



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

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News for all members of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod

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Living Water Ministries Opens Registration for Summer Camp

Visit www.elcalivingwater.com for a list of summer camp opportunities and registration details. Registration opened January 15, 2010 and there are significant discounts for payment in full by February 15 (almost 15%) and April 15 (almost 7%). Also check out the Brown Envelope Building Campaign! And be sure to sign your youth up for Bass Lake (August 6-9 at Camp Michi-Lu-Ca) where Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson will be the speaker.

ELCA World Hunger Appeal Reaches Far and Wide

Judy Enger, Synod Hunger Team

“God has privileged us with amazing opportunities to bring help and hope to people all around the world. With churches and communities in over 60 countries and all 50 of the United States, we celebrate astounding progress in combating hunger and walking together through daunting challenges. Thanks to you, we keep the faith in the face of hunger.” (These words of gratitude come from The Rev. Daniel Rift, Director, ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal. Read more at www.elca.org/hunger/newsletter.)

ELCA World Hunger is a connected, comprehensive, and compassionate program that helps individuals and communities lift themselves out of poverty into self-sufficiency. Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger will help end hunger world-wide. Thank you.

Note: These gifts can be sent with your congregation's monthly transmittal form to the synod office or directly to the churchwide office. Visit <http://www.elca.org/worldhunger> for details.

Paul E. Trapp Memorial Fund Committee Awards Grants

Paul E. Trapp, a long time Lutheran, died in 1986 and left the bulk of his estate to “The American Lutheran Church, to a revolving fund, the proceeds thereof to be used for the needs of the American Lutheran Church in the Northern Michigan District.” Subsequent to the time Mr. Trapp executed his will and the date of this death, The American Lutheran Church and two other national Lutheran church bodies merged into the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The congregations in the aforementioned Northern Michigan District of the American Lutheran Church are now represented by those ELCA Congregations in the Jack Pine, Traverse and Sunrise Conferences.

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Each year, a committee comprised of representatives from each of the three conferences, along with the bishop and representation from Synod Council, meet to review grant applications and award funds. This year, over \$20,000 is being disbursed for outreach ministry.

Congregation	Program
Feast of Victory, Acme.....	High School Camp and Work Camp
Evangelical, East Jordan.....	<i>Tools of Faith</i> (Habitat for Humanity Building Projects)
St. Paul, Evert.....	Youth Program
Trinity, Frankfort.....	Community Dinners
Peace, Gaylord.....	Friendship Shelter and Community Meals
St. Matthew, Herron	Special Friends Bible Nights
Bethany, Kaleva	Food Pantry
Advent, Lake Ann	Community Baby Pantry
Emanuel, Ludington	<i>Back to School Blowout</i>
Good Shepherd, Manistee	<i>Community Table</i>
Messiah, Roscommon	<i>Mid-Winter Boost</i>
New Life, Spruce.....	Vacation Bible School
Spruce, Spruce.....	Food Pantry
Augustana, Tustin.....	Christian Community Outreach and Food Pantry

Resource Update

Kim Winchell, Diaconal Minister
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Now Available: New resources on climate change, hunger and poverty connections for congregational use or small group forums! Go to **www.elca.org/caringforcreation** and find:

1. **DVD (10 min) "Climate Change and Hunger in Nicaragua"** - an overview of the January 2009 ELCA Study Trip to Nicaragua. (Note: A limited supply of DVD's and discussion guides will be available. Let me know if you need one.)
2. **An accompanying 6 page (pdf) discussion guide: "As long as the earth endures"**
3. **Informational sheets on climate change (2)**
4. **A very well done, 4 page (pdf) piece on "Poverty and Hunger in a Changing Climate"**

All of these are highly recommended for raising awareness, an easy-to-understand presentation of solid information on these issues, and ideas for how to faithfully respond.

February EKO Tip

Dawn Smith
Synod EarthKeeping Opportunities Team

A couple of reminders for all of us in the midst of winter in Michigan:

- Clean or replace furnace air filters as recommended. Cleaning a dirty heating filter can save 15% of the energy used.
- If you have a fireplace, close the damper when you don't have a fire burning. An open fireplace can let 8% of heat from your furnace escape through the chimney.

This month's tips come from Washington Ethical Society, Earths Ethics Committee. **WES@ethicalsociety.org**