

# News Briefing

April 2011

Celebrating our Ministry together  
in the NT-NL Mission Area

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



## MISSION ASSEMBLY: *Serving DiscipleLife*

Hurst Conference Center, April 29 – May 1

[www.ntnl.org/index.php/assembly/2011-assembly](http://www.ntnl.org/index.php/assembly/2011-assembly)



*Bring your walking shoes, work clothes and web devices – this assembly's going to be a little different. This Mission Area is on the move...moving out into the neighborhood, into coffee shops, into poverty and want, into the world of social media and into the future as we imagine (and practice !) together the church that we are already becoming.*

Our special guest, **Ken Medema**, will supply the inspiration as he engages us all in song and reflection. Blind since birth, he is a renowned lyricist. **Pr. Kendra Mohn** (Trinity, Fort Worth) will supply the Biblical foundations as our Bible study leader. ELCA Vice President **Carlos Peña** will remind us of the countless ways we are linked to mission around the nation and globe as we celebrate our life together in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. And **Bishop Kevin Kanouse** will bring years of work on our vision and mission into focus as he officially introduces *DiscipleLife Alive!* as the open door to our shared future.

But all the talk about *mission* is little more than a “clanging cymbal” unless it also appears in acts of love. The theme of the assembly is, after all, *Serving DiscipleLife*. Imagine then, if you will, an assembly where people put down their Book of Reports for an afternoon and are seen in the area neighborhoods collecting food, or helping at a food kitchen, or talking about spiritual matters in coffee shops, or building ramps for the homebound. Imagine – but also go and do likewise. If you are a participant at the assembly, sign up when you register to join one of the dozen activities. If you cannot attend the assembly, get folks together in your home congregation on the afternoon of Saturday, April 30, to echo the activities at the assembly – gather food for the hungry, lend a hand at one of your local helping agencies, canvas the neighborhood. Then text or email us at the assembly to tell us what you have done so your efforts can be noted along with the Voting Members’. Send your info to 614.403.0060 or [ntnl.missiontechnology@gmail.com](mailto:ntnl.missiontechnology@gmail.com).



## **FYI** (Go to [www.NTNL.org](http://www.NTNL.org)) **April Emphasis: Hispanic/Latino Ministry & Mission Investment Fund**

- ❖ **Who Is My Neighbor?** is a one-day seminar that seeks to equip participants to respond from a faith perspective to immigration concerns and to the current discussions of immigration reform. Speakers include the LIRS Director for Advocacy, an economist, and the executive director of Texas Impact. It's April 9 at Christ, Dallas.
- ❖ **BLOGGING is easy:** It's a web page where anyone can leave a comment, ask a question, or offer a “brag”. You will find three blog pages listed on the homepage of NTNL.org – on DiscipleLife, the Assembly, or *DiscipleLife Alive!*
- ❖ **Genetics, Faith and Responsibility** is the newest proposed Social Statement for the ELCA. Use it in discussion groups and Sunday Studies classes and then offer your feedback. Go to [www.ELCA.org/genetics](http://www.ELCA.org/genetics).
- ❖ **The Mission Endowment Fund** awarded eleven grants to NT-NL congregations (a total of about \$19,000) for special mission projects they are undertaking – e.g. outreach to youth, educational programs, mission training, and canvassing.
- ❖ **National Gatherings:** The Eighth Triennial Gathering for Women of the ELCA is July 14-17 in Spokane. The Lutheran Men's Gathering is July 22-24 in Denver. Learn more under “Upcoming Events” on NTNL.org.
- ❖ **Briarwood Golf Tournament** – have a great time and support Briarwood at the same time. The tournament is May 6 at the Golf Club at Fossil Creek in Fort Worth. Do it for the kids. Learn more at [www.BriarwoodRetreat.org/golf.htm](http://www.BriarwoodRetreat.org/golf.htm).

The Northern Texas – Northern Louisiana Mission Area of the ELCA – *DiscipleLife: Sowing and Growing Disciples of Jesus*  
To receive News Briefing electronically, sign up at [www.ntnl.org](http://www.ntnl.org) or call 214.637.6865.