

## REFLECTIONS FROM PAST TRIPS



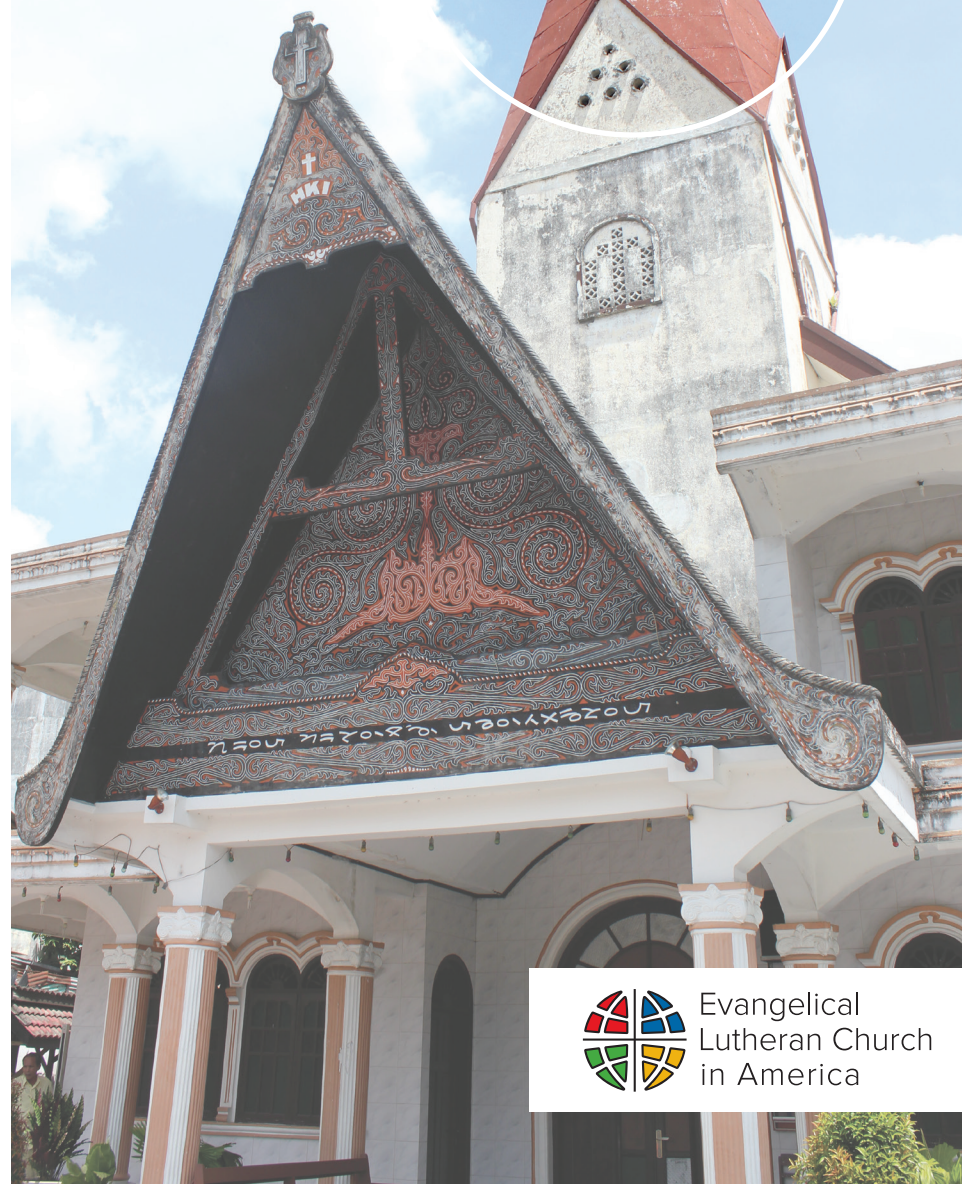
2019 TANZANIA AND RWANDA TRIP

“A life experience that opens your eyes, your mind and your heart to God's hands creating mutual ministry in the world.” – Dr. Alan and Pam Stewart

“This trip to Cambodia was an opportunity of a lifetime to see firsthand the work of my church that I've spent a lifetime hearing about. It was a memorable gift to get to befriend the very people who are doing things that bring them hope and joy because of a few resources we've shared along the way.” – Nancy Baden

# INDONESIA

OCTOBER 3 - 16, 2024



 Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America



## THE CHURCH

Indonesia is the world's largest Muslim country, yet it is home to over 6 million Lutherans. The ELCA has close relationships with three of the Lutheran churches in Indonesia: the HKBP (Huria Kristen Batak Protestan, or Protestant Christian Batak Church), HKI (Huria Kristen Indonesia, or Christian Church of Indonesia) and GKPS (Gareja Kristen Protestan Simalungun, or Simalungun Christian Protestant Church).

This advanced country, rich in history and culture, still wrestles with gender-based violence, religious persecution, health concerns and disaster recovery. The Lutheran churches seek to create a sense of community in which people find a rich spiritual life of well-being and peace. On the ground, this translates into community development, church programs, schools, hospitals, universities and seminaries, and the ELCA accompanies them with grants, companion-synod relationships and personnel.

## THE OPPORTUNITY

When a massive earthquake and tsunami hit the island of Sulawesi in 2018, Lutheran Disaster Response joined hands with HKBP to provide ongoing relief. When voices called out gender injustice and violence, the ELCA stood behind the Women's Crisis Center Sopou Damei, which offers women counseling and support and provides training and education on domestic violence and gender justice. When seminaries needed specialized training programs, the ELCA sent professors. And as the churches have sought a clearer Lutheran identity, they have called upon the ELCA to help them articulate a Lutheran understanding. When our siblings in Christ reach out, the ELCA is there to walk beside them. These close partnerships between the churchwide organization and the Indonesian churches enable the ELCA to offer unique opportunities to join church members in their journey.

## YOUR INVITATION

Join us on a trip to Indonesia to see God's work firsthand. You will experience theological education projects, healing HIV/AIDS programs, gender justice at work in the women's crisis center, and young-adult ministries. You will find community in our siblings in Christ, rejuvenate your vision for the church, and witness the powerful impact of companion relationships at work in the world.

## TENTATIVE TRIP ITINERARY: OCT. 3-16, 2024

<b>Oct. 3</b>	Depart from U.S.
<b>Oct. 5</b>	Arrive in Medan, North Sumatra. Transfer to Pematangsiantar.
<b>Oct. 6</b>	Worship at HKI and GKPS congregations.
<b>Oct. 7-8</b>	Conversation with HKI and GKPS, visits to church projects, learning about Indonesian church and theology.
<b>Oct. 9</b>	Cultural exposure on Samosir Island.
<b>Oct. 10</b>	Morning on Samosir Island. Travel to Balige.
<b>Oct. 11</b>	Visit in Balige with HKBP to learn about deaconess program and HKBP HIV Ministry. Travel to Tarutung.
<b>Oct. 12</b>	Conversation with HKBP about Indonesian church and its history.
<b>Oct. 13</b>	Worship at one or more HKBP congregations.
<b>Oct. 14</b>	Travel back to Pematangsiantar.
<b>Oct. 15</b>	Depart from Medan and begin trip home.
<b>Oct. 16</b>	Arrive back in U.S.

## COST PER PERSON: \$5,500

This cost includes 13 days of travel—airfare, lodging, transportation and food. All overnight stays will be in hotels. *The cost does not include domestic transportation to/from departure airport, personal extended stays, personal purchases or alcohol.*

## REGISTRATION

To register or for more information, please contact Jennifer Kenyeri, manager of development events, at [Jennifer.Kenyeri@elca.org](mailto:Jennifer.Kenyeri@elca.org) or 773-380-2872.

The trip will involve long road trips, lake ferry, long periods of walking and limited access for those with mobility challenges.