

The Synod Scene Summary

From the Newsletter of the South Dakota Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



South Dakota
Synod, ELCA

Something New! Welcome to this premiere edition of The Synod Scene Summary! As the name implies, this publication summarizes some of the key ideas and events from, primarily, this month's Synod Scene, for you to use as you deem best in your congregation's communications. We present the items in "capsule" format that you can adapt to your publications, cutting and pasting—literally, if you like, or electronically by visiting www.southdakotasynod.org/summary.html. We hope you find this a useful resource, and as always we welcome your suggestions and appreciate your partnership!

Companion Synod Notes

S Disaster in Nicaragua: Torrential rains in Central America affected nearly 3,600 people in western Nicaragua, depriving many of homes and livelihoods. Subsistence farmers are especially hard-hit: Rains destroyed the crop and also the seeds to plant the next crop. If you or your congregation can help with food or replanting-assistance donations, please contact Pastor Bill Tesch, 605/274-4026 or btesch@sdsynod.org.

S Cameroon Update: "What do you do when you go to Cameroon?" The best answer came from a Cameroonian man who explained our visits like this, "The Christians from South Dakota come to suffer with us." What a beautiful image of the way in which God has called us to accompany one another on our journey with Christ, who also suffers with us!

Are you interested in traveling to Cameroon in June? Plans are in the very beginning stages, and people are needed who are willing to travel to Cameroon for up to three weeks to "suffer with" our brothers and sisters in Christ. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Bill Tesch in the synod office, 605/274-4026 or btesch@sdsynod.org S

Faith Family Style Notes

S February 16-17—Faith Fest, Augustana College. This is the fifth annual Faith Fest for high school youth, starting at 10:00 A.M. Saturday and ending 1:00 P.M. Sunday. The cost for this event is \$50.00 a person. During the Saturday schedule the synod's LYO will have time to gather and discuss some of the other events that will be coming up in the months ahead. Housing will be at the Augustana Elmen Center (or in a hotel at your own expense). Registration is available online at www.augie.edu/chapel. If you have any questions please call 605/274-4396.

S March 28-30—High-school youth gathering in Alexandria, Minnesota. This is a multi-synod gathering that is taking place this year instead of individual synodical youth gatherings. Watch for a mailing for congregations to register for this event.

For questions on these or other youth events and activities, please contact Suzanne Hansen, 605/751-0533 or shansen@bmtc.net! S

Faith Builders Notes

S Centered Life: Living Our Faith 24/7 – Saturday February 9, 10:00 A.M.–3:30 P.M. CT. A one-day event open to the whole synod! We are using the state digital network to make this event available Aberdeen, Brookings, Pierre, Rapid City, Sioux Falls, and Vermillion. The presenter is Jack Fortin, founder of the Centered Life Initiative at Luther Seminary and a passionate speaker, helping people grasp how to connect their experience of faith at church on Sunday with their daily life on Monday

S Lutheran Theology and Confessions – March 29-30, 2008—A Faith Builders core course, "Confessing Like a Lutheran: A Study and Exercise in Lutheran Theology and Confessions" is a great class for stepping beyond what we learned in catechism to a fuller understanding of what Lutherans believe. Locations: Our traditional sites at Aberdeen, Sioux Falls, and Rapid City. Dr. Chris Croghan, Augustana College, is our teacher.

For questions about these classes or Faith Builders in general, please contact Jodi Hanson, jhanson@sdsynod.org or 605/274-4031. S