

26 Ask God to bless the efforts of the many ELCA members who bring hope, fellowship and the good news of Christ to prisoners. Today especially remember Elim Lutheran, Marshalltown, and First Presbyterian, Newton, who partner in ministry to the incarcerated in those Iowa towns.

27 Give thanks for Heidi Hagstrom, director of the ELCA Youth Gathering, and for all those staff and volunteers who are planning now for the 2012 gathering in New Orleans.

28 First Sunday of Advent

Merciful God, we ask that you embrace the people of Liberia and Sierra Leone in your calming arms. We pray that you will sustain peace in these countries, and strengthen and encourage their people and leaders as healing and reconciliation continues after years of war and distrust.

29 Andrew, Apostle

On this International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, give thanks for the gifts shared in the companion relationships among the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and the ELCA New England and Southeast Michigan Synods, and all ELCA synod Middle East working groups.

30 Give thanks for the online Journal of Lutheran Ethics which for nine years has promoted study of and conversation about Christian ethics in the Lutheran tradition among students, pastors, professors, and lay leaders.

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

NOVEMBER 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 All Saints Day

Give thanks for the retirement support groups in congregations like St. Paul Lutheran Church, Omaha, Nev., asking God to bless recent retirees with satisfaction for vocations well served and with new callings appropriate to the years to come.

2 Praise the Lord the Rev. Kathryn Warn who serves in Freetown, Sierra Leone as pastor in residence with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone, helping foster the relationship with their companion, the Northern Texas Louisiana synod.

3 Ask for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit for Rosario Hernandez-Cruz as she leads La Sagrada Familia, a new Synodically Authorized Worshipping Community in Langley Park, Md.

4 Give thanks for the unusually large numbers of first year students enrolling at Finlandia University, Hancock, Mich., and pray for all students there that they may grow in wisdom.

5 Praise God for the ministry of Katie Miyamoto in Japan. She is serving as a teacher at Luther Gakuin Junior and Senior High School in Kumamoto.

6 Ask God to bless the ministry of Louis Dorvilier, recently seconded to the Lutheran World Federation as field representative for Haiti, to coordinate the ongoing work of Lutheran-related Haiti earthquake programs.

7 24th Sunday After Pentecost

Merciful God, we thank you for the power of the Bible that speaks to the people of Sao Tomé and Príncipe, the Republic of Congo and Gabon. May

they find strength and wisdom in you to witness amid the social challenges of today.

8 Give thanks for Campus Pastor Michael Collins, University Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry at the University of Florida in Gainesville as he witnesses to the meaning of faith in individual lives and in the public sphere.

9 Thank God for the dedication and creative spirits of Martin and Suzanne Shoffner, serving with the ELCA in Palestine. Martin is the coordinator for the Young Adults in Global Mission in Palestine and for group trips to the Holy Land.

10 Please pray for Pastor Jodi Houge and Humble Walk Lutheran Church, a congregation under development in St. Paul, Minn., as they expand their outreach in the West 7th Street neighborhood.

11 Please pray for Chaplain Brian Knutson, Air Guard, who will be working with the wounded military personnel at Landstuhl Hospital in Germany.

12 Give thanks for the witness of Anne and Willie Langdji, regional representatives for West Africa, who foster church to church relationships in Cameroon, Senegal, and Central African Republic and as resources for the wider region in the areas of health and development.

13 Give thanks for Seeing Things Whole, an ecumenical nonprofit network working creatively to apply the values of Christian faith in the world of businesses and corporations.

14 25th Sunday After Pentecost

We pray, O God, together with the people of Cameroon, Central African Republic and Equatorial Guinea: “grant that we might sleep in peace, and that at the break of day we may find ourselves in safety.”

15 Remember to pray for the 55 international students who are studying in the United States and other countries around the world this year because of scholarships from ELCA Global Mission. Give thanks for their commitment, and pray with and for them as they prepare to serve in leadership roles in their home churches.

16 International Day for Tolerance

Pray that pastors and teachers in congregations and other ministry settings will nurture and strengthen the formation of the consciences of the baptized so that they are able to respond to the challenges of a complex world.

17 Give thanks to God for the leadership of David Wunsch and Kate Lawler. Regional representatives to Latin America, they accompany the Lutheran churches in Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Peru, and Bolivia. Kate is also site supervisor of the Young Adults in Global Mission program in Argentina.

18 Pray for Per Anderson, Janet Williams and other members of the ELCA Genetics Task Force, now at work discerning how to revise and strengthen the draft social statement on genetics.

19 Pray for Alicia and Pastor David Brondos in Mexico City. David teaches at the Theological Community of Mexico, an ecumenical association of theological schools that includes the Lutheran Seminary.

20 Universal Children’s Day

Thank God for the 58 children of the Anyuak Faith Community who were baptized at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Austin, Minn., on Sept. 5. Other children and adults, originally from Sudan and Ethiopia, anticipate being baptized soon. William Okweari is the community’s lay leader.

21 Christ the King

O God, in the midst of health, economic, political and social challenges in the African nations of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger, we pray that your abounding grace may bring strength and hope to the people.

22 Praise God for the commitment and ministry of ELCA volunteer missionaries, especially the many English-speaking teachers serving at the Lutheran schools in Bratislava, Liptovsky Mikulas, and Tisovec, Slovakia, and Cieszyn, Poland.

23 We pray for the ministry of Grace Lutheran Church, Richmond, Calif., as it invites and serves its neighborhood. Grace is utilizing the gifts of a symphony orchestra to reach out to its community

24 Invite the Holy Spirit to guide and direct Pastor John Cummings and the Latino Ministry Start in southwest Detroit as they discern who will participate on the “lead team” for this new ministry.

25 Day of Thanksgiving

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, give thanks for all of the many ways that God works through people. Give thanks for the privilege of being the hands and feet of God’s mission down the street and around the world through your congregation.