

◆ SYNOD NEWS ◆

The Spirit of Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

September 2011



Let's Talk!

It's been several months now since over 800 people from synod congregations gathered to begin thinking about what really matters to God. On **September 10**, those congregations – and **rostered and lay leaders from all of our congregations** – will have a chance to share what has been happening in their congregations since then and hear what other have been up to.

On September 10 from 10 a.m. to noon, you are invited to attend one of several gatherings that will be held around the synod to continue the conversation about doing what matters. The goals of these “checkup” events, led by synod staff, are to—

- Offer congregational participants who attended the spring meetings in March and April an opportunity to discuss their progress and their challenges;
- Insure that follow-up *Do What Matters!* workshops scheduled for November can provide the most effective assistance to congregations working on ministry ideas begun in the spring;

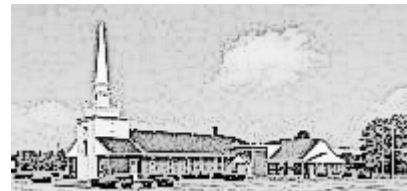


- Offer congregations that did not attend the spring meetings an introduction to the synod's *Do What Matters!* emphasis;

- Help all participants look closer at ways to make the transition from consumable ministry to renewable mission.

An assumption in the *Do What Matters!* emphasis is that God is on the loose in this world, reconciling the whole creation and setting people free. The “checkup” workshops will explore in small groups where God is at loose and how congregations can be part of God's activity in the world in renewable ways.

Locations and times for the September event may be found at www.godslove.org.



We've Moved!

The offices of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod moved to our new location on July 8, 2011.

Please be sure to **update your address book and websites**. Here's where we are and how to reach us:

The Lutheran Center

2354 Grove Road

Allentown PA 18109-3044

Telephone: 610-266-5101

Fax: 610-266-5106

Email: info@nepsynod.org

Website: www.godslove.org



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

Special Synod Assembly

The Synod Council of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod has called a special assembly in the fall of 2011 to help the synod focus on *Doing What Matters* and to adopt a 2012 program proposal that reflects our priorities



That special assembly will be held at the **Lutheran Center on Saturday, October 22, beginning at 2:00 p.m.** Onsite registration begins at 1:30 p.m.

The key segment of the assembly will be an interactive presentation by Pr. Scott Schantzenbach. Pastor Schantzenbach is Assistant to the Bishop of the New Jersey Synod. In that role he provides mission resourcing and support to 64 congregations in the northern region of the synod. He is an inspiring as well as entertaining speaker and has taught and spoken throughout the ELCA.

The concluding portion of the assembly will include a discussion led by synod treasurer David Hinrichs about the 2012 program proposal as a way for the synod to focus on *Do What Matters!*

Synod Resource Center Grand Re-Opening!

The Lutheran Center in Northeastern PA; 2354 Grove Road, Allentown, PA

Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
 Saturday, open by appointment only

For **more information**, call 610-266-5101 and ask for Debbie Frey or Karen Matthias-Long.



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



Mark your calendar now for the **2011 Treasurers Workshop**, to be held Saturday, October 22, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Lutheran Center in Northeastern PA.

More information is available on the calendar page of the synod website, www.godslove.org.

Plan to stay afterwards for the special synod assembly at the Lutheran Center!



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.



2011 Assembly Summary

A link to a brief **summary of the 2011 Synod Assembly**, held June 17-18 on the Muhlenberg College campus, may be found on the assembly page of the synod website, www.godslove.org/calendar/assembly.htm.