

SYNOD NEWS

The Spirit of Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

October 2011



Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Throughout this year, our synod has been focusing on *Doing What Matters*--watching to see where God is at work and putting our energy into being part of that work.

A special synod assembly on October 22 will continue that emphasis in two ways.

What We Will Be Doing

First, Pastor Scott Schantzenbach will help us to think about how to do effective ministry in the 21st Century. This participatory presentation will focus on helping congregations move from institution to movement and individuals from membership to discipleship.

Pastor Schantzenbach serves on the staff of the New Jersey synod and is an informative as well as enjoyable speaker who is in demand throughout the ELCA.



Following his presentation, we will explore how the mission of the church is expressed in our finances and specifically how we can make the synod's finances a way in which we *Do What Matters*. Our spending proposal for 2012, an expression of the synod's mission plan, will be adopted.

Who Should Attend

Although this is a special assembly, it follows the same rules as a regular assembly in its makeup. **All active rostered leaders** are constitutionally required to attend unless



Special Synod Assembly
October 22, 2011; 2-4:30 p.m.
Lutheran Center in
Northeastern Pennsylvania

excused. The **lay voting members who attended the June 2011 assembly** are still considered voting members of this assembly. They should attend unless they are replaced by their congregations. **Visitors are also welcome.**

How to Register

There will be **no fee** for the assembly. You can register by clicking the link on the home page of the synod website, www.godslove.org. You can also print a registration form from www.godslove.org and mail it to the assembly registrar at NEPS, 2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109.



Coming Up at the Lutheran Center

✓ Cleanup Day

Saturday, October 1

Check the list of jobs on the synod website, www.godslove.org



✓ Dedication

Sunday, December 4, 3:00 p.m.

Watch the synod website, www.godslove.org, for more information.



Treasurers Workshop

October 22, 2011, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; The Lutheran Center



The **2011 Treasurers Workshop** will be held Saturday, October 22, at the Lutheran Center. Plan to stay afterwards for the special synod assembly at the Center!

More information and a registration form are available on the calendar page of the synod website, www.godslove.org.

Do What Matters—Next Steps



You're Invited!

Whether you attended a *Do What Matters* workshop in the spring or not, you're invited to take the next step in exploring

what God is doing in your congregation. Kelly Fryer and Tana Kjos from *A Renewal Enterprise* will return in November to help us open ourselves to working in renewable ways in a world that's changing more rapidly than we can imagine.



These workshops will give you a chance to report on the steps you've taken to join the mission that God has for the church and to plan for ongoing renewal. Bring the same team you brought in the spring or introduce new people to the conversation. Events will be held on:

- **November 5** (9 am to 1 pm) at the Lutheran Home at Topton
- **November 6** (3 pm to 7 pm) at Jordan, Orefield
- **November 12**, (9 am to 1 pm) St. Paul, Dallas
- **November 13** (3 pm to 7 pm) at St. John, Nazareth



The cost for a congregational team of up to eight people is \$45, which includes a light meal. Additional team members are \$5 each. If you did not attend the first event, the *Do What Matters* workbook will be available for purchase at the event for \$12.

A link to online registration for your team is posted on the synod website (www.godslove.org). The deadline for registration is **October 28**.

New Office Hours at the Lutheran Center



To adjust to traffic in our new location, the office is now open from **8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday**.

Please remember to **update your address book and websites** with our new information: **The Lutheran Center**, 2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109-3044; Phone: 610-266-5101; fax: 610-266-5106; email: info@nepsynod.org; website: www.godslove.org.



2012 Learning Ministries Day

Saturday, January 28, 2012

Faith Formation 2020: Making and Teaching Disciples in the 21st Century

Keynote presenter: John Roberto, author and founder of Lifelong Faith Associates



Location: TBA

Cost: \$25

More information will be included in upcoming issues of *Synod News* and posted on the synod website, www.godslove.org.

Fall WELCA Event:

Daily Bread



October 8, 2011, 8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., Zion United, Brodheadsville

Registration fee of \$15 includes lunch. Click the *September Flame* link on the synod website, www.godslove.org, for more information.