Patrick and Jacqueline Bencke, who serve at Kyushu Lutheran College, a college of the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kumamoto, Japan. Patrick teaches English and Jacqueline directs a college choir.

**25 Annunciation of Our Lord**

Pray for college, university and seminary students and especially for those who are experiencing financial difficulties that could make it difficult to continue in school. Pray for generous and encouraging partners to help them follow their callings.

**26** Thank God for the newly ordained Asian pastors: Betty Chen, Nengyia Her, and Frank Wang; for those received through the candidacy process from