**ELCA congregations lend their hands in service to their communities**

[Insert your city, state abbreviation] (ELCA) — [Insert your congregation’s name, city and state] is one of nearly 8,700 congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) with the opportunity to participate in “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday on Sept. 10. Across the country, thousands of ELCA members will engage in service work to make a positive change in their communities, build and deepen relationships, and share God’s love.

Members of [congregation’s name] are [describe your service projects and share the location of your service work (if it’s beyond your church building), the organizations and agencies you’re partnering with, and other details that communicate the positive impact on your community].

Since the ELCA was formed, it has been deeply rooted in faith and in sharing its passion for making positive changes in the world. [Congregation’s name] joins with other ELCA congregations across the country to boldly participate in God’s work in the world — restoring and reconciling communities, and pursuing peace and justice.

“[Insert a quote or two from your members describing why the dedicated day of service is so important. Why are members excited about their participation?],” said [first and last name], a member of [congregation’s name].

More information about the ELCA is available at [**ELCA.org**](http://www.elca.org).

**About the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:**

The ELCA is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States, with 3 million members in more than 8,700 worshiping communities across the 50 states and in the Caribbean region. Known as the church of “God’s work. Our hands.,” the ELCA emphasizes the saving grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ, unity among Christians and service in the world. The ELCA’s roots are in the writings of the German church reformer, Martin Luther.

For information contact:  
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[Phone number and/or email where media professionals can reach you]  
[Your congregation’s website]