

Youth Ministry News

Bible Study

December, 2008 – Vol. 3, Issue 18

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Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas!

I hope that during these 12 days of the Christmas celebration you have been able to find rest, relaxation and a time to be renewed.



January brings the annual LYO hunger challenge and the first meetings for those groups attending the ELCA Youth Gathering.

March will bring the annual LYO Assembly.

There will be much more information in the next few weeks so hang on - 2009 will be a busy year!

ELCA Youth Gathering Updates

The first month of the 6-month "Getting Ready" materials was sent to all of the Primary Leaders. Take a look at it by following this link: [Getting Ready #1](#). In January primary leaders should be meeting with their group not only to discuss fund raisers but MORE IMPORTANTLY to prepare for the Spiritual nature of the gathering by using the Getting Ready material.

Job Opening

There is a 15 hour Director of Christian Education position open at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Cedar Falls. Resumes may be sent to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Attn. Pastor Gary Hedding, 4000 Hudson Road, Cedar Falls, IA 50613 319-266-541 pastorgary@bethlehemcf.net

LYO Hunger Challenge



In January the LYO Board will Challenge each congregation's Youth Ministry to fight hunger by raising funds to purchase mosquito nets to prevent disease. Look for more information soon.

Lutheran Volunteer Corps

LVC Responds to National Economic Crisis

As the national rate of unemployment grows, Lutheran Volunteer Corps (LVC) is already beginning to add 16 new positions and placement opportunities for the coming program year. "This will be a 15% increase from last year's numbers," says LVC Executive Director Michael Wilker. "It is an excellent opportunity for individuals to gain job skills and scholarships while securing housing, board, and health insurance during a tight labor market." Additionally, each volunteer allows an organization to save \$10,000-15,000 per year, which provides an increased amount of food, housing, health care, and other services for those who are most affected during these hard economic times. For details go to www.elca.org/lvc.

Extravaganza Intensive Scholarship

The Connecting Colleges and Congregational Ministry initiative, a powerful partnership between the Lutheran Educational Conference of North America and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, is designed to heighten awareness of the value of Lutheran higher education among Lutheran congregations nationwide. As a part of the grant initiative, LECNA will provide an intensive care course at the 2009 ELCA Youth Ministry Extravaganza and will offer a \$100 travel stipend (for the first 100 registered) for those in youth ministry who participate in the LECNA intensive care course. In addition, the grant will cover the cost of the course itself (\$150).

Lutheran college graduates are a primary source of leadership and service for their congregations and communities. Lutheran colleges and universities provide a place where young people can discern their calling. Congregational leaders who have completed a LECNA seminar will gain valuable resources/information to share with their college-bound families. To make use of this grant, be one of the first 100 to register as a participant in the Extravaganza and for the "Rooted and Growing: Faith and Education at our Lutheran Colleges" Intensive Care Course. After completion of the course, participants will be mailed a check for the travel stipend. If you have questions, please contact info@elcaymnet.org.

THINGS TO WRITE DOWN

January	11, 2009	La Vida @ Lutheran Campus Ministry, UNI
Jan 29- Feb 1	2009	Extravaganza! New Orleans
February	1, 2009	La Vida @ Lutheran Campus Ministry, UNI
February	2, 2009	WIYLDE Registration Opens
March	1, 2009	La Vida @ Lutheran Campus Ministry, UNI
March	21-22, 2009	Sr. High Youth Event, Warburg College
March	27-29, 2009	Dirty Feet Retreat, EWALU
March	7-8, 2009	LYO Assembly, Dubuque
March	28, 2009	Recharge, Riverside
April	4, 2009	Recahrge, Riverside
May	3-6, 2009	Feed My Starving Children, Warburg
June	5-7, 2009	Synod Assembly
July	9-16, 2009	WIYLDE, Luther College
July	15-29, 2009	Wartburg Youth Leadership School
July	22-26, 2009	ELCA Youth Gathering, New Orleans
October	16-17, 2009	Jr. High Lock-in at UNI (tentative)
November	14-15, 2009	Church Youth Fest, Luther College

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