

From Local to Global

I have to say that I'm proud of this congregation's work and generosity. I hope you are proud as well. Did you know that we are in the top 50 churches in the entire ELCA for how much we give to World Hunger? That's really awesome! We gave last year in total \$9,216 toward World Hunger and so far this year we are at \$4,735 in giving. I hope we can meet or exceed our generosity toward this wonderful ministry of the ELCA which works to alleviate hunger in our world both domestically and globally. The ELCA World Hunger's ministry and mission is clear; *"Creatively and courageously working toward a just world where all are fed."* Some of the creative and courageous work they do includes setting up health clinics, providing microloans, setting up water wells, helping with animal husbandry, providing community meals, and being advocates for the poor and hungry. Our gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to do this work faithfully.

In addition to our generous giving toward World Hunger, we also give toward Lutheran World Relief. The Cover Girls quilting group has worked hard at preparing quilts for this ministry for decades. Over the years, they have tied thousands of quilts for people in need of comfort and warmth all over the world. They have provided baby quilts for newborns and their parents, baby care kits, personal care

kits, and school kits for children in need. They work hard at sewing and tying their hearts into those quilts so that people may feel God's love in times of disaster and need.

Every October at FLC we bless and dedicate the quilts; this year, the Quilt Blessing is on October 12 & 13 and we celebrate World Hunger Weekend on October 19 & 20. We give thanks for all who give generously and work tirelessly toward healing the world with God's help through these ministries. Both of these ministries start off locally with people sharing their treasure, time, and talents for God's glory, and the fruits of our labor end up reaching out globally toward those in need. Basically, our local work has global implications. Now, we might think sometimes that are gifts that we give locally here in this congregation do not amount to a lot considering how great need is in our world, but they do. Our little gifts connected together with other churches little gifts, make for one wonderfully big gift that we can give.

However we minister, we are all *"creatively and courageously working toward a just world..."*. As we look at our own lives, may we see the work and ministry we are doing as a small local part of the healing of the entire world with God's help.

—Pastor Matt

Share In The Joy: Capital Campaign for 2020-2021 Update

As of today, First Lutheran Church has received pledges and cash gifts from 73 members and families for a total of \$218,687 which exceeds our goal of \$200,000. With these pledges, we will be able to pay off our loan and be debt-free by the end of 2021! As previously communicated any surplus funds received will go into the Building Fund to help pay for other maintenance and repairs on the building and grounds.

Thank you for your support of this campaign. God is good, all the time!

—Stewardship Ministry Team