



Teaching hope in the Holy Land

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) considers hope a Christian imperative and a national survival skill. Through teacher training and development, ELCJHL Schools invest in a hopeful future. Here are recent examples:

- Eighteen teachers and others from around the ELCJHL began a three-year leadership training program.
- Nine ELCJHL math and science teachers are working on a master's degree in pedagogy and teaching methods.
- Two administrators and five teachers from the Lutheran School of Hope in Ramallah participate in the Model School Network project.
- The International Center at Bethlehem (part of Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem) hosted an intensive workshop for social studies staff on teaching democratic issues and voting practices.
- Many ELCJHL teachers participated in targeted in-service training sessions; topics included teaching English as a Second Language and special education.

Leadership development is key to the academic excellence of ELCJHL Schools and academic excellence is key to fostering hope. Learn more about the eight schools and educational programs of the ELCJHL by visiting www.elca.org/peacenotwalls and clicking on "Our Companions." To give an ELCA Good Gift donation supporting Lutheran Schools in the Holy Land, see pages 18–19 in the new *ELCA Good Gifts* catalog or visit the e-catalog at www.elca.org/goodgifts.

As an ELCA missionary, Sr. Sylvia Countess served for four years as the assistant to the ELCJHL director of education. She is now the director of vocation and education for the ELCA deaconess community. Allison K. Schmitt is an ELCA missionary serving as communication assistant for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.



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