

## Bulletin Board March 2008

Bishop Margaret Payne has added a “**Listening Day**” on Wed., **April 2**, 10 am - 3 pm, at Christ Lutheran Church, 300 Washington St., Middletown, CT. *Please RSVP* to the church at 860-347-6068 to reserve a space. Other dates/locations are: **March 4** at Good Shepherd, 183 West Main St., Westborough, MA, 508-366-7095, and **March 13** at St. Paul, 23 Long Ave., Greenfield, MA, 413-773-5242



On Tuesday of Holy Week, **March 18**, **Bishop Margaret G. Payne will bless the oil** to be used by congregations of the New England Synod at baptisms and healing ministries. The blessing of the oil will take place as part of **the noon Eucharist** with the **Order for Healing** at **Trinity Lutheran Church**, 73 Lancaster St., **Worcester, MA**. Bishop Payne will preach. All are welcome. The oil will be available for distribution following the liturgy that day, at all Mission Area Assemblies this spring, and at the Synod House in Worcester during regular office hours.

**Synod Assembly registration** materials have been sent to every congregation. They are also posted at the synod website under events, assembly or click [http://www.nesynod.org/Synod\\_Assembly.html](http://www.nesynod.org/Synod_Assembly.html) Other items there include election info, nomination forms, and resolution (due by April 19) writing tools.

**Lutheran Volunteer Corps** is a full-time program that offers a one-year opportunity for spiritual and personal exploration while working for social justice, living in intentional community, and simplifying lifestyles. Volunteers are matched with social ministries and non-profit organizations in Baltimore, MD; Wilmington, DE; Washington, DC; Chicago, IL; Milwaukee, WI; Minneapolis and St. Paul, MN; Seattle and Tacoma, WA; and the SF Bay Area, CA. Volunteers receive health insurance, time off for retreats and vacation, and a stipend to cover basic living and personal expenses. Most positions also qualify for student loan deferment and a \$4,725 AmeriCorps Education Grant. Must be at least 21 to participate. Apply now for positions beginning next fall. For more, visit <http://www.lutheranvolunteercorps.org/> or contact Kelly Shinn, Recruitment Coordinator, at [Recruitment@LutheranVolunteerCorps.org](mailto:Recruitment@LutheranVolunteerCorps.org).

**WANTED: Photos of your ministry for the synod website.** The New England Synod Communications team is currently making plans to update the Synod Website and would like to include pictures of your church in mission and ministry. Please email one or two digital photographs to [info@STandrewRI.org](mailto:info@STandrewRI.org)

**REMINDER: Resources** for the first year of Bishop Payne’s “**Called to Listen, Called to Live**” theme: *Listen Deeply.*” are posted on the synod website under EVENTS/ BISHOP’S CONVOCATION or click <http://www.nesynod.org/convocations-fall.html>

**Come read *The Lutheran Link***, “Link Extras,” and previous issues of *The Link* on the synod website under *RESOURCES*, *NEWS* (or click [www.nesynod.org/thelink.html](http://www.nesynod.org/thelink.html)). Prefer paper? Sign up now for free home delivery: just call the Synod House, 508-791-1530 x103, or email [sisterv@nesynod.org](mailto:sisterv@nesynod.org) The February 2008 Link issue explores the topic: “**Incline Your Ear (Listening during Lent).**”

The **UMM Concert choir** (University of Minnesota, Morris), Kenneth Hodgson, director, will perform a concert on Friday, **March 14**, 7:30 pm, at **Bethel Lutheran Church**, 90 Bryn Mawr Ave, **Auburn, MA**. A freewill offering will be taken.

Peace, Wayland, MA will host our second **Rejoicing Spirits worship service** on Sunday, **Mar. 30**, 2008, at 4:00 PM. Rejoicing Spirits is a model for spiritual inclusion which intentionally reaches out to enrich the spiritual lives of people with developmental disabilities, their families, friends, care providers, and other supportive community members, by sharing God’s message of love through a meaningful and adapted Christian worship service and fellowship time. Individuals are free to be themselves while actively participating as contributing members of an inclusive faith community. The service includes lots of music, joyous singing, prayer, Scripture, and meaningful messages. **We invite anyone who is interested in worshiping God in a new, exciting, and inclusive way to come and worship with us** at this new service. For more information, call the church at 508.358.7110 or email [peacelc@aol.com](mailto:peacelc@aol.com).

**Fellow Church Office staff** in New England, Come join us in sharing ideas and suggestions to make our jobs more wonderful! We will have guest speakers on personal & spiritual growth and some time for relaxation and fun. Working in a church environment can have some unique challenges. Dates will be **May 4-6**, 2008, at Calumet. Cost is \$145 per person. Send ideas to [maureenquilts@yahoo.com](mailto:maureenquilts@yahoo.com)

**ELCA Board of Pensions** ([www.elcabop.org](http://www.elcabop.org)) has posted the 2008 contribution rates and calculator.

Now is the time to take the **Health Risk Assessment**: Plug in your numbers and identify risks and strengths so that you can plan a long and healthy life. This year, there is a financial incentive: \$100 of credit to your personal wellness account. Follow other links for added savings to offset deductibles.

**FREE insurance advice**: The ELCA offers newsletters from Charity First and Zurich Services Corp. on many concerns. Visit <http://www.elca.org/insurance/Newsletters/riskManagementResources.html> for topics such as "Deterring Theft and Vandalism," and "Manual Material Handling." This practical advice also includes checklists to evaluate your coverage needs.

**Family member ill?** Dial the ELCA BOP Health Plan **NurseLine: 877-856-8145** any time for advice.

MIF, the **Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA**, provides investment opportunities for individuals, congregations and organizations of congregations. MIF loans for capital needs are available to congregations and other ministries of the ELCA. To learn more about investment and loans or to schedule a presentation to your congregation's leaders, contact Pr. Mark Wimmer at 267-203-0037 or [mwimmer@lctelford.org](mailto:mwimmer@lctelford.org). Have a building concern? Contact our ELCA building consultant Jeff Spann at 973-625-2568 or [jeff.spann@elca.org](mailto:jeff.spann@elca.org).

## Jobs

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, North Easton, MA, is seeking a part time **Director of Christian Education** to proclaim the Gospel of Christ by administering and coordinating the educational programs of the church, including activities for children and youth, serve as a resource of information and ideas, and nurture and foster Christian ideals, values, and the Lutheran heritage among the entire parish. Full description: [http://www.nesynod.org/Care-Packet/2008\\_February/christian\\_ed\\_director\\_no\\_easton.pdf](http://www.nesynod.org/Care-Packet/2008_February/christian_ed_director_no_easton.pdf) Questions? Contact Pr. Michael Bastian at 508-238-6666 or Sarah Keough (Sunday School Superintendent) at 508-238-6768.

Triumphant Cross, Salem, NH, is seeking a Part-Time **Director for Youth Ministry** for a youth group of 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders, averaging 20 per event. Qualifications: An adult with mature faith in Jesus Christ and a basic understanding and agreement with Lutheran theology, experience working with youth, Bachelor's degree or equivalent life experience, accustomed to working with churches. For a detailed job description call the office at (603) 893-0305, or email [ymstaffing@triumphantcross.org](mailto:ymstaffing@triumphantcross.org).

First Lutheran Church, Southington, CT, seeks a **Youth Director** to take full responsibility for the operation of the Youth Group, meeting regularly with the pastor to evaluate progress, cooperatively doing event planning, and submitting written reports and publicity for youth events. Contact the church office at (860)628-9001 or e-mail [flchurch@snet.net](mailto:flchurch@snet.net) with questions or resumes.

Interested in working overseas for one or two years? The **ELCA Global Mission Team** has international openings, which would be great for recent college graduates, newly retired people or someone who wants an adventure. For example, our companion synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, headquartered in Jerusalem, is looking for a **communication assistant** for two years. These jobs are a great opportunity to experience life in another country, while helping the church. For a listing of job opportunities, go to <http://www.elca.org/globalserve/> .

Visit the ELCA at <http://www.elca.org/employment/> for more info about current openings.

The ELCA is offering **summer internships** for college students in several areas, including justice for women, media, outreach, and world hunger. For more information, go to [www.elca.org/employment](http://www.elca.org/employment). Deadline to apply is March 15.