

**27** Pray for Joseph and the Rev. Deborah Troester and family, serving in Baboua, Central African Republic. Joe serves as water resource manager and Deborah serves as theological school instructor and communications representative for ELCA companion church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic.

**28** Pray for the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service as they offer shelter and support to displaced peoples.

**29 Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Almighty God, we give you thanks for showering your Spirit upon the people of Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland. May they find continued strength to engage the social, economic and political challenges within which they witness.

**30** Give thanks for veterans and all who gave their lives in military service. Pray for all who currently are in the military and risk their lives in service to their country.

**31** Pray for young people who are bullied. Pray that parents, teachers and church leaders respond quickly and with compassion to those who live in fear.

*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 the ELCA Mission Advancement unit in cooperation with other units of the ELCA. Contact [info@elca.org](mailto:info@elca.org) for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Mission Advancement, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.*



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## PRAYER VENTURES

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MAY 2011

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*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 First Sunday of Easter**

God of wisdom, we lift up to you the leaders and people of Sudan and Uganda. May peace accords and reconciliation efforts bring restoration to the hearts and lives of those who have suffered for so long.

**2** Pray for Christians who serve in areas of the world where Christians are persecuted for their beliefs.

**3** Pray for Aaron Schutte, Global Mission volunteer who teaches at Kibeta English Medium Primary School in Bukoba in the Northwestern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

**4** Pray for our brothers and sisters in the Middle East as they continue to seek solutions for the security, peace and justice of all people there.

**5** Praise God for Erin Ostroski and Isaac Smith who are serving in Uruguay this year through the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program.

**6** Pray for the Florida-Bahamas, Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Minneapolis Area, Southeastern Minnesota and Southeastern Pennsylvania synods of the ELCA as they gather for assembly this week.

**7** Pray for those who suffer from the fallout of nuclear disaster.

**8 Second Sunday of Easter**

Living God, we praise you for the witness and joy the churches of Kenya and Tanzania bring to the world. Let us join our voices in rejoicing. Christ is risen! Alleluia!

**9** Pray for the work of the ELCA World Hunger program that addresses the root causes of hunger and poverty through relief, development, education and advocacy.

**10** Give thanks for those who volunteer to teach at the Lutheran schools in Bratislava, Košice, Liptovsky Mikulas, and Tisovec, Slovakia. Pray for Jennifer Christen, Alicia Cooke, Jonathan Covell, Heidi Hartwig, Benjamin Leeney and Rachel Liptak who will return to the United States in summer 2011.

**11** Pray for those who are recovering from natural disasters, especially the people of Haiti, Japan and Indonesia.

**12** Give thanks to God for the Rev. Arden Strasser, who serves in leadership development in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zambia.

**13** Pray for the Northern Great Lakes, Rocky Mountain, Metropolitan New York, Northeastern Ohio, Northwest Washington, Southeast Michigan, Southwestern Washington, Sierra Pacific, Eastern North Dakota, Northwestern Minnesota, South-Central

Synod of Wisconsin, and Southwestern Texas synods of the ELCA as they meet in assembly this week.

**14** Thank God for the Rev. Joshua and Susan Magyar, who are serving in the Morogoro Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. Josh is the coordinator for Theological Education by Extension in the diocese and Susan teaches part-time at a local pre-school in Morogoro.

**15 Third Sunday of Easter**

Almighty God, as the churches of Malawi and Zambia struggle in a cycle of drought and flood, give them strength and wisdom to feed the hungry and announce the good news of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

**16** Blessings upon the many young people participating in the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program. Pray for Joshua Busacker, Bethany Danielson, Christine Doidge, Jessica Fairfax, Michael Lengel and Heather Nelson who serve in a variety of social ministry settings in South Africa.

**17** Pray for the president of the United States and the Congress that the Holy Spirit will guide them to remember those most vulnerable in our nation.

**18** Pray for people in areas where individuals struggle daily with malaria and HIV and AIDS.

**19** Pray for Ruth Goehle, who is beginning her service as the ELCA consultant to the medical services rehabilitation and anti-malaria initiative in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe.

**20** Pray for the Pacifica, South Carolina, Northwestern Ohio, Saint Paul Area, Southeastern Iowa, Southern Ohio, Southwest California, Texas-Louisiana Gulf

Coast and North/West Lower Michigan synods of the ELCA as they meet in assembly this week.

**21** Pray for Bishop Ambrose Moyo who serves as consultant and liaison person to ELCA Global Mission facilitating the ELCA's accompaniment of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe, emerging Lutheran Churches in Southern Africa and the Zimbabwe Council of Churches in their capacity building, peace building and institutional and leadership development programs.

**22 Fourth Sunday of Easter**

O God, look with mercy upon the people of Zimbabwe, as they struggle with economic and political uncertainty. May the companion relationship between the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe and the ELCA Upstate New York Synod be a source of solace and encouragement.

**23** Pray for an end to the exploitation of women and children that leads to human trafficking and sexual violence.

**24** Pray for greater protection of human rights throughout the world and for world leaders who work for justice, reconciliation and peace.

**25** Give thanks for the work of Linda Gawthorne serving among the indigenous Kogi people of Colombia who are displaced from their land in the Santa Marta Mountains by violence. Linda provides spiritual nurturing and helps translate the Bible into Kogi.

**26** Give thanks for all who graduate from educational institutions this spring. Pray that graduates and others seeking employment will find fulfilling and sustainable work.