

# News Briefing

February 2010

NT-NL Synod, ELCA

Congregational Newsletter Insert. More information available at [www.ntnl.org](http://www.ntnl.org)



## Look for us in Amarillo!

In recent years Synod Assemblies have been celebrations of the ministry and mission that we share together – as well as a time to gain insights, to become re-invigorated, and to care for basic business matters. This assembly will do all this and more. On April 23-25 the NT-NL Synod will gather in the Amarillo Civic Center to worship, to join in a Festival of learning opportunities, to hear from our Bishop Kevin Kanouse and our ELCA representative, the Rev. Stephen Bouman, to enjoy entertainment from Andy Wilkinson – a cowboy poet, to eat BBQ, and to hear presentations from Dr. L. Shannon Jung (St. Paul School of Theology). Visit the NT-NL web site ([www.ntnl.org](http://www.ntnl.org)) to learn more about this grand annual event. Come as a Voting Member or come as a Visitor!

### Three Great Learning Opportunities

- **Custom Designed: A Life Worthy of the Call**  
Feb. 19-20: Expect some guidance and wisdom on questions like Who am I? What am I to do? from this seminar. The course helps you discover, discern and incorporate God's unique call into your life. Calvary, Richland Hills, \$50 (register at [dean@PLMAcademy.org](mailto:dean@PLMAcademy.org)).
- **Conflict Transformation Skills for Churches**  
Feb. 27: Here's helpful information about leadership and involvement during times of unrest or conflict in the congregation. Reflect on communication skills, strategies, decision-making and transformational opportunities. Faith, Flower Mound, \$45 ([flc@faithflowermound.org](mailto:flc@faithflowermound.org)).
- **The Ethics of Food**  
March 20: Concerned about world hunger? Explore how personal food choices and public policy impact the environment, the economy, personal health as well as neighbors near and far. Walnut Hill, Dallas (info contact [chuck.hubbard@yahoo.com](mailto:chuck.hubbard@yahoo.com)).

### *NT-NL DiscipleLife*

**Covenant, Temple**, promoted the ELCA *Good Gifts* program as well as the *Heifer Project* and others. ≈ **Good Shepherd, Irving** has a *Facebook* page and daily devotional materials on their web site. ≈ **Beautiful Savior, Amarillo**, took a meal to the local *Another Chance House*. ≈ **Trinity, Wichita Falls**, has a *Grab Your Hat Ministry* (wearing funny hats during shut-in visits). ≈ **St. Luke's, Richardson**, is considering the possibility of a *Memorial Garden* with columbarium. ≈ **Rejoice, Coppell**, put *Faith5* on their web site (Faith Acts in the Home). ≈ **Grace, Carrollton**, has a *Job Transitional Support Group*. ≈ **St. John, Coryell City**, collects food for the *Gatesville Care Center*. ≈ Several congregations have hosted a visit by **Pastor Kate Warn**, our Pastor in Residence in Sierra Leone and/or promoted her blog (<http://onmissionsierraleone.wordpress.com>). ≈ **St. Matthew, Waco**, is considering becoming a seminary internship site. ≈ **Bethel, Avoca**, has a sister congregation in Sierra Leone – *King of Kings*. ≈ **Zion, Priddy**, actively participates in the *Cherish Our Children* initiative.

**FYI...** **February Emphasis:** Pray for our *Mission Partners Program* and our *Journey into Lent*

- ❖ **Synodical Women's Organization:** Congratulations to the new officers of SWO: Leslie Dunlap, (St. John, Winters) President; Parma Kersten (New Life in Christ, Duncanville), Vice President; Sharlene Berg (Trinity, Sherman), Secretary; and Edie Fife (Our Savior, Mesquite), Treasurer.
- ❖ **Baobab Blast** is the new VBS curriculum from Augsburg Fortress. It is an open invitation to be a part of God's Great Get-Together. Learn more and order a Starter Kit at [www.thevbsplace.org](http://www.thevbsplace.org).
- ❖ Applications are now being accepted for **Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM)** – a one-year international service opportunity for ELCA young adults ages 19-29. Go to [www.elca.org/yagm](http://www.elca.org/yagm).
- ❖ The **Global Mission Lenten Series** is based on the daily lectionary and offers sermon starters, pictures, soup recipes for Lenten suppers, prayer petitions and liturgical resources. Go to [www.elca.org/globalmission/lent](http://www.elca.org/globalmission/lent).
- ❖ The annual benefit to support Mosaic in Dallas, the **Heart & Soul Gala**, is set for Feb. 13 at the Doubletree Hotel in Richardson. Info contact [www.mosaicinfo.org/heartandsoul](http://www.mosaicinfo.org/heartandsoul).

The *DiscipleLife Synod: The Northern Texas – Northern Louisiana Synod, ELCA* – *Sowing and Growing Disciples of Jesus*

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