

27 Eighth Sunday after Epiphany

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.

28 Praise God for the witness of Pastor Jeffrey Truscott. At Trinity Theological College in Singapore his classes in liturgy and theology equip students from many Asian countries to cultivate a worship life that will shape their faith communities.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

PRAYER VENTURES

FEBRUARY 2011

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 Give thanks for Revs Michael and Terri Church, in their second year working with an English-language ministry in Romania in cooperation with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Romania and the Metropolitan New York Synod.

2 Presentation of Our Lord

Lift up in prayer the ELCA ministries in the Holy Land, especially the Revs. Fred Strickert and Elizabeth McHan, working with Bishop Munib Younan of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, for peace in that troubled part of the world.

3 Pray for campus ministry staff as they gather in regional conferences this month.

4 World Cancer Day

Give thanks for the ELCA Board of Pensions health plans and all who support the ministry of preventing illness and sustaining health for staff and retirees throughout the church.

5 Pray for Sarah and Pastor Peter Grow-Hanson who live in Dakar, Senegal, serving in theological education and leadership development with the Lutheran Church of Senegal. They also provide support for ELCA-related development ministries in Senegal and facilitate a pilot Christian-Muslim immersion program.

6 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

God in heaven, bless all who strive for peace and human welfare in Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. Take away any anxiety about the future and give them a sense of responsibility for where you have called them.

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.

7 Lift up in prayer all graduating seminarians who with great excitement wait to be assigned to a synod where they will begin their service in God's mission in the church.

8 Thank God for Kirsten and Pastor Stephen Kienberger. Pastor Stephen Kienberger is a parish pastor of the American Church in Berlin, Germany. Pray for all international congregations who seek to bring together people of different nations and denominations as followers of Christ.

9 Give thanks for the service of David Hardy, who concludes his service as chairperson of the Board of Directors of ELCA Risk Management at the end of the board's winter meeting in February.

10 Pray for Rebecca Lee, a short-term English teacher in Hong Kong, as she engages students from different parts of Asia studying at Lutheran Theological Seminary. She is part of a wider work by the ELCA and churches in Asia to engage the needs of churches in the region.

11 Pray for the staff and ministries of the ELCA churchwide offices as they experience a time of transition into the ELCA reorganization.

12 Please pray for all who serve international congregations, especially Mary Ann & Timothy Stewart as they serve the American Lutheran Church in Oslo, Norway.

13 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

O God, you who stand in the midst of the silent ones, bless the churches of Portugal, Spain, Italy and Malta, and their ministries among children, workers, the sick and the elderly.

14 Ask God to guide the Rev. Albert (Al) Starr, Jr., and other leaders of the African American Lutheran Association, as they seek to help ELCA congregations reach out to people of color with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

15 Remember Jenifer Brown and Matthew Linden as they prepare to end their service as English teachers in Kumamoto and Tokyo, Japan, as part of the J-3 program of the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church.

16 Pray for the Racial Justice Ministry Program as it strives to address the church's climate on race, ethnicity, culture, inclusivity and diversity.

17 Pray for the many young people participating in the Young Adults in Global Mission program. Today remember Erin Bonawitz, Amelia

Decker, Tricia Ernst, Nathan Lescelius, Nathaniel Murken, Kari Beth Shobe, Heidi Sjoberg, Kathleen Snyder, Elizabeth Sorenson, and others who serve in a variety of social ministry settings in Great Britain.

18 Thank God for Lutheran Services in Iowa, its director, the Rev. Douglas E. Johnson, and other staff and volunteers, who serve people of all ages, genders, nationalities, religions, ethnicities and sexual orientations in a wide variety of ministries.

19 Pray for the Fellowship of Recovering Lutheran Clergy as they have their annual retreat February 21-25, 2011 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

20 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

We give you thanks, O God, for signs of your presence and activity among the people of Germany and France. Continue to bring vitality, we pray, to the churches, that the awakening that happened with the Reformation may live on in ongoing renewal.

21 International Mother Language Day

Give thanks for Pastor Abraham Lu and the members of Grace Chinese Lutheran Church, Elmhurst, N.Y.

22 Lift up the ministry of the members of Fordham Lutheran Church, Bronx, N.Y., reaching out to African Americans and Hispanics with the mission statement, "Serving Jesus by serving our neighbors," and their interim pastor, the Rev. John Backe.

23 Give thanks for all who participate in the life and ministry of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in Argentina. Remember especially the Young Adults in Global Mission, Jenna Engquist, Krystle Moraska, Emily Singleton, and Rachel Smith as they serve in congregational and social service ministries in Argentina.

24 Pray for mission developer pastors and lay leaders, who will meet for training February 24-28

25 Pray for Martin and Suzanne Shoffner, who are serving in Jerusalem. Martin serves as the coordinator for both the Young Adults in Global Mission program in Palestine and the Holy Land trips program.

26 Thank God for the work of Ellen D. Walid, executive director, and the staff of Lutheran Social Services of Southern California, as they struggle to meet increasing needs in an area plagued by natural disasters.