



Extend ministry 24 hours a day, seven days a week

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As congregations are looking for new ways to minister to people, the digital revolution is upon us. In parts of the United States only 2 to 10 percent of the people go to church. To connect with the techno-savvy generation, more congregations are becoming techno-savvy churches.

People are looking to build up a life of faith, but they want to do that at home, not just at church. The Internet can extend your ministry beyond the walls of your building. Web-based ministry has the ability to connect with families, individuals and couples 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There's the ability to make a connection with community near and far—in the neighborhood, with business travelers and even children at school.

What benefits does the Web really offer the church?

Designed properly, your Web site can draw people closer to God and the church no matter where they are. Set it up right, and it enriches discipleship and creates outreach and evangelism opportunities. Over 100,000 Protestant churches are ministering to people over the Web, adding value as an evangelism tool.

"As far as I'm concerned, this should be a no-brainer. The church should be online," says Charles Austin, an expert for *Church Computing*. "This is so cheap and easy; I cannot imagine why a congregation would not do it. Not having online capability today is like not having a telephone."

Austin suggests that the key to a successful online ministry lies in three areas. First, there must be a clear definition of the objectives. Second, the online presence must be technically superb. If you don't have a Web expert in your congregation, there are resources out there to help you.

Finally, a church site needs a "personal" touch; perhaps a personal e-mail or phone call from the pastor or a member to people who post questions, personal follow-up if it looks like someone is having a problem. Cyber-ministry cannot replace personal ministry.

Five levels of value

• At the first level, you have the *church Web page*.

A home page will give members and others basic information about worship, location, pastors, events, meetings and community activities. Links on the page connect the page to the "bigger" places, the churchwide organization, mission, special interest groups, and other community organizations.

• The second level is an *outreach ministry*. An online presence could have pages for "seekers, presenting the basics of the

faith, phone numbers and people to with whom to talk. A presence like this has to be promoted—in local newspapers, on other Web sites or in newsletters. It should have regular monitoring and quick response to e-mail.

• The third level is that of *ecumenical or inter-religious ministries*. Congregations need to be present on sites maintained by communities, libraries, ecumenical organizations or other groups. If the town has a site, a link to the church should be there. If the local soup kitchen has a site, the church should be there.

• The fourth level is *spirituality ministry*. Post sermons, have members take turns writing daily devotions for Advent or Lent (or any time) and provide a link to www.prayingchurch.org for people who have prayer requests.

• Finally, the fifth level is the *internal informational and educational ministry*. Children use the Internet at school every day. Why shouldn't they use it in Sunday school? Confirmation classes and others should be taught how to use the Web for research and study on religious topics. They need to learn how to spot the phony



sites, or the fanatics, and how to assess the information they find online. Enlist the help of your local school or librarian.

Web-based congregational resource: Ready, Click, Grow!

Augsburg Fortress, in cooperation with Joy Resources, has two new Web-based resources for churches, "ReadyClickGrow Your Faith" and "ReadyClickGrow Your Family." Both ReadyClickGrow ministry tracks effectively move beyond geographical and demographical limitations to help people build up lives of faith at home and with family, while staying connected to the church 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Rachel Westermeyer of Easter Lutheran Church, Eagan, Minn., recommends ReadyClickGrow as a means of equipping and enabling the church. "The church's mission is to grow disciples, and to equip people to grow their faith at home and in the community—not just in the church. ReadyClickGrow is a tool that assists in this mission. If even one family is using the site to become more comfortable with family devotion time and prayer, then it is a success. We're very excited about using ReadyClickGrow."

You might not be able to talk to your neighbor about Sunday school, but you could refer them to your congregation's Web site for creative and fun family activities.

Many people are already using the Web to access information, pay bills and play games. Congregations have an opportunity to take the next step in transforming the lives of their members by integrating faith-formation with the Web.

ReadyClickGrow Your Family and Your Faith can be purchased on a subscription basis and are priced to be affordable for congregations of all sizes. For more information to get started using ReadyClickGrow resources, www.ReadyClickGrow.com

More resources for enhancing your Web ministry

Many of the visitors to www.elca.org are searching for your congregation's Web site. Seekers, traveling or relocating Lutherans and Christian neighbors alike are checking out congregation Web sites before choosing to attend Sunday worship. Submit or update your congregation's Web address at www.elca.org/websubmit.html

Is your Web site ready for these visitors? While much of the content on congregational Web sites focuses on serving members and leaders, the home page should be especially efficient and inviting for visitors. High priority items include: worship times, links to maps and driving directions, address and phone numbers, and a picture of your church building. If potential Sunday worshipers have to spend a lot of time looking for where they're going and when to be there, they'll soon be on another congregation's Web site.

Hundreds of ELCA congregation

Web stewards are active in an online discussion that could help your congregation's Web presence. Join in at <http://webboard.elca.org:8080/~webstewards> to share solutions to

online church calendars, search engines, security and copyright issues, formatting church newsletters, launching message boards, etc.

For the current listing of resources to enhance your congregation's Web ministry, go to www.elca.org/congwebs.html

Some of the resources on that page include: links to dynamic content you can use on your Web site (such as daily Bible readings, daily prayers, ELCA news headlines); suggestions for places to host your Web site or go to get specific features (such as private congregational message boards and chat at www.lutheransonline.org or free parish e-mail lists at www.forministry.com) and sources for software tools for maintaining site.



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Stir up conversation about worship in your congregation

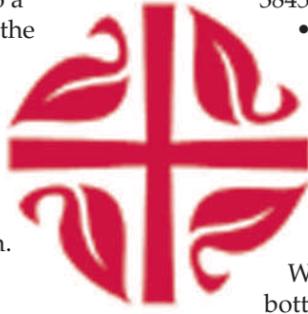
Renewing Worship, the five-year project of the ELCA leading to a proposal for what will follow the *Lutheran Book of Worship*, is about more than resources. It is about actually renewing worship in the congregations of this church.

Congregations can do something to help this happen. The best way to start is by engaging in conversation. Get talking about worship—not just about likes and dislikes, but about the deep foundations and issues. This can be done in formal settings like adult or youth classes on Sundays or other times of the week, at Women of the ELCA meetings and other events. Plan a potluck supper with guided conversation about worship at each table. Begin or end choir rehearsals or council meetings with brief discussions. Any worship committee should be engaged in serious study of these important issues.

Resources can help

Many resources are available to help you. (Products listing ISBNs are available by calling Augsburg Fortress at 800/328-4648.)

- ELCA worship Web page, especially the FAQ section at www.elca.org/dcm/worship
- Renewing Worship Web site (www.renewingworship.org), especially *Principles for Worship*, which can also be purchased in printed form (ISBN #0-8066-7003-7; \$15 plus shipping)
- All volumes of Renewing Worship provisional resources such as *Congregational Song: Proposals for Renewal*; *Holy Baptism and Related Rites*; *Life Passages: Marriage, Healing, Funeral*; *New Hymns and Songs*, include extensive commentary and notes that are valuable for discussion.
- *The Use of the Means of Grace*. This is the official statement of the ELCA on the practice of Word and Sacrament. It can be purchased as a booklet (ISBN 0-8066-3648-3, \$4.95) or downloaded from the ELCA Web site at www.elca.org/dcm/worship/worship/sacraments/umg.html
- *A Guide for Study and Discussion of The Use of the Means of Grace*. (ISBN 6-0000-9495-7, \$4.95 plus shipping)
- *These Things Matter: Word, Baptism, Communion*. A video documentary on the use of Word and Sacrament, including a study guide. (ISBN #6-0000-9044-7, \$25 plus shipping)
- *Gathered and Sent: An Introduction to Worship*. (Participant book ISBN #0-8066-



3844-3, \$6.50; Leader Book ISBN #0-8066-3845-1, \$10 plus shipping)

- *Preparing the Assembly's Worship* (ISBN #0-8066-4291-2, \$10 plus shipping). This is a guide book especially for worship committees.
- Bring a group of interested members from your congregation to one of the Renewing Worship Day events (see the bottom of this page).

Frequently Asked Questions

The ELCA worship team receives a large number of questions via e-mail, "snail mail," and telephone regarding worship practices—from clergy, musicians, worship planners and laypeople alike. Most of these questions, such as "How do we use ashes on Ash Wednesday," have been asked before and revolve around the rhythms of the church year.

The worship staff had previously published a set of these common questions and answers in a series called *Worship Q&A*. With the increasing use of the Internet, the series has adopted the Internet vernacular and was renamed *Worship FAQs* (Frequently Asked Questions). All of these FAQs are now on the ELCA Worship Web site at www.elca.org/dcm/worship/faq/ for online viewing and printing.

The Worship team has revised 43 of its FAQs, rewritten four, and has, up to this point, published almost 30 new ones. Here are some of the highlights:

Most common questions: The two questions the worship team is asked most frequently are, "How do we use the Advent wreath?" and "At what age do ELCA congregations allow their members first Communion?" The answer to the second question is based on the ELCA churchwide statement on sacramental practices, *The Use of the Means of Grace*.

The sacraments: If your congregation is exploring the possibility of using the provisional baptismal rites from the Renewing Worship series (*Holy Baptism and Related Rites*, available from Augsburg Fortress and www.renewingworship.org), a new FAQ provides an introduction to the practice of baptismal remembrance through the sprinkling with water, which is an option in these rites.

Worship & music planning: Curious about Taizé music and prayer? A new FAQ explains how silence and repetition, the distinguishing marks of Taizé style, might be used in worship. Links to the Commu-

nity of Taizé and the U.S. distributor of its music are provided.

Other important issues in worship and music planning addressed in new FAQs include: selecting hymns throughout the year, obtaining copyright licenses, and offering congregational worship surveys.

Seasonal: Interested in preparing ashes for Ash Wednesday? A new FAQ explains the significance of ashes, with directions on how to make your own and how they are imposed. Wondering why *alleluias* are not used in Lent? Another FAQ discusses this.

The five senses: The liturgy involves all of our senses, showing the significance of our bodies and all of God's creation: we hear the Word, taste the bread and wine, and touch the waters of Baptism. Exploring the aromatic and visual dimensions, new FAQs discuss incense and environments.

Educational opportunities: Several of the new FAQs provide a number of educational opportunities for your congregation. For example, one explores the biblical roots of the liturgy, listing biblical references that form the basis of the fourfold pattern of Christian worship (Gathering, Word, Meal, Sending) and that are used in the liturgy itself. Another looks at the Jewish Seder meal, which may be helpful in discussion of Jewish-Christian relations. More resources are available from the ELCA Department for Ecumenical Affairs at www.elca.org/leal/Resources/lujwrsce.html

It should be noted that worship FAQs are not prescriptive (not to be considered the final word on their respective topics), but, rather, descriptive (useful guides that are to be considered in respect to local context and with pastoral sensitivity).

If you have any questions or comments about the worship FAQs, please e-mail the ELCA worship team at worship@elca.org.

Renewing Worship events coming soon

Renewing Worship, the process of the ELCA leading to a proposal for what will follow the *Lutheran Book of Worship*, is entering a new phase—events.

Over 30 one-day events will be held across the church this autumn and next winter.

The days will focus on three things:

- Introduction and update on the work of the Renewing Worship working groups and the resources that are being produced;
- Interpretation of how congregations can use these resources effectively to renew their worship life;
- Input from participants about their hopes, dreams and concerns that will go back to the working groups to help shape the future of worship in the ELCA.

Complete details will be forthcoming to every congregation via the mail and also at www.renewingworship.org. For now, mark your calendar for the event in your area.

Scheduled dates and locations

Saturday, Sept. 6 Columbus, Ohio
 Sunday, Sept. 7 Greensburg, Pa.
 Saturday, Sept. 13 Cedar Rapids, Iowa
 Sunday, Sept. 14 St. Paul, Minn.

Saturday, Sept. 20 Geneva, N.Y.
 Saturday, Sept. 27 Wichita, Kansas
 Sunday, Sept. 28 Saint Louis, Mo.
 Saturday, Oct. 4 Omaha, Neb.
 Saturday, Oct. 4 Grand Rapids, Minn.
 Sunday, Oct. 5 Brookings, S.D.
 Saturday, Oct. 11 Louisville, Ky.
 Saturday, Oct. 11 Bismarck, N.D.
 Saturday, Oct. 25 Fargo, N.D.
 Saturday, Nov. 1 Missoula, Mont.
 Saturday, Nov. 1 Summit, N.J.
 Saturday, Nov. 1 Worcester, Mass.
 Saturday, Nov. 8 Detroit, Mich.
 Saturday, Nov. 8 Madison, Wis.
 Sunday, Nov. 9 Chicago, Ill.
 Saturday, Nov. 15 Fairfax, Va.
 Sunday, Nov. 16 Reading, Pa.
 Saturday, Jan. 17 Raleigh, N.C.
 Sunday, Jan. 18 Columbia, S.C.
 Saturday, Jan. 24 Phoenix, Ariz.
 Sunday, Jan. 25 Long Beach, Calif.
 Saturday, Jan. 31 Orlando, Fla.
 Saturday, Feb. 7 Denver, Colo.
 Saturday, Feb. 7 Sacramento, Calif.
 Saturday, Feb. 7 Dallas, Texas
 Sunday, Feb. 8 Houston, Texas
 Saturday, Feb. 21 Seattle, Wash.

Seeds for the Parish

www.elca.org/co/seeds

Seeds for the Parish (ISSN 0897-5663) is published six times a year, bimonthly. It is distributed without charge to the professional staff and lay leaders of the congregations, synods and regions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

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Scholarships for the future mission of the church

St. Armands Key Lutheran Church in Sarasota, Fla., has always been a mission-minded congregation, so when St. Armands Key received a bequest from long-time members Martin and Helen Lahm last spring, leaders turned their attention to supporting the outreach of the church. They used a significant part of the bequest to create the Lahm Family Seminary Scholarship, which will support a scholarship in perpetuity for a seminary student through the Fund for Leaders in Mission.

"We consider it a privilege to partner with the ELCA in this meaningful way," says St. Armands' Pastor Eric Wogen. "Strong leaders are so crucial, so vital to equipping the people of God to live out their baptismal calling and to grow in their witness and service."

After receiving the bequest, the congregation created a special committee to recommend ways to make gifts to their community, synod and the wider church. Members of the committee established guidelines for their work together. These focused on the key question of how they could most faithfully give to share the Gospel and fulfill the church's mission. In addition, they established a list of other



Helen and Martin Lahm

criteria to be used in making gifts from the bequest; the list included giving that reflected a true sense of stewardship, giving that supported ministries of the wider church, and giving that honored the Lahms and their support of ministries. The committee wanted giving to encompass support of churchwide, synodical, community and local programs, as well as St. Armands ministries.

After faithful deliberation, the committee ultimately recommended gifts to seven different areas, including support of a mission congregation in Florida, a new synodical initiative for youth and families and the creation of a memorial fund from which gifts will be made over a 10-year period, in addition to the gift to the Fund for Leaders in Mission.

"While the choices were many, one of the first decisions was to support the Fund for Leaders in Mission because of the ability of the dollars to help not only the seminary students, but also those they will serve in the future," says church member Debra Jacobs Buttagi.

With the Lahms' bequest, St. Armands

Key has ensured that the Lahms' legacy of supporting missional outreach and the preparation of future leaders will continue.

Resources about the Fund

Materials are available free of charge to help your congregation learn about the fund such as bulletin inserts, offering envelopes and brochures. Also, fund scholarship recipients can come and speak to your congregation as their schedules permit. To order materials or schedule a speaker, call 800/638-3522, ext. 6553.

Challenge grant increases impact

The Fund for Leaders in Mission has received an exciting new challenge grant from the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation that will increase the impact of gifts to the Fund.

During the period of the challenge grant, which runs to August 31, 2005, the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation will give \$1 for every \$2 given by individuals, congregations and synods to support seminary scholarships through the Fund for Leaders in Mission. By participating in this challenge grant, you can increase the impact of your gift to support the preparation of future leaders for the ELCA.

To learn more

For more information about the fund call 800/638-3522, ext. 2119, or visit www.elca.org/fofundforleaders

How to prepare for and help in times of disaster

There's a lot of talk of being prepared for disasters these days, of what individuals can do to protect themselves and their homes. But are your congregation's facilities prepared if a disaster should hit your property? ELCA Domestic Disaster Response has resources to help congregations prepare for these scenarios, as well as to help your congregation with its involvement in disaster response.

Preparing your congregation

- "Preparing your congregation for a disaster" is a section on the Domestic Disaster Response Web site at www.elca.org/dcsl/disaster/being.html. It includes checklists and tips to help congregations prepare facilities and staff physically and psychologically if a disaster should hit your building or elsewhere in the community.

- As your congregation prepares for a disaster, don't forget the needs of people with disabilities. "People with disabilities—whether physical, cognitive, or emotional—are among those who are especially vulnerable to disasters if planning and development of support networks have not been completed," says a new brochure, "Disaster and Disability in a Land of Faithfulness." It includes steps for disaster preparedness with people who have disabilities and a listing of Web sites for more information. Order for free from the ELCA Division for Church in Society resource line at 800/638-3522 ext. 2996.

Volunteering at a disaster site

- As your congregation makes summer plans and consider mission trips that may involve rebuilding work at a disaster site, contact Domestic Disaster Response at 800/638-3522, ext. 2748, or visit www.elca.org/dcsl/disaster/howtohelp.html for a list of volunteer needs and sites.

- *Meeting God in the Ruins—Devotions for Disaster Relief Volunteers* is a new devotional guide from Domestic Disaster Response. It takes volunteers through the preparations leaving, working at disaster sites and returning home. The 48-page guide was written for individual devotions, but reflection questions can also be used in group settings. Since disaster

volunteers often work in poor areas, the guide also offers facts on poverty. Available free by calling 800/328-4648 (ISBN 6-0001-6788-1); pay shipping only.

Helping with the church's response

- The Web site for Domestic Disaster Response, www.elca.org/dcsl/disaster, is updated frequently with reports on the ELCA's response to disasters in the United States and the Caribbean. Each report includes a short blurb that you can copy

and paste into bulletins and newsletters.

- Congregations can also order a supply of free ELCA Disaster Response envelopes to use in a special offering when disasters hit. Order from Augsburg Fortress at 800/328-4648 (ISBN 6-0001-6533-1; multiples of 50). The ELCA's responses to disasters are funded entirely by special designated gifts. Your entire gift, when designated for a specific disaster, is used for emergency and rebuilding assistance after the disaster.

BUILD THE CHURCH WHILE YOU EARN INTEREST



When you invest in the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA, your financial resources earn interest while you help to build ELCA congregations. Select from these investment opportunities: **MissionFirst**, a new savings investment plan available July 1; **MissionPlus**, with checkbook availability; **MissionTermSelect**, with adjustable and fixed interest rates; **MissionFuture**, for children from birth to age 16; and **MissionTermAdvantage** investments that

may be held as Individual Retirement Accounts or Coverdell Education Savings Accounts. Call today for our current interest rates!

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Recovering-clergy retreat

The Fellowship of Recovering Lutheran Clergy (FRLC) is a group of nearly 200 LCMS and ELCA clergy who are recovering from various addictions and codependencies. The purpose of the fellowship is to provide recovery support for Lutheran clergy who suffer from alcoholism and other addictions. The FRLC puts out a quarterly newsletter, provides toll-free telephone support, gives annual retreats, publishes a directory of members who are willing to be a resource to others, provides guidance and support to bishops and district presidents, and supports an informational Web site: www.FRLC.org

The FRLC is currently planning a retreat for August 17–21, 2003, at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Oshkosh, Wis. The emphasis of this retreat will be the 12 steps and spirituality. Talks on the 12 steps will be given by Sister Elise Cholewinski of the order of St. Francis. Sister Elise is herself a recovering alcoholic and a trained spiritual director and retreat leader. All recovering clergy are invited to attend this retreat.

For more information about the retreat or the FRLC, contact them at new-life@att.net, or 800/528-0842, or write to FRLC, 18975 Lake George Blvd., Oak Grove, MN 55303.

Conference for support staff

Church support professionals from throughout the Midwest will gather in Kenosha, Wis., for the third CROSS conference at Carthage College, June 16 to 18. CROSS (Carthage Reaches Out to Support Staff) will feature a blend of practical courses and recreational opportunities that promote skill development, discovery and spiritual rejuvenation. More information is available about CROSS 2003 from the Carthage Office of College Relations at 800/551-1518, or on the Web at www.carthage.edu/cross2003

Accessibility award contest

Applications to participate in the 2003 ELCA Accessibility Award Contest began on April 1 and will continue through May 31. Any congregation in the ELCA that is doing ministry with people who are differently-abled is eligible to enter. Entries are considered in three areas: building accessibility, outreach to people in the community who are differently-abled, and inclusion of people who are differently-abled in the life and ministry of the congregation.

The winner of the Accessibility Award will receive a grant for \$1,000 for the congregation's accessibility effort. Photos taken of the congregation will be placed on the Accessibility Web site. An article written on the congregation

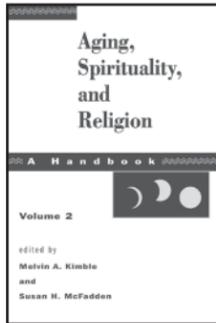
winner will appear in the *Seeds for the Parish*. Other prizes may include grants to the second- and third-place congregations.

Interested congregations can obtain an application by going to www.elca.org/dcs/annual.html or by calling 800/638-3522, ext. 2863 or 2692, and requesting one. The Accessibility Award Contest is supported by the Disability Ministries program of the ELCA Division for Church in Society.

Book on aging, spirituality

Half the members of mainline Christian congregations are now over the age of 60.

This startling fact raises enormous questions for ministry: How do a faith and spiritual focus affect older adults' thinking, feeling and acting? What are the pastoral implications of longer life, Alzheimer's disease, health crises and retirement?



Aging, Spirituality, and Religion: A Handbook, Volume 2, published by Fortress Press, gathers leaders in gerontology, pastoral care, ethics and practical theology to answer these questions. They focus especially on the potential of late-life religious involvement, aging religious communities, age-specific pastoral care, and a host of ethical issues and religion in an aging society.

Aging, Spirituality, and Religion, A Handbook, Volume 2 is an outgrowth of the continuing mission of the Center for Aging, Religion, and Spirituality (CARS), a non-profit organization housed at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn.

While the first volume concentrated on more theoretical issues, *Volume 2* offers practical advice and tools for ministry with the aging in a variety of settings, and contains many examples of how religion and spirituality are encountered in the growth experiences and life crises of older adults and their families.

To order *Aging, Spirituality, and Religion: A Handbook, Volume 2*, call Augsburg Fortress at 800/328-4648 (ISBN 0-8006-3273-7; \$35 plus shipping) or go to the Web site at www.augsburgfortress.org

Recognize scientists

Science, in the media, is often portrayed as being opposed to religion (for example, "creation versus evolution" or "science is rational, religion is irrational"). Yet almost half of all scientists profess a belief in God and many scientists belong to the ELCA.

The church may also feel ambiguous about members who are scientists. "My pastor only asks me to pass out bulletins," a well-regarded scientist said recently.

Can the church make a difference for its scientists? We can start by recognizing members whose vocation is science, technology or medicine on the Sundays closest to

either May 24 (The Commemoration of Copernicus and Euler) or August 13th (Nightingale and Maass).

This year May 25 is an excellent Sunday for this recognition. A half-page commemoration insert is available from the ELCA Faith and Science Web page (www.elca.org/faithandscience) or as an insert in the most recent *Covaleance* newsletter for faith and science. *Covaleance* is sent free of charge; for information, contact George Koch, ELCA, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631 or e-mail gkoch@elca.org.

New video on story of ELCA

"The Story of the ELCA" is a new production from MOSAIC, the video magazine of the ELCA. Available on VHS or DVD, this 30-minute program features interviews with former church leaders John Teitjen, David Preus and James Crumley. The video presents rare footage from the Seminex walk-out, the Commission for a New Lutheran Church, and the conventions that voted for the merger of the American Lutheran Church, the Lutheran Church in America, and the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches.

"The Story of the ELCA" can be used for new member and confirmation classes. It comes with a user's guide containing discussion questions. Cost is \$19.95 (includes shipping). MOSAIC offers a one-year subscription (four issues) for \$50. Call 800/638-3522, ext. 6009, or e-mail mosaic@elca.org or go to www.elca.org/mosaic

Interchange goes monthly

Interchange—the newsletter for Women of the ELCA leaders—has been reborn. With the February 2003 issue, it became an eight-page *monthly* publication. Its purpose is the same: to equip Women of the ELCA leaders with the information and resources they need to carry out their mission of mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. But the monthly publication will offer participants more timely information. Look for leadership support, ideas for use in your congregation or synodical organization, previews of programs and ministry resources, devotions, news of interest to women and a calendar of Women of the ELCA events.

Intercambio (formerly a selection of *Interchange* articles translated into Spanish and bound within the English-language newsletter) has had its own rebirth—it's now a separate monthly eight-page newsletter and a vehicle for original articles from Latina leaders.

A subscription to *Interchange* or *Intercambio* costs \$6 (one year) or \$11 (two years). To charge your order to a credit card, call Augsburg Fortress at 800/328-4648. Or mail your check, made payable to Augsburg Fortress, to *Interchange* (or *Intercambio*), P.O. Box 1553, Minneapolis, MN 55440-8730.



Looking for a resource?

Looking for resource ideas? There's a treasure trove of resources on the ELCA Web site, but you may need help in finding the exact ones you're looking for. So where do you begin? Go to



www.elca.org/resources.html and click on the

ELCA ResourceFinder magnifying glass. This feature can quickly search the items in the ELCA resource database and get you what you need.

Book on values and business

Executive Values by Kurt Senske offers ideas and tools for applying Christian values to business and organizational leadership in a world in which values can be less important than impressive results and a positive bottom line. It includes examples, both positive and negative, from many industries and types of organizations. It would be appropriate for an adult Christian education discussion or forum. Kurt Senske is the president and CEO of Lutheran Social Services of the South in Austin, Texas. He shares lessons he has learned as an attorney, political consultant and CEO to encourage leaders to put the golden rule of leadership at the heart of their management style. To order, call Augsburg Fortress at 800/328-4648 (ISBN 0-8066-4554-7; \$16.99 plus shipping) or go to the Web site at www.augsburgfortress.org

For differently-abled members

Some 53 percent of people with disabilities are not members of a congregation. Those who are members are often prevented by attitudinal, communication and architectural barriers from fully participating in the life of a congregation.

Toward the Goal is a new two-piece resource designed to assist congregations toward the full inclusion of people who are differently-abled. It contains a booklet that provides practical suggestions and stories from congregations that are reaching out to people who are differently-abled. The second part of the resource is a video that opens with a statement by ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson, encouraging all ELCA congregations to provide accessible and inclusive worship and congregational life experiences for all people, including people who are differently-abled.

The video also features Faith Lutheran Church in Glen Ellyn, Ill., a congregation that has gone from being non-accessible to being almost completely accessible in all areas of the congregation.

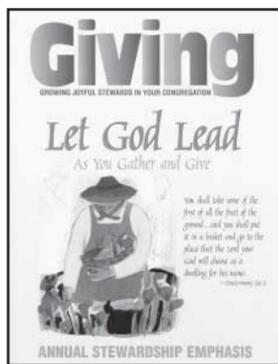
Ordering information may be found on the poster included in the May-June Action Packet or *Toward the Goal* book and video may be ordered from Augsburg Fortress by calling 800/328-4648 (ISBN 6-0001-

6928-0; pay only shipping). For more information, call Pastor Lisa Cleaver, director for Disability Ministries in the ELCA Division for Church in Society, at 800/638-3522, ext. 2692.

Magazine on stewardship

Your pastor and stewardship committee may find the new issue of the stewardship magazine *Giving* helpful as they plan your congregation's stewardship ministry.

Published annually by the Ecumenical Stewardship Center, this 2003 issue features a pullout section, "Let God Lead as You Gather and Give." This financial response method comes with step-by-step instructions. It explores how members decide what amount they give as offering. At the heart of this low-key emphasis is an invitation to members to consider God's leading while they decide their giving.



The magazine also includes articles about the offering in your congregation's worship, fund-raising as ministry, five personal giving stories, and a meditation on the widow's mite and the motives behind a true offering.

Accompanying materials for the response method (bookmarks, bulletin inserts, envelopes, commitment cards, letterhead and poster) are available through the Ecumenical Stewardship Center in Indianapolis at 800/835-5671.

One copy of *Giving* magazine was mailed free to all ELCA congregations in April. For an additional free copy, call the ELCA Resource Information Service at 800/638-3522.

Journal for theology

Currents, published by Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago in cooperation with Pacific Lutheran and Wartburg Theological Seminaries, is a bimonthly journal addressing a wide variety of timely and relevant topics for your congregation: Bible, church history, theology, ethics, worship and pastoral care, among others.

Each issue contains six or seven essays, 20 or more book reviews and preaching helps—reflections on the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL).

Currents can be used in a variety of ministries: the essays make great group discussion material, book reviews provide a wealth of resources and preaching helps will provide anyone with helpful insights to the RCL.

Don't miss these upcoming themes for 2003: mission, theological education, biblical preaching in a post-Christian age, the 25th anniversary of *Lutheran Book of Worship*, special Bible emphasis. Subscriptions cost \$15 per year

(six issues).

For more information, visit www.lstc.edu/publications/CurrentsinTheologyandMission, e-mail currents@lstc.edu or call 773/256-0751.

Resources for social ministry

Here are some new resources that can help members of your congregation learn more about social ministry.

Theology of social ministry CDs

Go in Peace. Serve the Lord, a short, solid theology of social ministry written by Foster McCurley, has been newly edited and produced on four compact discs for listening in the car, at home or in the office.

Originally published in 2000 by the ELCA Division for Church in Society, *Go in Peace. Serve the Lord* now "takes voice" to tell the rich story of Lutherans' particular commitment to social ministry. This new edition was produced by Lutheran Services in America with a grant from Thrivent Financial Services for Lutherans. This edition of *Go in Peace* can be ordered from Augsburg Fortress at www.augsburgfortress.org/store or by calling 800/328-4648 (ISBN 6-0001-6927-2; \$14.95 plus shipping).

New social ministry tool kit

Lutheran Family Services in the Carolinas has developed *How to Build Community Ministry*, which is a three-ring bound community-building tool kit. This tool kit will help congregations create and implement effective community ministry programs.

The kit contains assessment tools to look at the gifts of a congregation and of its community, project development, such as funding strategies, options for planning an event, biblical applications, and a guide to get facilitators started. To order, contact Diaconal Minister Heather Feltman at Lutheran Family Services in the Carolinas at 803/750-9917 or by e-mail at hfeltman@lfs-sc.org. Cost of the tool kit is \$35, which includes shipping.

Social ministry vocation video

More than 150,000 staff members work in Lutheran social ministry organizations in 3000 communities in all 50 states and the Caribbean. A new video titled *Joined in Our Calling* highlights the mission and ministries of these organizations and acquaints congregations with the people who work in them.

The video tells the story of a diverse and devoted workforce comprised of people "caring beyond their jobs" to experience a sense of what Martin Luther identified as "vocation." Use the video to tell the stories of social ministry and build understanding of and appreciation for the honored tradition of Lutheran social ministry organizations.

Copies of the resource may be purchased by calling Lutheran Services in America (LSA) at 800/664-3848 (\$19.95 plus shipping and handling).



See what's new and helpful on the World Wide Web

Help for treasurers

The Office of the Treasurer has a newly redesigned Web site at www.elca.org/lot. The Web site includes suggestions and guidelines for congregational treasurers, financial reports, budgets, insurance information and more.

Culture specific ministries

Culture Specific Ministries of the ELCA has a new Web site at www.elca.org/dcml/culture_specific/. The site provides print resources, people resources, and links that will be helpful to you in your ministry. Resources include materials and events related to the following communities: African and African American, Arab and Middle Eastern, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian and Pacific Islander, and Latino and Spanish Language.

Get youth ministry resources

Are you searching for Bible studies for youth or young adults? Take a look at Faith Lens at www.elca.org/dcml/youth/resource/biblestudy/thisweek.html. A new Faith Lens is posted every week and connects a current news story with the lectionary texts for the upcoming Sunday. The format includes discussion questions, reflection on the Gospel, activities, and

links to related resources.

Another youth ministry resource at your fingertips is the ELCA Youth Ministry Help Sheets at www.elca.org/dcml/youth/resource/helpsheets/

[helpcontents.html](http://www.elca.org/dcml/youth/resource/helpcontents.html). Help Sheets provide concise information on issues and questions related to ministry with youth and young adults.

Lutheran Center Library

The library at the Lutheran Center in Chicago serves those who work and study in the congregations, synods, schools, social service agencies and the churchwide office of the ELCA. Find it on the Web at www.elca.org/os/library.html

In addition to the library holdings, the online catalog includes items from the ELCA Archives collection which have been cataloged electronically. You may borrow materials from the ELCA library by requesting an interlibrary loan transaction through your local public, academic, or special library. Most libraries participate in



the Online Computer Library Center for processing interlibrary loan transactions, but if yours does not, they can send a request by mail or fax. There is no charge for interlibrary loan. You may borrow materials for four weeks. If you would like help with developing a library in your congregation, contact the Lutheran Church Library Association at 612/870-3623, or go to www.LCLAHQ.org

Stewardship as a key to faith

The Stewardship of Life Institute, an ELCA-affiliated nonprofit group devoted to teaching, inspiring, equipping and challenging Lutherans to live out stewardship as more than just financial support for the church, has launched a Web site at www.stewardshipoflife.org

Through sermons, Bible studies, programs, meditations, clippings from the popular press and other features, including humor, the site promotes stewardship as a faithful response of gratitude to God's abundant generosity. The site offers new content every Sunday and an archive of resources. The Stewardship of Life Institute is headquartered at Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Pa.

Does your congregation have its 'I-9's in order?

Did you know that all congregations and synods are required to have forms on file regarding the employment eligibility status of their employees?

Under federal law, all employers—including congregations, synods and church organizations—must have a form on file that verifies the employment eligibility and identity of each employee. The Immigration Reform and Control Act requires all U.S. employers to complete the Employment Eligibility Verification form (Form I-9) for all employees, including U.S. citizens.

Every congregation, synod and church organization must have a Form I-9 in its files for each employee, unless the em-

ployee was hired before November 7, 1986, and has been continuously employed by the same employer.

Fines for failure to comply with Form I-9 completion and verification rules are substantial. For newly hired employees, verification must be completed within three business days of hire. It is illegal to discriminate against legal aliens, based on citizenship status or national origin.

There are many documents that have been approved to establish employment eligibility. Among these are a U.S. passport, driver's license, social security card, certified copy of birth certificate, and permanent resident card. Be careful to note which documents are needed alone and

which ones are needed in combination.

Requirements for completing Form I-9 are very exacting. For instance, Form I-9 is considered invalid if it has text scratched-through or hidden by correction fluid.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has primary responsibility for enforcing these laws. The INS Web site containing useful information is www.immigration.gov

Blank copies of Form I-9 can be found on the Web at www.immigration.gov/graphics/formsfeelforms/files/i-9.pdf. For answers to common questions about the I-9, the INS set up this Web site: www.immigration.gov/graphics/howdoifaqev.htm

Resource centers 'Q&A' looks at peace and war

In every issue of *Seeds*, ELCA resource center staff pull together a "Q&A" on topics that they discuss in their meeting on LutherLink. To find the resource center near you, go to www.elca.org/co/centers.html

Q How can I help my congregation talk about war and peace?

A The Web resources available are numerous! The ELCA has recently added a War & Peace icon to the homepage (www.elca.org). From the homepage, click on "Resources for times of Peace & War." There are many interesting articles from the *Journal of Lutheran Ethics*, as well as worship resources, news reports and other helps. I also recommend the presentations by Professors Jayne Ströhl and Gary Simpson on the topic of Just Peace and Just War. They were video-streamed by Pacific Lutheran University over the Web in February. You can hear the lectures now by going to www.plu.edu/~crellresources/. Once there, click on the Winter Symposium, and then on the Lutecast archives.

—Greg Kaufman, director, NW Synod of Wisconsin Resource Center, Eau Claire

A Congregations may wish to use this service of deployment for members in the military: www.members.aol.com/LiturgybyTLW1/Churches/Deploy.html

—Irene Flynn, director, Florida-Bahamas Resource Center, Tampa

A *Christian Century* magazine offers many current articles from theologians examining issues of war and peace. Find them on the Web site at www.christiancentury.org/. It also publishes *War as Crucifixion*, a collection of eight essays, including H. Richard Niebuhr's "The Grace of Doing Nothing" and his debate with his brother, Reinhold Niebuhr, on the use of force. (To order call

312/263-7510 or send e-mail to main@christiancentury.org). Sojourners is a Christian ministry whose mission is to proclaim and practice the biblical call to integrate spiritual renewal and social justice. Their magazine, *Sojourners*, has had a number of resources related to the issue of terrorism, our response to fear and peace-making/justice issues, which they do so well. Check them out on the Web at www.sojo.net. The Fellowship of Reconciliation (www.forusa.org) is the largest, oldest Interfaith Peace organization in the United States and is dedicated to the promotion of nonviolent actions.

—Kim Bailey, assistant, Eastern North Dakota Resource Center, Fargo

A The March 2003 issue of *The Lutheran* features a great article, "Military families say their goodbyes," with a companion article titled "Four ways to support loved ones in the military." The former has a companion study guide online. Find these and other articles online at www.the.lutheran.org/iraq.html

—Ruth Miller, director of ministry resources, Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, Wescosville

A Another suggestion for ministry to military families during a war or other time of deployment is to speak to a military chaplain. I'm sure they would welcome the opportunity to cite resources and other helps. Contact your synod office to find a chaplain on their roster or see the ELCA's Office for Federal Chaplaincies at www.elca.org/sr/fedchap/

—Karen Kaufman, director, NE Ohio Synod Resource Center, Cuyahoga Falls

A Find out about the ELCA-adopted Decade for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence, 2001-2010, at www.elca.org/coldecade.html. And be sure to visit the Lutheran Peace Fellowship Web site, too, at www.lutheranpeace.org. They've got loads of articles and resources for talking about peace with kids, youth and adults.

—Mim Woolbert, ELCA Department for Communication, Chicago

A In our own congregation in Moorhead, Minn., we purchased a very large (18" high, 4" diameter) peace candle with oil insert, which is placed prominently at the front of the sanctuary. It was lit for the first time on Feb. 2, 2003, reminding the congregation to continue to pray for peace. We also purchased a large amount of individual candles and those were given to members, together with some peace prayers, to use at the evening meal at home.

—Julie Aageson, director, Eastern North Dakota Resource Center, Fargo

A Be sure to find ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson's Letter to the ELCA about Iraq at www.elca.org/bishop/messages. And the social statement "For Peace in God's World" at www.elca.org/dcs/peacein.html is available online; it can be printed in a printer-friendly version or downloaded to your PDA. It's also available in Spanish.

—Catherine Fink, director, Heilig Resource Center, NC Synod, Salisbury

Learn about what's new in Christian education

There are two new education products from Augsburg Fortress that you should know about. To order any of these products, call Augsburg Fortress at 800/328-4648 or go to www.augsburgfortress.org

Ignite! Sparking Biblical Curiosity

This Senior High Bible study is designed to take both leader and learner on a journey of faith in which they encounter the living God of the universe. *Ignite!* takes seriously the contributions, questions and insights that youth bring to dialogues about faith. Both learners and leaders work out of the same resource as adults and youth search, study and question the Word together.

Each volume has six sessions and features a simple four-fold format where the leader serves as facilitator:

- **Gathering** "The Centripetal Spark" worshipfully brings the group together and centers them on the session theme.
- **Bible Background** "Ignite" draws out the story to be explored in a meaty, weighty, yet accessible way.
- **Questioning** "Set Ablaze" takes what was learned in the Bible Background and connects the learning to life. It explores the question, "so what?"
- **Going Out** "Centrifugal Fire" applies what was learned in a time of worship,

prayer, reflection and meditation

Each volume has space built in for jotting notes and writing questions as each session unfolds, and a bibliography of print and online resources for more research and reflection.

Volumes include:

- *Contradictory Texts: Biblical Texts that Stand in Tension* (ISBN 0-8066-4587-3)
- *Challenging Texts: Biblical Texts that Shock and Appall* (ISBN 0-8066-4588-1)
- *Creating Texts: Some Biblical Basis for Faith Claims* (ISBN 0-8066-4589-X)
- *Interpretive Texts: How Lutherans read the Bible* (ISBN 0-8066-4590-3)
- *Sensual Texts: Biblical Texts that Address Human Sexuality* (ISBN 0-8066-4591-1)
- *Conflicting Texts: Biblical Texts about War and Peace* (ISBN 0-8066-4592-X)

Cost is \$6.99 each, plus shipping

New Witness Sunday school curriculum

Augsburg Fortress has reintroduced a trusted name in Sunday school — *Witness*. Starting in Fall 2003, AFP has taken the best of *Witness* and made it more engaging and easy to use. As with the original program, *Witness* participants still "Learn

from the Bible to Live the Good News."

The commitment to teaching the salvation story each year with a complete two year cycle of well-loved Bible stories remains.

What's new is the approach. *Witness* has an updated look with all new content and design. Learners will discover interesting and engaging new graphics, and more age-appropriate activities for use in class and at home. They will also experience the themes of Word, Faith and Service, and Know, Grow and Show, which they learn through the exploration of faith traits and focus on global issues.

Teachers and volunteer leaders will find the new *Witness* easy-to-use. The new five-page Teacher Guide design provides everything leaders need, in a consistent format with time-saving features like session-at-a-glance. Also, to accommodate Sunday school programs that start early, and to simplify the ordering process, *Witness* has been switched to a two-semester program. Each semester contains 15 60-minute core sessions, plus five bonus sessions, to provide added flexibility for Sunday school scheduling, so you only have to order twice a year.

For a free brochure outlining all the products for various age groups call 800/328-4648 (ISBN 6-0001-6921-3).



How to celebrate Vision for Mission Sunday

Help your congregation celebrate the ELCA Vision for Mission Annual Churchwide Offering. A packet of resources was sent to all ELCA congregations in April. The packet included prayers, sermon and hymn suggestions, color poster, reproducible newsletter announcements, "Making Christ Known 2003" and 100 copies of the new bulletin inserts with offering envelopes attached.

Why take part in the ELCA's Vision for Mission Annual Churchwide Offering? Because at least once a year it is important to provide your members the opportunity to give directly to those ministries we do best together. This special offering is one way to be in mission every place where the ELCA is committed to ministry. Congregations celebrate the Annual Offering in different ways. Consider these steps:

Step One: Select a date to celebrate the offering. We suggest May 18, 2003; however these materials may be used throughout the year.

Step Two: Share the worship ideas with your worship planning team for selecting



hymns and prayers..

Step Three: Order more free bulletin inserts/offering envelopes from Augsburg Fortress at 800/328-4648. Request ISBN 6-0001-6912-4;

50/package (you will not be charged for postage). Distribute them at worship.

Step Four: Make it known that the offering celebration is coming! Reproduce the articles and graphics (provided in the packet) in your bulletin and newsletter. Visit the Vision for Mission Web site (www.elca.org/dcm/stewardship/vision/index.html) for new stories and information updated monthly. Lift articles and photos from "Making Christ Known 2003" for use in your congregation's publications (download it at www.elca.org/dcm/stewardship/resources/makingchristknown.html).

Step Five: As you prepare your sermon for Vision for Mission Sunday, consider ideas offered in the stewardship "sermon starters" offered each week on the Web (www.elca.org/dcm/stewardship/smart/sermon.asp). Think about inviting a guest

speaker, such as your synod's mission interpreter. (To find out who serves your synod, visit www.elca.org/dcm/stewardship/mission/list.html)

Step Six: Plan Sunday school and adult education time to include an emphasis on ELCA churchwide ministries. Use "Making Christ Known 2003" (free from Augsburg Fortress at 800/328-4648; ISBN 6-0001-6786-5, pay only postage) or MOSAIC, the ELCA's video magazine (www.elca.org/colmosaic). The recent issue of MOSAIC looks at the history of the ELCA.

Step Seven: Send your designated gifts to ELCA Vision for Mission, P.O. Box 71764, Chicago, IL 60694-1764.

For more information about Vision for Mission or to receive another sample packet of resources, call Kathie Hetland at 800/638-3522, ext. 2563, or send e-mail to khetland@elca.org.

Check out these resources on global mission

Has a missionary from Sweden or Norway called on you recently?

Of course not! Missionaries from European countries helped build U.S. Lutheran churches, but today, the ELCA is an independent church that administers and supports its own ministries and programs.

Likewise, most ELCA international mission personnel no longer work in "mission fields" as we once knew them. Instead, they work hand in hand with independent "companion" churches as they reach out in mission in their area.

Changes like this are raising questions about whether, and how, the ELCA participates in global mission. You can find answers to those questions in a new Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section of the ELCA global mission Web site, www.elca.org/dgmlfaq. Links to other Web pages provide in-depth explanations of Division for Global Mission programs.

Four new global mission packages

Additional basic information on global mission can be found in four new packets from the Division for Global Mission.

- What is Global Mission? offers facts on ELCA international mission personnel and their work.
- The Global Mission Education Packet offers sample curricula for children, youth, and adults, plus a guide to planning a Global Mission Festival in your congregation.
- The Global Mission Worship Packet contains a global Eucharist, prayer service, and devotions, plus global children's music and liturgical responses.
- Global Mission Resources for Children and Youth offers fun and interactive activities that introduce young people to global mission and the world.

All four packets are available free by calling the ELCA Division for Global Mission at 800/638-3522, ext. 2642.

Prayers requested

During their third year, seminarians serve an internship. Each year several students have the opportunity to serve in international settings. On May 2 the Prayer Ventures petition invites you to pray for two of these interns, Chris Baesler, serving in Copenhagen, Denmark, and Kenath Harris in Bratislava, Slovakia.

Others serving in international English-language congregations this year are Kelly Faulstich in Ethiopia and Katie Lyon in Argentina. Whether in U.S. or international settings, seminary interns serve in a broad range of ministries: teaching, leading worship and offering pastoral care. They grow and learn from their experiences to serve God's people in their spiritual and everyday lives.

Please lift up in prayer these international interns as they bring back their insights into cross-cultural and international ministry, and deepen the global connections of our church.

How to help people manage the realities of midlife

In short: Life happens! And, in the midst of it, so does midlife!

Moving into the middle years can cause confusion, loss of focus, physical slow-downs and transitions, a time of questioning faith, breakdown of relationships and much more.

The transition called midlife happens to everyone, but it doesn't start at the same time for everyone. Some move into midlife in their 40s others in their 50s. Women often connect midlife with menopause. For men, moving into midlife seems to have more to do with inevitable physical decline and the realization that certain treasured goals will not be reached.

For some, midlife is a crisis, but for most, it's a muddle—an unsettling with the mundane—as they sit on the same couch, watching the same television program, on the same night, with the same person, in the same room, just before they trudge off to the same bed.

Whether crisis or muddle, midlife is a time of change. It becomes a cross point—a choice point—for everyone. They can set the stage for streamlining their lives, narrowing into emptiness. Or they can renew and re-value themselves, their homes and their relationships with options for new growth and new possibilities for new life.

In Jesus, God offers the “abundant life” (John 10:10)—to people of all ages! Midlife does not bring a time when people stop learning or growing. People in midlife do not need to deteriorate mentally and physically or settle into an empty passing of days that lasts from the fiftieth year until death. God holds people to the task of imitating Christ throughout their entire lives.

Ways to help

Here are some ways to help those who are in the muddle or crisis of midlife.

- Maintain groups for men and women that are alive and busy with learning and service. Contact Lutheran Men in Mission (Doug Haugen, 800/638-3522, ext. 2566) or Women of the ELCA (800/638-3522, ext. 2730) for assistance.
- Organize Bible study groups for people at midlife. Their time together will allow them to share experiences and offer support for each other. Small groups devoted to addressing specific issues, such

as menopause, may be helpful, too.

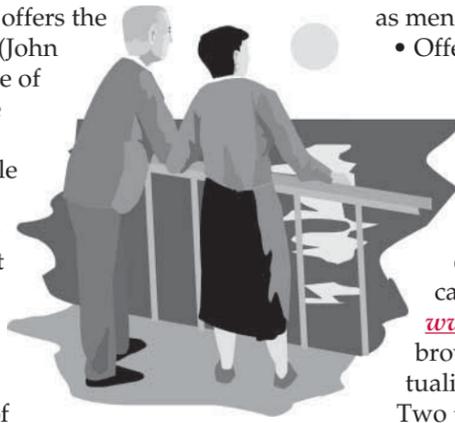
- Offer marriage renewal retreats specifically aimed at those who have been married 15 years or longer. Encourage sharing and recommitment as a part of the retreat.

- Provide devotional and other resources that mid-lifers can read and discuss. Go to www.augsburgfortress.org and browse the resources under “Spirituality” or “Adult Faith Formation.”

Two titles you might consider adding to your church library: *Soul Maps: A Guide to the Midlife Spirit*, by Mardi Tindal (Augsburg Fortress, 800/328-4648; ISBN 0-8066-4451-6; \$11.99 plus shipping) and *Embracing Midlife: Congregations as Support Systems* (Alban Institute, 800/486-1318 or www.alban.org ISBN 1-5669-9216-8, \$15.95).

- Offer to help mid-lifers plan spiritual retreats. Provide lists of places that will help guide those who are in crisis for their spiritual journey.
- Provide opportunities for mentoring (either individually or as a couple) youth, young adults or young couples.
- Offer counseling for those who find mid-life particularly difficult. Be aware that some people may enter a period of serious depression during midlife. Intervention and support can be vital for those struggling with the changes that midlife brings.

—Ted Schroeder is director for Christian education in the ELCA Division for Congregational Ministries



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Encourage bequests

Does your congregation receive bequests on a regular basis? Does your congregation actively encourage people to practice stewardship beyond their lifetime by making a will and including ministries important to them?

The ELCA Foundation can assist congregations in encouraging giving through bequests and in establishing Mission Endowment Funds to receive and distribute those gifts.

Your ELCA regional gift planner can assist with congregational presentations on estate planning. The Foundation also provides a number of free helpful tools for estate planning, including:

- Brochures: *Why Do I Need a Will?* and *Take the Test: What Will Your Legacy Be?*
- *Will & Trust Workbook*, a document designed to assist in compiling information for estate planning

For more information, contact the ELCA Foundation at 800/638-3522, ext. 2970, or visit our Web site at www.elca.org/fo for the ELCA regional gift planner nearest you.

THE
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Did you see the Action Packet?

www.elca.org/col/actionpacket

The contents of the May-June Action Packet included:

- *Prayer Ventures*
- *Pericope Partners*
- Lutheran World Relief's annual report
- *Toward the Goal* flyer on including people who are differently-abled
- *Procession* worship newsletter