



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in Canada**
In Mission for Others

Lifting up Global Mission Sunday—February 4, 2018

Dear friends in Christ,

In our ELCIC constitution, we define the mission of our church as:

*The mission of this church, as an expression of the universal Church and as an instrument of the Holy Spirit, is to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with people in Canada **and around the world** through proclamation of the Word, celebration of the sacraments, and through service in Christ's name.*

Mission **around the world** is carried out in a variety of ways, including through our participation in Global Mission where we seek to develop and strengthen relationships with partner churches. We approach Global Mission from the perspective of accompaniment, “*walking together in solidarity that practices interdependence and mutuality*” (www.elca.org/Our-Work/Global-Church/Global-Mission). We seek to actively listen to our partners and companions, share in their joys and sorrows, and support them in their mission—like they support us in ours.

This mission **around the world** is one way we live out our call to be *In Mission for Others*.

On February 4, 2018—the first Sunday in February—I'd like to invite you and your congregation to lift up Global Mission Sunday in the following ways:

PRAY for the Global Ministries of the ELCIC, for our bilateral partner church relationships and our Global Mission Companions, for the Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches, and for Canadian Lutheran World Relief.

LEARN more about your synod's Global Mission Companion program, and Global Mission in the ELCIC.

SUPPORT these ministries by considering a financial contribution designated for ELCIC Global Mission

A prayer, bulletin resource and a brochure on Global Mission in the ELCIC have been made available to assist you in lifting up Global Mission Sunday. You can find these here: <http://elcic.ca/Global-Mission/>

I hope that you will join me in lifting up Global Mission Sunday on February 4. Let us celebrate our partnerships and focus together on the global impact of our church.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Susan C. Johnson

National Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada