



Longtime passion leads to enduring gifts

When Esther Arne and her husband, Harry, joined St. James Lutheran Church, an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) congregation in Fayetteville, N.C., in 1956, they quickly found a home.

As the years went by, she shares, “We really became active in the church beyond the local congregation.”

Twenty-five years ago, as three predecessor church bodies came together to form the ELCA, the men’s and women’s groups also needed to merge. Esther and Harry both took leadership roles in this process.

Harry was the founding president and served two terms in that role for Lutheran Men in Mission, the men’s organization of the ELCA.

Esther was a delegate to the constituting convention and served on Women of the ELCA’s first executive committee board. She served on the committees that selected an executive director, formed a plan for incorporation, chose a name and developed financial plans for the women’s organization. She was also responsible for helping establish three levels of giving: regular offerings, thank offerings and special gifts.

Esther’s passion for women’s ministries continued as she served in a number of capacities for the ELCA North Carolina Synod and Women of the ELCA.

As Esther and Harry started to get older, they began to think about how to give back to the church they loved. Harry has recently passed away but their commitment remains.



Esther Arne

“I’m very church oriented, and I’m very concerned about people and being able to help them where they need help,” Esther says.

She and her husband decided to establish an endowment, the Arne Memorial Fund, through the ELCA Foundation. “We decided we wanted to do something lasting,” she shares, “so we opened an account with the ELCA Foundation and we have donated every year since.” The endowment they established is invested with the ELCA Endowment Fund Pooled Trust.

In addition to their endowment to benefit the work of this church, she and Harry established a charitable gift annuity. This charitable annuity provides a fixed monthly payment to Esther with the remainder to be added to their endowment when they have both passed on.

The gifts of the Arnes help support a number of churchwide and ELCA North Carolina Synod ministries including Women of the ELCA, North Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission, and a scholarship for women seeking a college degree.

“The scholarship is for a person who has already had some training beyond high school,” Esther says. “There are so many people, particularly with families, that need help getting an education. I would like for women to have the opportunity to go to the top of organizations if they desire.”

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We are a church that is deeply rooted — and always being made new.



ELCA Foundation
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God’s work. Our hands.

ELCA Foundation adds three regional gift planners

Helping others find their joy and passion has long been the vocation of gift planners. Recently, the ELCA Foundation has added three individuals who carry on that tradition.

Beth Adams says, "I have been blessed to have been called to this position – the Holy Spirit was indeed at work! My joy, my calling, is to help those inspired to give."

As a lifelong Lutheran who worked on staff in her home congregation, and then as a regional fraternal manager for Thrivent, Beth now uses her skills to be of help to synods, congregations and members of the ELCA. Beth serves the Region 1 Synods of Alaska, Northwest Washington, Southwest Washington, Idaho, Montana and Oregon.



Mike Klinefelter first began working for the church in 1999 at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago where he worked with donors and congregations and their philanthropic giving. Now in



Omaha, Mike is again working with congregations and their members to lift up giving to all ELCA ministries, institutions and initiatives, whether that is a current gift or an estate gift. "Responding to the generosity of our fellow Lutherans is what gives me energy for this work and hope for the future of this church in all its expressions," says Mike, who serves the state of Iowa which includes the Southeast, Western and Northeast Synods.

While serving as chair of the pastoral search committee at her home congregation, Jennifer Prinz was guided by the Holy Spirit to the new position as regional gift planner for Illinois. As a lifelong Lutheran, this role allows Jennifer to use her relationship building and communication expertise to provide solutions and support to churchwide ministries, congregations, synods and related ELCA ministries. Jennifer says, "Working for the ELCA Foundation allows me the opportunity to help people in leaving a legacy that aligns with their passion for continuing to do God's work." Jennifer serves Illinois, which includes the Metropolitan Chicago, Northern and Central/Southern Synods.

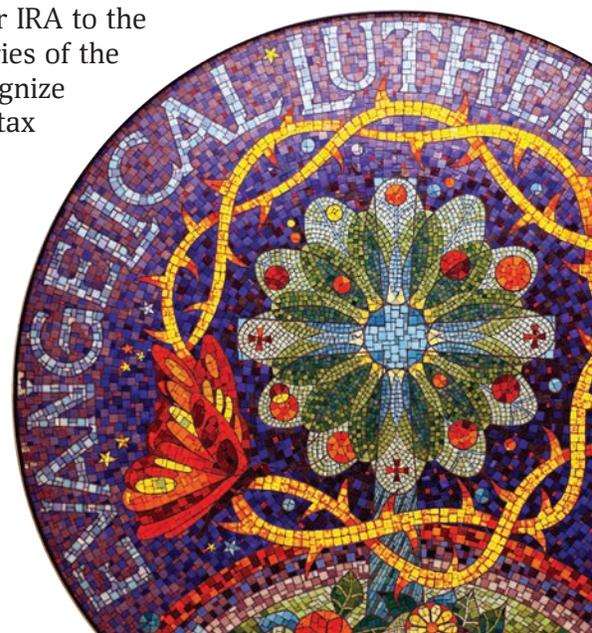


Charitable IRA Rollover is now available!



The Charitable Individual Retirement Account (IRA) Rollover enjoyed by many donors has been extended for 2013. This means that you can give directly from your IRA to the ELCA – to benefit any or all ministries of the ELCA – without having to first recognize the distribution as income on your tax return. If you are an IRA owner age 70½ or older, you are able to make a qualified charitable distribution up to \$100,000 during 2013.

Your contribution could be used to support future pastors with seminary scholarships through the ELCA Fund for Leaders or clean water projects through ELCA World Hunger. Your gift could be used toward the prevention and education efforts of the ELCA Malaria Campaign or other ELCA ministries that mean the most to you. To learn more, contact Dennis Prikkel at the ELCA Foundation: 800-638-3522, ext. 2975.



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Esther has been so pleased with her endowment and charitable gift annuity established through the ELCA Foundation that she plans to purchase another charitable gift annuity in the near future. "I'm very pleased that we have been able to participate all these years," Esther says of her partnership with the ELCA Foundation.



1990 - 1993 Executive Board of the Women of the ELCA (1st Triennium Board)
Front row: Mary Sagar, Mayra Carrillo-Cotto, Mary Blake, Ruth Bergstrom, Gwendolyn Carr, Jenine Jordahl, Esther Arne, Gloria Rast, Joyce Breen. Back row: Hattie Hammer, Nancy Mitchell, Janet Peterson, Mona Laughlin, Gail Hendrickson, Jannene Sass, Marlene Raack, Jeanne Rapp, Angie Haines, Joyce Trangsrud, Nan Richard.

To learn how you can support the ministries you love both now and in the future, contact the ELCA Foundation today at 800-638-3522.

Story written with excerpts taken from an article by Alice Nelson published in the *Carolina Vine*, spring of 2012. The regional gift planner for North Carolina, South Carolina and the Southeastern Synods is Christine Post-Duncan.

Sample of Charitable Gift Annuity Rates*

One-Life Annuity Rates		Two-Life Annuity Rates	
Age	Rate	Age	Rate
65	4.7%	65 & 68	4.3%
70	5.1%	70 & 78	4.8%
75	5.8%	75 & 75	5.0%
80	6.8%	80 & 82	5.9%
85	7.8%	85 & 87	7.0%
90+	9.0%	90 & 93	8.7%

* American Council on Gift Annuities

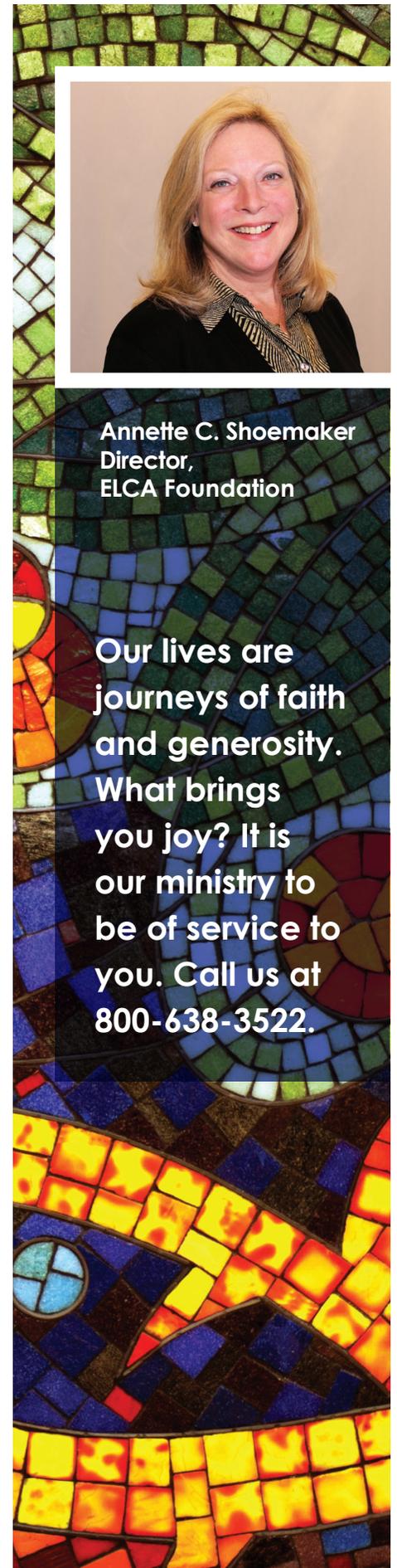
Information provided by the ELCA Foundation should not be considered tax or legal advice. Please consult with your tax or legal advisor before proceeding with estate or gift planning. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, via the ELCA Foundation, currently does not offer charitable gift annuities to any individuals in the states of Alabama, Hawaii or Tennessee.

A charitable gift annuity is not regulated by the Oklahoma Insurance Department and is not protected by a guaranty association affiliated with the Oklahoma Insurance Department. **Charitable gift annuities are not regulated by and are not under the jurisdiction of the South Dakota Division of Insurance.**



Annette C. Shoemaker
Director,
ELCA Foundation

Our lives are
journeys of faith
and generosity.
What brings
you joy? It is
our ministry to
be of service to
you. Call us at
800-638-3522.





ELCA Foundation
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

8765 West Higgins Road
Chicago, Illinois 60631-4101

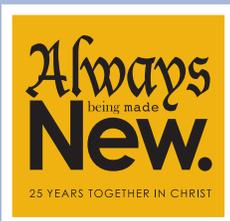
For more information contact:
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Director, ELCA Foundation

800-638-3522 • fax 773-380-2775
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ELCA.org/foundation

The ELCA Foundation regional gift planners are located throughout the country and are ready to assist you.

Together, we celebrate
our 25th anniversary
as the ELCA



During 2013, congregations, synods and the churchwide organization will celebrate the 25th anniversary

of the ELCA under the theme: Always being made new. 25 years together in Christ. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, we read: *So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!*

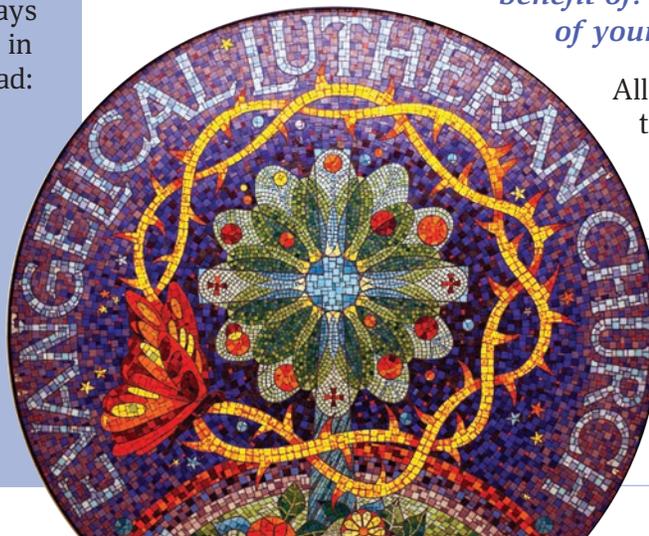
You can participate in the anniversary year through your prayers, activities and gifts to support the work of this church. For more information, visit ELCA.org/25years.

Inspired Giving

Everyone has something to share. Whether we have much to give or a small amount to share, leaving a gift through an estate plan can have a long-lasting impact. To leave a gift to your local congregation, a churchwide ministry or another ELCA ministry, your legal advisor may need the following official language:

“the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, a Minnesota non-profit corporation, c/o The ELCA Foundation, located at 8765 West Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631-4101, for the benefit of: (name a specific ministry of your choosing.)”

All bequests should be sent to the attention of the ELCA Foundation.



Thank
you!