

# Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA September 2008

## This Month's News



### Focus on the Children: 2008 Lutheran Social Ministry Appeal

See [other side](#) of this sheet for more information.



### The Tour de Revs for World Hunger



What can you do to help eradicate world hunger? Read about three pastors and their 100-day journey by bicycle. Plan to greet them as they arrive in our synod. Read more at [www.godslove.org/publications/news.htm](http://www.godslove.org/publications/news.htm).

### Free in Christ to Serve the Neighbor

A training event for adults working with senior high youth to facilitate discussion of the ELCA [Draft Social Statement on Human Sexuality](#) will be held September 20 at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Emmaus.

For more information, click the link at [www.godslove.org/publications/news.htm](http://www.godslove.org/publications/news.htm).



### We Are All Together... In Christ

The Lutheran Youth Fellowship assembly will be held at Pinebrook Bible Conference Center November 7-9. Registration and assembly materials are available online at [www.godslove.org/youth/lyfassembly.htm](http://www.godslove.org/youth/lyfassembly.htm).

Order t-shirts, fill out a nomination form, check out what camp life requires—and more. [Register now!](#)

### Diakon's First Annual Camp Evergreen Reunion

Diakon's Children's Bereavement Program will host its first annual Camp Evergreen reunion picnic on Saturday, Oct. 18. The reunion will provide children, parents, volunteers, and counselors a chance to reconnect. For more details, including time, location, and an RSVP date, please see Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries' September Mission District Report, available on the Web at <http://www.diakon.org/ChurchProfessionals/NEPA.asp>.



### Jesus Justice Jazz: 2009 ELCA Youth Gathering

The 2009 ELCA Youth Gathering will be held July 22-26, 2009, in New Orleans.

Two **information meetings** will be held this month: September 6, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Dallas, 10:00-11:30 AM *OR* September 7, Friedens Lutheran Church, Oley, 6:30 -8:00 PM. For more information, click the link at [www.godslove.org/publications/news.htm](http://www.godslove.org/publications/news.htm).

### Money Leadership for Rostered Leaders

*Money Leadership for Rostered Leaders* will be held at St. Francis Retreat Center, Easton, September 30-October 1. For a brochure and registration form, click the link at [www.godslove.org/publications/news.htm](http://www.godslove.org/publications/news.htm).



Find it all at [www.godslove.org](http://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 **Zion, Old Zionsville**, for assembling this mailing.

# In This Packet: September 2008

- **Synod News**, insert for congregation newsletters and/or bulletins
- **Thanks to You . . .**, bulletin insert to interpret our church's mission
- **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](http://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](http://www.godslove.org/publications/news.htm).

## Tickets for the Installation of Bishop Samuel Zeiser

Some tickets remain for the installation of Bishop Zeiser. If you would like to attend the installation, you may request one or two tickets online at [www.godslove.org/installation](http://www.godslove.org/installation).

The installation will be held September 27 at Elm Park United Methodist Church in Scranton. Pre-service music begins at 9:30 a.m.; the service begins at 10:30 a.m.

Directions to the church, information on parking, and other information may be found at [www.godslove.org/installation](http://www.godslove.org/installation).

## Focus on the Children: The 2008 Lutheran Social Ministry Appeal



Traditionally, October is Social Ministry month in our church's calendar of emphases. It is also a time for individuals and congregations to consider their response to the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod's annual "Lutheran Social Ministry Appeal."

Children face many challenges these days that put them at risk. Last year's "Focus on the Children" theme generated support for a number of innovative ministries. The focus on children will continue in the 2008 appeal. All funds raised by the appeal will be used to support programs addressing the needs of children and their families.

Below is a sample bulletin or newsletter announcement you may use to promote the appeal in your congregation. More information on the appeal, including other sample announcements and a bulletin insert, may be found on the synod website at [www.godslove.org/resources/lsm.htm](http://www.godslove.org/resources/lsm.htm).

*Sample bulletin or newsletter announcement:*

In Pennsylvania, 393,466 children live in poverty. 36,733 were reported abused in the last year examined. 35% of fourth graders scored below basic reading levels. We know the alarming numbers. We also know that we can make a difference. Your gift to "Focus on God's Children: the 2008 Lutheran Social Ministry Appeal" will support ministries to and with children throughout the territory of our Synod.