

ELCA World Hunger Leadership Gathering

May 1, 2009
Gathering Bulletin #2

ELCA World Hunger, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago IL 60631-4101
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Schedule Preview

At the gathering Web site, www.elca.org/hunger/gathering, you will find a preview of the schedule. This is an early draft and of course will be subject to change as the event gets closer, but this gives you a more detailed picture of the programmatic content that we are arranging for you in partnership with the Lutheran Center in Mexico City. There will be time to meet with the people whom we serve through ELCA relationships, time to experience local history and culture, as well as time to reflect on each day's events.

PASSPORT REMINDER

Please begin the process of obtaining your passport if you have not already done so. Passports are generally good for 10 years. Make sure yours is current at least six months after your date of entry into Mexico (e.g. current through March 26, 2010) or you may be refused entry.

Health Concerns

At the gathering Web site, you can access a preview of the schedule.
www.elca.org/hunger/gathering

We are monitoring the situation in Mexico relative to the swine flu and potential health risks for those traveling in this region. Given that our event is still five months away, we continue to plan for a rich event with our companions in Mexico City. We will communicate any updates as needed, and we are committed to ensuring the safety of all participants and those involved.

Please pray for everyone who is affected, especially our brothers and sisters in Mexico, as together we all do our part to help contain this virus.



ELCA World Hunger
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Watch your mail next week for two books related to gathering preparation.

Books in the Mail

Next week, we will mail you copies of two books:

- “Welcome Forward”
- “The Biblical Vision of Sabbath Economics”

“‘Welcome Forward’ is a 144-page field guide and accompanying CD aimed at global travelers who want to make a difference by their lives and by their travel. A handy companion before, during, and after an overseas trip, the guide provides practical, spiritual, and respectful ways to travel in the world. It's especially suited for those who undertake global hunger trips, companion synod journeys, ‘mission trips,’ and short-term missionary service opportunities.” – *from the Augsburg Fortress Web site*

“‘The Biblical Vision of Sabbath Economics’ by Ched Myers (2001) offers scriptural views about jubilee justice and a vision of enough for all. This 70-page booklet helps you read the Bible economically in order to read the economy biblically.” – *from the Bartimaeus Cooperative Ministries Web site*

We hope these books will enhance your preparation for this event and help provide context for some of the topics we will address, such as economic systems affecting people who live in poverty.

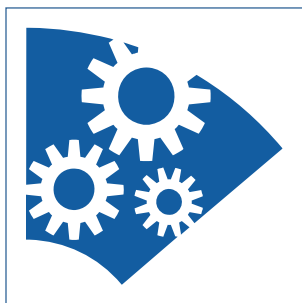
Booking Travel – Update

Given the current health concerns in Mexico, we are going to wait a little longer before allowing everyone to make plane reservations. Thank you for your patience. We know that some of you may be making other plans already that run close to these dates, however please continue to hold all of Sept. 26 and Oct. 3 as travel days until itineraries are in place. Also remember that you must book your travel through the ELCA-appropriated travel agency (usually Best Travel) when we announce that. Travel booked elsewhere cannot be reimbursed.

WebEx Session #1 – May 12

The first WebEx orientation session will be held on **May 12** for one hour at **7:30 Central Time**. Please plan to participate. You will need an Internet connection and separate phone line.

Final details about the topic to be covered will be posted online as soon as possible. See pg. 3 in this bulletin for instructions about how to join the meeting.



The Mexico City metropolitan area is home to approximately 19 million people (according to Encarta.msn.com), making it one of the largest metropolitan areas in the world.

Instructions for May 12 WebEx Session

Topic: World Hunger Leadership Gathering –Session #1

Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Time: 7:30 p.m., Central Time (60 minutes)

Meeting Number: 803 763 799

Meeting Password: (None required for this meeting)

NOTE: For first-time WebEx users especially, please log into the meeting about 15 minutes beforehand (7:15). All users will be able to log in up to 15 minutes before the meeting is scheduled to begin.

To join the online meeting

1. Click on or copy and paste into your browser this address:
<https://elcaorg.webex.com/elcaorg/j.php?ED=106292827&UID=88286307>
2. Enter your name and E-mail address
3. Enter the meeting password: (None required)
4. Click "Join Now"

To join the meeting via iPhone

Go to <wbx://elcaorg.webex.com/elcaorg?MK=803763799>

Don't have the iPhone WebEx application yet? Go to
<http://itunes.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewSoftware?id=298844386>

For assistance

Go to <https://elcaorg.webex.com/elcaorg/mc> (click "Support")

Payment Due June 1

Your registration fee of \$325 is due in the World Hunger office by **June 1**. If you have questions about whether your payment was received, contact Aaron Cooper by E-mail (Aaron.Cooper@elca.org) or phone (800-638-3522, ext. 2717).

We cannot accept credit card payments. Checks** should be made out to "**ELCA World Hunger Appeal**" and mailed to:

ELCA World Hunger Appeal
ATTN: Aaron Cooper
8765 W. Higgins Road
Chicago IL 60631-4101

**Include on the check your full name and "2009 Mexico Gathering."



Gathering Web site:
www.elca.org/hunger/gathering

JOURNALING

You are encouraged to start a journal now and include your thoughts and expectations about not only this event but also your perceptions about Mexico, the issues we will address, and ideas you would like to discuss with others.
