



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Vocation and Education

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Editor's note: Please use the following promotional information, in whatever form you would like, in your communications with your synod's rostered leaders regarding the redesign of *Lutheran Partners* magazine. The redesign, which begins with the Jan./Feb. 2008 issue, will include full color, more closely integrated print and online versions, and new print and online features. The magazine is sent all the active and retired rostered leaders of the ELCA—its pastors, associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers—six times a year at no cost to the rostered.

—William A. Decker, editor, *Lutheran Partners*

***Lutheran Partners* magazine: New Year — New Look — New Focus**

Starting with the January-February 2008 issue, *Lutheran Partners* magazine, both its print and online versions, will have a new look and a new focus, reflecting our new mission to “connect rostered leaders of the ELCA by publishing the voices of real people doing real ministry in the real world.” Listen in on the thoughts and reflections of your colleagues as they write about what keeps them up at night, what gets them up in the morning, and everything in-between—the joys and the dead-ends, the passion and the practicalities of all kinds of ministry.

Real people. Real ministry. Real world. Check your mailbox or www.elca.org/lutheranpartners.

***Lutheran Partners* Editorial Themes for 2008**

Jan./Feb. – Transforming Suffering

How faith in Christ is shaping the powerful experience of human suffering.

March/April – Vocation Lived Out (Higher Education and the Church/Lifelong Learning issue)

Vocation, a central Lutheran motif, fixes our sights on how God is calling us to serve our neighbor. We will hear the voices of students and professors; pastors and lay persons speak about their God-driven vocation.

May/June - In the Middle of the Night

God never sleeps nor slumbers. But what might this mean in the wee hours of the night in places such as hospitals or Bible camps? Or through ecumenical urban “night” ministries? Or even when one is dreaming?

July/Aug. - Taking Center Stage

Our culture places a high premium on entertainment and the arts. Our authors will speak about the place these values have in the life of the church and how they both support and detract Christians as they worship God and follow Christ.

Sept./Oct. - Real People Read the Bible

The Bible is where Christians believe the voice of God can be heard through the words of its many human authors. Ordained and lay leaders reveal how they study, read, and use these life-giving words.

Nov./Dec. – The Changing Church

In today's congregations, worshipers may have little or no background regarding how Lutherans have commonly organized their worship. We will examine how congregational leaders deal with this reality.