

SYNOD NEWS

The Spirit of Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

January 2009

Opening the Book of Faith

Saturday, January 24, 2009

Union Lutheran Church
Schnecksville, PA

2009 Learning Ministries Day

*A day to enrich, encourage, and excite **all** leaders in the church.*

Keynote Speaker

Rolf A. Jacobson

Join others from across the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod as they explore the *Book of Faith*!

The event is for Sunday school staff, Christian education committee members, congregation council members, senior high youth, rostered leaders, and other congregational leaders.

The schedule, workshop descriptions, registration form, and directions to Union Lutheran Church may be found on the calendar page on the synod website, www.godslove.org/calendar. A form was also included in the **December mailing** from the synod office.

Keynote speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Rolf A. Jacobson, author and associate professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary in Minneapolis.

Dr. Jacobson will also lead a workshop along with Marlane Druckenmiller, synod advocate for the *Book of Faith* initiative.

Workshops offered include—

- Rally Day: Themes and Ideas
- Singing with the Book of Faith
- Living Faithfully – Living Politically
- Science and Creation

- Book of Faith Crafts
- Games for Learning
- Families and the Book of Faith
- I Love to Tell the Story: Studying the Bible Using a Literary Approach
- Using the Book of Faith with Children
- Full Access: Scripture and Christian Education for All
- Choosing 2009 Vacation Bible School Curriculum through a Lutheran Lens
- Long Ago in a Place Far Away: Studying the Bible from an Historical Perspective
- Let's Talk: A Conversation with Dr. Jacobson and Marlane Druckenmiller
- Book of Faith Resources

The fee for the event, which includes lunch, is \$20 if postmarked by January 14, 2009, and \$25 after January 14.



Don't miss the synod *Book of Faith* blog! Check it out at www.godslove.org/book-of-faith

Visit the Bishop's Page!

Did you know that Bishop Zeiser has a page on the synod website (www.godslove.org)?



Each week Bishop Zeiser shares his reflections on his experiences and interactions with folks around the synod.



This month, Bishop Zeiser will join 59 other bishops of the ELCA, the ELCA secretary, and five of the six bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada on a visit to the Middle East.

The visit, which takes place January 6-13, is the 2009 Bishops' Academy, an annual event in which leaders from both churches engage in theological reflection and study.

While he is in the Middle East, Bishop Zeiser plans to write about his experience and share that, along with pictures, on his website page.



Be sure to read his page – just click the link on the synod homepage at www.godslove.org.

Did your congregation request its **free** DVD of Bishop Zeiser's installation? Would you like to purchase a copy for \$6? Click the link on the website or call Debbie Frey at 610-395-6891.

Get ready for LIFT!



**Lutherans
in
Faith
Together**

**Saturday, June 13, 2009
Muhlenberg College**

Keynote Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Mark Allan Powell, Professor of New Testament, Trinity Lutheran Seminary

Music: Dakota Road

Chapel Concerts featuring **Andrea Langkamer-Smith** (10:45-11:15 a.m.), **Kinderchor** (11:30 a.m.-12:00 noon), **Around the World with ELW** (1:15-1:45 p.m.), and **Stephen Williams** (2:00-2:30 p.m.)

Be sure to read the article in the January issue of *Partners in the Spirit*. Get all the latest news and updates at www.godslove.org/LIFT

Did You KNOW ?

You can receive up-to-date Christian education and/or youth ministry news about upcoming events, resources, and ideas through a monthly e-mail from Karen Matthias-Long, the synod's Director of Ministry Resources.

Do you want to learn about Lutheran Youth Fellowship events? Do you have questions about Sunday school or confirmation curriculum? Would you like to register for Learning Ministries Day? Are you

curious about resources tied to the *Book of Faith* initiative?

If you answered yes to any or all of these questions, sign up now! Send the following information to Karen Matthias-Long at Karen.Matthias-Long@ecunet.org:

- Your name
- The name of your church and its location (city, town)
- Whether you are a youth or an adult
- The e-news you would like to receive (Christian education, youth ministry, or both)

Don't miss out on this great resource!

Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA; **Carol L. Weiser, Editor**; 610-395-6891; nepsynod@rcn.com; www.godslove.org