

ELCA MALARIA CAMPAIGN MONTHLY NEWS



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

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Meet Charles, James Peter and Philomena

Charles, James Peter and Philomena are three of the trained volunteers working with the Lutheran malaria program in Katakwi subcounty in Katakwi District, Uganda.

Charles: I thank Lutheran World Federation (LWF) for the malaria training that I have received. In our training, we learned to do community sensitization around malaria. Now I know how to spot malaria symptoms, especially in children under the age of 5. Before my training, I had no knowledge of malaria and I used to rush to the witch doctor for treatment. I am happy and grateful to the ELCA for helping to provide ACTs [malaria medication] to the clinic, too. The mortality rate of under-5 children has gone down significantly.

We work together with health workers and we host community events—we go in a team. We encourage people to keep their compounds clean, to keep hygiene and sanitation. We also monitor how the nets are used, and encourage people to use them properly, and not use them for any-

thing else other than for sleeping under. We teach people that the nets are large enough for two people to sleep under. It's not safe to squeeze more people underneath a net—then they are too close to the sides and the mosquitoes can bite them through the net.



James Peter: Thank you so much to the LWF and the ELCA for the support of this program. I have noticed the changes at my own home and in my community. Before the program began, so many under-5 children in my family got malaria. It is a long distance to the health center, and many sick people did not make it within 24 hours of showing symptoms. Now, people get tested and treated locally, and do not need to find transportation. I am very grateful to the ELCA and LWF for supporting pregnant women with nets, as well. The number of malaria cases in pregnant women has gone down in my community. Thank you a lot ELCA, for supporting us up to now—we are now seeing many things change in our communities. We are trying to reduce and even eliminate cases of malaria in our communities. Thank you for supporting us!



Philomena: I used to have a baby who got sick frequently, and we didn't know why. Then I got malaria training from LWF. I learned that my baby had probably been suffering from malaria many times. Now every time she is sick, I can test and treat her myself, and she is much healthier now. My new knowledge helps other children as well. The government health centers we work with are happy with us. There are now fewer cases of malaria. And they know that now people can come for other reasons—other diseases can get treated. We are clearing the way. Together, we try to chase malaria out of Uganda!



Celebrate Malaria Success at your 2015 Synod Assembly

As we hurtle rapidly toward our ultimate fundraising goal of \$15 million by 2015, the ELCA Malaria Campaign is officially encouraging each synod to celebrate success and generosity during their 2015 synod assembly. We wanted to let you know that our Churchwide colleagues on the Synodical Relations team recently sent this announcement to your synod office:

“Following the recommendation of the Synodical-Churchwide Relations Committee of the Conference of Bishops, we request that you build about 10-12 minutes into your assembly agenda for time to acknowledge the overall success of the ELCA Malaria Campaign. (We anticipate reaching the campaign’s \$15 million fundraising goal sometime during the 2015 synod assemblies season.) We are producing a special 2-3 minute video to be shown during this time. We would appreciate if you could identify a Malaria Campaign volunteer leader in your synod who can work with your synod bishop to facilitate this time and offer words of thanks -- and also share the news that while this particular campaign is nearing its end, the work of ending malaria will continue through ELCA World Hunger.”



Chances are, **you** may be the volunteer that your bishop or synod office identifies to help plan the celebration! We wanted to let you know a couple of things:

- 1) Resources are on their way! We will be producing a Synod Assembly Action Kit (soon!) with some suggestions for how to make the most of your synod assembly plenary time or celebration.
- 2) We are happy to help you brainstorm on an individual basis, too! Contact us for conversation and ideas at 773-380-2724 or malaria@elca.org.

Giving Tuesday: One Day to Make a Difference

We all know about black Friday and Cyber Monday, and some of you might be familiar with Giving Tuesday, a global day dedicated to giving back. On **Tuesday, December 2, 2014**, charities, businesses, community centers and students around the world will come together for one common purpose: to celebrate generosity and to give. This year, **the ELCA is planning an online celebration of Giving Tuesday by lifting up the ELCA Malaria Campaign** via email and social media



channels—Facebook, Twitter, and our website, ELCA.org. We wanted to let you, our best volunteers, know in advance about this Giving Tuesday celebration! We’ll be challenging Lutherans to give \$25,000 on that day (one day only!)—which is enough to help one country program stock their clinics with malaria medication and rapid diagnostic kits for a full year. Look for fun ways to promote this special opportunity in the coming weeks.

Fundraising Update and Milestones

November is a month to give thanks, and we are certainly thankful to our active network of malaria leaders. Thanks to you, synods and congregations have rallied support with creative fundraisers and meaningful worship services. Thanks to you, malaria interventions have become available in places where they are needed most. Thanks to you, lives are being saved. Thank you for walking hand-in-hand with other Lutherans, and with our partners in Africa, as together we work to make malaria history.

The ELCA Malaria Campaign has raised \$12.9 million so far, just shy of the \$13 million mark. We hope to report surpassing the \$13 million milestone in a matter of days! Keep your eye on the [blog](#) and the *Friends of the ELCA Malaria Campaign* Facebook group for updates.

Celebrating Milestones: We have one milestone to lift up this month!

- ◆ Reaching \$200,000: South Dakota Synod

We look forward to celebrating more milestones in the upcoming months, as many synods near their goals!



Alternative Gift Fairs



Advent begins on November 30th, which means it is officially approaching. Many congregations like to commemorate the season with Alternative Gift Fairs using [ELCA Good Gifts](#). The ELCA Good Gifts Catalog offers more than 50 gifts to give in honor of a friend or loved one. These gifts support the many ministries of the ELCA, and several Good Gifts benefit the ELCA Malaria Campaign. Mosquito nets and medical care are among the gifts that you can choose. To see all of the ELCA Good Gifts which relate to malaria, click [here](#).

Once you've chosen a gift, be sure to tell the honoree. The ELCA offers printable cards and e-cards so that you can announce your gift. You can view all of the cards by clicking [here](#). We also offer free printed cards (professionally printed on cardstock), which you can order by emailing malaria@elca.org or calling 773-380-2724.

New this year – Advent Tree Ornament Pack

Check out this new Gift Fair resource! Decorate your congregation's Christmas tree with these ornaments -- a goat, fruit tree or a mosquito net, for example -- that represent your congregation's fundraising goals. One package contains 30 assorted ornaments of 15 different gifts ranging from \$10-\$500 each. The back of the ornament allows an individual or family to personalize their ornament with their name and year. Ornaments can be ordered [here](#).



Campers Share Abundantly at Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center



Children, youth and young adults have consistently been some of the best leaders with the ELCA Malaria Campaign. Perhaps it's because malaria especially affects children, or perhaps it's because some malaria interventions are so inexpensive that even a little bit makes a difference. Whatever the case may be, our youngest members really seem to understand that they can make an impact. The campers and staff of Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center (LCLC) in Bemus Point, NY are no exception.

Each summer, the camp invites campers to share some of their canteen money to support a special cause. This year, campers had the opportunity to give to the

ELCA Malaria Campaign. After hearing about the campaign at the Upstate New York Synod assembly, it seemed like a good match for LCLC's summer of 2014. It isn't hard to make a connection to mosquitoes in the great outdoors! At the end of each week, campers were encouraged to give some or all of their remaining canteen money to support malaria prevention. **Many campers gave their entire remaining balance instead of pocketing the leftover cash.** We can all learn something from their example of generosity.

LCLC had a goal of raising \$1,000 throughout the summer, or the equivalent of 100 bed nets. When all was totaled, the campers had exceeded their goal, and were able to raise enough funds for 118 nets!

"Our campers really seem to 'get it' when it comes to sharing out of their abundance with others in need," said Lee Lindeman, Executive Director of LCLC. Many thanks to the campers and staff of Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center, for sharing that abundance with the ELCA Malaria Campaign!



New Videos—See the Impact

Have you had a chance to check out the ELCA Malaria Campaign's three new videos? The videos range in length from 55 seconds to about 4 minutes, and perfectly illustrate the comprehensive work that the ELCA supports in Uganda and Burundi. We invite you to show a short video during a temple talk, or play a longer video during offering. The videos can be viewed online [here](#) on the ELCA's YouTube channel. DVD copies can be ordered from our [e-store](#) or by emailing malaria@elca.org.

