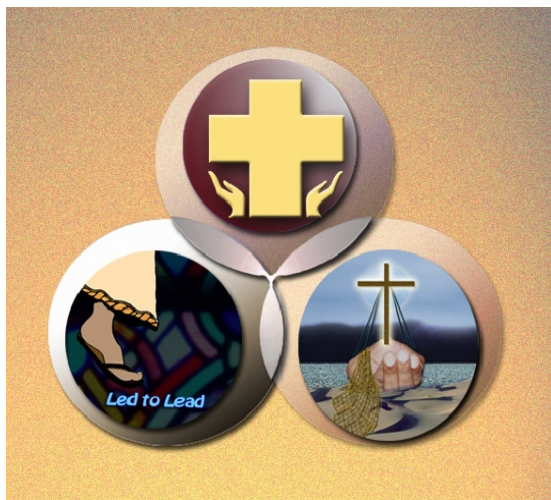


EVANGELIZING CHURCH



Evangelizing Mission Statement

Sealed by the power of the Holy Spirit, we are called to be an evangelizing church that invites God's people to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and God's liberating message of hope to the world.

Building relationships for renewal

The ministry of the Director for Evangelical Mission (DEM) in each synod is a tangible, personal way that the relationships across this church will be renewed. Synods and the church wide organization are partners in the ministry of these directors. Their role will be to help build tables in each synod around the core work of the Church: new and renewed evangelizing congregations, and mission support. We pray that our many prayer and evangelism partners in the grassroots church will be a part of this renewal of ministry. Let your local Director for Evangelical Mission know of your presence and commitment to growing faith communities for an evangelizing church.

Evangelism Strategy

- Objective I: Call the Church to Prayer
- Objective II: Prepare and renew Evangelical Leaders
- Objective III: Teach Disciples
- Objective IV: Start and Renew Congregations

Welcome new director!



Our thanks to God for sending The Rev. Brenda K. Smith, as our new Director for Discipleship/Evangelical Outreach and Congregation Mission (EOCM). Rev. Smith comes to us after serving at New Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jamaica, New

York. She is a gifted administrator who brings a passion for making disciples; reinforced by evangelizing individuals and congregations. Her goal is to build heartfelt faith discipleship relationships throughout our many networks and in all of the expressions of the church. We are blessed to have her partnership as team member and leader in EOCM.

About this newsletter

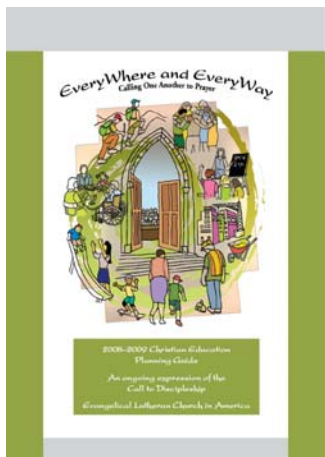
Each quarterly newsletter seeks to express how, as a church, we are able to focus on aspects of the evangelizing church strategy for the sake of informing and introducing the readers actions taken to accomplish the goals set forth by the strategy.

Are you thinking about hosting a prayer retreat, leaders training or revival? Contact us for speakers, resources and ideas! 800-638-3522, ext. 2102.



EVANGELIZING CHURCH

Calling One Another to Prayer



EveryWhere and EveryWay: Calling One Another to Prayer is a user-friendly planning tool for congregational leaders. This annual issue is the ninth in a series carrying out the *Call to Discipleship* theme and particularly supports the development of new prayer leaders through the identification and training of children, youth and young adults as called for in the *Evangelism Strategy*.

This print and on-line Christian education program planner features an adult Bible study, a children's intergenerational learning module, a related children's sermon for use in worship, detailed explanations and instructions for Shibashi (prayer in movement), and practical suggestions to help parents, grandparents, and children's ministry leaders establish a spiritual environment grounded in prayer in the classroom, the playground, and in the home. For all materials related to this resource visit: <http://www.elca.org/2008ceplanner>. Copies of the print resource may be ordered for free except for the cost of shipping by calling 800-328-4648. Use order code 978-6-0002-2196-6.

Starting new congregations

We continue to develop congregations by engaging leaders at the local and synodical levels. New ministries are being started among African Americans, African Nationals, American Indian/Alaska Natives, Arab/Middle Easterners, Asian/Pacific Islanders, European Americans, and Hispanic/Latinos within rural, urban, and suburban settings. During calendar year 2008, we began a total of 50 new starts—33 congregations-under-development and 17 synodically authorized worshipping communities (SAWCs).

Extend the invitation and manage the garden

We are invited to participate in the management of garden. Sounds scary! Part of our mission is to prepare the soil/church environment; by extending hands of welcome, exercise patience and expecting the unexpected.

In and through Holy Baptism birthing is accomplished by God. Many come as a result of story telling and invitation. So, invite!

While we stroll together be encouraged to assist by letting our light shine and sharing God's creative and redeeming Word.

Is Prayer calling us to Listen, Hear and Obey?

Is Prayer calling our churches to Listen, Hear and Obey? Is Prayer leading us into discernment? Where is God leading us? When we Pray, Listen and Obey, are we willing to go where God takes us?

God is the initiator of Prayer. Prayer is our response to God's invitation to be part of a loving relationship with the One who made us, sustains us, and the One who saves us from ourselves and the power of sin. God is calling us to pray. God is calling our churches to pray. God is inviting us to be face to face...to be in God's presence.

Listening for God is a vital part of our Christian life, our prayer life, and our churches prayer life.

RESOURCES

Praying for Renewal ISBN 978-6-0002-2088-4
"The Story of Lutheran Revival" (DVD) 2007
ISBN 978-6-0002-1962-8
Renovando La Pasi3n ISBN 978-6-0002-2195-9

Contact: Kathryn Love 800-638-3522, ext. 2102

Contributing writers: Pr. Stephen Bouman, Sandy Freiheit,
Pr. Kathryn Love, Marlys Waldo, Diane Monroe

