

# THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

## CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF GLOBAL MISSION AND MINISTRY

- ✿ The Lutheran World Federation is a communion of 140 Lutheran church bodies in 78 countries.
- ✿ Together, we represent 66 million Lutherans, and - -  
**66 million Lutherans *DO* make a difference!**
- ✿ The LWF began in 1947 in response to the tens of thousands of refugees in Europe following WWII.
- ✿ Today the LWF is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest partner of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees! We have over 400,000 refugees in our care.
- ✿ Together we make a difference by –
  - Caring for AIDS orphans
  - Training lay evangelists
  - Participating in ecumenical dialogs
  - Advocating for human rights
  - Giving youth and women a place and a voice at the table
  - Removing deadly landmines
  - Providing homes, livestock and hope for refugee families
- ✿ The LWF provides for table where the world's Lutheran come together to share our joys, discuss our concerns, seek solutions, worship and pray.
- ✿ Bishop Mark Hanson is the president of the LWF.
- ✿ The North America Office of the LWF is located at The Lutheran Center in Chicago.
- ✿ The last assembly was in 2003 in Winnipeg. The next assembly will be in 2010 in Stuttgart, Germany.
- ✿ The LWF has 80 staff in the Geneva, Switzerland headquarters.
- ✿ The LWF has 5000 staff around the world working on projects. Many of those employees are local people.

- ✿ The ELCA is the second largest member church of the LWF. (Sweden is the largest).
- ✿ LWF Sunday is always celebrated in the ELCA on the first Sunday in October.
- ✿ Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem is owned and operated by the LWF.
- ✿ 30 cents of each dollar you give to the ELCA World Hunger Fund goes to the LWF.
- ✿ The LWF has an Endowment Fund to assure mission and ministry for the *next* 60 years!
- ✿ There are four LWF churches in North America, the ELCA, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (180,000), the Evangelical Lithuanian Lutheran Church in Diaspora (2500), and the Evangelical Estonian Church Abroad (10,000).
- ✿ There are resources for use in your congregation including bulletin inserts, a four-color interpretive map, etc. They are available through the Augsburg Fortress Distribution Center or by contacting the LWF N.A. Regional Office.  
[lwf@elca.org](mailto:lwf@elca.org) ; 1-800-638-3522 ext 2636;
- ✿ Check out the website! [www.elca.org/lwf](http://www.elca.org/lwf) has current news about the LWF, prayers for worship or for the congregation's newsletter, as well as stories, photos, etc.

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