

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

The Rocky Mountain Synod Hunger Network

November 2016

Domestic Hunger Ministry Highlight

The **El Centro de Los Pobres** (located in the town of Avondale, Colorado) is one of the domestic hunger grant recipients on the territory of the Rocky Mountain Synod. The center is a non-profit operating on a very small budget and run by volunteers, including its director Sister Nancy Crafton.



The Center of the People serves rural Pueblo County and the five surrounding counties. Many of the people assisted are migrant workers and immigrants seeking a better life for themselves and their families.

Los Pobres provides 200 families a week with food, clothing, some household items, and (most of all) dignity and respect. The center also offers a small medical clinic that is open one afternoon a week.

Sister Nancy purchases 600 pounds of beans and rice a week with funds provided by an ELCA World Hunger Domestic Hunger Grant. These foods are the main sustenance for many families.



Recent spikes in rates for electricity have caused families to be unable to pay the higher bills. One family with four children lost all food in their refrigerator and is keeping eggs and milk on ice in the bathtub and cooking beans and rice on the charcoal grill. The food they receive from the center helps them survive because of YOUR support for ELCA World Hunger!

From February through August, congregations and individuals in the Rocky Mountain Synod gave \$273,178 to ELCA World Hunger.

We still rank seventh 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!!

Mail checks to the synod office OR to

ELCA World Hunger

P.O. Box 1809

Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

On-line donations are also possible. Go to elca.org/hunger/donate to find a variety of ways to contribute...including Good Gifts and Monthly Partners.

Monthly Partners provide consistent, ongoing support to ELCA churchwide ministries like World Hunger. Set-up can be done online or by calling 800-638-3522.

As a Monthly Partner, your donations are processed automatically – helping reduce administrative and fundraising costs that allow us to make an even greater difference in the lives of others. Join today!



ELCA World Hunger

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Try an Advent Tree!



Encourage your congregation to rethink traditional gift-giving this Christmas with ELCA Good Gifts. We can all give a gift that keeps on giving and touches someone who is supported by ELCA World Hunger.

Decorate a Christmas tree with ornaments that represent ELCA Good Gifts – chicks, pigs, bees, goats, school supplies, latrines, ETC. Invite families to select ornaments representing the gifts they'd like to give and take them home as a reminder of their giving. When the tree is empty, you'll know you've made a huge difference in lives around the world!

Order catalogs and a free pack of 30 assorted ornaments at Resources.ELCA.org. Click on the World Hunger tab. NEW THIS YEAR: Sets of 10 ornaments are available for bees, pigs, goats, and chicks!



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 or 970.669.4090) if you have an idea or story or request to share!

Baptized for this Moment

In "Baptized for this Moment: Rediscovering Grace All Around Us," the Rev. Stephen Bouman explores how congregations may best respond to the many public crises that confront us today— mass shootings, terrorist attacks, hurricanes, floods, wildfires, tornadoes, even the debilitating effects of chronic and deep-rooted problems like racism and community violence.



He describes in practical detail the ways congregations can create spaces to lament, develop living liturgies, build public mission tables, and engage with others in discovering the transformative power of grace all around us. The book is \$18.95 and all proceeds will be donated to ELCA World Hunger.

Order your copy today: actapublications.com/baptized-for-this-moment/.

Congratulations to Trinity in Loveland, Colorado!



The congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church in Loveland, Colorado, celebrated over half a million dollars in gifts to ELCA World Hunger since 1974 on Sunday, September 25. Rev. Robin Brown, Associate Director for ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal, was the guest preacher—bringing thanks for Trinity's consistent ranking among the top 25 Most Generous Congregations of the 9,000 congregations in the ELCA. The celebration also included a congregational dinner and sale of fair trade coffee and gift items.

How does Trinity accomplish such generosity? Pastor Barb Linder, who wrote a history of Trinity, notes that commitment to social ministry outreach has been part of the congregation's DNA since its founding in 1905: "The thread goes way back."

Kathy Hume, chair of the Social Ministry Committee, and Marian Erdahl, World Hunger coordinator for 15 years, concur. "If you have a personal commitment to this cause," Hume says, "you're not alone here. We've always had strong pastoral commitment as well."

Erdahl explains that a bulletin insert story of ELCA World Hunger work is used every month, so the need is constantly reinforced. "Everyone knows that the first Sunday is devoted to a World Hunger offering! We all work together and are fulfilled that we help many we will never see."