

News Briefing

March 2009

Congregational Newsletter Insert

NT-NL Synod, ELCA

To follow the links underlined in the print version, go first to the electronic version posted, in English and *en Espanol*, at www.ntnl.org/news_events.asp.



DISCIPLELIFE UNIVERSITY

It's back to school for all who are eager to sharpen their skills and understandings as they seek to live out their *DiscipleLife*. Imagine a full day of courses – taught by expert and practiced instructors – covering critical topics for the church today. That's the upcoming **DISCIPLELIFE UNIVERSITY**. Course topics will include growing your church, web essentials, tools for mission, world hunger awareness, growing generosity, understanding Muslims, youth and family ministry, Lutheran basics (taught in English and in Spanish), the new Lutheran Study Bible, and much, much more. You can pick three from the 30+ possibilities listed in our [DLU Catalog](#). Your registration will include lunch and all materials.

But the learning opportunities won't end there. All university participants will be treated to a presentation (DL-400) by **Kelly Fryer**, well-known author ([Reclaiming the "L" Word](#) and others), speaker, and inspiration behind [A Renewal Enterprise](#). Known for her creative insights into the challenges for transformation and renewal in the church today, Kelly will help us focus our *DiscipleLife* energies on all our opportunities for mission. Her presentations are offered with energy and vision and are sure to encourage us all in our discipleship.



And there's still more: like the opportunity to join in a massive servant-event experience as DLU participants take time before dinner to help pack 20,000 hygiene kits for [Lutheran Disaster Response](#) to use in their ministry to those displaced by disasters of every kind.



LOST AND FOUND – a nationally known singing duo – will join us and will offer a concert as a conclusion to the DLU. They have a fun, interactive style as they present their music and their message using piano and guitar, singing ballads reminiscent of John Denver or the Ramones.

The DLU takes place on Saturday, April 25, beginning with registration at 8 a.m. Voting members to the annual Synod Assembly will set aside their regular agenda in order to attend the university. [Registration](#) for the university and for the Synod Assembly can be found on the synod's web site. Discounts are provided for registrations completed online rather than by mail.

2009 NT-NL SYNOD ASSEMBLY
April 24-26, 2009
The Plano Centre, Plano



NT-NL DiscipleLife

Hope, Cedar Hill & Shepherd King, Lubbock & St. Olaf, Cranfills Gap are all engaged in visioning processes. ≈ **Calvary, Richland Hills**, was one of the congregations involved in the *Souper Bowl of Caring*. ≈ **Trinity, Fort Worth**, had a panel discussion on *God's Economy* with Bishop Kanouse. ≈ **Hope, Springtown**, WELCA offered a prayer/serenity garden. ≈ **Our Redeemer, Grand Prairie**, began a kid's *Liturgy of the Word* as a breakout time during worship. ≈ **Central, Dallas** is preparing layettes for Lutheran World Relief.

FYI...

March Emphasis: [Lutheran Sunset Ministries](#) and [Mosaic](#)

- ❖ This year's Synod Assembly bookstore will feature books written by local ELCA members. Let us know who you are by contacting the bookstore manager, [Sandy Sharp](#).
- ❖ A Task Group is being formed to address creation care and eco-justice within the synod. Its purpose is to help us fulfill the 2008 Synod Assembly's resolution to join the [Lutheran Earthkeeping Network](#). Info contact [Pastor Chuck Hubbard](#).
- ❖ Former Treasurer of Synod, Deb Kopen of St. John Lutheran Church, Grand Prairie, died of cancer on January 23. *Blessed are they who die in the Lord.*
- ❖ Bishop Kevin Kanouse will host a gathering of retired rostered leaders, spouses and widows at Briarwood, March 27.
- ❖ A Lenten devotional study resource produced by the Southwestern Texas Synod's *Peace Not Walls* Task Force and based on the Sermon on the Mount is [available for download](#) on their web site.
- ❖ The Nordic Choir of [Luther College](#) presents a concert at 7:30 p.m. on March 26 at First Presbyterian in Fort Worth.

[The DiscipleLife Synod: The Northern Texas – Northern Louisiana Synod, ELCA](#) – *Sowing and Growing Disciples of Jesus*

To receive *News Briefing* electronically or by regular mail, contact SynodOffice@ntnl.org, 214.637.6865.