

ELCA MALARIA CAMPAIGN MONTHLY NEWS



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

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Malaria Photo Gallery: Now Open!

The ELCA Malaria Campaign is excited to share with you numerous stories and beautiful photographs from the Lutheran malaria programs of our partners in Africa! These stories can be found at the [ELCA Malaria Campaign's Photo Gallery](#). By exploring even one gallery, you can learn a tremendous amount about the ELCA, the Malaria Campaign, the disease of malaria, the countries where we work and the programs which we support. Accompanying the photos are detailed captions which help to tell the story. The ELCA Malaria Campaign summer intern, Megan Flowers, has taken the lead on this project, and has assembled a gallery that is truly representative of the malaria projects of our companions.

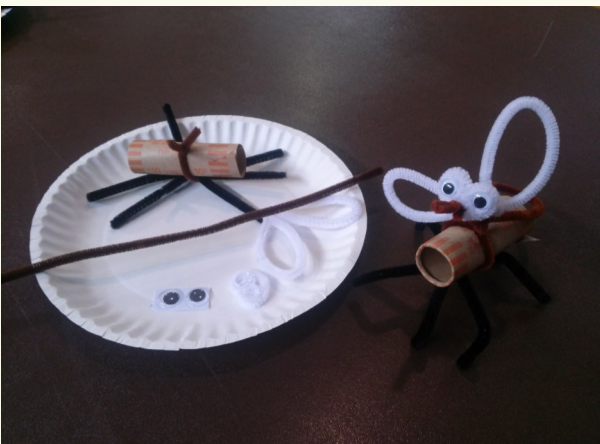
You'll see photos like this one from Nigeria. Nuwayina Briska is a Health Educator and Joseph Antibas is the Malaria Coordinator for the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria (LCCN). Here, they are distributing mosquito nets from the health clinic at the LCCN annual convention. The LCCN implements the Lutheran malaria program in Nigeria in co-operation with Global Health Ministries.



We invite you to use these photos and stories to help tell the malaria story in your congregation. You are welcome to download and share these images. It is our hope that this will be a useful resource for you!

The [ELCA Malaria Campaign Gallery](#) is growing by the week. Pictures from [Mozambique](#), [Tanzania](#), [Nigeria](#) and [Uganda](#) are already up, and photos from Malawi and Angola are coming soon.

Quarter Roll Mosquitos: A Simple Malaria Craft



Participants in the Vacation Bible School ministry at Abiding Presence Lutheran Church in San Antonio, TX, joined together in raising money to contribute to the efforts of the ELCA Malaria Campaign. Participants built mosquitos out of pipe cleaners and quarter rolls and learned about how mosquitos transmit the parasite that carries malaria.

Participants took these quarter roll mosquitos home, removed the quarter roll and filled it with quarters from piggy banks, coin jars and gifts. Each day, during the opening worship at VBS, participants offered these filled quarter rolls as our VBS offering. At the end of the week the participants had raised an astounding \$616.00 from their quarter roll mosquitos! Thanks to everyone at Abiding Presence who helped to make VBS a success!

Insights from ELCA World Hunger: Breaking the Cycle of Poverty and Disease

Malaria is known as a “disease of poverty.” Living with poverty and chronic malnourishment makes a person more vulnerable to malaria, and people who suffer from malaria multiple times each year are less able to work and bring home a stable income. Malaria perpetuates the cycle of poverty. And that means that **eliminating malaria is one crucial part of breaking the cycle of poverty and disease.**

ELCA World Hunger and the ELCA Malaria Campaign are joint forces in that movement. Our work in the East African nation of Burundi is a wonderful example of these cooperative efforts.



Beginning in 1994, a civil war raged in Burundi, and thousands of Burundians fled to refugee camps run by the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) in Tanzania. When those citizens repatriated into their homeland, 12 years later, LWF came too. LWF began their “Program for Peace,” which focused on humanitarian support for

returnees. The program helped to settle land disputes, provided seeds for small farms, and helped to build physical and social infrastructure—roads, schools, hospitals—for communities suddenly filled with people returning to their homeland.

After the immediate needs had been met, LWF-Burundi began its second program: the Community Empowerment Program. This program shifted focus dramatically: from providing relief and humanitarian assistance (essentially a disaster response), to empowering communities to strive for development. **The Community Empowerment Program, or CEP, has been supported by ELCA World Hunger funds for several years.**

The CEP has three interrelated emphases: sustainable livelihoods, human rights, and leadership and conflict resolution. One method is encouraging collective entrepreneurship. So far, there is a successful banana plantation, a goat-rearing and a cattle-rearing collective, a sunflower association, a shoemaking group, and a beekeeping collective operating in the Cankuzo Province.

The banana plantation is one of the success stories of the CEP. The collective began with one banana field in 2011, and they have expanded to three fields this spring. They have been able to share banana seedlings with their neighbors, as well, and they plan to begin cultivating pineapples later this year. “The banana trees are doing well,” says Leonard, who is the leader of the banana collective. “There are now many people in the association, and they have an increased confidence and courage now. We are all very satisfied

and happy because the project wasn’t just beneficial for us but also for others. We’re proud to serve as a model.” LWF-Burundi has built up a network of relationships in Cankuzo, and has a reputation for inspiring and supporting positive change.



And here is where the ELCA Malaria Campaign comes in. The CEP was seeing success, but with its participants constantly suffering from malaria, community development was hindered. Leonard says, “when my family is sick with malaria we have so many problems. When I am sick, it is difficult to work in the banana field and my business suffers. When my family is sick, nothing gets done in the household; our home is paralyzed.”

The Lutheran malaria program in Burundi stands proudly on the shoulders of the other LWF-Burundi programs that have paved the way, with support from ELCA World Hunger. Communities and households who have learned new skills through the Community Empowerment Program are eager to learn how to protect their families from malaria. The malaria program hit the ground running, and the change in Burundi is already tangible.



Fundraising Update and What Happens Next?

Continued great work, team! Thanks to your great efforts, the Malaria Campaign has already surpassed \$12.5 million in funds raised! The question that's on many minds now is: **What happens next?** The ELCA Malaria Campaign will continue to collect funds through the official close of our Fiscal Year 2015 (which is January 2016). When we reach \$15 million, the whole church will be invited to celebrate that success together. If we raise more than \$15 million by the end of 2015, then we celebrate Lutheran generosity! Additional malaria-related funding could be used to expand or extend existing malaria programs, or to allow companions in other countries to get involved. It's important to note that although our fundraising *campaign* for malaria is ending, our *commitment* to walking together with our companions and supporting their health-care ministries will not end. Our global Lutheran partners who choose to prioritize malaria programming after 2015 will seek funding through ELCA World Hunger, which has a long history of supporting health-related programming.

Milestones to celebrate this month:

- ◆ Reaching \$200,000: Delaware-Maryland Synod and Nebraska Synod
- ◆ Reaching \$150,000: North Carolina Synod

Almost there! Synods close to reaching their goals:

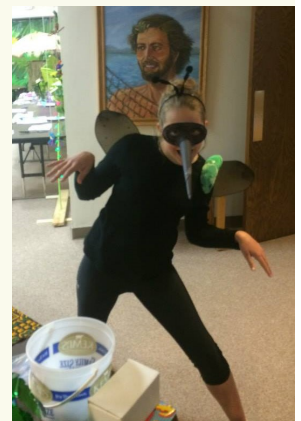
- ◆ Virginia Synod: \$2,465.34 left to reach \$230,000 goal
- ◆ La Crosse Area Synod: \$6,131.93 left to reach \$150,000 goal
- ◆ Metro New York Synod: \$9,483.46 left to reach \$207,375 goal
- ◆ New England Synod: \$12,742.63 left to reach \$231,000 goal
- ◆ Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod: \$17,100.50 left to reach \$160,000 goal



Tips and Tricks for *Catch the Buzz* Vacation Bible School

[*Catch the Buzz*](#) is inspiring creative and meaningful children's programming throughout the ELCA! Here are some tips and tricks for enhancing the experience from those who have already used the curriculum:

- ◆ **Create a mascot** – Marla the Mosquito buzzed around VBS at St. Andrew's in Grand Rapids, MN.
- ◆ **Divide the participants into nations** – Naming the age groups after African nations is a good way for participants to learn the names and flags of different countries.
- ◆ **Serve up some African food** – The organizers of VBS at All Saints in Palatine, IL didn't make very much of the suggested rice and bean snack because they weren't sure the kids wouldn't like it. Much to their surprise, they ran out and many were asking for seconds!
- ◆ **Incorporate meaningful stories** – Read from *Nelson Mandela's Favorite African Folktales* or *Mimi's Village*, and have the children act out the stories. They can even don simple costumes to dress like the animals in the stories.
- ◆ **Dance it out!** – Play some traditional African music so participants can listen and dance. This worked well following story time at St. Andrew's, and serves as a good time-filler if a session runs short!
- ◆ **Save some of the lessons for Sunday School in the fall** - This curriculum is not exclusive to summer VBS opportunities, so look for ways to use it in Christian education programming throughout the rest of the year, too!



For even more ideas, check out this [blog post](#). You're invited to send your *Catch the Buzz* tricks and tips to malaria@elca.org!

Sustainable Livelihoods in Zimbabwe: Pindirai Jehovah Poultry Project

Malaria reduction takes many forms. People can protect themselves from mosquitos by sleeping under nets, or they can reduce mosquito breeding grounds by eliminating areas of standing water. These are indeed important interventions in working to reduce this disease of poverty. And because malaria is a disease of poverty, another important way to reduce malaria is by reducing the burden of poverty in areas of high malaria incidence.

The Lutheran Malaria Program in Zimbabwe is working to provide income generating opportunities for community members in the Burure region. The Lutheran Malaria Program grants seed money so that small businesses can commence their operations. The Pindirai Jehovah Poultry Project is one such sustainable livelihoods project, and is located in Chitekete, Zimbabwe.

There are ten women who belong to the poultry project cooperative. The women purchased the chickens with seed money provided by the Lutheran Malaria Program in Zimbabwe, which is a program of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe. All of the women who are in the cooperative are also members of the local Burure Lutheran Congregation. The women of the cooperative learned about this opportunity through their congregation's malaria focal person, who frequently speaks to the congregation about how to prevent and treat malaria.

All of the participating women take an active role in caring for and tending to the chickens. They have a roster which lists the various chores and they divide the tasks amongst themselves. They even take turns watching over the chickens at night. Once the chicks have grown, they can be taken to the market and sold.

Profits are collected and saved. Women in the cooperative can use the savings to help with medical costs, like malaria medication or travel expenses in order to access care. If a cooperative member falls ill, the members meet to determine how much assistance can be provided by the cooperation. Since the start of the poultry project, cooperative member Mrs. Wazha noted that the extra income has made it easier to transport people to clinics.

The chicken cooperative wouldn't like to be limited to only chickens. With their profits, they have already purchased three goats, and they hope to someday acquire some cattle.

The chicken cooperative brings business to the community, is a source of food for local families and provides sustainable incomes for the participating women. In addition to all of those community benefits, there are solar panels on the roof of the chicken coop, which brings some power to the village. Truly, the Pindirai Jehovah Poultry Project is an asset in the community of Chitekete, Zimbabwe!

