We have many resources available to help you. Included with this guide are printed samples of the following materials:

- Always Being Made New ELCA Case Statement
- Campaign Commitment Brochure (it includes the commitment form)
- Always Being Made New donor envelopes
- Bulletin Inserts: (Campaign Introduction, Hunger & Malaria, Equipping Leaders, Congregations, Expanding Global Mission)
- Temple Talks (three samples)
- Campaign Letters (2 different samples) Mailing is preferred. You may send them via e-mail – just be sure you have forms on hand in your congregation.
- Sample Giving Chart

Resources you may order or access online:

- Always Being Made New Case Statement for our Lower Susquehanna Synod
- Case Statement single sheets for specific ministry areas
- Bright Spot Video Clips
- Posters

Visit www.lss-elca.org for additional resources. Look for the ABMN Logo!

Need printed copies of any of these materials? Fill out and return the order form included in this packet.

Still have questions? Remember that we are here to help you. Contact Campaign Director Donna Nicholson, your Synod Council members, and/or Conference Liaisons if you have questions or need assistance. Together we can do God’s work with our hands.

Gratitude goes a long way! Did you and your committee members and pastor remember to say THANK YOU to your individual donors?

WE say – THANK YOU for your time, creative ideas, support, and success!

Remember: It has been demonstrated again and again in the church that people are willing and able to support special causes when given the opportunity.

Inviting participation is part of that process and success.
APPENDIX ONE: BULLETIN INSERTS

All bulletin inserts are printed in duplicate on an 8 ½ by 11 sheet and are designed to be printed two-sided and cut in half to produce one bulletin insert that describes an aspect of the Always Being Made New campaign. A key verse is provided for each insert, or you may select your own verse or passage.

**Bulletin Insert #1:** Features an introduction to the campaign for our Lower Susquehanna Synod on one side and ELCA on the other side.

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? Isaiah 43:19

**Bulletin Insert #2:** Hunger and Poverty — emphasizes Malaria and Hunger on one side and one of our synodical initiatives on the other side (Peter’s Porch in Akron).

And the Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and prudent steward/manager whom his master will put in charge of his slaves, to give them their allowance of food at the proper time?” Luke 12:39-44

**Bulletin Insert #3:** Leadership and Expanded Vision for our Future — gives general details about programs and goals on one side and features a leadership story on the other side.

I became its servant according to God’s stewardship/commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known. Colossians 1:24-26

**Bulletin Insert #4:** Congregations — One side gives an overview of our goals, and the other side features a story about the Lebanon Lutheran Cooperative.

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 1 Peter 4: 7-11

**Bulletin Insert #5:** Expanding Global Mission — One side addresses strengthening our churchwide partnerships to sponsor missionaries, Young Adults in Global Mission, International leaders (particularly women), and global ministries. The other side features a story about missionaries Chad and Natalie Rimmer.

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith. Colossians 2:6-7a
APPENDIX TWO: TEMPLE TALKS & CAMPAIGN LETTERS

TEMPLE TALK ONE

We are invited to become a part of ALWAYS BEING MADE NEW – the five year stewardship campaign of the ELCA and our Lower Susquehanna Synod!

What is ALWAYS BEING MADE NEW? It is a stewardship opportunity to grow in our ministry as a church. We are called in many ways to serve through Christ – and the need in our synod, the United States, and our world is asking us to respond.

What are the needs? New congregations are needed in areas where our population is growing, and some congregations need a leadership boost to grow. A Disaster Response Seed Fund will enable our synod to immediately respond to floods, fires, and other disasters in our synod area.

Leadership development is critical for the future of our church. We can strengthen our Youth and Young Adult Ministry programs, our seminary in Gettysburg and its students, and our camps through the Lutheran Camping Corporation.

Hunger and poverty unfortunately are with us here and throughout the U.S. and world. We can increase by 20% what we normally give toward hunger programs through the ELCA, and we can help establish new responses to eliminate hunger in our own communities. We are closing the gap on the $500,000 synod goal to raise funds to help eradicate Malaria, especially in Africa.

Our Global Church also needs increased support for our Missionaries, Global Ministries, and to assist with the development of International Women Leaders. The Young Adults in Global Mission program (the young adults who serve for a year in missions around the world) is providing new and energetic leadership for our church.

What would you say is your passion among these ministries? You may designate your gift or gifts for any ministries you would like to support.

Thank you for considering a generous gift to strengthen our ministries through ALWAYS BEING MADE NEW.
ALWAYS BEING MADE NEW is a comprehensive mission campaign that was adopted by the Church-wide Assembly in Pittsburgh, in August 2013. Our Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly overwhelmingly voted to support the campaign in our synod in June 2014.

The Always Being Made New campaign is a five year campaign. It is under way now and will run through January 2019. Through this campaign, individuals may make a pledge to the ministry (or ministries) that they choose. A legacy gift, such as placing a commitment in your estate, is possible, too. And cash gifts are welcome!

Are you aware that approximately half of the citizens in our country are living at the poverty level – or below? They are making the choice of paying the rent so they are not homeless or buying food to feed their families. Which would you choose? Responding to these challenges are some of the initiatives our synod is launching and for which funding is needed. Programs like Ruth’s Harvest (started as a collaboration of Hanover area churches at St. Matthew in Hanover) are sending backpacks of food home with children from school on Friday so they have food to eat over the weekend. Programs like breakfast at Holy Trinity in Lancaster, meals and groceries at Peter’s Porch at Zion in Akron and Faith United in Denver, and cooperative food pantries are providing food and spiritual nourishment for people in our area.

One purpose of the campaign is to help us grow in our understanding of our ministries and our stewardship response to those ministries God has called us to sustain and increase. It is a campaign that is “Above and Beyond” our regular benevolence giving. In some cases (Hunger and Malaria, for example) what we are already doing in those areas will be counted. For Hunger we are seeking a 20% expansion in our giving to those needs. It is an opportunity for us to GROW as the disciples of Christ! And, it gives each of us an opportunity to support the ministry for which we have a passion.

Our church is in the business of changing lives through Christ. Every one of the choices that you are able make on the commitment form has the possibility of changing the life of a neighbor. It may make a change immediately, or it may plant a seed that will be nurtured and grow. It may even do both! The world is made better because the Church is here. By working TOGETHER as synod and the whole ELCA we can make a significant impact in the world.

It is time in the life of our church that each of us consider a generous gift - “… GIVE, and it will be given to you. A GOOD MEASURE, pressed down, shaken together, running over; will be put into your lap; FOR THE MEASURE YOU GIVE WILL BE THE MEASURE YOU GET BACK.” Luke 6:38

Thank you!
TEMPLE TALK THREE

Every day – as individuals, we are “Always Being Made New.” Every day, in the life of our church, we are “Always Being Made New” through Christ.

Our response to the five-year comprehensive stewardship campaign of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and our Lower Susquehanna Synod gives each of us an opportunity to support and grow the ministries we have been called to fulfill.

In his book, Not Your Parents’ Offering Plate, J. Clif Christopher offers these startling statistics: In 1995 there were 370,000 religious institutions in America and 600,000 nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organizations. Today there are still 370,000 religious institutions but more than 1.8 million nonprofit organizations – over 1 million are 501(c)(3) organizations. As a church, our challenges, opportunities and competition have grown. We have the power of working together as a church to effect change in our synod, through the ELCA, and as a church in the world.

“Always Being Made New” is challenging us to partner together to sustain and grow our congregations, support disability ministries, and establish a Disaster Response Seed Fund for our synod. We are called to feed the hungry and support the ELCA Malaria Campaign. Our Global Church reaches the hungry in the world through its missionaries, Young Adults in Global Mission and through developing International Women Leaders. Every time I turn on the faucet I think of those in need of a well so they can draw water to drink, cook or bathe. This is a part of our ministry as Christians.

Another challenge before us is in developing the leadership skills of our youth and young adults and for students in seminary, so that our church will flourish in the future. The majority of our leaders acknowledge their church camping experience as the seed for their call to serve Christ in the Church. We can work together to develop leadership.

Next Sunday is our Commitment Sunday for “Always Being Made New.” Thank you for prayerfully considering your generous “Above and Beyond” support for our church. Imagine the difference you can make as we work together to love and serve our neighbors.
Dear Member and Friend of _________________ Lutheran Church,

Can you believe the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America AND our Lower Susquehanna Synod are 25 years of age? We are now “officially” a whole generation!

To celebrate our 25th Anniversary, in 2013 the ELCA Churchwide Assembly voted to adopt the ALWAYS BEING MADE NEW 25th Anniversary Campaign. In June 2014 our Lower Susquehanna Synod overwhelming voted to adopt the campaign in our Synod.

Why are we celebrating this way? We are “managers” of the gifts God has given to us. In turn, we are “managers” of the ministries God has placed in our care.

You can see by the enclosed invitation that we have some growing to do in our ministries. TOGETHER, as generous Lutherans, we can provide funding to renew congregations and start new ones – in new ways. We can establish a seed fund so when disaster strikes in our area we are prepared to assist the victims. We can increase our hunger ministry funding by 20% and we can reach our synod goal of $500,000 to help control Malaria in the world.

TOGETHER, we can grow the future of our church by providing funding for students in seminary, expand our youth and young adult ministries, and support the expansion of the Lutheran Camping Ministry in our synod.

And, TOGETHER, we can help spread the Word through the ministry of our Global Church. With additional funding for our missionaries, Young Adults in Global Mission, Global Ministries and the development of International Women Leaders we can spread the Gospel throughout the world.

Please join Always Being Made New by pouring out a generous measure of yourself and your resources as TOGETHER we strengthen our shared ministries and mission.

Together in Christ,

Signed by Congregation Leader, and/or Pastor/Council Chair
CAMPAIGN LETTER TWO

(Mail prior to Commitment Sunday. Be sure to include the Commitment brochure!)

Dear Member and Friend of ____________________________ Lutheran Church,

For the past month we have been growing in our understanding of Always Being Made New, the 25th Anniversary campaign of the ELCA and our Lower Susquehanna Synod. The campaign is an opportunity for us as members to make designated gifts to those ministries for which we have the most passion. It is an opportunity for us to grow as stewards in response to God’s command of caring for our neighbors.

Which ministry are you most passionate about? Are you concerned about the future of our Church and its leadership? Are you aware of the hungry, physically and spiritually, in our midst? Are you concerned about revitalizing existing churches or establishing new ones in areas of population growth? As strife exists throughout our world, can spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Global Ministries be a peaceful influence?

To quote the Rev. James Dunlop, our Lower Susquehanna Synod bishop: “Our world hungers for what ELCA Lutherans offer best through our congregations, our Lower Susquehanna Synod, and our churchwide ministries. These times challenge us to go outside our comfort zones and beyond our own walls to reach God’s beloved people here in Central Pennsylvania and beyond. Together we equip leaders, encourage cooperation, and engage a rapidly changing world in new and radical ways.”

This is “God’s work. Our Hands.” Together we are feeding others as we have been fed by Christ.

God’s Blessings to each of you,

Committee member, Pastor, Council member
Always Being Made New Resource Order Form

Please send me (order in increments of 25 unless otherwise indicated):

Always Being Made New Case Statement: __________

Campaign Commitment Brochure/Giving Form __________

Always Being Made New donor envelopes: __________

Bulletin Insert One (Introduction to Campaign) __________

Bulletin Insert Two (Hunger & Malaria) __________

Bulletin Insert Three (Equipping Leaders) __________

Bulletin Insert Four (Congregations) __________

Bulletin Insert Five (Expanding Global Mission) __________

Case Statement Packet (sent in packs of 10) __________

Posters (one pack per congregation, please) __________

Campaign Video DVDs (one per congregation) __________

Check our synod website (www.lss-elca.org) frequently for updates on resources to download at no cost!

Date of Request: ______________________________________

To whose attention should resources be sent? _____________________________________________

Congregation: _______________________________________________________________________

Mailing Address: _____________________________________________________________________

City: _____________________________________________________  Zip Code__________________

Phone Number: ___________________________ E-mail: _____________________________________

Mail or fax request to: Denise Ferguson, Always Being Made New, Lower Susquehanna Synod ELCA, 900 S. Arlington Avenue Suite 220B, Harrisburg, PA 17109

Phone: 717-652-1852 ext. 114 / Fax: 717-652-2504 / Toll Free in PA 800-692-7282