

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
February 2009

This Month's News

2008 MINUTES BOOK

The 2008 Minutes Book is finished and available. Most of the content is available in the Resources section, Synod Forms and Documents subsection, on the synod website (www.godslove.org/resources/forms/). Not included on the website for privacy reasons is the roster section. The entire book is also available in hard copy. If you would like to pick up a hard copy, call Carol Moyer at the synod office at 610-395-6891.

CALLING ALL YOUTH AND YOUTH LEADERS!

On the back of this cover sheet is a special notice about a Youth Servant Event in Tanzania. Check it out!



Beyond the Yellow Ribbon: How your faith community can help veterans readjust to civilian life

Offered by Diakon Family Life Services, this seminar is designed to train faith-community leaders on how to minister more effectively to returning veterans and their families. Topics include the emotional cycle that the family and veteran experience during a deployment, the mindset of a returning veteran, and the readjustment that the veteran and his or her family experiences. For more information on the event, please see Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries' February Mission District Report, available online at <http://www.diakon.org/ChurchProfessionals/NEPA.asp>.

Annual Farm Family Celebration

The annual **Farm Family Appreciation Celebration** will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2009, at the Hamburg Field House. Everyone is invited—farm families *and* farm family supporters! Children are welcome. For more information and to register, click the link at www.godslove.org/publications/news.htm.



Get Ready for a LIFT!

Mark your calendar and tell your family to get ready for **LIFT 2009**. It will be held Saturday, June 13, at Muhlenberg College.

For more information, go to www.godslove.org/publications/news.htm. Or check directly at www.godslove.org/LIFT. Also see the article in the January issue of Partners in the Spirit (www.godslove.org/publications/partnersinthespirit/).

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that you can find out about synod prayer concerns, upcoming events, important news, and other synod and churchwide information online? Simply click the link for "E-News" under "Publications" at www.godslove.org. Let your congregational members know, too, so they can keep in touch.



Find it all at www.godslove.org. Click "This Month's News" under "Publications." No Internet access? Call Carol Moyer at the synod office (610-395-6891) to request a copy of a particular item.

Thanks to members of **Cedar, Cetronia**, for assembling this mailing.

In This Packet: February 2009

- **Synod News**, insert for congregation newsletters and/or bulletins
- **Thanks to You . . .**, bulletin insert to interpret our church's mission
- **2009 Congregation Officers Form**: Please return by **April 15** (note: this is also available on the synod website via the link at www.godslove.org/publications/news.htm)
- **Nomination form** for elections to be held at the 2009 synod assembly
- **Roster changes** since the last monthly mailing
- **The Parish Paper**

Printable versions of *Synod News* and *Thanks to You* are available as PDFs on the synod website (www.godslove.org). Click the links on the Publications menu. Adobe Acrobat PDF (Portable Document Format) files can be viewed on screen and printed on your own printer exactly as they were produced. You can also copy text and graphics from PDF files. For a detailed description of copying text and graphics from PDF files, go to www.godslove.org/publications/news.htm.

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Companion Synod Youth Servant Event South Central Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania June 2010

(Exact dates to be determined)

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, is a companion synod with the South Central Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT). A group of youth and adult chaperones will travel to Tanzania for a 2-week-long project in the South Central Diocese.

Youth participants must—

- Have completed grade 9 at the time of the event
- Be an active member of a congregation of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod
- Be interested in and sensitive to other cultures
- Represent their church and country in a positive way
- Participate in an interview with our SCD/ELCT Companion Synod Committee
- Attend introductory session with parent(s)/guardian(s) on June 1, 2009
- Attend orientation/team-building sessions throughout the year
- Assume cost of trip (approximately \$3,500-\$3,800)
- Have a valid passport

To apply—

- Download, print, and complete the application form found on the synod website, www.godslove.org/youth/news.htm; mail form to Pastor Kurt Garbe, address below;
- Request a one-page recommendation from your pastor or, in the case of a pastoral vacancy, the associate in ministry (if applicable) or the president of the congregation council;
- Return these materials by midnight on Friday, **April 17, 2009**, to—

Pastor Kurt Garbe
Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
PO Box 803
Conyngham, PA 18219-0803

Questions? Contact Pr. Garbe at prkeg@epix.net
