

ELCA WORLD HUNGER'S GLOBAL FARM

Challenge



[ELCA.org/globalfarmchallenge](https://elca.org/globalfarmchallenge)



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

Ending hunger isn't just about food.



THE OPPORTUNITY

Access to livestock, seeds, tools and training can change everything. Parents can earn income to save, kids can go to school, and their families can stay safe and secure in their homes. With support from ELCA World Hunger, communities around the world are working together to end hunger – for good.

That's where you come in. The goal is to raise **\$525,000** to equip communities around the world and in the United States with livestock, seeds, tools and training to turn a hungry season into a hopeful season. Together we can make a difference – creating healthier families, stronger economies and a future filled with hope.

MORE THAN FOOD

Small farmers are less likely to have access to social safety nets, land rights, resources, clean water or investment loans, and more likely to go hungry due to climate extremes, conflict or illness. Farmworkers in the United States and around the world are also more likely to face safety hazards at work, be victims of human trafficking, have wages stolen or withheld and live in hunger and poverty as a result.

Yet, investments in small farmers can have a huge impact on ending hunger and poverty and building resilience for whole communities.

For farmers and for all of us, food is not just a commodity to be sold. Food is a symbol of our culture and history, our freedom and agency, our connection to the land God created and our hope for the future God has promised.

It's about access, justice, and caring for creation and each other. It's about hope for the kind of world we want to live in.

Ending hunger means recognizing the ways God is at work in farming communities and the ways God is calling all of us, together, to be part of the solution.

"I like to farm because we can get exercise, fresh foods, and make money. I am a farmer now!"

Scholastica
Des Moines, Iowa

Small farms produce more than a third of the world's food, yet as many as half of the world's hungry people live on farms.



(FAO, June 2021)

Why farms?

The world produces more than enough food for every person, but the number of people experiencing hunger is growing. Farmers see the beauty of new life and the hope of new harvests. But many farmers also bear witness to the deep inequities that scar our food systems and leave communities vulnerable to hunger and poverty. The very people whose hard work and ingenuity provide the world's food all too often struggle to feed themselves and their families.

Every day, agriculture produces an average of **23.7 million tons of food**, provides livelihoods for **2.6 billion people**, and is the largest source of income and jobs for poor, rural households ... and yet,



St. Andrew's Refugee Services (StARS)

1 in 3 people around the world doesn't know where their next meal will come from.



2.6 billion people

rely on agriculture for the majority of their income, making the food system the world's largest employer.

(Convention on Biological Diversity/International Food Policy Research Institute)

The Global Farm Challenge is a youth-driven fundraising challenge to support the agriculture-related programs of ELCA World Hunger, our church's ministry to end hunger and poverty.

37.2 million people in the U.S.

11.4% of the population

were living in food-insecure households in 2020.

Farmworkers in the United States are more than twice as likely

to experience poverty as other workers.

(U.S. Department of Labor National Agricultural Workers Survey, 2018)

Get creative!



Plan a Global Farm Challenge Giving Sunday or Month
Share the landing page for your individual or team fundraising in your church's e-newsletter, on social media and during worship. Text, email or call friends, family and fellow youth and worship attendees, inviting them to contribute to your goals on a certain Sunday or for a whole month! Integrate a social media campaign, a virtual concert or an auction to engage others in your fundraising for the Global Farm Challenge.

Pass the Pig
Raise awareness about world hunger by creating a game of "pass the pig." Create and decorate a large cutout pig and place it around town at members' homes or local businesses, leaving it there until a donation is made to your group's donation page. Your group can also ask for early donations as "insurance" against getting passed the pig.

Build a Barn
As you raise enough money toward your goal to buy different animals, build a barn! Get creative: what will work best for your congregation in your community? Do you have an artist who can gradually paint a farm scene as you meet your goals? Maybe you have a talented graphic designer who can create a digital barn, or someone has a toy farm set they could contribute. The options for creating this visual display to mark progress toward your goals are endless!

Host an event raising funds and awareness, plan an online campaign or even design your own digital fundraiser!
You can also create team and individual fundraising pages to benefit ELCA World Hunger's Global Farm Challenge at ELCA.org/globalfarmchallenge.

"I am very happy with the support of ELCA World Hunger through the Lutheran Church in Guinea. We were supported through provision of small tools, a wheelbarrow, shovels, insecticide and fertilizer. This has allowed us to be better equipped and to complete our [gardening] activities more quickly so that each of our households benefit from better food access." **Guilagovli, Guinea**

What do I do with the money we collect?

The easiest way to fundraise for the Global Farm Challenge is online at ELCA.org/globalfarmchallenge. There you'll set up a fundraising page, either as an individual or on behalf of your team, youth group or congregation, and you'll be able to track progress toward your goal in real time!

If you hosted an event or collected an offering in your congregation and received check donations, you can mail them to the address below:

ELCA
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Checks must be payable to "ELCA World Hunger" and include "Global Farm Challenge" in the memo line so they can be included in the national total.



Working with global companion churches and trusted partners around the world, ELCA World Hunger spends approximately \$8 million per year

on sustainable development-related projects. Your gifts make this work possible.

Below are some examples of how your gifts can make a difference.

Pick a project or two to inspire your goal-setting:



\$50

buys a goat,

whose milk can provide daily nutrition for children and their families. Goats can go where other animals can't, surviving in some of the world's harshest environments. What's more, offspring can rapidly transform a community when shared with other families in need.



\$75

sends a woman to farmer's field school.

Women are the force behind half the world's food production but often lack access to land, supplies and education. When attending farmers' field school, women learn the latest advances in agriculture, marketing and leadership, and help nourish their families and communities.



\$200

starts a community vegetable garden.

A shared plot, drought-resistant seeds, tools and training can yield enough tomatoes, potatoes, cabbage, beans, cassava and other vegetables to feed multiple families. Extra produce can be sold for income, with the profits used by the cooperative's members to reinvest in and expand their garden.



\$500

buys a cow,

which can produce as many as 3 gallons of nutritious, calcium-packed milk for families to drink. Milk can also be used to make cheese, yogurt, butter and other dairy products to eat or sell for a steady source of income.



\$715

gives a family farm a fresh start.

A cow, a couple of goats, a dozen chicks, two pigs, farming tools, seeds and agricultural training and support – this gift makes all the difference for a family hoping to escape the cycle of poverty for good.

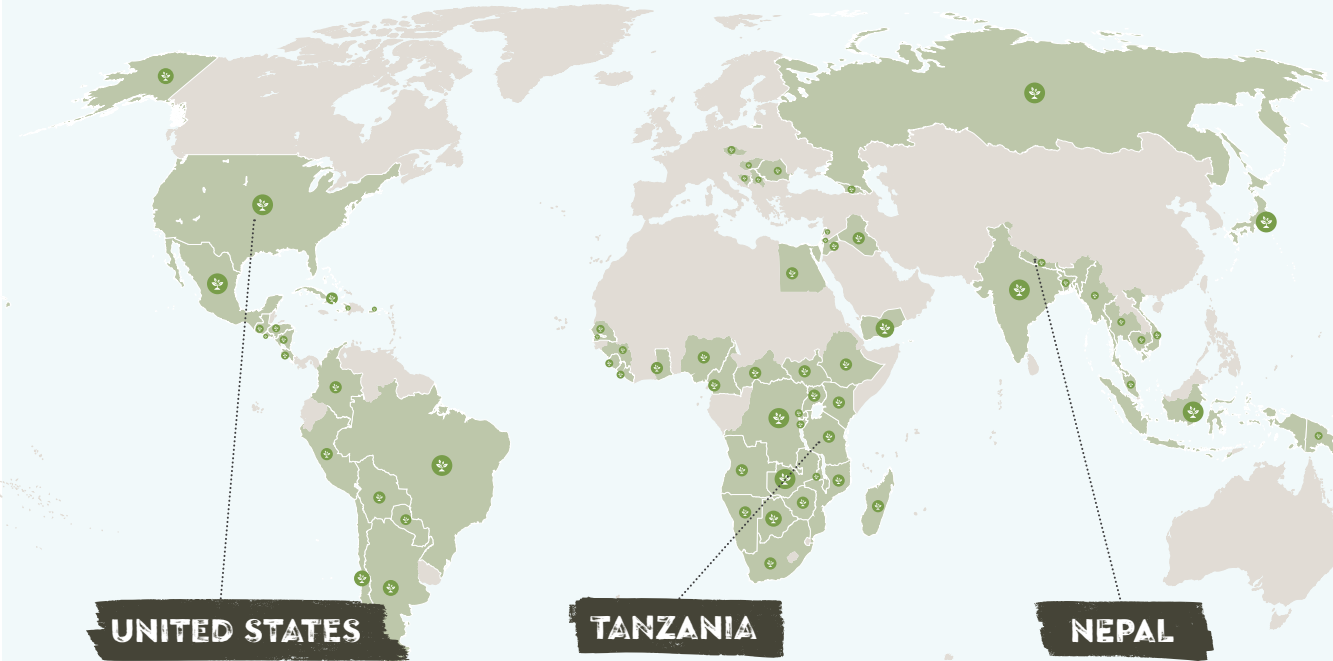


\$2,500

creates community access to water with a well.

A simple water well, spring box or other water point offers access to clean, safe water to as many as 500 families. Lack of access to safe water is one of the biggest challenges to overcoming poverty, so this gift offers a powerful opportunity to create lasting change.

ELCA WORLD HUNGER IS AT WORK IN 67 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD



These projects are examples of work being done in programs supported by funds from ELCA World Hunger. To honor your generosity and keep administrative costs low, the ELCA does not track individual gifts to specific families or locations in the United States or abroad. These gifts will support sustainable-development-related projects in the greatest need so that your donation has the greatest possible impact.

UNITED STATES

In the United States, gardens and farms can help provide food-insecure families with healthy foods while building community among neighbors.

TANZANIA

In Tanzania, agricultural innovations, emergency preparedness training and irrigation improvements help communities become more resilient.

NEPAL

In Nepal, an animal husbandry project helps dairy herders increase their cows' milk production so they have more milk to give their families or to sell.

RESOURCES

Visit ELCA.org/globalfarmchallenge to find these resources and more!



Youth Action Guide

This guide contains resources to activate and inspire youth in your congregation to join together in the Global Farm Challenge.



Global Farm Challenge To-Go Game

Be the first to fill your field in this fast-paced card game. Players will have fun learning about some of the challenges and opportunities farmers face around the world and learn about real projects ELCA World Hunger supports around the world.



Podcast Miniseries

The "Global Farm Challenge: More Than Food" is a podcast miniseries that invites youth into deeper reflection on faith, hunger and justice, with inspirational stories about how your gifts to ELCA World Hunger are at work in the world.



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