



An Ongoing Expression of the Call to Discipleship

Beginning in 2000, the Christian Education Team has produced an annual program planner focusing on one specific aspect of discipleship and the seven faith practices. The following is a quick overview providing theme, focus, scripture reference, and intergenerational event associated with each planner. In recent years a new feature has been added, called **Everyday Disciple**, highlighting the life and ministry of outstanding disciples.

Annual Program Planners

[Living Faith: The ELCA Churchwide Call to Discipleship \(2000\)](#)

A discipleship planning guide for congregations with a focus on the seven faith practices; a six-session discipleship Bible study; and practical discipleship tools for all generations

[Fanning the Flames of Discipleship \(2001-02\)](#)

Focus: Holy Spirit's action and features a parent/teacher training workshop on discipleship, and a presentation of the Bible program module

Scripture: *You are the light of the world...In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.*-Matthew 5: 14, 16

Intergenerational Event:

Light Shine (Discipleship)

[Stir Us To Deeper Discipleship \(2002-03\)](#)

Focus: Baptism, Lutheran Identity

Scripture: *It is Jesus whom we proclaim, teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil and struggle with all the energy that he powerfully inspires within me.* -Colossians 28-29

Intergenerational Events:

Baptismal Beginnings (Baptismal identity as the entry point for discipleship)

Searchlight (Epiphany)

Here Comes Jesus (Lent/Discipleship)

Luther's Info Drive Thru (Martin Luther, Reformation)

[Nurturing Faith in Community \(2003-04\)](#)

Focus: Christ's relationships with others; features planning materials for intergenerational learning

Scripture: *But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together...promotes the body's growth by building itself up in love.* -Ephesians 4: 15-16

Intergenerational Events:

All Ye, All Ye, Come Home Free! (People of God in faith community)
Church House Rock (Lutheran identity)
Happy New Year! (Church year)
The Good Soil Garden Center! (Faith sharing)

[Claiming the Story \(2004-05\)](#)

Focus: Story of salvation found in Scripture; planning materials for biblical storytelling

Scripture: For we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard.-Acts 4:20

Intergenerational Events:

Proclamation Station (Naming and claiming God's Word)

[Led to Lead \(2005-06\)](#)

Focus: Disciple-leader; spiritual gifts, and volunteer ministry

Scripture: For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Romans 11:29

Intergenerational Event:

Faith Trek (Children as disciple leaders)

[Imitate My Heart \(2006-07\)](#)

Focus: Discipleship in daily life

Scripture: ...Be Imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:1-2

Intergenerational Event:

Imitate My Heart (Children as followers of Jesus)

Everyday Disciple: Dietrich Bonhoeffer

[Grow to Go \(2007-08\)](#)

Focus: Mission-disciples must bear witness in the world

Scripture: Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. Matthew 28: 19-20

Intergenerational Event:

Grow to Go (Children as witness bearers in the world)

Everyday Disciple: Albert Schweitzer

EveryWhere and EveryWay: Calling One Another to Prayer (2008-09)

Focus: Prayer in all situations

Scripture: Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. I Thessalonians 5:16-18

Intergenerational Event:

EveryWhere and EveryWay (Prayer)

Everyday Disciple: Ruth Youngdahl Nelson

My Word! The Bible for EveryOne (2009-2010)

Focus: Engaging people of all ages in discovering the Bible

Scripture: Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. Colossians 3:16

Intergenerational Event:

My Word: The Bible for EveryOne (Bible)

Everyday Disciple: Martin Luther

Intergenerational Learning Summary

Each annual Christian Education Planning Guide features one or more complete intergeneration program modules suitable for rally day or other congregational events throughout the church year. The events are particularly designed for children in kindergarten through grade 6 and their families. Complete instructions and patterns for each 60-90 minute module including planning outlines, skits, worship materials, activity centers, and more are available at www.elca.org/christianeducation/programs

The following lists the available modules with their titles, year, and topics:

- All Ye, All Ye, Come Home Free! 2003 (family of God)
- Baptismal Beginnings 2002 (baptism)
- Church House Rock 2003 (Lutheran identity)
- EveryWhere and EveryWay 2008 (prayer; Ruth Youngdahl Nelson)
- Faith Trek 2005 (children as disciple leaders)
- Good Soil, Garden Center! 2003 (faith sharing)
- Grow to Go 2007 (children as witness bearers in the world; Albert Schweitzer)
- Happy New Year! 2003 (the church year)
- Here Comes Jesus! 2002 (Lent)
- Imitate My Heart 2006 (discipleship; Dietrich Bonhoeffer)
- Light Shine 2001 (faith practices)
- Luther's Info Drive-thru 2002 (Martin Luther and the Reformation)
- My Word! The Bible for EveryOne 2009 (the Bible, Martin Luther)
- Proclamation Station 2004 (proclaiming God's story)
- Searchlight! 2002 (Epiphany)

Faith Practices

Followers of Jesus are inspired to develop practices and patterns for living that characterize a life that is devoted to daily discipleship. Seven common practices have been identified as key to model and nurture.

The ELCA names these seven faith practices:

PRAY, STUDY, WORSHIP, INVITE, ENCOURAGE, SERVE, and GIVE

A four-session Bible study on each of the seven faith practices is available at

www.elca.org/christianeducation/discipleship/faithpractices.html