

ELCA Strategy on HIV and AIDS

Video Discussion Guide

Talking points for leaders

Note for leaders: Please print and distribute copies of the HIV and AIDS brochure (available as .pdf on the DVD) each person in the group.

Introduction:

The 2009 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Churchwide Assembly voted to expand the ministry efforts of the ELCA in response to HIV and AIDS. The ELCA Strategy on HIV and AIDS names the following goals:

- **Halt the spread of HIV through effective prevention, treatment, and care.**
- **Eliminate the stigma and discrimination experienced by those who are HIV-positive.**
- **Reduce the conditions of poverty and marginalization that contribute to the spread of HIV.**

The video we are about to watch visits ministries in Zimbabwe, Malawi and Wheaton, Ill., to lift up examples of how Lutherans are responding faithfully to the AIDS pandemic.

As you watch, take note of what you find inspiring. What do you think we could do here at/in _____ (name of local congregation or community) to support ministries like these? What could we do to support people affected by HIV or AIDS in our local area?

Discussion questions:

In the features on Zimbabwe and Malawi, what were some of the needs met through the featured ministries?

Did anything surprise you?

Did these ministries remind you of any stories or teachings from the Bible?

What impact do you suppose that the HIV-screening initiative at St. Paul Lutheran Church might have on the community?

Did any of the comments from the congregation members or pastors really speak to you?

What would you think about doing something similar here?

What do you think we could do here at/in _____ (name of local congregation or community) to respond faithfully to HIV and AIDS?

Please visit www.elca.org/aids to find fact sheets, quizzes, education curricula, and more.

Please make a donation at www.elca.org/aids/donate to support HIV and AIDS ministry.

Thank you for your support!



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God's work. Our hands.