

## Congregational Support for the World Hunger Appeal

WHEREAS over 800 million people in the world do not get enough food each day to live healthy lives (World Food Programme <https://www.wfp.org/stories/10-hunger-facts-2014> ); and

WHEREAS in the United States nearly 16 million children are not sure where their next meal will come from ( [Bread for the World](#); and

WHEREAS about HALF of all adults in the United States aged 20-65 will need federal assistance to buy food at some point during their lifetime (Food Research and Action Center [http://frac.org/pdf/snap\\_and\\_public\\_health\\_2013.pdf](http://frac.org/pdf/snap_and_public_health_2013.pdf)); and

WHEREAS the world produces enough food to give every living person 2,868 calories per day (Food and Agriculture Organization of the U.N. <http://faostat3.fao.org/download/FB/FBS/E>); and

WHEREAS the number of people living in chronic hunger worldwide has fallen 17 percent since the early 1990s (World Food Programme <https://www.wfp.org/stories/10-hunger-facts-2014>); and

WHEREAS in 2015, gifts to ELCA World Hunger helped support over 380 anti-hunger ministries in the United States and 250 programs in over 50 other countries – from food pantries to community gardens, from health care clinics to job training programs, and so much more; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the La Crosse Area Synod gathered in Assembly challenge its congregations to a goal of \$185,000 (\$5.00/ baptized member) to the World Hunger Appeal in 2017 toward the goal of eliminating world hunger by 2030; and be it further

RESOLVED that the La Crosse Area Synod celebrate a World Hunger Sunday in October each year with resources provided by the World Hunger Subcommittee; and be it further

RESOLVED that La Crosse Area Synod congregations be encouraged to study and respond to the root causes of hunger and poverty in their communities, and that individuals and congregations continue to initiate and support local food pantries and efforts to reduce poverty; and be it further

RESOLVED that individuals be encouraged to become Monthly Partners of the World Hunger Appeal through electronic giving.

Submitted by the World Hunger Subcommittee

*(See other side for suggested actions.)*

The La Crosse World Hunger Synod Subcommittee offers the following suggestions to area congregations to help the ELCA commitment to end world hunger.

1. Encourage your church, family, and friends to join you in praying for an end to hunger.
2. Educate yourselves about the root causes of hunger. (There are many free educational resources on the ELCA website. )
3. Be an advocate. Reach out to public officials on relevant and timely issues regarding hunger.
4. Encourage regular congregational and personal giving to help end hunger. Some ideas to encourage regular giving are:
  - Include a regular donation to world hunger as part of your parish budget
  - Encourage members to give to world hunger on a regular basis by joining “Monthly Partners” or become “sustaining members” in the fight against hunger.
  - Educate people about endowment gifts to world hunger.
  - Have envelopes for donations to world hunger available. Consider special seasonal offerings to world hunger at spring planting or harvest times.
  - Use the ELCA Good Gifts program to honor a person, or in memory of someone.
  - Encourage Thrivent members to designate their “choice dollars” to world hunger. Thrivent members can also request “seed money” to help organize a fundraising event. See the Thrivent Action Team website for more information.
  - Make “Hunger Jar” offerings or “noisy offerings” for world hunger a regular part of your worship service. Set aside one Sunday a month for the offering to go to hunger.
  - Raise a parish garden. The produce can be shared with the needy in your community, or can be sold with proceeds going towards hunger.
  - Make people aware of programs that encourage sustainability such as the “The Global Barnyard” and Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade.
5. Consider organizing fundraising events with proceeds going toward world hunger. These fun projects such as community walks, breakfasts, etc. can involve all ages.

HOW WILL YOU AND YOUR CONGREGATION SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF THE WORLD HUNGER APPEAL?