

# News Briefing

October 2010

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

Northern Texas – Northern Louisiana

## Hattie Hammer

*“A beloved and tireless servant-leader in the church”*



This month Texas Lutheran University awards Hattie Hammer (Our Redeemer, Grand Prairie) the *Distinguished Church Service Award* for her exemplary and lifetime service as a teacher and church leader. The list of responsibilities and opportunities that Hattie has accepted include congregational, synodical and churchwide positions, including service as president of the NT-NL Synodical Women’s Organization, as executive director of the NT-NL Mission Endowment Fund, and as a member of the DiscipleLife Council. She and her husband, Mel (a retired pastor with a long list of honors and leadership activities himself), served as the Honorary Chaircouple for the 2008 Mosaic Heart and Soul Gala. The Hammers are the parents of two TLU alums – Tim Hammer and Deborah Cabello.

### Congregational Leadership Academy – Lent, 2011

NT-NL congregations are invited to assemble a Leadership Team of 3-5 members and participate in a series of three gatherings in 2011 designed to improve their leadership skills, deepen their insights into congregational dynamics, and lay out a vision of congregational health and vitality. The Academy is one of several new “Living DiscipleLife: Leadership Formation” events that are being planned. Learn more about the Academy at [www.NTNL.org](http://www.NTNL.org) (go to *Leaders* and *Academy*).



### Days of Worship, Prayer, Conversation and Vision

The question: *What can we do better together rather than separately* as NT-NL congregations? The answer: *Leadership Formation for Mission!* That insight will be the focus of the six *Living DiscipleLife* gatherings that Bishop Kanouse will host in the coming months. You are invited to join in, share your ideas and lend your support. Learn more at “Upcoming Events” (homepage of [www.NTNL.org](http://www.NTNL.org)).

### FYI...

### October Emphasis: Texas Lutheran University

- ❖ The **Lutheran Men in Mission Fall Retreat** is Oct. 15-17 at Meridian State Park. Plans include time to kayak, canoe, bicycle, fish, hike or nap. Learn more at “Upcoming Events” (homepage of [www.NTNL.org](http://www.NTNL.org)).
- ❖ The **NT-NL Campus Ministry** program hosts a dinner, silent auction, and Trivia Challenge on Oct. 24 at Christ, Dallas, to support this critical outreach ministry. Learn more at “Upcoming Events” (homepage of [www.NTNL.org](http://www.NTNL.org)).
- ❖ NT-NL rostered leaders gather at Briarwood on Oct. 18-20 for **Bishop’s Convocation** on the theme: *From Conflict to Healing – Experiencing Reconciliation*. Featured speakers are Lee Taft and Pr. Mae Jean Zelle.
- ❖ A charitable gift annuity is a great way to support Lutheran causes while at the same time creating an income stream for yourself or someone else. Call the **Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest** for free information: 800.424.0447.
- ❖ The **NT-NL Mission Endowment Fund** invites applications for its 2011 Grants in support of missional projects. Learn more at [www.MissionEndowmentFund.org](http://www.MissionEndowmentFund.org).
- ❖ A message on **Anti-Muslim Bigotry and America’s Tradition of Religious Liberty** is posted on our web site and endorsed by Bishop Kevin Kanouse. Learn more at “Quick Links” (homepage of [www.NTNL.org](http://www.NTNL.org)).
- ❖ Want to receive **NTNL News** by email? Go to the homepage of [www.NTNL.org](http://www.NTNL.org) and sign up.
- ❖ Want to try **Twitter**? Send this text message, **Follow @ELCA**, to 40404. You’ll receive a daily devotional verse.



### Sowing and Growing Disciples of Jesus

**Christ the Servant, Allen**, offers KAMP (*Kids After-school Mentoring Program*) for grades 2-6. ≈ **First, Temple**, provides homeless families with food, shelter and day care for a week several times a year while the adults receive coaching and skills training. **St. John, Bartlett**, and **Covenant, Temple**, help out. ≈ **Central, Dallas**, dedicated a Memorial Prayer Garden. ≈ **Grace, Abilene**, sponsors a contemplative prayer group. ≈ **St. Luke’s, Richardson**, hosted a Mexican Dinner in support of the World Hunger Appeal. ≈ **First, Longview**, offered a family movie night at the church. ≈ **Four Mile, Mabank**, uses a Spiritual Gifts Inventory rather than a Time & Talent sheet.

### LYO

### Jr. High Gathering

Nov. 12-14  
DFW Marriott South  
JC Family Reunion  
Featuring Agape

Go to “Upcoming Events” on  
NTNL.org’s homepage