

# **DAILY BREAD** *for ALL who care about poverty and hunger!!*

The Rocky Mountain Synod Hunger Network

January 2017

## **Are You Up for a Challenge during Lent?**

The success of last year's 40 Days of Giving campaign has given rise to version 2.0. All congregations are invited to join **ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving 2017** through prayer, education and financial support. Together, our goal for 2017 is to raise **\$1.5 million** during Lent.

In the season of Lent we are reminded that we are sinful: exposed as vulnerable; and, ultimately, saved as God's beloved. As we embark on the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, what better time to reflect on the power of God's self-giving love that transforms and challenges each of us?

The connection between faith, worship and justice was central for Martin Luther. His concern for the poor and his sharp rebuke of economic injustice laid the foundation for us today to see the many ways our faith calls us to strive for justice in our world.



The resource packet has already arrived in church offices and homes of congregational hunger contacts. Special resources include the 2017 Lent devotional flip calendar, a Lenten Study and children's resource for a multi-generational education series, and lots of ideas for setting goals and having fun reaching them!

Visit [ELCA.org/40Days](http://ELCA.org/40Days) for more information and sign up for the journey. Lift up our church's hunger and poverty ministry during Lent!

From February through October, congregations and individuals in the Rocky Mountain Synod gave \$319,246 to ELCA World Hunger.

We dropped to eighth among the 65 ELCA synods! Contributions can be made through your congregation (write "ELCA World Hunger" on the memo line of your check) or directly to ELCA World Hunger. Be sure to put your congregation's name on any donations!!

Treasurers should mail checks to the synod office OR to

**ELCA World Hunger**

**P.O. Box 1809**

**Merrifield, VA 22116-8009**

**Mail 2016 donations before January 31!**

## **500 Years on the Move for Hunger!**

In honor of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, the Hunger Network is planning a campaign to challenge congregations to stretch outside of comfort zones and boxes and MOVE our church's hunger ministry and relationships forward!

You will have an opportunity to make a commitment to undertake a new challenge...maybe raise \$500 more than you did in 2016, maybe encourage members to take extra steps toward ending poverty and injustice, maybe try a totally new activity!

The Core Team plans to produce a guidebook with lots of ideas to try. STAY TUNED!

# Souper Bowl of Caring

Did you know American consumers spend more than \$10 billion on food and other items for the Super Bowl each year? Imagine if those dollars were instead put toward ending hunger?

This year, get your congregation involved in the Souper Bowl of Caring, a national effort to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

Through this initiative, you are encouraged to take up a collection asking for one dollar or one food item for people in need, culminating on Super Bowl Sunday (February 5).

Find resources, register to be a part of the movement, and get additional information at

**SouperBowl.org**. YOU designate what your contributions will support. Consider splitting the donations between ELCA World Hunger and a local food pantry. THIS could be your new *movement* activity for 2017!



## Core Team

The RMS Hunger Network has a small team of people willing to help congregations raise awareness about the amazing hunger ministry of our church. Contact Carol McDivitt ([mcdivittc@mindspring.com](mailto:mcdivittc@mindspring.com) or 970.669.4090) if you have an idea or story or request to share!

## Act 2Day 4 Tomorrow

This intergenerational resource, designed for a variety of group sizes, takes you through a meaningful experience of learning about hunger and faith.

The activities can also be used for a lock-in or overnight experience. As the group takes part in the spiritual practice of fasting for the duration of the event, it will be led through four themes – with the overarching theme of table fellowship. Bring people together for prayer, service, activities and more!

Order from [resources.elca.org](http://resources.elca.org) (click the ELCA World Hunger tab and scroll to page 2) OR download from [elca.org/hunger/resources](http://elca.org/hunger/resources) (click on the Hunger Ed button).



## Domestic Hunger Grant – Central Visitation Program



Central Visitation Program's mission is to enhance relationships between children and parents of low-income families by providing supervised visitation, exchanges, and parenting support. Supervised Visitation occurs when the courts order that a parent can only see a child in a safe setting with a neutral third party observing the visit. Central Visitation Program is pleased to be a recipient of funding from the ELCA World Hunger program.

Parents do well in the program and are frequently able to move on to unsupervised parenting time or shared custody. One success story involves Michael (name changed to protect privacy), a dad who needed to visit his two girls at the program. Michael had a problem in his past with drugs and alcohol, which led to him needing supervised visitation.

By the time Michael started his visits with Central Visitation Program, he had been clean and sober three months and taken parenting classes. Michael did well with his girls and soon was able to go back to court and get a plan to eventually have weekend unsupervised visits.

To learn more about the work Central Visitation Program does in the community, go to [www.cvpdenver.org](http://www.cvpdenver.org) or contact Brad Wood, Executive Director, at 303-839-8701 or [bwood@cvpdenver.org](mailto:bwood@cvpdenver.org).