

November 2014 #53

A Day in the Life...

Dear Friends,

I am taking a short, one month break from writing my article, 'A Day in the Life.' Thank you for your understanding. Please look for my article about our mission in Ghana to return in the December issue of the Lectern.

Blessings, Pastor Ben

ELCA Disaster Response

Ebola Outbreak Response

The Situation:

In the last several months, the Ebola outbreak has claimed thousands of lives. The virus has spread rapidly, and with no approved vaccine and a high fatality rate, the World Health Organization is now calling it "one of the world's most lethal diseases." Ebola has spread to multiple countries, the hardest hit being Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea.

In addition to health care, one of the most urgent needs is food. As people in affected areas are quarantined to their homes, towns are being shut down to limit the spread of the virus and people are not able to work, harvest crops or purchase food. The shipment of food has also stopped because people from other countries fear contracting the virus.

**Communion during
cold and flu season**