Argentina and Chile | March 5-15, 2027







> *Go! Absolutely go! You will learn so much, and your heart will be filled with love.*
>
> —MEG EVANS

The Lutheran churches of Latin America and the Caribbean have heard the cry of the poor. A minority denomination in an overwhelmingly Roman Catholic region, these churches have responded to that cry with a holistic ministry that serves the community and blends word and sacrament with advocacy and ministry in education, human rights, migrant relief, gender and economic justice, and opposition to human trafficking.

In Argentina and Uruguay, the United Evangelical Lutheran Church (IELU), is comprised of more than 10,000 members spread throughout congregations and missions in five districts. The ELCA accompanies the IELU with grants for training pastors, preventing gender-based violence and promoting sustainable livelihoods for vulnerable communities. The ELCA supports these ministries and the church at large by sending personnel, including long-term missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission volunteers.

In Chile, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile (IELCH) has 3,000 members in ten congregations across the country. With the partnership of the ELCA through grants and personnel, IELCH serves its members and neighbors through education, community development and social supports with a focus on solidarity and service. In a country that experiences significant migration, primarily from Venezuela and Haiti, the ELCA partners with IELCH as they strive to be a space of response, welcome and accompaniment to those who seek a better life in Chile. For more than 40 years, ELCA World Hunger and IELCH have empowered and helped sustain *Educación Popular en Salud* (EPES), a public health organization seeking to protect and promote every Chilean's right to health, right to proper nutrition, and a life free of violence, in response to the specific needs expressed by women, people living with HIV/AIDS and the immigrant population.

Your Invitation

Join us on a trip to Argentina and Chile to see God's work firsthand. You will experience development projects in vulnerable communities and with women and migrants, Lutheran institutions training future lay and pastoral leaders for their specific ministry contexts, and witness how these leaders and ministries are forming ELCA young adults through Young Adults in Global Mission. 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.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America





Tentative Trip Itinerary: March 5-15, 2027

March 5 Depart from the U.S.

March 6 Morning arrival in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Meeting with the leadership of the IELU in the afternoon.

March 7 Morning worship at a local congregation, followed by sightseeing and rest.

March 8 Meeting with Young Adults in Global Mission country coordinator and volunteers; visit YAGM sites and justice and human rights initiatives.

March 9 Visit to the Contextual Pastoral Institute and IELU ministries; meeting with International Leadership Program (ILP) scholarship recipients.

March 10 Visit La Marbunta, a ministry providing support to women in situations of violence. Evening travel from Buenos Aires to Santiago, Chile.

March 11 Meeting with the leadership of the IELCH; visit to a migrant ministry.

March 12 Visit IELCH's ministries and the Evangelical Theological Community of Chile.

March 13 Visit to EPES. Meet with ILP scholarship recipients.

March 14 Worship at a local congregation, followed by sightseeing and rest. Late evening departure to the U.S.

March 15 Arrive back in the U.S.



> *These trips are a dynamic way to see God's love in action! I heard so many stories, and now I carry them with me to share.*
>
> —DOREEN RINAS

Cost Per Person $4,700

This cost includes nine days of travel—airfare, lodging, transportation and food, as well as an allowance for estimated domestic travel costs. The cost does not include personal extended stays, personal purchases or alcohol. Additional costs may apply based on final cost of domestic airfare for individual departure airports.

Registration

To register or for more information, please contact Jennifer Kenyeri, manager of development events, at **Jennifer.Kenyeri@elca.org** or **773-380-2872**.

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