



Care Packet

November-December 2005

§ 20 Upland Street § Worcester, MA 01607 § Phone: 508-791-1530 § Fax: 508-797-9295 § Email: New.England.Synod@ecunet.org

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Items marked with * are not included but available from the Synod Office. Please email or call: office@nesynod.org or 508-791-1530

The Educational Programs of the ELCJHL – Another Year Begun



Another school year has begun for the more than 2000 students who attend the four ELCJHL schools and the many more thousands who benefit from them. The schools completed a thorough needs assessment and strategic planning process last year and continue to strive for academic excellence with a holistic approach. The Bright Stars program, a joint initiative of our Lutheran Dar al Kalima school and the International Center in Bethlehem at Lutheran Christmas Church, encourages children to explore and develop their artistic skills as a means of creative expression and growth. In the picture here, 11-year-old Jabra Khoury portrays his view of peace: the people and state of Palestine being lifted out of the walls that now encircle them and peace coming to the whole Holy Land. The wall and the movement restrictions are a constant reality for the children, especially since the construction has accelerated in many areas and the wall is expected to be sealed soon. Many students in Bethlehem have never been to Jerusalem – just 8 kilometers away - because of these restrictions.

The ELCJHL strives to teach peace education, co-existence, tolerance and respect toward others. About 40% of our students are Muslim, which enables students to learn from one another and increase mutual understanding.

Lutheran schools were the first to educate girls here and continue to promote the role of women as one of the main goals

God of the Children, bless the children entrusted to our care and help us make them all that they can be: students of excellence, lifelong learners, strong models in faith and life, peacemakers and nation-builders. Lead and guide all those in the ELCJHL schools who continue to make this possible. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

New England Synod Calendar

/ November 2005

- 2 5 pm *Lutheran Planned Giving Consortium of New England
- 3-4 Candidacy, Westfield, MA
- 4 10 am-2 pm *Northeast Ecumenical Stewardship Council
- 5 10 am-2 pm *Health and Wholeness Team
- 7-9 Bishop's Convocation, Crowne Plaza, Nashua, NH – Prof. Tim Wengert
- 12 10 am-2 pm *Hammonasset Planners
- 18 12-3 pm *Lutheran –Roman Catholic Dialog
- 18 6 pm *Synod Council
- 19 9 am *Budget Hearings/Synod Council
- 24-25 *Thanksgiving Holiday – office closed*

/ December 2005

- 2 10 am-2 pm *Northeast Ecumenical Stewardship Council
- 5 1-3 pm *Lutheran-United Methodist Dialog
- 10 12 am-2 pm *Hammonasset Planners
- 13 9-11 am *Church Leaders Covenant group
- 26 & Jan. 2 *Christmas & New Year's Holidays – office closed*

/ January 2006

- 6 10 am-2 pm *Northeast Ecumenical Stewardship Council
- 7 9 am-5 pm *Candidacy
- 13 12-3 pm *Lutheran-Roman Catholic Dialog
- 21 *Women of the ELCA
- 26 12-1:30 pm *Worship Team
- 28 9 am-3 pm *Synod Council

Register now for
Jan. 31- Feb. 2
FREE Retreat
for
Rostered Leaders
and Spouses
at
Camp Calumet
603-539-3223 x219
reservations@calumet.org

Oremus

Pr. Russell O. Siler and his wife Anne, on the death of her mother in late September. Pr. Siler is pastor of the English-speaking congregation at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Old City, Jerusalem.

Pr. Christopher Hoyer, recovering from surgery

Ruth Janssen, retired Associate in Ministry, has been battling ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) for more than a year and is preparing to enter a "hospice house" in Worcester. Cards may be sent to Ruth in care of the New England Synod, 20 Upland Street, Worcester, MA 01607.

Rostered Leaders in Transition

Pr. Stephanie Smith, called to Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior, South Hadley, MA

Pr. Dewey Strohmeier, retiring on October 30, 2005

Pr. Dagmar Rosenberg, Synod Council call as interim pastor of Good Shepherd, Jericho, VT

Pr. Scott Nessel, Synod Council call as interim pastor of Zion, Waterbury, CT

Rostered Leaders News

Pr. Ted Asta co-wrote an article with Geoffrey H. Lewis, a Boston lawyer and vice-chair of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, which was published in the Boston Globe on October 11. "Searching for hope in Israel" told about their recent visit to Israel and the search to understand and help. You can read it at

http://www.boston.com/news/globe/editorial_opinion/oped/articles/2005/10/11/searching_for_hope_in_israel/

Pr. John Kidd has been chosen to serve as vice president for mission advancement for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS), located in Baltimore, MD, beginning October 27, 2005.

Congregations in Transition

Connecticut

Good Shepherd, Hamden	Self Study
Immanuel, Oxford	Awaiting Candidate
Salem, Bridgeport	Awaiting Candidate
St. John's, Brooklyn	Intentional Interim
St. John's, Stamford	Awaiting Candidate
St. Luke, Gales Ferry	Awaiting Candidate
St Mark's, Bridgeport	Interviewing
Trinity, Milford	Self Study
Zion, Bristol	Awaiting Candidate
Zion, Waterbury	Self Study

Maine

Gustaf Adolph, New Sweden	Intentional Interim
St. Andrew, Ellsworth	Awaiting Candidate

Massachusetts

Covenant, Gardner	Intentional Interim
Christ, Falmouth	Self Study
Emanuel, Fitchburg	Interviewing
First, Gardner	Self Study
Good Shepherd, Westboro	Intentional Interim
Resurrection, Roxbury	Awaiting Candidate
St. John's, Sudbury (Co-Pas)	Awaiting Candidate
St. Peter's, Harwich	Self Study
Trinity, Worcester (Co-Pas)	Awaiting Candidate

New Hampshire

Advent, Rindge	Awaiting Candidate
Good Shepherd, Laconia	Self Study
Messiah, Amherst	Awaiting Candidate
St. Paul, Berlin	Self Study

Rhode Island

St. Peter's, Newport	Self Study
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Vermont

Ascension, S. Burlington	Awaiting Candidate
Good Shepherd, Jericho	Self-Study

Bulletin Board November 2005

You can contribute to **ELCA Disaster Response** through your congregation, or directly to the ELCA by credit card on the phone (800/638-3522) or online (www.elca.org/giving). Your donations designated for hurricane relief will be used entirely - 100 percent - in both immediate and long-term response.

The **offering** at the Rooted for Life Workshop Event **generated \$967.00 for Disaster Response**.

Augsburg Fortress is offering a **50 percent discount** on all orders placed on its website for "Act of God/Active God," a book that helps people wrestle with the spiritual questions brought on by natural disasters. The discount is effective through Dec. 31, 2005. Additionally, Augsburg Fortress customers may donate to the ELCA Domestic Disaster Relief program when they place orders either via the toll-free customer service number 1-800-328-4648 or via the website www.augsburgfortress.org. Augsburg Fortress **will match 50 cents for every dollar donated** through our order center up to a total company match of \$25,000. 100 percent of the donations will go directly to relief through ELCA Disaster Relief - Hurricane Katrina. More information on ELCA Domestic Disaster Relief is available at www.elca.org/disaster.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans **will match \$1 for every \$2 contributed** (up to \$600 per member) by Thrivent members to one of the following organizations: **ELCA Domestic Disaster Response**, Lutheran Disaster Response, LCMS World Relief/Human Care, WELS Committee on Relief. You must use the official form. Contact Barb.Giger, barb.giger@thrivent.com, 508-947-6911, 800-816-7910, for the required form. Visit www.thrivent.com/fraternal/katrina.html to learn more.

IN THE LINK: Throughout this year, Pastor Bryan Leone, the Synod's official "Wellness Champion," will coach eight synod leaders through a spiritually-based weight-loss regimen involving diet, exercise, and prayer. Their progress as "**healthy leaders**" will be tracked through their reflections (and an occasional photo). For your **free subscription** you must **call** the Synod House, 508-791-1530, **or email** sisterv@nesynod.org

JOIN IN: If you missed the *Lutherans on the Move Day of Action* on September 28, consider starting today to make **three simple changes** in your life: taking an extra 2,000 steps (one mile) per day, eating 100 fewer calories and living prayerfully. Become a healthy leader! More resources at www.elcabop.org

Have you visited www.elcaforwellness.org yet? First-time registrants receive *The New Mayo Clinic Cookbook* free! (while supplies last).

During Advent, please visit the website for our companion synod, the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jerusalem and the Holy Land** (ELCJHL). Learn history, current activities, and the vision of our sisters and brothers in Palestine at <http://www.holyland-lutherans.org>. Bishop Younan's sermons, the ELCJHL newsletters, and the website are filled with remarkable photos and personal stories of hope.

Augusta Victoria Hospital, located on the Mount of Olives in East Jerusalem, offers bottles of **olive oil** from LWF owned trees on the local hillside to offset their operational costs. It is shipped in hand-blown bottles made by Palestinian artisans using recycled glass. See details at the LWF website: www.lwfjerusalem.org/olive_oil.htm or email to info@lwfjerusalem.org

Peace Lutheran Church, Wayland, MA, is sponsoring **Artisans and Art of the Holy Land**, a tour of Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and other Palestinian sites, February 27- March 9, 2006. Call Pr. Jeff Johnson at peacecl@aol.com or 508/358-7110 for details.

Did you know? A used auto given to the **Good News Garage** is deductible at the book value. Comparing that to the \$400 limit of other organizations, the choice is easy: Call 877-GIVE-AUTO.

For information on votes and decisions made at the **2005 ELCA Churchwide Assembly** visit the ELCA web at www.elca.org/assembly/05/

Next year's Synod Assembly will be once again at the DCU Center and Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Worcester, MA. Please mark **June 8-10, 2006**, on your calendar.

The ELCA **Mission Investment Fund (MIF) building consultants** are available to work with ELCA Congregations that wish to *consider a building program or determine how existing facilities can be used to more effectively serve* a church's mission. Services include: advising on plans for new buildings and renovating older facilities, assessing a facility and assisting in developing a plan to deal with repairs or address increased need for space, reviewing building plans, improving accessibility, creating a more welcoming environment, and providing information about securing loans through MIF. The church building consultant for New England Synod is **Jeff Spann**. He is available for the services listed above and can be reached at: 973-625-2568 or JspannMIF@aol.com

Curious about **investments or loans with the Mission Investment Fund**? Call Rev. Mark Wimmer at 267-203-0037 or email mwimmer@lctelford.org Info available at www.elca.org/mif

Graymoor Ecumenical & Interreligious Institute offers resources for the **2006 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** (January 18-25). Visit www.geii.org for details on materials and pricing.

Wheat Ridge Ministries, an independent Lutheran charitable organization that seeds new ministries of health and hope in the name of the healing Christ, recently approved eight grants totaling \$235,000 to assist new ministries of health and hope throughout the world. Over 100 ministries are currently receiving assistance through Wheat Ridge funding. Visit www.wheatridge.org for details.

Jobs

WANTED: A **computer geek** volunteer to join the New England synod communication team. Must be under age 21, preferably a high school student, and familiar with website lingo and concepts. Contact Sister Virginia Strahan at sisterv@nesynod.org or 508-791-1530 x103

Pianist for weekly contemporary worship and possible midweek choir rehearsal at Good Shepherd, Kingston, RI. Must accompany singing and work with other instrumentalists. Possible choir and/or children's music program. Salary negotiable. Contact Pr Juliet Bongfeldt: pastor@goodshepherdri.org or 401-789-7776 as soon as possible.

The *Koinonia Community of Highland Lake, NY*, is searching for individuals interested in **committing one–two years as staff to host, support, and lead programming** with youth and adults in our 1200 acres of Catskill wilderness, as well as in New York City. Staff live and serve in a community setting, practicing the ministries of hospitality and availability. Koinonia staff have opportunities to serve in a variety of roles! Specific responsibilities may include leading environmental education sessions, to caring for our farm, as well as assisting all staff with housekeeping and maintenance tasks. In New York City, staff will work with congregations and social ministry organizations, including disaster response, as an extension of Koinonia programming. Stipend salary \$200 to \$250/wk, plus room and board, health insurance, and vacation/holidays. To send a resume, contact Koinonia: (800) 980-2267, email: KoinoniaNY@yahoo.com.

Learning Opportunities

Have you begun **Healing the Wounds of Racism**? Stage I retreats will be held **March 3-5** and **August 18-20, 2006**. Stage II retreats, for those who have completed stage I, are scheduled for **May 12-14** and **September 29 – Oct. 1, 2006**. We also welcome financial gifts toward this work. This is an ongoing process for us, and the community meets quarterly for Bible study and fellowship. Please join us!

Prescription for Teachers, presented by the Faith Learning Team of the New England Synod, is scheduled for April 21-23, 2006, at Camp Calumet Conference Center. This custom tailored training for Sunday School teachers will cover a number of topics. Cost is only \$140 per person. Deadline for registration is March 30. Contact blamson@nesynod.org or call Synod House for a brochure.

New England will host the **2006 Global Mission Event, July 27-30, 2006**, at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA. Pr. Blake Wamester is coordinating local details. Registration begins January 2. Visit www.elca.org/gme to learn about the 2005 global mission events.

SAVE THE DATE: **Women in Ministry Retreat, May 15-17, 2006**, at Our Lady of Peace Retreat Center, Narragansett, RI. Watch for more details in future Care Packets.

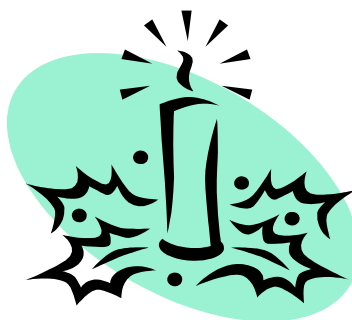
SMALL-CHURCH CLERGY are invited to apply now for **The Summer Collegium**, an ecumenical project of Virginia Theological Seminary's Center for Lifetime Theological Education. **All transportation, housing, meals, books, and other expenses are paid** by the seminary through a grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc. The Summer Collegium seeks to celebrate ministry in smaller congregations (fewer than 100 average Sunday attendance) by hosting a 9-day conference for 25 small-church clergy and their spouses/partners. The conference will bring small-church experts from a variety of denominations to the Alexandria campus for education, encouragement, refreshment and renewal, and will include a Small Church Religious Arts Festival, showcasing the arts and crafts of local small congregations. For more information and for application materials, please visit our web site: www.vts.edu/education/collegium, email SummerCollegium@vts.edu, or call 703-461-1752. Completed applications must be received by December 15, 2005, to be considered for next summer's conference.

The ELCA offers **seminars for rostered and lay congregation leaders**, including *Ministry Staff Seminar*, *Transition Seminar*, and *Head of Staff Seminar*. Visit www.elca.org/leadership/events for details and applications for these events, scheduled between January 28 and February 5, 2006.

Looking for quality resources? Check out www.ltsp.edu for **Reproducible Studies for 2005**, and **Theological Education for Laity**. Some items are free. Others are downloadable at a small cost.

Augsburg Fortress is offering David Yount's **Celebrating the Rest of Your Life: A Baby Boomer's Guide to Spirituality**, which provides practical and spiritual strategies for the future. When retirement is in sight, it is prime time to stretch your mind, drop your emotional guard, invest in others, and cultivate community beyond those who live within your domestic walls. Read more about this new book at www.augsburgfortress.org or borrow it from the New England Synod Resource Center.

Consider Augsburg Fortress Publishers, a ministry of the ELCA, for Christmas gifts this year:
www.augsburgfortress.org

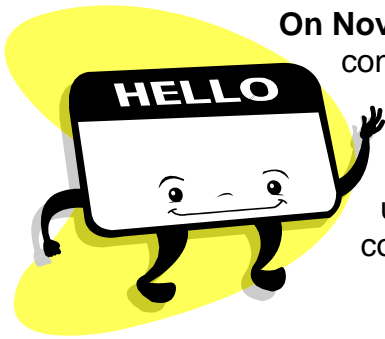


The ELCA offers a daily Bible reading. Visit www.elca.org and choose "hot topics." It is listed under "the top 10." You can also subscribe and have it forwarded to your personal email.

New England Synod Resource Center

November 2005

Still Living Together Faithfully: Resources to continue the study of sexuality



On Nov. 4 and 5, the **Yale Divinity Lutheran Studies Program** will host a consultation on the 2005 ELCA Churchwide Assembly actions focusing on sexuality, co-sponsored by the New England Synod and the Metropolitan New York Synod of the ELCA. The consultation is aimed at moving forward constructively as a church committed to unity. Issues of pastoral care, liturgy, ecclesiology and mission will comprise much of the work of the consultation.

If you can't make it to the program at Yale Divinity School, here's a list of items available from the New England Synod Resource Center to help your congregation keep talking.

ELCA Documents:

- Journey Together Faithfully / ELCA Studies on Sexuality: Part One
- Journey Together Faithfully / ELCA Studies on Sexuality: Part Two
- Policies and Procedures of the ELCA for Addressing Social Concerns (1998)
- Sexuality: Some Common Convictions (1996)

Books and Magazines:

- **Congregational Hospitality to Gay and Lesbian People** (1999, ELCA, Division for Outreach, B36)
- **Congregations Talking about Homosexuality** (1998, Alban Institute, 130 pages);
- **Entering a Conversation on Sexual Orientation and Christianity** (Yale Symposium);
- **Faithful Conversation: Christian Perspectives on Homosexuality** (edited by James M. Childs Jr., 2003, Augsburg Fortress, 130 pages);
- **Homosexuality and Christian Faith: Questions of Conscience for the Churches** (1999, Augsburg Fortress, 130 pages);
- **Homosexuals and the Bible: Two Views** (2003, Augsburg Fortress, 110 pages);
- **Listening to the Spirit: A Handbook for Discernment** (2001, Chalice Pres, 70 pages);
- **Many Members Yet One Body: Committed Same-Gender Relationships and the Mission of the Church** (2004, AF);
- **Married in the Sight of God: Theology, Ethics and Church Debates over Homosexuality** (Christian Scharen, 2000, University Press of America, 160 pages);

- **Religious Perspectives on Sexuality: A Resource Guide** (2001, The Park Ridge Center for the Study of Health, Faith and Ethics);
- **"Sexuality: A More Excellent Way,"** Currents in Theology and Mission (February 2003, Vol. 30, No. 1);
- **Talking Together as Christians about Homosexuality: A Guide for Congregations** (1999, ELCA Division for Church and Society, includes guides for leader and participants and 90-minute video, VHS V289);

- **Talking Together as Christians about Tough Social Issues** (1999, ELCA Division for Church and Society);
- **The Church and Homosexuality: Searching for a Middle Ground** (Merton P. Strommen, 2001, Kirk House Publishers);

Videos:

- **Call to Witness** (a 60-minute commentary by Pam Walton about the struggle for gay and lesbian rights with the Lutheran church, VHS and DVD);
- **I Do Exist** (a look into the lives of five former homosexuals that answers many questions surrounding the possibility of change, DVD);
- **The ELCA in Dialogue: We Need to Talk!** (interviews with gay and lesbian people, as well as the parents and allies of gays and lesbians, all seeking to be faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, study guide, VHS);
- **This Obedience** (an 86-minute video documenting the period from Anita Hill's ordination in April 2001 through the 2001 ELCA Churchwide Synod Assembly in August 2001 through the eyes of Anita and her supporters. Study guide. 2002, Aquaries Media, D604);
- **What Do You Say When Someone You Love Says, "I'm Gay"?** (a 23-minute production of Lutherans Concerned, VHS);

Web sites:

- <http://www.elca.org/assembly/05/> (to learn more about the action on the issues of sexuality taken by the 2005 Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA);
- <http://www.elca.org/faithfuljourney/>

To borrow any of these items, contact the New England Synod Resource Center at (508) 791-1530, X103; or email: resources@nesynod.org .

Got a question? Looking for a resource? Want our catalogue?
 We are a member of the Association of Lutheran Resource Centers, which connects New England to a churchwide network of information. Call or email us.



The ELCA Web site is so much easier to navigate these days with the addition of its “KEY WORD” search engine.

Check it out at www.elca.org .

Notes from *the New England Synod* Health and Wholeness Team

Announcing a new resource:

Healthy Transitions: Resources for Healthy Endings and Beginnings of a Call - a comprehensive document that sets forth expectations of pastors and congregations when a pastor resigns a call, including covenants, a *Rite of Farewell and Godspeed for a Pastor*, *Rites of Welcome and Farewell for an Interim Pastor*, a Bible study for congregations in transition, and additional resources. Visit www.nesynod.org under RESOURCES, click DOCUMENTS or call the Synod House for a hard copy, 508-791-1530.

Reminder: The **2006 Synod Compensation Guidelines** are available on the synod website, www.nesynod.org (under RESOURCES, click DOCUMENTS) or type in http://www.nesynod.org/documents_compensation_guidelines.html on your web browser. No web access? Call the synod house for a hard copy, 508-791-1530.

Next year's **contribution rates** are listed below or at the **ELCA Board of Pensions website** www.elcabop.org (benefit plans, cost of coverage) along with a **calculator** to do the math for you. You can also link from the synod website, under PARTNERS or from the Compensation Guidelines page.

2006 ELCA Board of Pensions health plan contribution rates Rate class 4 for sponsored members in New England Synod

Coverage	Rate ¹	Monthly minimum	Monthly maximum
Health benefits			
– Member only	12.3%	\$436	\$618
– Member and spouse	21.6	763	1,081
– Member and children	21.6	763	1,081
– Member, spouse and children	30.8	1,090	1,545
– Coverage waived	0		
Retirement	10.0 to 12.0 ^{2,3}		
Disability	2.5 ⁴		
Survivor	0 ⁵		
Administration and retiree support	0.7		

1. Rates are a percentage of defined compensation.
2. Contribution for employees of ELCA church institutions is 6 percent to 12 percent as determined by the institution.
3. If a member participated in a predecessor plan on Dec. 31, 1987, was at least age 45 on that date, and has continuously been a sponsored member of an ELCA retirement plan since Jan. 1, 1988, the total employer retirement contribution must be at least 11 percent.
4. Includes 0.6 percent for health plan support.
5. Survivor Benefits Plan contribution is suspended for 2006.

Quilt Auction at Trinity, Worcester

November 12, 2005

Auction (*sponsored by staff alumni*) in Burlington, MA

February 25, 2006

Walkathon in Gloucester, MA

April 22, 2006

"I would like to go to Camp Calumet because I remember how much fun it was."

This is what a seventh grader wrote when asked why he would want to go to Calumet if given the chance. This seventh grader did get to go to Calumet again because someone made it possible by paying his tuition. This camper is not alone. Great things like this happen all the time. Kids get to go to camp because of programs like the Quilt Auction, the Calumet Auction sponsored by the Staff Alumni Association, and the Walkathon. By supporting one of these programs, you are making it possible for children to go to camp who otherwise wouldn't be able to afford it.

"I would like to go to camp again also because I could meet new people, and make new friends. And the chance of going to camp again doesn't happen often at all."

This camper is right. The chance for a kid to go to camp doesn't happen all that often. Calumet does a great job of trying to fill as many spots as it can. Calumet also tries to keep camp affordable for all, but if you are an inner-city kid and you have never heard about Calumet or your family won't be able to afford it, then camp seems very far away. Wouldn't it be great if we could live in a world where every child got the chance to go to Calumet, regardless of where they lived or how much money their family had. By participating in the Walkathon, Quilt Auction, and Calumet Auction, you help to move us closer to that world.

"When I was in fourth grade, I liked every single thing about camp. If I get to go again, it would be like a dream come true. I would really do anything to go again."

What can you do to make a child's dream like this come true? What can you do to help a kid grow in respect for themselves, others, the environment, and a most importantly, grow in their faith for God? It's simple, one of the ways that you can help is by participating in one of these great programs.

For more information about how you can participate in these fun events while helping make children's dreams come true, call 603-539-3223 ext 219 or 220 or email reservations@calumet.org.

CALUMET
Lutheran Camp & Conference Center
PO Box 236
W Ossipee, NH 03890-0236





**Attention,
Rostered Leader:
FREE RETREAT
for you and your
spouse**

Calumet Lutheran Camp and Conference Center
P.O. Box 236
West Ossipee, New Hampshire 03890
603-539-4773 reservation office x 219 or email reservations@calumet.org

**PASTORS, ASSOCIATES IN MINISTRY, DEACONESSSES,
DEACONS, AND SPOUSES RETREAT
JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 2, 2006**

Bible Study Leader

Rev. Margaret Payne, Bishop of the New England Synod ELCA

Worship Coordinators

Rev. Alice Kerr Laird and Rev. Bob Goehrig

Calumet Host

Paul Lindahl, Camp Director for Family and Adult Programs at Calumet



Relax - get re-charged - nurture your own spiritual life - laugh - share with others who understand - dine on great food - share in meaningful conversation - be pampered (you deserve it!) - sing - worship - enjoy God's beautiful creation while skiing, snowshoeing, tubing or walking in the woods - renew your spirit!

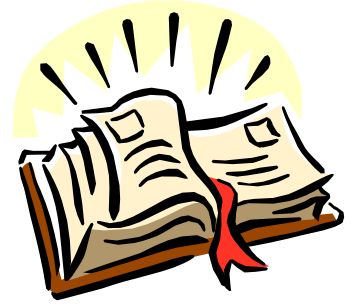
Please join us for this free retreat for New England Synod Pastors, AIMs, Deacons, and Deaconesses, and their spouses.



Calumet
Lutheran Camp and Conference Center
P.O. Box 236
West Ossipee, New Hampshire 03890
603-539-4773 reservation office x 219 or email
reservations@calumet.org

LutherHostel
The End Times: Myth and Belief
January 16–19, 2006

The best-selling series “Left Behind” is based on the book of Revelation, the rapture and the end times, but takes some theological liberties in its interpretation. We’ll explore the myths and beliefs portrayed in this series of novels as they relate to our faith and knowledge of the Bible. Our chaplain and discussion leader is the Rev. Marian Marks, pastor at Grace Lutheran Church in Auburn ME.



The Choice Between Two Cities:
Whore, Bride, and Empire in the
Apocalypse
by Barbara Rossing, Trinity
Press 1999

For Further Reading:

The Rapture Exposed: The
Message of Hope in the Book of
Revelation
by Barbara Rossing, Westview
Press 2004

Apocolypse: A People’s
Commentary
by Pablo Richard, Orbis Books
1995



LutherHostel
Creative Cooking with Chef Wade
February 6–8, 2006

Fed by the Hand

Learn the secrets of Chef Wade’s great cooking as we share in preparing a gourmet meal for the group. This is a “hands-on” program that will result in one of the finest meals you’ve ever had. Wade Hlushuk is a graduate of Johnson and Wales Culinary Institute and has been Calumet’s Food Service Manager for 15 years.

Fed by the Spirit

We also welcome our chaplain for the week, Rev. Juliet Bongfeldt, pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Kingston, Rhode Island. Pastor Juliet will lead our worship and devotions as well as a Bible Study on Fed by the Spirit, a perfect complement to the creative cooking portion of the program.

LutherHostel
Sing to the Lord!
March 13-15, 2006

Resource Leaders

Steve Reed, Music Minister, Christ the King Lutheran Church, Holliston, MA
Rev. Eric Wefald, pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Westboro, MA

Welcome to Calumet! Thanks for joining us for this musical LutherHostel program. If you enjoy singing, this is the program for you. We’ll explore all kinds of wonderful music from hymns and songs that have been popular and meaningful for many generations and why they have endured to the wealth of new music, destined to be favorites for us and future generations.

Music certainly is one of God’s wonderful gifts, gifts that help us to spread the Good News in our world. Steve and Eric are exciting and passionate musicians and experienced LutherHostel leaders who will make our time together interesting, meaningful, and uplifting.



“Rhythms of LOVE’S Healing”

A RETREAT FOR PARISH NURSES

DECEMBER 4 TO 6, 2005

“Above all, clothe yourselves with Love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony”

Colossians 3:14 NSRV

We all desire to be in a state of continuous homeostasis. Throughout this retreat, we’ll discover and re-visit those ‘faces of love’ that challenge us to our very core, and revive ourselves through the art of rejoicing.

Retreat Leader: Karen Harris RN MA

Currently Karen is a parish nurse at large and offers spiritual direction by appointment. She holds an MA in Pastoral Counseling from Assumption College and a certificate in Spiritual Direction from the Spiritual Life Center, Bloomfield, CT. Karen’s role as a pastoral nurse counselor takes her to MCI Framingham weekly to share the love and life of her Savior, Jesus the Christ.

This retreat will be held at the **Blue Gentian Lodge**, Magic Mountain Rd, Londonderry, Vermont. Our retreat will begin with dinner Sunday evening December 4th at 7:00 PM and conclude with lunch at noon on Tuesday, December 6th

Free time will be included for quiet reflection, tourist endeavors, or an optional parish nurse informational session.

OPTIONAL WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT NEARBY WESTON PRIORY Sunday at 5:30 p.m., Monday at 5:15 p.m.

Cost: \$130 for program, lodging and all meals..

Please submit the following registration form with payment by Nov. 18th to:

Koinonia Registrar:

Susan Allaire, 87 Constance Lane Bristol, CT 06010-5504

Ph: 860-583-6336

For further retreat information contact: Anne Ancona 21 Scar Hill Road Boylston, MA 01505

Ph: 508-869-6748 or email anne@anconafamily.com

Parish Nurse Retreat 2005 Koinonia of Vermont - December 4-6 2005

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Checks should be made out to Koinonia of Vermont

Cancellations received earlier than seven days in advance will receive a 50% refund. Cancellations made within 24 hours of the retreat will not be refunded.

New England Synod, ELCA
Office of the Bishop
20 Upland St.
Worcester, MA 01607-1624
office@nesynod.org
www.nesynod.org
508-791-1530

The Office of the Bishop, New England Synod, ELCA, began a new schedule in September. Please keep this information handy for reference.

9:00 - 9:15 am – staff devotions and prayer
12:00 - 1:00 pm - phones off for lunch time
4:00-5:00 pm - phones answered by the voice mail system - use extensions listed below

ASSOCIATES TO THE BISHOP

The Rev. Ted Asta x101 tasta@nesynod.org
The Rev. Rebecca Bourret rbourret@nesynod.org
HOME OFFICE 860-430-1088

MISSION DIRECTOR

The Rev. Jane Shields x102 jshields@nesynod.org
HOME OFFICE 508-896-2284

****** MINISTRY SPECIALISTS ******

**ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT
BISHOP'S APPEAL COORDINATOR**

The Rev. Alice Kerr Laird x104 aklaird@nesynod.org

CONGREGATIONAL CARE FOR MAINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE, VERMONT, AND NEW YORK

The Rev. Tim Roser trosler@nesynod.org
OFFICE 603-356-7827

TRANSFORMATIONAL MINISTRY

The Rev. Lisa Stoen Hazelwood
lisaandjim1959@cox.net OFFICE 401-322-0088

COORDINATOR OF RETIREMENT MINISTRIES

The Rev. Ron Jackson maryronj@juno.com
HOME 508-853-0020

**YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES
(starting January 1, 2006)**

Mr. Steven Kennedy stev4uth@hotmail.com

****** OFFICE SUPPORT STAFF ******

BISHOP'S CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY

Marilyn Durant x105 mdurant@nesynod.org

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND CONTACT FOR CANDIDACY

Barbara Lamson x106 blamson@nesynod.org

ASSISTANT TO THE TREASURER

Cathy LaChance x107 clachance@nesynod.org

RECEPTIONIST Katherine Duffy x100

kduffy@nesynod.org

SYNOD COMMUNICATOR:

**EDITOR OF THE LUTHERAN LINK AND
DIRECTOR OF SYNOD RESOURCE CENTER**

Sister Virginia Strahan x103 sisterv@nesynod.org
Resource Center x103 resources@nesynod.org



The Synod website *at your command*
Please visit: www.nesynod.org for current synod event info and commonly used documents, including compensation guidelines, pulpit supply list, and our vision statement.