

# ELCA Global Church Sponsorship



Missionaries • Young Adults in Global Mission • International Leaders • Global Ministries

## Ascension Lutheran Church-Global Ministries Team Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2023, 7:00pm (in the school bungalow)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88644270536?pwd=NDQ0RmZWVGYrVnlKeWY0VGE3cW04dz09>

Meeting ID: 886 4427 0536

Passcode: global

**Mission Statement:** With our congregation we are “called to create opportunities for all people to become devoted followers of Christ”. Together we “invite, grow, serve.”

**The Global Ministries Team will do this as we pray, work, partner and participate in God’s mission around the world, using our ELCA global mission model of accompaniment. (God’s work. Our hands.)** The scope of current ministries as well as those ministries we would like to better serve and support is reflected in our new name. Inspired by the Biblical mandates to preach the Gospel and remember the poor, the Global Ministries Team will respond to God’s love by sharing the good news of God’s saving grace in Christ; preserving and restoring creation; and serving others through care, advocacy, education, reconciliation, solidarity with those in need, and interfaith work.

### Meeting Notes

**Welcome!** Present on Zoom: Louise Evenson, Jan Timmons, Carol Bartell, Tamara Nowlin, Edith Ott. Present in person: Marcia Koenig, Mary Wennes, Christina Sanchez, Carol Bjelland, Pastor Chamie, and Pastor Steve.

**Opening Devotion – Pastor Chamie** “What Is Given from the Heart” by Patricia McKissack  
Then we each shared our prayer requests for people and for places here and around the world, especially for friends and family who need God’s healing.

### **Additions or corrections to the agenda**

Today we received an email from Pricilla Merlo who is the 2023 Welcoming Congregations coordinator for our synod. Pastor Steve will respond with a “yes” that our team will work with partners in this welcoming ministry.

Added note, after the meeting: The Synod trip to El Salvador will be August 1-6. There is a zoom info meeting on Jan. 22 at 4pm our time. See the brochure that is attached. The leaders of this trip do a fabulous job and have been doing this for many years.

### **Update on Gifts of Hope 2022 – Pastor Steve**

Total giving as of Dec. 28 is just over \$63k. As of Jan. 4 I think we are just over \$67k. See the StARS annual report from Egypt that is attached after this report.

We greatly appreciate the generosity of the congregation, school, and foundation!

Pastor Steve raised the idea of next year's GOH helping a Lutheran congregation/ministry in Ukraine. We also mentioned partnering with Namibia or Tanzania.

ALS gifts for God's Global Barnyard/GOH have not yet been processed and will be included in the final totals.

### **Calendar 2023**

#### **1. Jubilee Southern CA zoom meeting, Jan. 12, Noon – Pastor Steve**

A number of Jubilee staff will be sharing updates on our work. [www.jubileeusa.org](http://www.jubileeusa.org)

We hope that many of you will be able to join us for this one hour.

(Pastor Steve finished his work on the board in December but will continue to lift up the work of Jubilee.)

Here's the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2922896664>

#### **2. GMT and the January 15 youth event, and Fair Trade updates – Carol Bjelland**

Pizza & Smores Bonfire event at 5pm in the upper parking lot (see attached)

We have a \$250 Thrivent Action grant!

The Hillmans are giving us the use of their firepit

Jr and Sr. L.L. youth and Confirmation students and parents are invited.

For the Fair Trade smores people can pick their favorite FT full-size chocolate bar

We are also inviting the international students from Cal Lutheran.

If it rains that day, we'll postpone until the spring.

Our Fair Trade ordering this month will be Jan. 15-29 with arrivals by Feb. 6 in time for Valentine's Day!

We thank Tamara and Marcia for helping with the Fair Trade pop up sale at our school in December.

We have some of the Brewer's Chocolate Chip cookies for sale. They are \$5 per box and will be included in the January 2023 ordering. (Editor's note: the cookies are delicious!)

#### **3. Opportunities at Cal Lutheran – Christina**

**CLU events Jan. 26, 31, and Feb. 15 – Lunar New Year**

**International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Jan. 26 at 6:30pm (see attached)**

**Feb. 16** Economic & Social Lives of Undocumented Immigrants on the Central Coast of CA: "What Does it Take to Call a Place a Home?" 8:30am-2pm (breakfast & lunch served)

**ELCA International Women Leaders**

Mary and Carol had a dinner with some of the students after Christmas.

Mary will pick up Nina from LAX on Jan. 16. (Nina is from Zimbabwe.)

Christina provided us with a beautiful 2023 calendar of Cal Lutheran students who have studied abroad, titled "Embracing Global Perspectives."

**4. February Adult Education Classes – Carol Bartell**

**Feb. 5** - LIRS, Karla Leitzman here, and a rep from Friends of Fieldworkers.

**Feb. 12** - Louise will lead a Bible study prepared by LWR on Matthew 25.

**Feb. 19 and 26** – for one of these Sundays we will invite Christina and the Cal Lutheran international students to informally share. We may have a teacher/preacher this month for Black History Month.

The classes in March will have the theme: What will the church of the future look like? Sometime this spring our Fair Trade ministries could offer another class and some chocolate tasting!

**5. Climate Justice Retreat, March 10-12, Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center - Louise Evenson (see attached)**

This looks like an excellent opportunity, and we will share with our congregation's Green Faith Team and with our synod's Green Faith Team, as well as on our social media. If people need financial help with the travel, our team has funds to help.

**6. Bread for the World Offering of Letters, April 30 - Eloise Cohen**

This offering of letters may be in the adult ed class or simply after worship. TBD. We could invite David Gist from Bread for the World!

**7. Great Music at Ascension – Edith Ott**

All concerts are at 4pm. Feb. 26, March 26 and April 30. Watch for details in our newsletter and plan on attending and inviting friends.

**Questions**

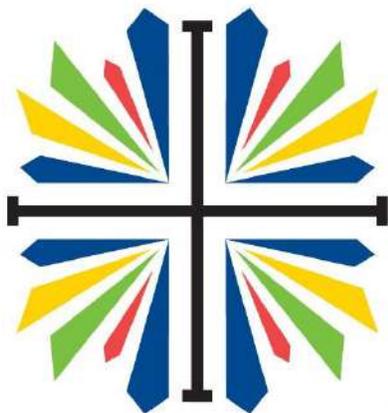
**1. Would this group be able to meet late afternoon rather than at 7pm?**

Yes! See below.

2. **Is there a person who could communicate with our missionaries and then with our congregation about them?** Carol Bjelland will with Kristin Engstrom in Zambia. Eloise will with Wal Reat in South Sudan. Christina will with Christie in Egypt and Pastor Steve will with Themba in Madagascar, as well as with John in Rwanda. All these missionaries are clergy.
3. **Are there other goals for 2023 that you'd like to discuss?**
  - (a) Work more with our international students and Cal Lutheran's Center for Global Engagement.
  - (b) Participate as opportunities arise with Cal Lutheran's Global Café, an informal connection between students and the community.
  - (c) Help welcome new international students to Cal Lutheran with gifts baskets of linens, pillows, books and supplies, based on their needs.
  - (d) Work with our Synod in the new ministry, Welcoming Congregations
  - (e) Support our ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission (find out if there are any from CA or our synod)
  - (f) Connect and support the Iskander Orphanage in Egypt.
4. **Would we want to schedule a meeting with our partners on the Community Concerns Team?** Yes! We will ask Chris Clark, chair of our Community Concerns Team!

**Closing prayers:** Isaiah 1:17 is the theme verse for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18-25. (These notes submitted by Pastor Steve.)

**Next Meeting: Monday, February 6, 3:30pm** in the school bungalow. Note the change in time.



**ASCENSION  
LUTHERAN**

---

**Global Ministries Team**

as of December 28th

<b>GIFTS OF HOPE</b>		<b>\$63,481.49</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>St. Andrew's Refugee Svcs</b>		<b>\$21,550.00</b>	<b>50</b>
Feed a Child for a month	\$20	\$1,520.00	22
School Fees for a Child for a month	\$35	\$700.00	9
Small Apartment for a month	\$50	\$950.00	11
Emergency medical Treatment	\$80	\$320.00	3
Classroom supplies	\$110	\$1,430.00	7
Laptop for staff	\$450	\$450.00	1
General Gift		\$16,180.00	18
<b>Friends of Fieldworkers</b>		<b>\$11,360.00</b>	<b>41</b>
Laundry Love Program	\$50	\$750.00	7
<b>Grocery Security Network</b>		<b>\$3,720.00</b>	<b>22</b>
Love for Littles	\$30	\$720.00	14
Gasoline	\$100	\$1,000.00	5
Groceries and hygiene supplies	\$250	\$2,000.00	7
Angel Love for unanticipated needs	\$50	\$950.00	8
General Gift		\$5,940.00	16
<b>ELCA World Hunger Appeal</b>		<b>\$13,530.00</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>God's Global Barnyard</b>		<b>\$12,270.00</b>	<b>61</b>
10 Chicks	\$10	\$1,325.00	36
Honey Bee Hive	\$20	\$700.00	23
Piglet	\$30	\$930.00	24
Goat	\$50	\$2,600.00	28
Fish community	\$250	\$500.00	2
Cow	\$500	\$1,000.00	2
Family Farm	\$715	\$2,875.00	4
General GGB Gift		\$2,340.00	8
<b>Other World Hunger</b>		<b>\$1,260.00</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Harbor House</b>		<b>\$16,241.49</b>	<b>55</b>
Supply for Daily Meals	\$25	\$675.00	14
Bag of Groceries	\$50	\$2,000.50	25
Tank of Gas	\$75	\$1,200.00	9
Case Management sponsorship	\$100	\$900.00	6
Car Repair	\$500	\$1,000.00	2
Pay rent for one-half month	\$750	\$1,500.00	2
General Harbor House Gift		\$8,965.99	22
<b>Other Gift (Wennes Leadership Fund)</b>		<b>\$800.00</b>	<b>1</b>