



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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Search ELCA



Home (/) / Public Health

#ELCACHurchTogether

Resources to help leaders and members stay connected and resilient during COVID-19.

WORSHIP RESOURCES

CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT

PRESIDING BISHOP

TAKE ACTION

SPANISH LANGUAGE

FAITH AT HOME

STEWARDSHIP OF GIFTS

KEEP UP-TO-DATE

(<https://community.elca.org/advanced-donation-form/covid-19-response-fund>)

COVID-19 Response Fund (<https://community.elca.org/advanced-donation-form/covid-19-response-fund>)



You can help the ministries of the ELCA by supporting your local congregation and making a gift to the ELCA's COVID-19 Response Fund (<https://community.elca.org/advanced-donation-form/covid-19-response-fund>). Your donation will provide funds to the ministries of the ELCA most in need and best positioned to help. This includes our congregations as well as local and churchwide ministries capable of reaching and assisting those in need.

[GIVE NOW \(HTTPS://COMMUNITY.ELCA.ORG/ADVANCED-DONATION-FORM/COVID-19-RESPONSE-FUND\)](https://community.elca.org/advanced-donation-form/covid-19-response-fund)

WORSHIP RESOURCES

Resources for Worship in the Home (<https://blogs.elca.org/worship/>)

A weekly blog series with readings, prayers and reflections for worship at home.

Resources for Returning to In-Person Worship

(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Returning_to_In-person_Worship.pdf)

Considerations for being church together during the COVID-19 pandemic. | Spanish

(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Returning_to_In-person_Worship_SP.pdf)

Resuming Care-filled Worship and Sacramental Life During a Pandemic
(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Resuming_Care-filled_Worship_and_Sacramental_Life.pdf)”

Protocols for worship during the COVID-19 pandemic as commended by an ecumenical consultation. | Spanish
(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Reanudando_El_Culto_Cristiano.pdf)

“Worship in Times of Public Health Concerns: COVID-19/Coronavirus
(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Worship_in_Times_of_Public_Health_Concerns.pdf)”

Considerations for building church community and participating in worship when we cannot gather in person. | Spanish
(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Worship_in_Times_of_Public_Health_Concerns_SP.pdf)

“Prayers for Times of Public Health Concern: COVID-19/Coronavirus
(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Prayers_for_Times_of_Public_Health_Concerns_COVID-19.pdf)”

Prayer suggestions that can be adapted for use in your local worship context. | Spanish
(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Prayers_for_Times_of_Public_Health_Concerns_COVID-19_SP.pdf)

“How to Stream Your Worship Service
(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Livestreaming_for_Congregations.pdf)”

A starter guide for online streaming of your congregation’s worship service or other events. | Spanish
(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Livestreaming_for_Congregations_SP.pdf)

“Intercessory Prayers in the Midst of the Spread of COVID-19
(https://www.lutheranworld.org/sites/default/files/2020/documents/200312_-_intercessory_prayer_in_the_midst_of_the_spread_of_covid_-_en.pdf)”

A prayer resource offered by the Lutheran World Federation. | Spanish
(https://www.lutheranworld.org/sites/default/files/2020/documents/200312_-_intercessory_prayer_in_the_midst_of_the_spread_of_covid_-_es.pdf)

“Guidance for Funeral Practices
(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Guidance_for_funeral_practices_during_a_public_health_crisis_ESP.pdf)”

A resource for ministering to the bereaved during a public health crisis. | Spanish
(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Guidance_for_funeral_practices_during_a_public_health_crisis_ESP.pdf)

[RETURN TO TOP](#)

CONGREGATIONAL ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

Considerations for safely reopening by Church Mutual (<https://www.churchmutual.com/index.cfm?ldp=elca>)

Church Mutual offers a webinar, slides and guidelines to prepare and implement a plan to safely reopen churches.

FAQ on Paycheck Protection Program loans (https://download.elca.org/ELCA_Resource_Repository/FAQ_on_PPP_Loans.pdf)

Frequently asked questions regarding congregations and PPP loans. | Watch Video (<https://vimeo.com/405954210>) | Spanish
(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/FAQ_on_PPP_Loans-SP.pdf)

“Update and Resources on COVID-19-related Benefits for ELCA Congregations, Synods, Other Ministries and Their Employees (https://download.elca.org/ELCA_Resource_Repository/COVID-19_Relief_Summary.pdf)”

A summary focusing on the provisions of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) and the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) that most directly affect churches and their employees. | Spanish (https://download.elca.org/ELCA_Resource_Repository/COVID-19_Relief_Summary-SP.pdf)

Guides for Community Assistance Resources by State (<https://blogs.elca.org/worldhunger/covid-assistance/>)

ELCA World Hunger offers a set of state-specific one-pagers designed for people to learn how to access things like SNAP, unemployment and other emergency assistance during the COVID-19 crisis.

ELCA Federal Credit Union is now SBA-certified to offer Paycheck Protection Program loans (<https://www.elcafcu.org/ppp>)

All ELCA congregations and ministries can apply for these PPP loans through the ELCA Federal Credit Union.

“Summary of CARES Act Provisions (https://download.elca.org/ELCA Resource Repository/CARES_Act_Summary.pdf)”

Provisions in the CARES Act that could be of interest to church ministries and church plan members. | Spanish (https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/CARES_Act_Summary_SP.pdf)

Families First Coronavirus Response Act — UCC update (https://download.elca.org/ELCA Resource Repository/Families_First_Coronavirus_Response_Act-UCC_Update.pdf)

A memorandum from the United Church of Christ that summarizes the new provisions in the FFCRA most applicable to churches.

Mission Investment Fund and ELCA Federal Credit Union offer special assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic (https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/MIF_and_ELCA_Federal_Credit_Union_financial_assistance)

Special financial assistance from the Mission Investment Fund and the ELCA Federal Credit Union.

“Congregational Planning Checklist for Public Health Concerns (https://download.elca.org/ELCA Resource Repository/LDR_Congregational_Planning_Checklist.pdf)”

Lutheran Disaster Response details how you and your congregation can plan for the impact of a public health crisis in your church. | Spanish (https://download.elca.org/ELCA Resource Repository/LDR_Congregational_Planning_Checklist_SP.pdf)

“Considerations for Remote Council and Congregation Meetings During the COVID-19 Pandemic (https://download.elca.org/ELCA Resource Repository/Remote_Meeting_FAQ_for_Congregations.pdf)”

Frequently asked questions regarding appropriate use of technology to conduct the business of your congregation.

[RETURN TO TOP](#)

FROM THE PRESIDING BISHOP



“Navigating a return to in-person worship | ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton on CNN

Previous videos from ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton:

- “If not now, when? (<https://youtu.be/oXeyuSR5mNc>)” | May 28, 2020
- “Take time to enjoy God's creation (<https://youtu.be/HBhIEAeWB4k>)” | May 21, 2020
- “God wants us to be whole people (<https://youtu.be/479Jm1tmdOc>)” | May 14, 2020
- “God is working (<https://youtu.be/479Jm1tmdOc>)” | May 7, 2020
- “We still have God and each other (<https://youtu.be/TNrPChW66V0>)” | April 30, 2020
- “Hope doesn't disappoint (<https://youtu.be/wr-9uwpBFPQ>)” | April 23, 2020
- “It's okay to grieve and hope (<https://youtu.be/Pm-v3SqeRO4>)” | April 17, 2020
- “There will be joy (<https://youtu.be/HWfXKHmjjDc>)” | Easter message | April 9, 2020
- “We remain united (<https://youtu.be/O5kpx12y9HU>)” | Holy Week invitation | April 3, 2020
- “Be of good courage! (<https://youtu.be/F-o5ohOoai4>)” | April 1, 2020
- “A God Who Is Faithful (<https://youtu.be/XzrxzAPeu2g>)” | March 28, 2020
- “Bishop Eaton on COVID-19 (https://youtu.be/S6Nd_T4R_EY)” | March 12, 2020

Pastoral messages and statements from ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton:

- “ELCA presiding bishop issues pastoral message on COVID-19 racism and white supremacy (<https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8037>)” | May 13, 2020
- “Urgent resources needed for East Jerusalem hospitals facing spread of coronavirus (<https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8035>)” | April 17, 2020
- “Response to COVID-19 From ELCA Presiding Bishop (<https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8031>)” | March 27, 2020 | Spanish (https://download.elca.org/ELCA_Resource_Repository/Covid-19_Bishop_SP.pdf)
- “ELCA Presiding Bishop Addresses Concerns About COVID-19 (<https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8025>)” | March 6, 2020

[RETURN TO TOP](#)

TAKE ACTION: PRAY, GIVE, CONNECT

COVID-19 Response Fund (<https://community.elca.org/advanced-donation-form/covid-19-response-fund>)

You can help the ministries of the ELCA by supporting your local congregation and making a gift to the ELCA's COVID-19 Response Fund (<https://community.elca.org/advanced-donation-form/covid-19-response-fund>). Your donation will provide funds to the ministries of the ELCA most in need and best positioned to help. This includes our congregations as well as local and churchwide ministries capable of reaching and assisting those in need.

ELCA Advocacy and COVID-19 (<https://blogs.elca.org/advocacy/>)

This series of blogs by ELCA Advocacy (<https://blogs.elca.org/advocacy/>) supports policy discernment and information sharing.

Lutheran Disaster Response | “Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)” (<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response/Our-Impact/Coronavirus>)

LDR is responding to the pandemic here in the United States and around the world.

Living Lutheran | Special coverage of COVID-19 (<https://www.livinglutheran.org/tag/covid-19/>)

Living Lutheran reports on how ELCA communities are responding to the pandemic.

ELCA COVID-19 Response logo files

(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/COVID19_Graphic_Files.zip)

Use these graphics in newsletters, email or social media to support your community’s COVID-19 response efforts. The files are available in .jpg, .png and .eps formats.

2020 Senior Recognition Ideas

(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Senior_Recognition_Ideas.pdf)

Our high school seniors are missing out on once-in-a-lifetime experiences due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Recognize and celebrate your congregation’s graduating seniors with these ideas from ELCA Youth. | Spanish

(https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Senior_Recognition_Ideas-SP.pdf)

[RETURN TO TOP](#)

SPANISH-LANGUAGE RESOURCES

- Reanudando El Culto Cristiano y La Vida Sacramental con Medidas Preventivas Durante una Pandemia (https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Reanudando_El_Culto_Cristiano.pdf)
- Consideraciones para el regreso a los servicios de adoración en persona (https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Returning_to_In-person_Worship_SP.pdf)
- “Preguntas frecuentes sobre el Programa de Protección del Cheque de pago (https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/FAQ_on_PPP_Loans-SP.pdf)”
- “Guía para prácticas fúnebres: Ministración a los deudos durante una crisis de salud pública (https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Guidance_for_funeral_practices_during_a_public_health_crisis_SP.pdf)”
- “Adoración en Tiempo de Problemas de Salud Pública: COVID19/Coronavirus (https://download.elca.org/ELCA_Resource_Repository/Worship_in_Times_of_Public_Health_Concerns_SP.pdf)”
- “Oraciones para Tiempos de Problemas de Salud Pública: COVID19/Coronavirus (https://download.elca.org/ELCA_Resource_Repository/Prayers_for_Times_of_Public_Health_Concerns_COVID-19_SP.pdf)”
- “Cómo Transmitir por Internet su Servicio de Adoración — Guía del Principiante (https://download.elca.org/ELCA_Resource_Repository/Livestreaming_for_Congregations_SP.pdf)”
- “Oración de Intercesión en Medio de la Propagación del COVID-19 (https://www.lutheranworld.org/sites/default/files/2020/documents/200312_-_intercessory_prayer_in_the_midst_of_the_spread_of_covid_-_es.pdf)”

- “Noticias y Recursos Sobre Beneficios Relacionados con el COVID-19 Para las Congregaciones de la ELCA, los Sínodos y Otros Ministerios y Sus Empleados (https://download.elca.org/ELCA Resource Repository/COVID-19_Relief_Summary-SP.pdf)”
- “Planificación Congregacional Para Problemas de Salud Pública: Lista de Control (https://download.elca.org/ELCA Resource Repository/LDR_Congregational_Planning_Checklist_SP.pdf)”
- Response to COVID-19 from ELCA Presiding Bishop (https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Covid-19_Bishop_SP.pdf)
- Los Centros Para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades (CDC) (<http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index-sp.html>)
- Ideas de reconocimiento a los graduandos de 2020 del Ministerio de Jóvenes de la ELCA (https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Senior_Recognition_Ideas-SP.pdf)

[RETURN TO TOP](#)

YOUR FAITH AT HOME

Faith at Home | Resources from ELCA Faith Formation (<https://www.ministrylinks.online/faith-at-home.html>)

This collection of resources supports unique and innovate ways leaders and congregations can adapt to this new reality of ministry.

Faith formation guide (<https://download.elca.org/ELCA Resource Repository/ELCAfaithformation.pdf>)

Recommended practices for lifelong faith formation.

Bible study (<https://elca.org/Resources/Bible-Studies>)

Resources for you to continue daily discipleship and faith practices from home.

Prayer Ventures (<https://elca.org/Resources/Prayer-Ventures>)

Daily prayers for the life and mission of the church.

“Faith Practices — Living Our Baptism (https://elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Faith-Practices))”

The promises made in holy baptism serve as a guide for practicing Christian faith.

Lectionary (<https://elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Worship/Lectionary>)

The Revised Common Lectionary provides Scripture readings for Sundays, festivals and daily use.

[RETURN TO TOP](#)

STEWARDSHIP OF GIFTS

Now that many congregations are observing social distancing, with some offering online services, members may be

concerned about how to support the work of their congregations, synods and churchwide ministries. A majority of ELCA congregations currently offer online giving as an option and all still accept checks. For congregations hoping to establish online giving, the ELCA has negotiated with preferred vendors (<https://elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Communication-Tools/Preferred-Vendors>) who can quickly respond with options.

[RETURN TO TOP](#)

KEEP UP-TO-DATE

Due to the nature of the virus, information is being updated on a daily basis. We encourage you to contact and listen to your local health experts and authorities concerning best practices and the status of outbreaks in your local context. The following links may also serve as helpful resources.

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html\)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html)
- [World Health Organization \(https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019\)](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019)

[RETURN TO TOP](#)

This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.

We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—questions, complexities and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

 (<https://www.facebook.com/Lutherans>)  (<https://twitter.com/elca>)  (<https://www.instagram.com/elca/>)  (<https://www.elca.org/feeds>)

Looking for Something?

[Find a Congregation \(https://www.elca.org/tools/FindACongregation\)](https://www.elca.org/tools/FindACongregation)

[Find a Person \(https://www.elca.org/tools/FindAPerson\)](https://www.elca.org/tools/FindAPerson)

[ELCA Directory \(https://directory.elca.org/\)](https://directory.elca.org/)

Engage with Us

[Careers \(https://www.elca.org/careers\)](https://www.elca.org/careers)

[Give \(https://community.elca.org/givenow\)](https://community.elca.org/givenow)

Contact Information

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Toll-Free: 800-638-3522

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Contact Us (https://www.elca.org/tools/contact_us)

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