

Daily Bread

Rocky Mountain Synod Hunger Network Core Team

Carol McDivitt (chair)

970.669.4090

mcdivittc@mindspring.com

Matthew Converse

970.834.1500

pastorflcault@msn.com

Kay & John Bengston

303.627.2805

jk Bengston@msn.com

Karen Hart

719.275.8418

tkhart2@msn.com

Laurie Lavine

303.988.1244

klavine@gmail.com

Andrea Love

720.341.8175

andrea@s-church.net

Gail Lutinen

303.770.1111

gailandk@aol.com

Earl Matson

970.586.2369

matsonen@aol.com

Sandy Olson

970.333.9032

sandyolson1852@aol.com

Jerry Retzlaff

g_retzlaff@comcast.net

Pauleta Terven

719.598.3020

pauletat@aol.com

Ande Wilkins

303.288.0689

ande102@msn.com

ONE Campaign Coordinator

Kay Lutinen

303.770.1111

ONERMS@aol.com

Celebrations and Challenges!

The Rocky Mountain Synod continued its faithful commitment to the poor and hungry in God's world, even during tumultuous economic times in 2008. Gifts to the World Hunger Appeal and Stand with Africa totaled \$580,156, moving us into third place among all ELCA synods. Our per-baptized-member giving was \$7.13, putting us in fourth place for that category.

It was most inspirational that the Rocky Mountain Synod's gifts from congregations remained fairly steady during the last quarter of the 2008 fiscal year. THANK YOU for that consistent response to this core calling of our faith and life together!

If bequests were not counted in the total giving, the Rocky Mountain Synod would have ranked number one among all the synods. We had no bequests at all. Perhaps we should have some more intentional conversations about how we can remember the work of the hunger appeal in our wills!

Although the total 2008 World Hunger Appeal was \$22 million, up \$100,000 over 2007, direct gifts for World Hunger declined significantly in the fourth quarter. Income from bequests and trusts more than compensated for the decrease in giving from congregations and individuals. However, budgets cannot be balanced on the basis of wills. As a result of the reduction in direct gifts for World Hunger, the ELCA Church Council reduced the 2009 World Hunger budget from \$20.6 million to \$18.7 million. Those are cuts that become very real in the lives of poor people in your neighborhood and around the world.

We encourage you, as rostered and lay leaders, to do whatever you can to keep the hunger appeal in front of your congregations during this crucial time. The WHA office reports that from February 1 through April 30 this year, the Rocky Mountain Synod has contributed \$50,036—compared to \$59,582 during the same period in 2008. Make sure your contributions are sent in as soon as possible!

Characteristics of Consistent Congregations—

When the Core Team of the Hunger Network looks over the giving statistics of congregations, we see some interesting trends. Often our highest-giving congregations are in that category consistently, year after year. The congregations are large and small, urban and rural, in fairly wealthy areas and in fairly poor areas.

Anecdotal evidence tells us that they are all involved in local outreach as well as hunger appeal commitment. Generally, there are several recorded gifts during the year, indicating that the hunger appeal is a consistent concern and not just a once-a-year emphasis.

In the coming year, the Core Team would like to engage in more formal conversation with congregations to see how awareness and fundraising works and to share that information—especially with congregations that might not yet have caught the spirit of the WHA.

If you would like to know where your congregation "ranks" in our synod, contact Pauleta Terven (pauletat@aol.com) or Carol McDivitt (mcdivittc@mindspring.com).

1-2-3 CONTACT!

Congregational hunger leaders should make sure they (and others who work with them) are receiving the two annual ELCA World Hunger Resource Packets and the quarterly issues of the *LifeLines* newsletter. Go to www.elca.org/hunger/contact or call 800/638-3522, ext. 2764, to sign up.

Domestic Hunger Grants Awarded for 2009

Your World Hunger Appeal contributions are hard at work on the territory of this synod! Eleven organizations and congregations were recently awarded a total of \$22,500 in Domestic Hunger Grants. The recipients for this fiscal year are:

- ✓ **COMPA Ministry** (\$2,000) Denver, Colorado. Vacu-Seal Program
- ✓ **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church** (\$2,000) Denver, Colorado. Justice and Mercy Ministries
- ✓ **Work Options for Women** (\$3,500) Denver, Colorado. WOW Culinary Training and Job Placement
- ✓ **Albuquerque Interfaith** (\$1,000) Albuquerque, New Mexico. Workforce Training Strategy
- ✓ **Colorado Springs Ecumenical Social Ministries** (\$2,500), Colorado Springs, Colorado. Food Pantry
- ✓ **Denver Urban Ministries** (\$2,500) Denver, Colorado. Food Pantry
- ✓ **Homeless Prevention Initiative** (\$1,000) Ft. Collins, Colorado.
- ✓ **South West Improvement Council** (\$2,500) Denver, Colorado. Sharing Food Program
- ✓ **St. Paul Local Assistance Ministry** (\$3,500) Denver, Colorado.
- ✓ **Project Angel Heart** (\$1,500) Denver, Colorado. Meals for people with life-threatening illnesses
- ✓ **Metro Care Ring** (\$1,500) Denver, Colorado. Emergency food and support

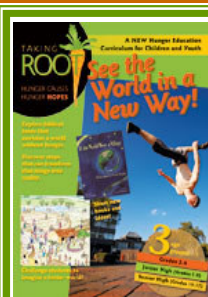
The ELCA Domestic Hunger Program is part of the ELCA World Hunger Program and is coordinated by the Program Unit for Church in Society. The grant application, review, and selection process remains the same, BUT THERE ARE NEW DEADLINES FOR THE 2010 GRANTS!

The grant application is available on line as of May 1, 2009

The deadline for submitting all completed applications is June 30

Notifications and checks will be mailed to grant recipients in January of 2010

Grants are available for Relief, Development, or Organizing. Go to www.elca.org/Our-Faith-In-Action/Justice/Poverty-Ministries/Domestic-Hunger-Grants or contact Ms. Johnnie Thompson (800-638-3522 ext. 2693) for more information.



Help Young Lutherans Imagine a World without Hunger!

The new ELCA World Hunger curriculum for children in grades 3-6, youth in grades 7-9, and teens in grades 10-12 was developed by the Rev. Stacy K. Johnson to help young Lutherans understand that as Christians they are called to work for an end to hunger. "Taking Root" was released formally on April 29 at the Lutheran Center. This transformational curriculum is available from Augsburg Fortress.

News and Notes...

- * The **2009 Ending Hunger Summit** is scheduled for Saturday, October 17 at Bethany Lutheran Church (with satellite locations to be announced). The topic will be the Global Recession. Mark your calendars TODAY so you won't miss this thought-provoking event.
- * David Creech, ELCA Director for Hunger Education, will be a speaker at the Ending Hunger Summit. He and Andrea Love are available to do a **workshop on the "Taking Root" curriculum** before or after the summit. If you are interested, contact Andrea (andrea@s-church.net or 720-341-8175).
- * If you have **borrowed any half globes** and are no longer using them, contact Karen Hart (tkhart2@msn.com or 719-275-8418) to discuss a pickup time and place.

ELCA Hunger Web Resources

All of the world hunger content has now been moved to the new ELCA website! Go to www.elca.org/hunger. If you click on the "Resources" tab in the left hand navigation, you'll get several options to explore by clicking on the tabs that interest you.

There is much information on the hunger website that will be useful in your work of promoting the hunger appeal and encouraging financial gifts. You can also sign up for **Hunger Rumbblings**, the ELCA World Hunger blog, and the **Fast Facts** and/or **Hunger Sermon Starters** which come to your inbox on a regular basis!

The most exciting new offering is the **Hunger Education Tool Kits**. At www.elca.org/hunger/toolkits you can find what you need to lead a learning experience on hunger or hunger-related topics. You can either use a ready-to-go design or choose from different components to create your own.

The toolkit options make them adaptable to your audience, including participant activity level and your time frame. Two topics are ready right now: *ELCA World Hunger Basics* and *Hunger and Climate Change Connections*.



How do you raise awareness and MONEY for the World Hunger Appeal in your congregation?

How do you encourage advocacy and simple living?

Send your stories and ideas to Carol McDivitt (mcdivittc@mindspring.com)

for the next issue of the *Daily Bread*.

The deadline is July 1—don't miss your chance to be in print.