

## Why Mission Interpreters are Important

---

Interpreting our mission is not just a “good thing to do.” It is what we are called to do as part of the ELCA in order to build up the body and to make Christ known throughout the world.

“Mission comes from the Latin, ‘missio.’ It literally means, ‘I send,’ with God being the one who sends us out to do God’s mission in the world. Mission Interpretation means telling the story of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ. Go and tell...it’s what the church is all about.”

Bishop Wolfgang Herz-Lane



## We Have an Amazing Story to Tell

Working together, we are making Christ known in ways no individual member or single part of the church could do alone!

- We support Christ’s mission around the world
- We support new and renewing congregations
- We provide congregations with resources
- We train and equip pastors and other leaders
- We support education
- We help the poor and powerless
- We support each other as partners in ministry

## Are You Willing to Serve?

Please prayerfully consider becoming a mission interpreter. You are qualified if you have been baptized.

Contact Claudia Harrington, 301-662-8814 or [claudia280@comcast.net](mailto:claudia280@comcast.net) for additional information or to volunteer.



## MISSION INTERPRETERS

---

Delaware– Maryland Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

*God’s Work, Our Hands*



“For we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

Acts 4:20

Sharing the Good News  
of Christ’s Mission  
throughout the Church

## What Do Mission Interpreters Do?



Mission Interpreters, volunteers from congregations in each synod of the ELCA, go into

local churches to tell the story of how our offerings and gifts are transformed into effective ministries. They remind us of how we make a difference in Christ's mission and the work of the church, and they **thank** our people for their faithful giving.

This is primarily done through minute for mission spots, visits with councils or committees, and helping to share information, provide resources, and give guidance on doing God's Work, with Our Hands

Mission Interpreters are trained in the various aspects of church ministry and mission and have resources available to share the stories.

### MI Qualifications

- Be faith-filled, loving Christ and the church
- Be knowledgeable about the ELCA
- Be an active member of a congregation
- Be a strong steward
- Be willing to attend training sessions
- Be willing to make congregational visits

## BENEFITS OF MISSION INTERPRETATION

- When members understand their identity as partners in a wider church, they become strong advocates supporting the mission and ministry we share beyond the congregation through the DE-MD Synod and the ELCA.
- The Mission Interpreter Ministry helps congregations by increasing the understanding of the work we do together beyond the congregation.
- By looking beyond the congregation, members see how they are personally connected to mission and ministry around the world!
- "Mission minded" congregations are growing in membership and spirit!

### Mission Interpreters Receive

- Training Workshops
- Resource Materials
- Inspiration
- Networking
- Annual Gathering to share ideas and information



## Mission Interpreters are willing to:

- Share one story per quarter in a minute for mission, Sunday school lesson, visit to church council, newsletter article, bulletin board or display.
- Visit another congregation as invited.
- Attend one training workshop, and, if possible, one annual gathering per year to share ideas.
- Commit to the Mission Interpreter Ministry for two years.



**MISSION INTERPRETERS  
DO NOT SERVE AS  
FUNDRAISERS OR  
PROMOTERS OF LOCAL  
ACTIVITIES**