

Ministry of the Month—August

# Answer the Call



THE SECOND anniversary of Answer the Call, the South Dakota Synod's campaign to develop and support pastoral leaders for the synod was a highlight of the assembly banquet. Pastor Paul Hanson, administrative director of Answer the Call, asked several of the banquet's honorees to share their own "call experiences" with the audience. These moving stories underscored the goal of the campaign—to raise at least \$3 million from individuals and corporations (not congregations), to be used to ensure the future of ministry in this synod and the greater church. To date, over \$1 million has been raised. But there still is much to be done to find new laborers for the vineyard, to nurture existing laborers, and to care for those who have labored long and well.

*"The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send out laborers into His harvest." —Luke 10:2*



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## *About the Ministry of the Month...*

The 2004 South Dakota Synod Assembly passed the following schedule of monthly ministries for 2005. As in the past, the purpose of these emphases is to uplift important ministries throughout this synod and the larger church, and encourage designated giving above and beyond regular offerings. We hope that congregations will seize the opportunity to recognize these partnerships in the prayers of the church during these months, and to hold up these ministries through various activities.

January: Luther Seminary  
February: Heartland Ephphatha  
March: Prison Ministries  
April: Lutheran Youth Organization  
May: Companion Synod Programs

June: Mission Congregation Start-up  
August: Answer the Call  
September: Lutheran Campus Ministry  
October: Native American Ministry  
November: ELCA World Hunger Appeal

No monthly ministries are scheduled for the summer months or December, when many congregations have special Advent-giving emphases.