

News Briefing

July 2010

Congregational Newsletter Insert. More information available at www.ntnl.org

NT-NL Synod, ELCA



Sowing and Growing Disciples of Jesus

St. Matthew, Waco, started a Cancer support group. ≈ **Midland, Midland**, adults studied the book *Once and Future Church*. ≈ **First United, Dallas**, hosted a *Midsummer Night Festival* of art and music on June 27. ≈ **St. Paul, Crawford**, participated in the third annual *Festival of Faiths*. ≈ **Trinity, Fort Worth**, hosted a Jazz Mass. ≈ **Immanuel, Killeen**, helped build a house in Juarez, Mexico. ≈ **First, Temple**, has organized a Praise Band. ≈ **First, Longview**, puts family devotions and the pastor's sermons on their web site. ≈ **Calvary, Richland Hills**, held a teacher appreciation luncheon. ≈ Many congregations are encouraging tithing in their **stewardship education**. ≈ **Advent, Arlington**, hosts a Community Garden. ≈ **Four Mile, Mabank**, has put together a profile for publicity purposes. ≈ Members of **Trinity, Sherman**, spend 30 minutes each day during the summer in prayer and Bible study.

St. Paul, Farmers Branch

Blessed and a Blessing

On May 28 the congregation concluded 53 years of dedicated ministry in their community.

The service was one of praise and new life, as the congregation gathered with many friends and former members to remember, to celebrate and to look forward ... for this was more than an ending; it was also a beginning. St. Paul was determined to bless others even as they had been blessed. The sale of the property will be used to strengthen the ministries offered by Briarwood, in Sierra Leone, through the Mission Endowment Fund, in the NT-NL DiscipleLife Initiative, ELCA World Hunger and World Relief as well as a host of local charities.

Tribute by Bishop Kanouse: The people of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Farmers Branch completed their ministry in that location; they have been scattered to the four winds both in the Metroplex and far beyond. Yet their ministry will continue to live for generations because God has been faithful in using and sending them, because they have been faithful to the end, and because in their final act, they have a continuing vision of mission in Jesus' name. They will live. A resurrection indeed.



JOIN THE TOWN HALL FORUM with Bishop Mark S. Hanson



The next online Town Hall forum will take place on Saturday, August 14, at 10:30 a.m. Bishop Hanson will take questions at the live webcast which will be broadcast from Chicago as a part of the *Follow Me: Sharing the Gospel in a 2.0 World* event. Learn more at ELCA.org/townhall. The previous Town Hall forum (March 7) is also posted for on-demand viewing and download. Transcripts in English and Spanish are available.

FYI... July Emphasis: the Women's and Men's Ministries and Lutheran Sunset Ministries

- ❖ The NT-NL Mission Endowment Fund awarded \$2000 to the new **Indonesian Lutheran Mission** in north Dallas. The group meets at Preston Meadow Lutheran Church in Plano and is served by Rev. Alexander Lumingkewas.
- ❖ **Ann Svennungsen** resigned as president of Texas Lutheran University citing professional and personal considerations. Her dedication to the growth of TLU, her vision for higher education and her contributions to the development of a Strategic Plan – *Boldly Investing in Lives of Purpose* – received praise from the university's Board of Regents.
- ❖ Want to recommend a college student to the **Lutheran Campus Ministry** program closest to them? The synod's *Name Gathering Project* makes it easy. Just fill out the online form found at www.divein.lcmut.org.
- ❖ **Go in Peace; Serve the Lord**. As of June 3, 140 congregations have voted to terminate their relationship with the ELCA according to the ELCA Office of Secretary. The decision to terminate requires two separate and successful votes.
- ❖ The next **Dinner Fund Raiser** for the Mission Endowment Fund is Oct. 9 at King of Glory, Dallas. Mark it down!
- ❖ **News Briefing** now available in three formats: in a print version (PDF), in Spanish (PDF), and electronically (HTML). It is designed to be reprinted in congregational newsletters and/or shared electronically with members and friends.