



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

# Social Ministry in the ELCA

LSA 2017



# Overview of the Domestic Mission Unit

- Advocacy
- Congregational Centers for Missions
  - New Congregations
  - Congregational Renewal
  - Congregation-based Organizing
  - Campus Ministry
  - Youth Ministry
  - ELCA Youth Gathering
  - Young Adult Ministry
  - Outdoor Ministry
- Ethnic Specific and Multicultural Ministries and Racial Justice
- Leadership for Mission/Candidacy
- Poverty and Justice Ministries
- DEM Relationships



# Poverty and Justice Team

- As a part of the Domestic Mission Unit, the Poverty and Justice Team accompanies congregations, organizations, and individuals in their communities as they work directly and systemically for justice. This Team walks alongside those serving in their communities through:
  - Social Ministry Organizations
  - Community Development Services
  - Lutheran Disaster Response
  - ELCA Strategy on HIV and AIDS
  - Domestic Hunger Initiative

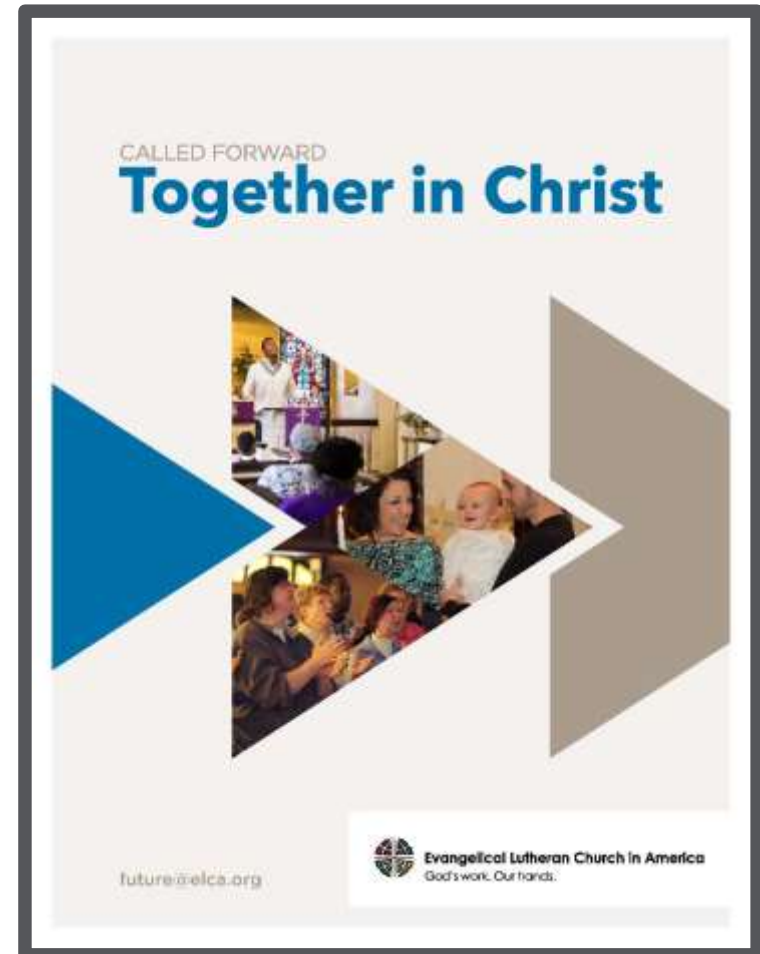


# Called Forward Together in Christ

## ELCA Strategic Directions 2025

- Strategic goals and priorities as shared by the whole church.
  - The ELCA- who we are
  - What unites us as church
  - Our goals and priorities

<http://www.elca.org/future>





# Goal 5

**A well-governed, connected and sustainable church.**

- Leadership in governance
- Church structures
- Resources for mission
- Communication

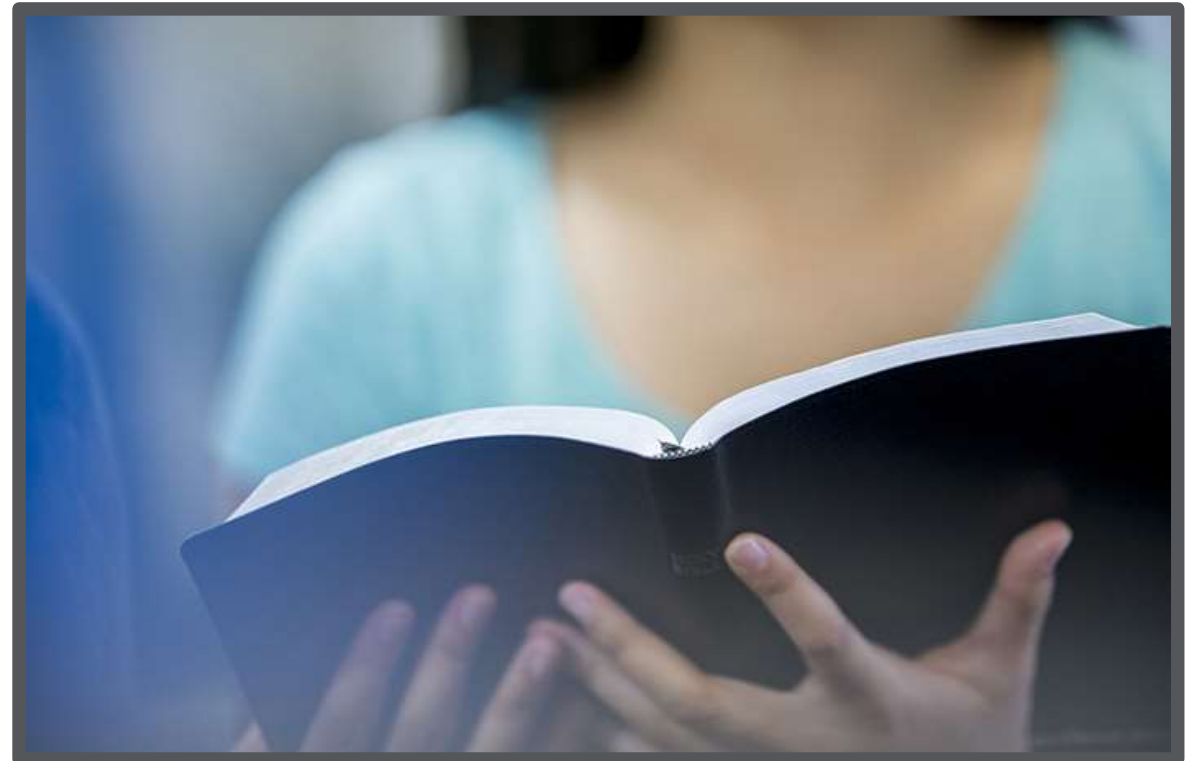




# Goal 4

**A visible church deeply committed to working ecumenically and with other people of faith for justice, peace and reconciliation in communities and around the world.**

- Poverty and hunger
- Response to disasters and humanitarian crises
- Lift up the work of ELCA-related social ministries
- Advocacy and action on
  - Economic justice
  - Racial justice
  - Gender justice
  - Climate justice





# Goal 1-3

## Goal 1

- A thriving church spreading the gospel and deepening faith for all people

## Goal 2

- A church equipping people for their baptismal vocations in the world and this church.

## Goal 3

- An inviting and welcoming church that reflects and embraces the diversity of our communities and the gifts and opportunities that diversity brings.





# Reflection Questions

- Reflect on the following questions for each priority area as they relate to your work and discuss as a group:
  - In what ways does the work of my organization touch the goal as expressed in this particular priority area for action?
  - What impact is made by your organization on the priority area for action?
  - In what ways does the work of my organization grow leaders in the ELCA and foment the vitality of ELCA congregations?
- What clarification is needed in the Future Direction goals and priority action areas?