



World Hunger Appeal Gifts in 2018

THANK YOU congregations and people of the Rocky Mountain Synod! During fiscal year 2018, we accompanied one another and neighbors all around the world by **contributing \$591,102 to ELCA World Hunger**. That amount represented a drop from the all-time high of \$708,737 contributed in 2017, but is still one of our most generous years. We ranked eighth among all the synods of the ELCA in total giving.

By the time of the synod assembly, we should have detailed information on giving from each congregation; so be sure to stop by the display table to see how your congregation participated.

ELCA Ambassadors for World Hunger

Our World Hunger Ambassador Program began with the initial training in November of 2017. Ambassadors have been very active since that time supporting congregations in the Rocky Mountain Synod with their fundraising for ELCA World Hunger.

In November of 2018 the ambassador for the Southeast Colorado Conference, Kenna Lawson, was invited to give a presentation to First St Paul's Lutheran Church in Burlington, CO. Following her sermon, Roger Karspeck approached Kenna and offered his support for the efforts of World Hunger. Mr. Karspeck and 30 other members and friends in the Burlington community then raised \$2,020 to purchase animals from God's Global Barnyard. First St. Paul's is now challenging other congregations in the Rocky Mountain Synod to match or exceed this donation. Check out the story and challenge form on our Rocky Mountain Synod website (rmselca.org/hunger).

On January 11, 2019, our newly recruited ambassadors attended training at the synod office. We now have ambassadors serving the Wyoming Conference (Anna Thompson), Metro East Conference (Jean Gall and Pastor Libbie Reinking), and the Metro South Conference (Jen Engquist). They join the ambassadors from the Northern Colorado Conference (Sophia Behrens and Carol McDivitt), the Boulder/Bloomfield Conference (Carol McDivitt), the Southeast Colorado Conference (Kenna Lawson), and the Border Conference (Megan Barnhouse). We still need ambassadors for the Metro West Conference, the Northern New Mexico Conference, and the Utah Conference. Additional support is also needed for the Boulder Broomfield Conference and the Border Conference.

Our World Hunger Ambassadors are eager to support your congregations and hunger contacts. They are willing to meet with you, provide materials, share ideas and information, and give sermons--all to support this important work we do together.

Do not hesitate to contact an ambassador. They can be reached by clicking on their names on the website, rmselca.org/hunger_ambassadors, or by contacting Barbara Ripperger (bripperger2@gmail.com or 719-248-9615).

Synod Assembly Activities...See You in Albuquerque!

The Hunger Network team will be quite busy during the assembly on May 3-5. The display table will be a great place to chat about congregational giving, get resources for congregational contacts, and discover how to contact an ambassador. It's also THE place to volunteer if the Spirit is calling YOU to participate in this important work.

We will also debut an interactive display that invites participants to figure out how all the pieces of ELCA World Hunger fit together...from income through expenditures. There may even be prizes! Near the display table, we will be offering showings of the virtual reality video, "Seeds of Change," about farming in Malawi. Be sure to sign up for a slot!

Throughout the plenary space, watch for "pop-up" displays featuring resources for Advent, Lent, Valentine's Day, God's Global Barnyard, and PIGS!