

Leader News

An E-Note to NT-NL Rostered Leaders



September Announcements



From Conflict to Healing: Experiencing Reconciliation -- is the theme of this year's Bishop's Convocation on October 18-20 at Briarwood. Our presenters have fresh and insightful ideas to offer. **Lee Taft** of *Taft Solutions* holds both a law degree and the M.Div. **Pr. Mae Jean Zelle** is one of NT-NL's Conflict Consultants. Download the [brochure](#) to learn more.



You'll recall the hope and energy that was evident at the 2010 Synod Assembly as an emerging vision of our life together was presented. We tossed around ideas (beach balls) about what we would want our shared life to look like. That conversation continues now in six **Living DiscipleLife** gatherings around our mission territory this fall and winter (see the [brochure](#)). Bring several members with you to one of these:

- Oct. 23 - Good Shepherd, Marshall
- Nov. 13 - St. Matthew's, Waco
- Dec. 4 - Shepherd King, Lubbock
- Jan. 15 - St. Luke's, Richardson
- Jan. 29 - Calvary, Richland Hills
- Mar. 26 - Bethel, Avoca

Online Town Hall Forum: Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson has scheduled another Town Hall Forum in which he addresses questions that have been submitted. This

forum takes place on September 19 at 4-5 p.m. The [online webcast](#) information explains how to submit questions and login for the event.

The theme of the 2010 LYO Jr. High Gathering is **JC Family Reunion**. The event features a return visit from the enormously popular *Agape*. Look for the Gathering at the DFW Airport Marriott South on November 12-14. Go online for [registration materials](#).

Barbara Rossing is offering an address to rostered leaders (an ecumenical gathering) on Monday, September 20, at 10:30 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Fort Worth. Her topic is *Countering the Rapture in the Left Behind Belt*.

Lutheran Men in Mission hold their fall retreat at Meridian State Park on Oct. 15-17. Learn more [online](#).

Her Excellency, Pastor Marie Barnett (Sierra Leone's Ambassador to Liberia and pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone) was recently awarded an honorary doctorate from the Methodist University in Liberia in recognition of her special service to church, to country, and to the cause of women.

Do you **Twitter**? If not and you want to try it, here's an easy way to get hooked in. On your cell phone, go to text messaging. In the "To" box, type **40404**. Then in the "message box" type **Follow @ELCA**. That's it. You'll start receiving a daily devotional verse.

German War Brides: a graduate student at UNT is doing an oral history project -- interviewing women (born in Germany) who married into German American families. If you know of such a person, please refer them to the [UNT student, Simone](#) (940.387.2282).

The Lutheran Seminary Program in the Southwest recently received a generous grant from Holden Village following Dr. Jay Alanis' workshops at Holden's annual *Abriendo Camino* (Opening the Way) event for Latino families.

Congregational Leadership Academy during Lent, 2011 -- an opportunity for you and a couple of your key leaders to

- Build a Leadership Team
- Understand congregational dynamics
- Enhance skills for leadership
- Become a healthier congregation
- Get a vision of wellness and resiliency

The Academy is composed of three sessions -- Feb. 3-4, Mar. 3-4 and Apr. 1-2. [Learn more online](#).

The **Parish Lay Ministry Academy**'s fall term begins on Sept. 11. Topics include Pauline Theology, Worship and Church History. Learn more on their [web site](#).

King of Glory, Dallas, offers a series of events called **Gusto!** The gatherings are for mature adults to stimulate the mind, energize the spirit, and enrich relationships. [Gusto!](#) is open to all.

The ELCA Board of Pensions has announced that there will be no health plan rate increase for 2011. Also, a record number of sponsored plan members took the *Health Risk Assessment* survey -- and the trends revealed by the survey are in a positive direction. A *Pre-Retirement Seminar* will be held at Briarwood on Oct. 4-5, 2011.

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And Don't Forget

The speaker for the **2011 Tri-Synodical Theological Leadership Conference** (Moody Gardens Hotel in Galveston on Jan. 24-26) is Marcus J. Borg who has suggested two books for pre-conference reading -- The Heart of Christianity and Toward a Hopeful Future. [Tri-Synodical Conference](#) information and updates will be posted on the NT-NL web site as they become available.

Lutheran Hymn Festival: this eighth annual musical event is set for September 19 at 7 p.m. at the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas. Dr. Jeffrey Blersch from Concordia University will be on the organ bench. An adult choir of 150 voices and a children's choir of 120 voices will grace the occasion. More information is available [online](#).

Campus Ministry Trivia Challenge: Oct. 24 will be a fun evening as our Campus Ministry program hosts an evening with Trivia, dinner and a silent auction. Mark the date down and watch for further information.

Justice and Immigration Reform is offered by the synod's Public Witness Team. It is scheduled for Nov. 6. Info contact [Pastor Chuck Hubbard](#).

Lifestyle Stewardship: Hope for a Healthy Future (Sept. 18, at Advent, Arlington, from 8:30 a.m. until noon) -- [this event](#) examines how we can help ourselves develop a healthier lifestyle by learning to manage food related temptations.