

News Briefing

June 2011

Celebrating our Ministry together
in the NT-NL Mission Area

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

The 2011 NT-NL Mission Assembly Hurst Conference Center: April 29 – May 1

Serving DiscipleLife was the assembly theme – and also something the participants in the 2011 Mission Assembly practiced, pledged, prayed and planned about.

Practiced—in an afternoon of servant activities; **Pledged**—in giving \$12,550 in offerings and \$47,400 in pledges for DiscipleLife Alive!; **Prayed** about—in worship, song and Bible study offered by area congregations and our two speakers Ken Medema and Pastor Kendra Mohn; and **Planned** about—as the assembly committed itself to the future ministry and mission described by the DiscipleLife Alive! initiative.

We Got Connected

- Our first assembly to use Facebook and Twitter.
- Our first assembly to meet people in neighborhoods, coffee shops and social service agencies.

We Got Active

- Collected 2800 canned goods while walking neighborhoods for nearly 3 hours.
- Prepared 625 bags of breakfast foods and wrote 100 letters of encouragement for homeless folks.
- Gave enough blood to help 140 people.
- Built two ramps for disabled persons.
- Held 11 Bible studies in coffee shops and bookstores.
- Sent 100 people to work for the afternoon in the food bank and two area homeless shelters.
- Heard from about 10 congregations of the serving that they were doing in tandem with the assembly.

We Adopted Resolutions

- Supporting the *DiscipleLife Alive!* initiative.
- Calling for congregational financial support for the Lutheran Seminary Program in the Southwest.
- Calling for the NT-NL to align with anti-bullying efforts.
- Endorsing the Louisiana Inter-Church Conference's efforts to support and advocate for children.
- Approving the 2012 Mission Strategy and the 2012 Care & Compensation guidelines.



DiscipleLife Alive! was the chief focus of the assembly's deliberations. The assembly got to view three new *DLA!* videos that describe the initiative. The assembly offered a strong and supportive response, seeing in *DLA!* a vision for the direction and ministry that the congregations of this mission area will embrace together for the future. "DiscipleLife" will now center in our shared work to *form leaders for mission*.

Learn More: To see a scrapbook of assembly photos, read Bishop's comments on the assembly, read a recap of assembly actions or comment using our Assembly Blog, go to www.NTNL.org and look under the tab for "Assembly". To read the conversation that took place on Facebook during the assembly, go to www.Facebook.com and search for "NTNL Mission Assembly 2011". To learn about the DiscipleLife Alive! initiative (and link to the new videos) go to the www.NTNL.org homepage.



FYI (Go to www.NTNL.org)

- ❖ **Scholarships:** two seminarians received scholarships from the *NT-NL Fund for Leaders* for the coming academic year – Michelle Greenwald (Wartburg Seminary) and Rebecca Mehl (Luther Seminary) – both from New Hope in Keller. Your gifts to our endowed fund are currently receiving a 50% match. Learn more on NTNL.org under "Partners" / "Fund for Leaders".
- ❖ **Bishop's Blitz:** This fall Bishop Kanouse will be around the NT-NL talking about the vision of *DiscipleLife Alive!* Join him. The schedule is posted online under the tab for "DiscipleLife Alive".
- ❖ **Upcoming Events:** The Disciple Project, June 26-30, at Texas Lutheran University to help leadership development among youth. Leadership Outside the Lines, Sept. 20-21 & Oct. 14-16, at Briarwood to help leadership development within congregational life. ELCA "Glocal" Mission Event, Sept. 23-24, in San Antonio.

