



## THE DISCIPLELIFE CENTER FOR MISSION AT BRIARWOOD

### *More than a New Facility – It's a New Vision*

*How will the congregations of the NT-NL mission area fulfill the vision of “forming leaders for mission” and thereby meet the challenges of our contemporary culture? And how will we learn, at the same time, to be “more like the first century church than the 21<sup>st</sup> century”? What can we do to concentrate our resources and focus our energy on leadership development to help us all grow in our DiscipleLife?*

**The Vision** of the *DiscipleLife Alive!* initiative is that we can address these questions by creating a place (a) where leadership education and inspiration is the daily fare, (b) where teachers with insight and renown can share best practices for outreach and congregational mission, (c) where the young can be shaped by an excitement for the faith, (d) where adults can be equipped to respond to the realities of this fast-paced, technology-driven, and religiously-indifferent culture, and (e) where the seminars and workshops can be broadcast throughout the NT-NL using the power of digital and internet media.



**The Plan** is to renovate Quail Run – the conference center area at Briarwood Retreat Center – to create a large conference room (lower half of the diagram above). New construction (upper half in the diagram) will include a smaller seminar room, food preparation area, ADA approved restrooms and an outdoor meeting space. The whole facility will be designed to fit the woody environment, to be environmentally responsible, and to be wired for every technological need. A separate facility will house the administrative offices for Briarwood and the NT-NL mission staff and will include a small chapel area.

And all this is just one piece of a three-part plan of action that will be made possible by the *DiscipleLife Alive!* initiative. Learn more at [NTNL.org](http://NTNL.org) / [DiscipleLife.org](http://DiscipleLife.org) / [DiscipleLife Alive.org](http://DiscipleLifeAlive.org).



**“Remember You Are Dust...”** – the words are as familiar to those attending Ash Wednesday services as are the ashes themselves. But they took on new meaning when the pastors of Calvary, Richland Hills, appeared before dawn just outside the TRE rail station in Richland Hills on Ash Wednesday morning to administer the ashes to the early morning travelers. This is taking mission to the people, rather than expecting people to come to us. Learn more at [www.calvaryftw.org/startelegram-03-2011.htm](http://www.calvaryftw.org/startelegram-03-2011.htm)

**FYI** (Go to [www.NTNL.org](http://www.NTNL.org)) **May Emphasis: 2011 Assembly & the Launch of DiscipleLife Alive!**

- ❖ **From Ordinary to Extraordinary: the 2011 Disciple Project** is a cross-cultural, cross-generational Leadership School for people 8th grade through adult at Texas Lutheran University June 26-30. Leadership training for all is coupled with eight different learning tracks in areas like art, dance, sports, and “camp hope”. Learn more and register at [www.gulfcoastsynod.org/DiscipleProject.html](http://www.gulfcoastsynod.org/DiscipleProject.html).
- ❖ **Congregational Observers:** each ELCA Churchwide Assembly makes provision for every congregation to send an observer. This is a great opportunity to learn about the national and global work of the ELCA. The next ELCA Assembly is August 15-19 in Orlando, Florida. Learn more at [www.elca.org/assembly](http://www.elca.org/assembly).
- ❖ **The Lutheran Advantage Scholarship:** Texas Lutheran University in Seguin has announced a new scholarship created especially for Lutheran students. It is worth up to \$14,500. Learn more at [www.tlu.edu](http://www.tlu.edu).
- ❖ **Augsburg Fortress Resources:** For a snapshot of what's new go to “Quick Links” on the homepage of [NTNL.org](http://NTNL.org).