

News Briefing

January 2011

Celebrating our Ministry together
in the NT-NL Mission Area

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

DiscipleLife Alive!

A Transformation of Mind and Mission



Go to
[www
NTNL.org](http://www.NTNL.org)

and click on
*DiscipleLife /
DiscipleLife
Alive*

It's a prayer and a dream ... and so much more. It's a vision about the way we Lutherans will be present in love and action in the NT-NL mission area in the future. It's grounded in our loving response to God's grace, in our conviction that leadership formation will be at the heart of our common work, and in our expectation that mission will drive all future programming, staffing, training and organizational efforts. To do this expertly and faithfully, the vision calls for \$3 million in support from congregations and individuals to create a NT-NL DiscipleLife Center for Mission at Briarwood as a place of training and inspiration for the development of leaders, an expansion of the Mission Endowment Fund so it can support mission projects, leadership development and scholarship assistance, and a 10% tithe of all gifts received to support our global mission project: the Jubilee Centre in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Grounded in Grace to Run the Race

A new Bible study written by a variety of leaders from NT-NL (lay and clergy) will be sent to congregations in February. It's for use by individuals and groups during Lent and in preparation for the 2011 Mission Assembly. The series focuses on Hebrews 12:1-2. The study invites us to explore what the life of discipleship really means and what this means for each individual and for the future of the church as God's people.

Living DiscipleLife

Join the conversation about the future of the NT-NL. *Days of Prayer & Conversation* are planned for Jan. 15 (St. Luke's, Richardson), Jan. 29 (Calvary, Richland Hills), and Mar. 26 (Bethel, Avoca). You are invited. Info at NTNL.org.

Celebrating Our Life in the ELCA

- Enjoy **Living Lutheran** – a bright and inviting new online ELCA “magazine” that is just what it says it is: *a daily blend of stories, culture and community*. Put your bookmark on www.LivingLutheran.org.
- Read **This Church is the ELCA** – a statement of faith and thanksgiving for the ELCA, available at NTNL.org (go to downloads / toolkit).
- Read the story of **Pastor Diane Eggemeyer's** (Trinity, Miles) journey to ordination, featured in the current edition of the ELCA's *Stories of Faith in Action* and also posted at LivingLutheran.org.
- The ELCA's **Fund for Leaders** is an endowment fund that is celebrating its tenth anniversary. In these ten years over 1,000 grants to seminary students have totaled six million dollars in scholarships.

FYI...

January Emphasis: *Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone*

- ❖ NT-NL Youth Ministers offer **Peer Ministry Training** at Briarwood on February 4-6 for youth in 9th grade and older. Leadership skills are presented for youth who work with other youth. See the brochure at NTNL.org.
- ❖ This month our **Parish Lay Ministry Academy** graduates another group of PLMs who will serve in leadership roles in their home congregations. Graduation is January 29 at Calvary, Richland Hills.
- ❖ **Men's Gathering**: This is the third Gathering since 2005, involving Lutheran men from around our two-state area. It takes place in Brenham on Feb. 18-19 under the theme *I Call You My Friends*. The speaker is David Dusek, founder of *Rough Cut Men*. Info contact Davis Tubre (hdtubre@gmail.com).
- ❖ The **St. Olaf Choir** sings at the Meyerson, Dallas, on February 7. Info contact StOlafTickets.com (800.363.5487).