

for ALL who care about poverty and hunger!!

The Rocky Mountain Synod Hunger Network

February 2019

Do You Feel the Spirit's Nudge?

On a Sunday last November, Kenna Lawson, our World Hunger Ambassador for the Southeast Colorado Conference, went to First St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Burlington, CO. She was fortunate enough to be given the sermon time to share the work of ELCA World Hunger.

Roger Karspeck heard her telling about the God's Global Barnyard part of the *Good Gifts* catalog and what a huge difference an animal makes for a poor family anywhere in the world. He knew other farmers and ranchers in his congregation could relate first hand to the fact that animals provide milk-meat-eggs for families to eat as well as farm products to sell.

Nudged by the Spirit, Roger talked more with Kenna and then set out to encourage others to donate money to buy some of those barnyard animals for World Hunger. Before leaving church that day, several members had purchased 3 goats 3 pigs and 2 chickens!

In a difficult year for his beloved Burlington due to plummeting commodity prices and numerous hailstorms, Roger knew that members of his small congregation were not flush with cash. BUT, several weeks of announcements later, **33 individuals in 21 families donated \$2,020 to purchase 2 cows, 14 goats, 7 pigs, 9 sets of chicks, and 1 honey bee hive!**

Two of the younger members donated part of the proceeds from the sale of their 4-H animals. The three flute musicians bought an animal instead of buying each other Christmas gifts. The Spirit nudged everyone.

First St. Paul's is challenging other small (and large) congregations to go and do likewise. What ELCA World Hunger work resonates with your fellow members? Could you raise a similar amount of money...say during Lent this year? As Roger told Kenna: In our world of plenty, within a world of hunger, thank you for reminding us about what we are called to do. *Flow, Spirit, Flow!!*

Is your congregation ready to take up First St. Paul's Challenge?

Can you raise \$61.21 per person by the end of this year? Just register on the Hunger Network's

synod website page...and start raising money! rmselca.org/hunger



DAILY BREAD

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NEWS TO USE

Please share with all social ministry groups!

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Lent begins March 6!

Congregations are invited to join with fellow Lutherans to study, reflect and give during ELCA World Hunger's **40 Days of** *Giving.* Go to <u>ELCA.org/40Days</u> to sign up and to print or order resources. Send all contributions to: ELCA, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 *by the end of April.* Write the check to ELCA World Hunger with "40 Days" in the memo line.





2019 VBS Curriculum

It's never too early to start daydreaming of summer! Explore ELCA World Hunger's new curriculum: "Who is My Neighbor?" Based on the Good Samaritan story, this full five-day program contains skits, games, crafts, snacks and activities. Visit <u>Resources.ELCA.org</u> to order free printed copies. Download the full program at <u>ELCA.org/Resources/ELCA-</u> World-Hunger under the "Hunger Ed" tab.

Time to Plan Gardens!

More congregations are planning or expanding their Community Gardens and providing valued produce for local food pantries. ELCA World Hunger produced a step-by-step guide for this ministry. Download or order a copy through the resource web addresses listed above.



If you don't have space for a congregational garden, you can always encourage gardeners to plant extra rows for hungry neighbors in your community!

If your congregation would like to have a World Hunger Ambassador visit (or you would like to be trained as an ambassador for your conference), contact Barbara Ripperger (<u>bripperger2@gmail.com</u>). Check out the Hunger Network's synod website pages at <u>rmselca.org/hunger</u> and <u>rmselca.org/hunger_ambassadors</u>.



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