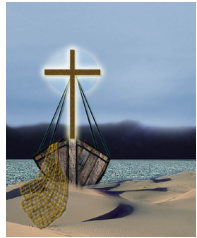


EVANGELIZING CHURCH



Our Mission

Sealed by the power of the Holy Spirit, we are called to be an evangelizing church that invites God's people to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and God's liberating message of hope to the world.



PRAYER LEADERS NETWORK

Ten Thousand Intercessors for Energizing Renewal (ER) —Written by Sandy Freiheit

"Let my prayer be set before You as incense..."
Psalm 141:2a.
New King James Version

When are our prayers ignited to become incense? The image of prayers as incense set before our Lord represents intentional and deliberate intercession. Our intercessions are the sparks to ignite our prayers into clouds of incense. The Prayer Leaders Network is calling together 10,000 intercessors to the IM of the ELCA ... the Igniting Messengers setting fire to the incense to be set before our Lord.

"Let my prayer be counted as incense before you..."
Psalm 141:2a.
New Revised Standard Version

The ELCA Evangelism Strategy, Objective 1: calls the Church to prayer. The goal of objective 1 is to ... "activate and mobilize" this Church to pray for renewal that is grounded in the word. The Prayer Leaders Network is grouping together intercessors to assist in **Energizing Renewal/Revival** for the ELCA, the **IM** and **ER** for the ELCA. Ten thousand intercessors are being assembled throughout the ELCA, called upon to ignite the incense. Intentional and deliberate prayers will be a cloud of incense

Evangelism Strategy

- Objective I: Call the Church to Prayer
- Objective II: Prepare and renew Evangelical Leaders
- Objective III: Teach Disciples
- Objective IV: Start and Renew Congregations

rising for the ELCA. Energizing renewal & revival to be set before our Lord. Prayers of intercession to spark, ignite, renew, revive, intervene and transform.

In May 2008, the Prayer Leaders Network will begin the first phase. Ten ELCA Synods will be the first of the intercessors to carry on a persistence of prayer for the Energizing Renewal/Revival of the ELCA.

Thanks

Our thanks to God for the new leadership of The Rev. Stephen P. Bouman, executive director EOCM. Rev. Bouman comes to us after serving as Bishop of the Metropolitan New York Synod.

A Praying Community of Faith

"I am a living witness of the compassion and perseverance of a praying community of faith."

A personal testimony by our partner in ministry The Rev. Ivis LaRiviere-Mestre. Read her story online at: www.evangelizingchurch.org.

Starting New Congregations

We continue the work of developing congregations by engaging leaders at the local and synodical levels as well as from ethnic ministries to encourage planning and visioning for ministry in a variety of contexts such as African American, African national, Asian/Pacific Islander, Arab/Middle Eastern, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Latino as well as Urban and Emerging new starts teams. During 2007 we began a total of 56 new starts comprised of 42 congregations under development and 14 Synodically Authorized Worshipping Communities (SAWCs). This brings the total of congregations under various stages of development to 221.



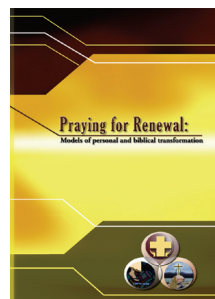
Coaching in the ELCA

Coaching is a way of walking alongside others to help them succeed at the work God has called them to do. Through a process of asking "powerful questions," coaches assist leaders to find solutions and develop strategies. It enhances the skills and creativity that leader already possesses. The ELCA is utilizing coaching in a variety of arenas: mission development, transformation, intentional interims, Natural Church Development, stewardship and evangelism networks, etc.

An Ongoing Call to Discipleship

The ELCA's annual program planners publication focuses on a specific aspect of discipleship each year. Regular features include a leader Bible study, intergenerational learning modules, discipleship graphics, teaching tips, stories of modern day disciples and much more!

This year's focus is on prayer. *EveryWhere and EveryWay: Calling One Another to Prayer*, will be available online and in print in May. For more information go to: www.elca.org/christianeducation/programplanners.



Renewal and Transformation

Teamwork is what we need if we are to accomplish renewal. As the book, *Praying for Renewal: Models of Personal and Biblical Transformation* states: "It is apparent that no one person is able to accomplish through prayer what God intends for this our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. No single person or group can alone achieve the ultimate call to action spelled out in the strategy or Book of Faith Initiative. But as we work together much can and will be accomplished."

Praying for Renewal: Models of Personal and Biblical Transformation is available from Augsburg Fortress see box below for order information.

About This Newsletter

Each bi-annual newsletter seeks to express how as a church we are able to focus on aspects of the evangelizing church strategy for the sake of informing and introducing the readers to actions taken to accomplish the goals set forth by the strategy.

Augsburg Fortress Resources

www.augsburgfortress.org 800/328-4648

Praying for Renewal: ISBN 978-6-0002-2088-4

A Story Worth Sharing ISBN 0-8066-5005-2

The Evangelizing Church ISBN 0-8066-5109-1

An Evangelism Assessment Tool - online at www.elca.org/evangelism/assessments

With hands Uplifted DVD ISBN 6-0002-0393-4

Grounded in Prayer ISBN 0-8066-4676-4

Grounded in Prayer--Leaders Guide ISBN 08066-4677-2

Resources in Spanish

"Senderos de oración: Una guía de oración congregacional para grupos pequeños" (ISBN 08-0665181-4)

"Vivimos por la gracia" (ISBN 978-60002-1780-0)
Renewing the Passion—a guide to spiritual revival
ISBN 6-0002-1222-4

"Hechos" by Justo González (ISBN 08-066-8070-9)

"Hebreos" by Pablo A. Jiménez (ISBN 08-066-8073-3)

"Doce Profetas Menores" by Alejandro Botta (ISBN 08-066-8072-5)

"Mateo" by David Cortés-Fuentes (ISBN 08-066-8074-1)

"Marcos" by Eliseo Pérez Álvarez (ISBN 08-066-53353)

"Epístolas Universales" by Giacomo Cassese (ISBN 08-066-53361)

Seasons of Renewal (DVD) ISBN 6-0002-1623-8

The Story of Lutheran Revival (DVD)

ISBN 978-6-0002-1962-8

This newsletter is in cooperation with
Christian Education
Development of New Congregations
Evangelizing Church (Prayer Leaders network)
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800/638-3522 ext. 2102 or 2734 respectively

