



# Walking Together in the Northern Illinois Synod

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

December 9, 2008

## Synod Prayers

[NIS candidates for rostered ministry](#)

See the whole [prayer list](#).

## Upcoming Events

**12/16 (DATE CHANGE)**

Rostered Leader [financial planning seminar](#)

1/9-11 Junior High Epiphany Retreat at [LOMC](#)

1/10 LYO Event

1/16-17 3rd-6th Grade Epiphany Retreat at [LOMC](#)

1/19 Junior & High School annual ski-trip

1/26-27 Women Leaders Retreat

## NIS News

The 39th annual **Joy of Christmas Past and Present** service will be Wed., Dec. 10, 7:30 pm at Augustana Lutheran Church, 628 6th St., Andover. English professor Ann Boaden will speak, and Luke's Christmas story will be read in Swedish, German, Creole, and English. Caroling students will lead a procession to the candlelit Jenny Lind Chapel, where communion will be celebrated. Refreshments will be served afterward in the church's fellowship hall.



New Life, Bolingbrook invites everyone to a **Las Posadas** on Wed., Dec. 17 beginning at 6:30pm. The group will process to 3 area homes (so dress warmly) and then return to the church for a fiesta including dinner & a piñata! Childcare will be provided.

The **important financial planning seminar** was rescheduled to Tuesday, **December 16**, from 1-4 pm at Bethlehem, DeKalb. This is not a pre-retirement seminar. It is offered in response to the recent economic downturn. [Find out more...](#)

2/7 LYO Event  
 2/21 Diakonia Retreat  
 2/25 Ash Wednesday  
 3/7/09 [Congregational Resourcing Event](#) at Kishwaukee College Malta  
 3/27-28 WELCA Retreat  
 4/4 WELCA Retreat

The Professional Leaders Planning Committee is testing the idea of having **volunteer drivers to shuttle people up and down the hill at Sinsinawa during PLC**. If you would consider volunteering for this, or have any comments about the idea, please contact Pr. John Heins at [jcheins@aol.com](mailto:jcheins@aol.com)

**Upcoming LYO events:** **January 10** at [Light of Christ in Algonquin](#), **February 7** at [St John's in Pearl City](#), and **April 18** at [Our Savior's in Seneca](#). Download flyers to get more information by clicking on each event's location. Check out the [NIS LYO on Facebook](#).

[More NIS News & Events](#)

**Pr. Jeff's Blog**  
 Agur's Prayer  
 December 8, 2008  
 [Subscribe now](#)  
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## Churchwide News

This year, give your friends and family special holiday gifts that help people around the world lift themselves out of poverty. With [Fair Trade products](#) from [Lutheran World Relief](#), you can give delicious coffee, tea and chocolate and beautiful handmade crafts from around the world, while ensuring a fair price for farmers and artisans.



## December Birthdays

2 Rev. Gregory D. Olson  
 6 Rev. Troy C. Hedrick  
 8 Rev. C. Jeffrey Swanson  
 10 Rev. Jay Quinn  
 12 Ms. Shirley Harbeck  
 13 Rev. Henrietta Milner  
 15 Rev. Charles Olson  
 17 Rev. Gene Peisker  
 20 Rev. Linda Jarchow Jones  
 21 Rev. Daniel Stalker  
 26 Rev. Karen Capel  
 29 Rev. James Kragness  
 30 Rev. Lisa Hufford

### Did you know:

- 49 synods have signed onto the **Book of Faith** initiative
- More than 2,400 of the two Book of Faith Course kits have been adopted to date
- The [Book of Faith Online Community](#) now has over 1,400 members
- 

the new [Lutheran Study Bible](#) will be published in March 2009

## Churchwide News



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[ELCA Presiding Bishop, Other Leaders Call for Priority on Middle East Peace](#)

Mensaie Navideño de 2008 del

Fast Facts:

It costs about \$22 to provide seeds for one family in Zimbabwe.

**This week's front page features** at The Lutheran [The gift of being on the](#)



[Obispo Presidente de la IELA](#)  
[ELCA Presiding Bishop's 2008 Christmas Message](#)  
[ELCA Seminary Presidents, Deans Address Current Economic Challenges](#)  
[Lutheran Church Leaders Discuss Cooperative Work in Disaster](#)

[edge:](#) (right) It's what stepparents can enjoy--and offer.

[Together to serve the poor:](#) In Atlanta, ELCA youth join interreligious peers.

[Angelic voices:](#) Libera, a British boys' choir, performs inspirational music.

[Holiday humor:](#) Advent and Christmas cartoons.

Also: [Authority & power.](#)

Also: [Let's eat!](#)

Also: [Four spiritual practices for stepparents.](#)



### **Coming up on Grace Matters:**

December 14, 2008, Advent III - A Conversation with Juliana of

Norwich, Romans 5:4. Juliana of Norwich, who is sometimes called

Julian of Norwich (1342-c.1416), joins host Peter Marty for an imaginary conversation. Juliana possessed an unshakable belief in God despite several near-death experiences. Her profound insights on hope were gained from the conviction that one can never know true hope apart from suffering. Juliana's faith is a testimony to the abundance of grace even in the most difficult periods of life.

. [Find Grace Matters in your area.](#)



## **Continuing Education**

Luther College, Decorah, IA, will host the sixth annual Midwest **Black History Conference** on Friday, Feb. 27, bringing outstanding writers, artists, scholars, educators, speakers and performers to share information and insights about the black diaspora and its influence on America's history and culture. For complete conference information, schedule and registration forms, visit [the conference website](#) or contact the Luther Diversity Center 563-398-1014.

More Continuing Ed opportunities

## **News from Other Organizations**

## Bulletin Board

Musicians sought, Rostered vacancies, other job openings, wanted items, and more.

[Find out more about all of these on the bulletin board.](#)

### [More Bulletin Board items](#)

*Bulletin board items will be posted for one week in Walking Together and up to one month at [www.nisynod.org/bulletinboard](http://www.nisynod.org/bulletinboard). Items may be resubmitted for a second month. Send your bulletin board items to [karin@nisynod.org](mailto:karin@nisynod.org)*

[Rostered leaders and Synod committee members update your contact information here.](#)

### [Forward email](#)

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