



Mission Interpreters Newsletter

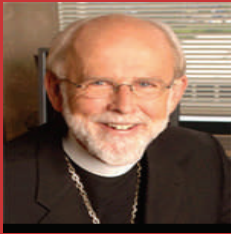
Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

AUGUST 2010

**ELCA Presiding Bishop
Calls for Immigration Re-
form in Letter to Obama**



CHICAGO (ELCA) -- If Congress does not pass comprehensive immigration reform soon, state legislators and local governments will continue to take immigration policy into their own hands, wrote the **Rev. Mark S. Hanson, presiding** bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), in a July 27 letter to U.S. President Barack Obama.

"This would create an untenable patchwork of differing local laws and produce confusion for law enforcement officials and lawfully present people, as well as increased suffering for the undocumented," wrote Hanson.

Responding to Obama's June speech on the need for immigration reform, Hanson thanked the president for his speech and wrote that, as presiding bishop of the ELCA, he sees firsthand the "direct consequences of inaction on this issue for immigrant families, for congregations, and for communities across the United States."

"Flea Market" at Holy Trinity, Irving TX

"We cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard!" Acts 4:20

What started out as a no frills church yard sale at Holy Trinity, Irving has evolved into a monthly flea market that draws vendors and shoppers from the local neighborhood as well as from across the Dallas – Fort Worth metro area. The development of the market took place under the leadership of PLM Angie Hartman, a member of Holy Trinity, as she focused on this ministry as a part of her internship project some four or five years ago.

Each month the church hosts 15 – 20 vendors who offer for sale such items as homemade crafts, fresh vegetables, new products, and traditional garage sale merchandise. Members of the congregation provide breakfast for vendors and volunteers, ensure that the market runs smoothly, and also offer freshly prepared snack and lunch items for sale to hungry shoppers throughout the day.

The Rev. Norma Cooper, pastor of Holy Trinity, is excited about this ministry because it

provides a place for members of the neighborhood to meet, socialize, and purchase items at reasonable prices. She also has noticed the development of a real sense of community among the regular vendors and shoppers. She is pleased that four people have joined the congregation as a direct result of this ministry so far.

The market is held on the second Saturday of each month (except December and January) from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm at the church – 2901 N. O'Connor Blvd., Irving 75062.



VBS in the Community, "Sharing the Love of Jesus"

Santa Maria de Guadalupe, Irving TX

Santa Maria de Guadalupe Lutheran Church held VBS in the community. "Sharing the Love of Jesus" June 21-25, 2010, 6:30 p.m. 9:30 p.m. Thirty people participated in the 2010 Vacation Bible School. They began with a bible study for adults, youth, and children. Every day after the bible study they went to different places around the community of Irving.

Tuesday they went to the new water park; Thursday they went to Skateland, and the last day of VBS they had a cook out at the park and games for the kids. This is the fourth year they have done this wonderful VBS for the congregation and the community. They believe going out to the community enriches the congregation and the community of Irving. This is a great opportunity for Santa Maria to be witnesses to "Sharing the Love of Jesus" with others. The following Sunday they had several new families join the worship service.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.