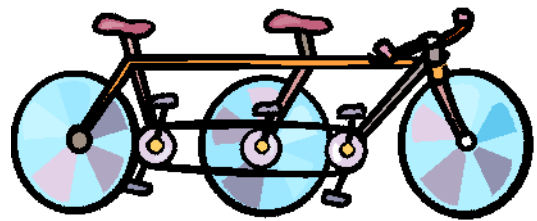


The *Tour de Revs* for World Hunger

July 31 - August 3 was the time for an extremely intense and engaging "World Hunger Leadership Gathering" in Lakewood, Colorado, an event my husband and I were privileged to attend. The plenary sessions were not just informative but were inspiring; the workshops were both varied and helpful.

One of the best aspects of a gathering like this is the opportunity to meet other participants from almost all the mainland states, representing congregations both large and small. These co-participants are people who care about the issues of hunger and poverty and readily share their passion and unique stories of service.

One such story is shared by three West Virginia pastors who will be sharing a bamboo bicycle built for 3 and riding together for 100 days starting in May 2009. Fred Soltow, Ron Schlak and David Twedt are the pastors who comprise this "Tours De Revs" Ride for Hunger and Wellness.



They will be stopping at each of our ELCA synods. Their hopes are—

- to stimulate synod hunger committees and congregations to form and implement realistic plans to eradicate hunger in our lifetime and make "wellness" a higher priority in our church
- support the church in communicating our God-given opportunity and responsibility for those less fortunate
- help the ELCA reach its goal of 25 million dollars annually for ELCA World Hunger Appeal

How will this work? In this event, considered by the three bicyclists to be a thank-offering for the grace we have first experienced, we will be asked to covenant with them in 3 ways (the "Domestique Challenge").



1. Agree to make an on-going monthly contribution of \$10 or more to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal or to a charitable organization of his/her choice whose purpose is to alleviate hunger and poverty
2. Commit to securing 3 more people within 30 days who will covenant with them to do the same
3. Work with advocacy groups dedicated to relieving hunger and poverty

The Tours de Revs is scheduled to be at our synod June 5-7. Please plan to meet them and to take their Domestique Challenge. All this is a response to Jesus' call for us to GO AND DO LIKEWISE (Luke 10:37).

Kathryn Wolf, Synod World Hunger Appeal Team