



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Ministry in Mission Newsletter

2.3

March 2010



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Upcoming Events

March 13-14, 2010
LYO Assembly,
Dubuque

March 19-26, 2010
Mission Trip to
Guatemala

March 20, 2010
Synod Council Meets

March 27, 2010
Home Life Spring
Training Event,
Wartburg

April 8, 2010
Swap Meet for
VBS/Pentecost ideas
Bethlehem, Cedar
Falls

Dear Friends,

The Best Laid Plans...

After announcing a few days ago that the next Board and work group meetings would be September 18 I have confess that no longer works so..

Save the Date

The next meetings of the Board and Work groups will be **September 25**, 2010 and March 19, 2011.

Keep in Touch,
Pr. Mark Anderson



Care of Creation Work Group

Web page: "click" [Here](#)

Each year, we observe Earth Day on April 22, and this year on Sunday, April 25, the Care for Creation work group encourages congregations to celebrate the gifts of creation and to consider our call to care for all that God has made.

Congregations may choose to do this in a variety of different ways: special prayers or litanies, through a special emphasis in the sermon, hymns that lift up creation, special greenery or flowers in the worship space, or elements of the earth (i.e. water, wheat, soil, corn, rocks, etc.) placed in the worship space. Below are some websites that have many resources for Earth Day and a sample litany that could be used.

www.webofcreation.org <<http://www.webofcreation.org/>>
www.seasonofcreation.com
<<http://www.seasonofcreation.com/>>
www.lutheransrestoringcreation.org
<<http://www.lutheransrestoringcreation.org/>>

Blessing of the Gifts of the Earth

(Earth Day Celebration Litany)

The earth is God's in all its fullness. Let us give thanks for God's many gifts in creation, pray for our wise stewardship, and ask God to bless these gifts that sustain us. (As you pray for each element, lift the element.)

Prayer for Seeds: Creating God, you have given seed to the sower and bread to the people. Nourish, protect, and bless the seeds which your people sow in hope. By your loving and bountiful giving, may they bring forth their fruit in due season, through Christ our Lord. Amen!

Prayer for the Soil: Giver of life, we give thanks that in the richness of the soil, nature awakens to your call of spring. We praise you for the smell of freshly tilled earth and the beauty of a well prepared field. Protect those who work in the fields this spring, and guide us in wise stewardship of your earth, through Christ our Lord. Amen!

Prayer for Water and Rain: Sustaining God, we receive the fruits of the earth from you. We give you thanks for the smell of the earth after rain, for its welcome cooling, and its necessary hydration for the land. We ask that the rain come as often as it is needed so that the crops may flourish and the coming harvest be bountiful, through Christ our Lord. Amen!

We praise you, O God, for the good land with all its resources which you have entrusted to us: animals, trees, water, and all humanity in our great diversity. Strengthen us in our care for your whole creation, through Christ our Lord. Amen!

Chairperson:

[Donna Rasmussen](#)

April 10, 2010
Hunger Workgroup
Meets

April 22, 2010
Earth Day!

June 11-13, 2010
Synod Assembly,
Waverly

Sept 25, 2010
Board and
Workgroups 9:30am

March 19, 2011
Board & Workgroups
11:00am & 12:30pm

Global Mission Work Group

Web Page: "Click" [Here](#)

The Global Mission Work Group met with the Namibian Companion Synod group and Julie Rowe, the Associate Director of Companionship, Education and Advocacy Europe and the Middle East Desk Global Mission, as well as Barbara Berry-Bailey, via Skype (video Conference).

There was a fruitful discussion about what we have learned from our first companion synod relationship and about the potential for a second companion synod.

Chairperson: [Else Schardt](#)

[Home Life Work Group](#)

Web page: "click" [Here](#)

Spring Training Event

March 27, 2010, 10:00am-3:30pm

**Buckmaster Room,
Whitehouse Business Center
Wartburg College, Waverly**

The Home Life Work Group invites Christian education leaders, Sunday school teachers, youth leaders, pastors, and others interested to attend the Spring Training Event set for Saturday, March 27, at Wartburg College.

The event starts at 10 a.m. and with a keynote address by Ms. Tammy Jones West, who is the youth and family ministry coordinator for the North Carolina Synod and an adjunct professor for religious studies at Lenoir Rhyne University in Lenoir Rhyne, North Carolina. See her address to the NC

Synod Assembly at

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4I1PzU8CA_Y

After lunch on your own, workshops will be offered

including:

Chris Bode - Bible Study for Parents

Karen Harthan - Resources, where to find them,
how to use them

Teresa Baird - Grief

LYO Board - Youth and Bible study

Cost to attend is \$15 with lunch on your own.

Email Elayne Werges elayne@butler-bremer.com to
register or ask questions

Chairperson: [Elayne Werges](#)

Hunger Work Group

Web Page: "click" [Here](#)

Welcome to a new member Ms. Robin Sampson from Bethany
in Iowa Falls.

**Meeting Scheduled for
April 10, 2010 at 10:00am
at the Synod Office**



Chairperson: Norbert Strasser

Here, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might Deut 6:4-5