

# News Briefing

December 2011

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

Celebrating our Ministry together  
in the NT-NL Mission Area



## *DiscipleLife Alive!* *Transforming the Future*

The congregational phase of the *DiscipleLife Alive!* appeal is underway. Nearly 80 NT-NL congregations sent leaders to one of the Leadership Training Celebrations offered this fall. The celebrations invited the participants (about 500) to share in the excitement that DLA! has generated and to learn about the resources available to tell the DLA! story in their congregations. NT-NL congregations will launch their DLA! campaign during January, February and March of 2012. Results of the campaigns will be tallied for the 2012 NT-NL Mission Assembly in April. The goal is to raise \$3 million in order to enlarge our capacity for mission -- \$1.5 million to help resource congregations through a leadership development center; \$1 million to support leaders with scholarships, events and missional projects to grow our common mission; and \$300,000 to help our companion church in Sierra Leone complete their mission center as well.



Remaining DLA! Leadership Training Celebrations: Dec. 4 (noon) – Briarwood, Argyle; Jan. 14 (10 a.m.) – Advent, Arlington; Jan. 29 (12:15 p.m.) – Calvary, Richland Hills



## *Dreaming Together*

What will the future look like in the NT-NL because of the DiscipleLife Alive! Initiative? How will we fulfill our vision of *Leadership Formation for Mission*? And how will we use, equip and purpose the new DiscipleLife Center for Mission at Briarwood to help us achieve our goals? These are the kinds of questions that a team of people from the NT-NL are asking as they attempt to describe in greater detail the next steps as we move forward in mission together. The kick off meeting for the “Dream Team” is December 8. Guest speaker, Reggie McNeal (Missional Leadership Specialist for Leadership Network of Dallas) will help frame the day’s discussion. The team is chaired by Pastor Jane Mar ([Jane.Mar@ntnl.org](mailto:Jane.Mar@ntnl.org)).

## **ELCA Malaria Campaign**

The 2011 Churchwide Assembly in Orlando overwhelmingly approved participation in a campaign to help stamp out malaria. Over 800,000 people die each year from malaria – most live in Africa; most are children under 5. The ELCA Malaria Campaign will help gather the resources to end this scourge. Learn more about the effort and ways to help support the campaign at [www.elca.org/malaria](http://www.elca.org/malaria).

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

## **December Emphasis: Holiday Greetings**

- ❖ The NT-NL **Congregational Leadership Academy** can help congregational leaders learn about congregations as dynamic systems, about the management of conflict, and the practice of healthy leadership. The academy will be hosted by Zion Lutheran Church in McGregor. Learn more at [NTNL.org](http://NTNL.org) under “Leaders”.
- ❖ **Immigration:** In a recent letter to President Barack Obama, ELCA bishops expressed concern over new state immigration laws and called for an overhaul of federal immigration policy. Learn more at [www.ELCA.org/immigration](http://www.ELCA.org/immigration).
- ❖ **Pray your way through the NT-NL** in 2012. The annual prayer list of congregations, conferences and ministry partners is now available online. Go to [NTNL.org](http://NTNL.org) and look under “Congregations”.
- ❖ **NT-NL Lutheran Men in Mission** sponsors a gathering for all men on Jan. 20-21 at Briarwood. The keynote presenter is Richard Ray, Anchor 4 News, speaking on *Living DiscipleLife*. Info contact Davis Tubre ([hdtubre@gmail.com](mailto:hdtubre@gmail.com)).
- ❖ **Feeling a Call to a Church Vocation?** High School Seniors, college students and second career folks are invited to meet the members of the NT-NL Candidacy Committee and attend a *Vocations Day* on Dec.17 at Briarwood. Learn more at [NTNL.org](http://NTNL.org) (go to “Leaders” and then “Vocations Day”).
- ❖ **The Apprentice Conference** at King of Glory, Dallas, Jan. 27-28, features James Bryan Smith, C.J. Fox and Matt Johnson talking about the exciting adventure of being continually transformed into the likeness of Jesus. Learn more at [www.KingOfGlory.com](http://www.KingOfGlory.com).



**The Northern Texas – Northern Louisiana Mission Area: *DiscipleLife: Sowing and Growing Disciples of Jesus***  
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