

3. In a relief situation, what advantages might the LWF have over, for example, United Nations-sponsored organizations. What disadvantages? Think about particular global crises in specific regions as you answer these questions.

A Global Communion

The LWF is a global communion of member churches. We are one member church in that global communion. What does it mean to you to be in communion with 60.5 million Lutherans worldwide?

Did you know?

Four North American Lutheran groups belong to the LWF. Beside the ELCIC and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad and the Lithuanian Evangelical Lutheran Church in Diaspora are also members.

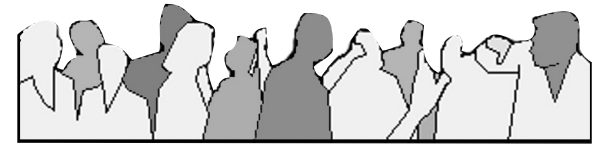
To learn more about the LWF and the Tenth Assembly, www.lwf-assembly.org/



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Study Guide

(accompanies "Our Worldwide Lutheran Community" Map)



Use the map and the appropriate study guide to help your congregation understand the importance of the ELCIC hosting the Tenth Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) under the theme "For the Healing of the World."

Study Guide for Youth

A. Geographical Orientation (45 to 60 minutes)

1. Look at the Lutheran World Federation map. Working in teams of two or three, identify the following geographic regions. Some regions may overlap. You may need to refer to an atlas.

- Africa (North, West, Sub-Saharan, Central, Southern, East)
- America (North, Central, South, the Caribbean, Latin)
- Asia (Central, Southeast, Middle East, East, Australia)
- Europe (Northern, Central, Western, Eastern, Southern)

2. Make a list of the labeled countries in each region. As a group, talk about what you already know about each region and/or country.

B. Where in the World is the LWF? (45 to 60 minutes)

Each country is colored a different shade of orange. Look at the legend. It shows that each color represents a different type of connection between the people of that country and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF).

1. What is the connection between your church (the ELCIC) and the LWF?
2. Which regions of the world have both LWF member churches and LWF projects?
3. Which regions of the world have neither LWF member churches nor LWF projects? Name some of the countries in these regions. What explanations can you come up with for this? (Hint: The predominant faith in North Africa is Islam.)

C. Photo Tour (30 to 45 minutes)

Look at the photos on the map. Divide into groups of two or three. Each group chooses one picture.

1. Describe who is in the photo.
2. Describe what you think they are doing.
3. Read the caption.
4. Report back to the larger group.

Based on the group reports:

5. What kinds of projects does the LWF get involved in?

Guide for Adults

A. Orientation (45 to 60 minutes)

Establish the level of knowledge the group has about ELCIC's role in the LWF. For background information, use the LWF Regional Office for North America home page (www.elca.org/lwf) and assembly web sites www.lwf-assembly.org or www.elcic.ca/lwffaq.html

One question to begin with: Does your congregation celebrate Lutheran World Federation Sunday?

Consider the map carefully, and answer the following questions.

1. What does each color indicate about the a. ethnicity of people in that country b. religion of people in that country c. wealth of people in that country d. type of connection between people in that country and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF)?
2. Which color is most predominant?
3. What are the four types of connections between people in a country and the LWF?
4. What is the connection between your church (the ELCIC) and the LWF?
5. Which parts of the world have no connection with the LWF? How do you explain this?

B. Lutheran World Federation Projects

The photographs on the map are illustrative, in some measure, of the kind of work the LWF does around the world. Examine each photograph, along with its accompanying caption, and answer the following questions:

1. List the types of projects the LWF engages in around the world.
2. What similarities are there between the LWF and other relief organizations? What differences are there? What accounts for these similarities and differences?