

Leadership Formation for DiscipleLife

A Vision for Mission

By the People of The Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Mission Area
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
For the Years 2011 — 2014



**Let us run
with perseverance...**

Therefore, since we are
surrounded by so great a cloud
of witnesses...

let us run with perseverance

the race that is set before us,
looking to Jesus the pioneer and
perfecter of our faith, who for the
sake of the joy that was set
before him endured the cross,
disregarding its shame, and has
taken his seat at the right hand of
the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1-2
NRSV

What can we do better together?

Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Lutherans are focused on **Sowing and Growing Disciples of Jesus**,
known in a word as *DiscipleLife*.

Just as the early Church disciples sought to transform each baptized disciple into a missionary in their own
community and in the world, we are dedicated to this calling with urgency, focus and passion.

Our work together is to **Form Leaders** for *DiscipleLife*.

DiscipleLife Alive! launches a three year response among our congregations, working together, to fashion a
Vision for Mission in northern Texas and Louisiana. Resources are being gathered to form clergy and lay missional
leaders for missional outreach:

Locally, by identifying mission opportunities and forming and training leaders for outreach in our communities.

Across the NT-NL Mission Area and nationally, by developing state-of-the-art online and distance training at the
NT-NL DiscipleLife Center for Mission at Briarwood and throughout our area in order to provide top-quality,
cutting edge leadership formation, and

Globally, by completing the Jubilee Lutheran Centre of our Lutheran Mission in Sierra Leone, West Africa.

DiscipleLife: Sowing and Growing Disciples of Jesus!

DiscipleLife Alive! Outcomes

As congregations and congregational leaders are formed for *DiscipleLife* :

- ✦ Every congregation will develop its own vision for mission in its community;
- ✦ Every congregation will have leaders participating in various *DiscipleLife* Academies: Leadership, Stewardship, Evangelism, and more!
- ✦ New connections will grow among congregations as they share “what works” in similar settings and for similar needs;
- ✦ Cooperative ministries will grow among congregations in close proximity;
- ✦ Leadership seminars / webinars will originate from the NT-NL DiscipleLife Center for Mission to be available through up-to-date technology across our mission area;
- ✦ Every baptized person will grow in their ability to speak about and live the Gospel of Jesus and we will be recognized in our communities as disciples of Jesus.

How will \$3 Million help us achieve our vision?

The NT-NL DiscipleLife Center for Mission at Briarwood

\$1.5 Million or 50%

Leadership formation for *DiscipleLife* will take center stage at the newly developing NT-NL DiscipleLife Center for Mission at Briarwood. With state-of-the-art technology and updated classrooms, laity and clergy will be trained, equipped, and supported as we form a new generation of missional leaders for *DiscipleLife*.

- ✦ The Summer camping ministry for children will grow and flourish in updated facilities.
- ✦ Youth and young adults will be provided opportunities for life-formation internships and growth in faith leadership.
- ✦ State-of-the-art classrooms for training adults for missional outreach will allow classes and seminars to be broadcast across our mission territory to all of our congregations so that distributive learning can take place.
- ✦ Innovative programs such as a theologian-in-residence program will be initiated.
- ✦ Support for NT-NL congregations’ mission activities will be led by the bishop’s staff, housed in part, in the DiscipleLife Center for Mission at Briarwood.

The NT-NL Mission Endowment Fund

\$1 Million or 33%

The Mission Endowment Fund will continue to identify mission opportunities to provide grants and scholarships to equip leaders for missional outreach where we worship, work and live. The Fund will receive *DiscipleLife Alive!* funds into the endowment and award grants, scholarships, and other support for events, training, and gatherings to form leaders for *DiscipleLife*. Leadership Formation activities and events held across our mission territory will be designed for laity and clergy to be formed for individual and congregational *DiscipleLife*.

Mission Sierra Leone, West Africa

\$300,000 or 10% Tithe

We will complete construction of the Sierra Leone Jubilee Centre providing global educational opportunities. The goal of February 2012 has been set for dedication of the Jubilee Centre.

DiscipleLife Alive! Support

\$200,000 or 7%

Support of the program costs to conduct and implement *DiscipleLife Alive!* Initiatives.

How Can I Help?

Pray for a missional heart for congregations and leaders across NT-NL.

Pray for a good outcome to our *DiscipleLife Alive!* Initiatives.

Consider how you will financially support the *DiscipleLife Alive!* Initiatives.