

Young Adults in Global Missions (YAGM)

What is yagm?

The ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program is a one-year international service learning opportunity for young adults, ages 21-29. These young adults serve alongside companion church bodies and organizations in one of thirteen countries around the world in a transformative, cross-cultural journey of service.

Current YAGM country programs include: Argentina & Uruguay, Australia, Cambodia, Central Europe, Jerusalem/West Bank, Madagascar, Mexico, Rwanda, Senegal, Southern Africa, and the United Kingdom. YAGM volunteers begin international service in August, returning to the US in late July or early August of the following year.

It costs the ELCA an average of \$15,000 to send a YAGM volunteer for a year of international service. Of that total cost, the ELCA covers nearly 70%. YAGM volunteers commit to a \$5,000 fundraising effort to contribute to the cost of service.

All Saints Lutheran Church has been sponsoring YAGM volunteers since 2012. Through their experiences related via newsletters, blogs and emails, we have learned about the rewarding programs they are participating in. We have had the privilege of having several volunteers visit All Saints and participate in our Missionary Sundays in October at which time they have shared their experiences and, most importantly, the spiritual and meaningful journey experienced in their year abroad in their host countries.

All Saints YAGM Volunteers:



Hannah Harmon, a nurse from Denver who served in Mahajanga, Madagascar July 2012-2013. She served in a clinic called Project Shalom and travelled to remote regions providing health care. She was also an English conversation partner at a local Lutheran Seminary and taught English to a group of young children.



Ian Stitt, from Wheatridge, CO. and who served in Toliara, Madagascar July 2013-2014 providing support for a community center, other ministries of the Malagasy Lutheran Church and in a Lutheran supported school for blind and visually impaired children.



Lauren Amundsen, from Santa Barbara, CA. who served in Tepozlan, Mexico July 2014-2015 where she worked with a non-profit environmental organization working on clean water and sanitation in her community.



Charlotte Flynn, from Albuquerque, NM. who served in Budapest, Hungary 2015-2016 where she worked in education and human rights with the Romani (formerly gypsy) people.



Timothy Slivensky, from Longview, TX. who is serving in the Holy Land, Bethlehem/West Bank July 2016-2017 where he is teaching English at Dar Al-Kalima, a high school, and working at the Environmental Education center helping with grant writing.