

## **ELCA World Hunger “Ethics of Eating” Region 3 Leadership Training Concordia Language Village, near Marine on St. Croix, MN**

**What:** ELCA World Hunger “Ethics of Eating” Region 3 Leadership Training. World Hunger is underwriting the cost of participation.

**When:** Thursday, September 23 – Sunday, September 26, 2010 at Concordia Language Village, near Marine on St. Croix, MN.

**Who:** ELCA Members in Region 3: Western North Dakota (3A), Eastern North Dakota (3B), South Dakota (3C), Northwestern Minnesota (3D), Northeastern Minnesota (3E), Southwestern Minnesota (3F), Minneapolis Area (3G). Saint Paul Area (3H), and Southeastern Minnesota (3I).

**To Apply:** To obtain an application, please contact Romelia Almaraz (Romelia.Almaraz@elca.org, 773-380-2696). If you have any questions about the event itself, please contact the coordinator of the event, Rev. Eva Jensen (evajensen101@gmail.com, 612-353-6636).

**Due Date:** Applications will be approved on a rolling basis starting on August 15, 2010 until all the openings are filled.

Are you concerned about the way what you eat and the way we produce food in this country impacts the environment, those who are hungry, and those who work in food production? Do you want to explore these issues through workshops and conversations with farmers and activists? Then you may be interested in the upcoming September 23 – September 26, 2010 leadership training on the ethics of eating sponsored by ELCA World Hunger. This event is for those who want to explore these issues, and to share what they discern with their congregation, campus, community or synod. ELCA World Hunger is underwriting the cost of participation.

These issues will be explored from a theological perspective: how should we eat such that it is just, and healthy for human beings and the environment? We will ask this question with respect to urban, local, organic, and conventional farming, and their relation to hunger, food worker rights, and the environment. We will brainstorm about how what we learn should inform the work of the church, particularly with respect to organizing, fundraising, education and the lifestyle of members of the church. Afterwards, each participant is expected to host an event of their choice in their local area.

### **Here are the goals for our participants in this event. We hope each participant will:**

1. Have increased capacity to advocate for a just and sustainable food system, with respect to the way food is distributed in this country, on behalf of those who work to produce food, those who are hungry, and the environment. Reflect upon the ways in which these issues should impact our food choices and the way we eat.
2. Implement a project, action or activity as a follow up to this event.
3. Subsequently participate in the Hunger Leaders Network and potentially, our online community.

### **Here are questions that are guiding our plans for this event:**

1. What are a few theological frames for thinking about eating in a way that is just and healthy for human beings and the environment?
2. How is food produced and distributed in this country? What is the role of urban, local, organic, and conventional farming in this system?
3. What are some local & regional issues for farmers and farm workers?
4. How do these different ways of distributing food locally, nationally and globally impact: a) hunger in urban and rural areas, b) the environment and climate change; and c) worker justice?
5. How should we eat such that it is just, healthy, and sustainable for humanity and the environment?
6. What are facets of individual, synod, and congregational advocacy for policies that would enable everyone to eat this way?

We in ELCA World Hunger are excited about this event, which will be held at the Concordia Language Village near Marine on St. Croix, MN. Local farmers, farm workers, food production workers, consumers, and actors in food, hunger and environmental justice networks will be involved in the event, which will include visits to farms and urban agriculture programs.

This event is the third in a series of regional ethics of eating events sponsored by World Hunger. The first event took place last year in Region 1 at the Campbell Farm Retreat Center in Wapato, WA from July 10 – July 13, 2009. The event was a great success. About 20 diverse participants from Region 1 visited three different farms, interacted with some great speakers and shared together over meals, a campfire and worship. Here are pictures from the event taken by one of the participants:  
<http://elcaworldhunger.ning.com/photo/albums/tonys-photos>.

We look forward to receiving your application for this upcoming event in Region 3. To obtain an application, please contact Romelia Almaraz (Romelia.Almaraz@elca.org, 773-380-2696). If you have any questions about the event itself, please do not hesitate to contact the coordinator of the event, Rev. Eva Jensen (evajensen101@gmail.com, 612-353-6636).