

Minneapolis Area Synod – ELCA

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Rising food prices drive many of our Minnesota neighbors to re-think their grocery lists. While there are almost certainly people in your neighborhood who feel the pressure, for millions of the world's poor, the pressure is truly life-threatening.

Even while your members watch their own food budgets, your congregation became part of **the solution** through its Mission Support offering this month.

In response to globally increasing food prices the ELCA International Disaster Response and the ELCA World Hunger Appeal sent an **extra** \$100,000 in May 2008 to companion churches (e.g., the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Nigeria, our global companion in ministry) to help provide food and undergird development work in rural areas.



Rafael Malpica Padilla, Executive Director of ELCA Global Mission, explained, “Given predictions that food prices will continue to rise, we are particularly concerned about those who are the most vulnerable, including those who live on a dollar or less each day, those who are refugees, and those like AIDS orphans who are dependent on others to provide food and shelter.”¹ The Mashiah Foundation in Jos, Nigeria is dear to the hearts of many in the Minneapolis Area Synod. Their holistic HIV/AIDS ministry is a good example of the sort of ministry your sustained generosity makes possible. Thank you!

Gratefully,

Heather E. Hammond

Pastor Heather Hammond, Bishop's Associate

¹ Quoted in *The Lutheran* magazine, July 2008 issue, page 13