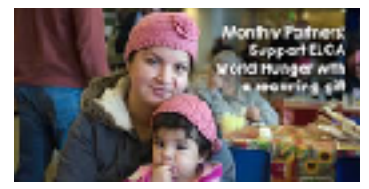


The Bishop's Challenge: Changing the World, One Cow at a Time!



The Bishop's Challenge is meant to move all NJ Synod congregations to grow in awareness, generosity, service and advocacy in response to hunger. Below is a calendar of ideas for each month between now and the next synod assembly. Worship ideas, prayers, preaching possibilities, and educational materials specifically designed for the year ahead will be posted periodically on the synod website (www.njsynod.org "Bishop's Challenge").

May:

Plan your year of ELCA Hunger Awareness and Giving! Set a challenge goal for your congregation, and form an Action Team to keep you moving. Send in your commitment card.

June:

Plant an extra row in your garden and commit the abundance to a local food pantry. Consider incorporating ideas from ELCA World Hunger free VBS curriculum "God's Good Gifts" in your VBS.

July:

Get involved in Summer Feeding programs in your community, connect your serving to a Bible study that focuses on the Biblical imagery of "Bread of Life". What about a sermon series?

August:

Plan a trip to a farm that allows gleaning. Want to learn more about gleaning? Visit our website at www.njsynod.org "Bishop's Challenge" for study and Biblical resources to use.



September:

Organize Backpack Buddies for kids in your community that experience food insecurity. Does your school serve Breakfast After the Bell? How can you help the Community College near you address hunger among college students?

October:

Celebrate World Food Day on Oct. 16th by hosting an international pot luck in your community. Encourage participants to share their ethnic food traditions.

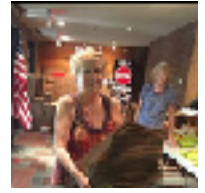
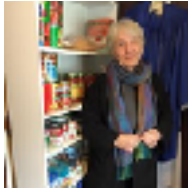
November:

Thanksgiving is a perfect time to focus in worship and prayer on gratitude for all of God's gifts. How will your congregation share generously with ELCA World Hunger?

December:

The Advent season embraces a call to compassion and justice. How are you preparing for Emmanuel? ELCA Good Gifts is an opportunity to give a gift of hope and opportunity.

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January:

The season of Epiphany suggests reflection upon migration and hunger concerns. How can your congregation support persons displaced due to war and famine. Visit www.njsynod.org "Bishop's Challenge" for ideas.

February:

International development is a key part of World Hunger's mission. Sustainable agriculture, micro lending, and education has brought permanent change to families around the world. And don't forget "Souper Bowl Sunday"!

March:

Order your ELCA World Hunger Lenten materials and plan your congregation's involvement.

April:

Plan an Earth Day celebration! How will your congregation engage in ethical eating and sustainable care of creation?

May:

Congratulations, get ready to celebrate at the 2019 NJ Synod Assembly! Did you remember that when your congregation contributes \$500 or more to ELCA World Hunger, the Hunger Task Team will provide your congregation with a cow to decorate. Please bring your cow to the Synod Assembly!



For Assistance or for more Information about the Bishop's Challenge contact the organizing team:

The Rev. Mary Forell, The Rev. Christine Reagan, The Rev. Janet Gasbarro, The Rev. Bruce Davidson, The Rev. Sara Lilja, Ms. Cindy Cooper, Mr. Nick Lloyd, and Mr. Steve Neiman. Reach out the Synod office for contact information.
