



**Illowa Lutheran
Coalition
of the
Quad Cities Area**

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**ILLOWA LUTHERAN COALITION NEWS AND NOTES
August 2006**

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Fall is fast approaching and with it, some interesting events and ministry opportunities through our Illowa Lutheran Coalition. Let me highlight some of the events that are ahead.

Professional Leaders Continuing Education Forum

For the 2006 – 2007 season, we have a wonderful selection of speakers and topics. We start off the year with Dr. Mary Hinkle Shore from Luther Seminary. Her topic is preaching stewardship from the Gospel of Mark. We will also have a couple of offerings that center on the areas of youth and family ministry and ministry to young adults. A highlight of this year's forum will be the presence of Bishop Mark Hanson, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA. Please review the material that was mailed to you and plan to join us this fall. The forum schedule is also posted on the Illowa Lutheran Coalition website.

Workshop on Vocation and Gifts for Ministry

On September 9th, the Illowa Lutheran Coalition Leadership Team will sponsor "Who Me?" a workshop to help people of your congregation be more aware of their gifts and how they might use them in the ministry of their congregation. Dr. Robert Haak, Director of the Center of Vocational Reflection at Augustana College, will be our speaker. Be sure to review the enclosed information about this opportunity.

Development of a Social Ministry Team

Formational efforts are underway to establish a fifth ministry team of the Coalition. This team would center on social issues and concerns, providing both education and action. There are four areas that will be addressed by the team. They are: Habitat for Humanity, the "Barnabas" project, a health and jobs initiative sponsored by Lutheran Services of Iowa, Coalition coordination of disaster response, and education and advocacy. This new area of ministry provides a number of entry points into our communities for proclamation and for meeting the needs of our neighbors. Please let the Illowa office know if you have folks in your congregation who have a passion for social ministry initiatives.

A Word of Thanks

It is always good to say thank you and so I say thanks be to God for your ministry and that of your congregation. Because of you, God's amazing grace in Christ is being proclaimed in vibrant ways. Thanks for all you do and your partnership with the Illowa Lutheran Coalition.

Blessings!

Kurt Nordby, Director

Community Lecture Series

2006-2007

Funded by the Augustana Center for the Study of Ethics as a way of expressing appreciation for the support the College receives from the community, the Community Lecture Series is made available without charge to area schools, churches, libraries, civic groups and other community organizations. Each participant has agreed to present her or his lecture up to four times to different groups and organizations. Each participant does her or his own scheduling and should be contacted either via e-mail or at the phone number listed to schedule a presentation.

Lectures and Presenters

A Crisis of Conscience: Ethics, Race and Mark Twain

Jeff Abernathy, Dean of the College and Professor of English (794-7312; abernathy@augustana.edu)

Ethical Perspectives in Literature

David Crowe, Associate Professor of English (794-7607; encrowe@augustana.edu)

Reconciling Liberty and Freedom

David Hill, Professor of Philosophy (794-7412; plhill@augustana.edu)

Public Character in Wartime: Framing the War on Terror in Campaign Advertising

Stephen Klien, Associate Professor of Speech Communication (794-7562; spklien@augustana.edu).



Blessed Beginnings Preschool

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The Illowa Lutheran Coalition invites you to:

Who Me? A workshop on finding one's calling and discerning individual gifts for ministry

Have you ever wondered?

- What should I do when I “grow up”?
- How can I do something that makes a difference in the world?
- Am I doing the right job?
- What gifts for ministry can I share in my congregation?
- How do I connect my faith with everyday life?

You are not alone in pondering these questions! These might be referred to as questions about your vocation. Vocation includes the whole life of a person and is not simply his or her own occupation. Because of the biblically-grounded conviction that God operates in everyday life (and not just at church or work), Christians understand God's call to be a part of every aspect of one's life. Vocation involves all of life's relationships. The “Who Me?” workshop invites individuals to explore **who** they are, **what** their gifts for ministry might be, and **how** to serve in the world and church as exactly the people they are.

This workshop will invite you to spend some time thinking and talking about vocation as well as doing some gift discernment.

Who should come? Church Council members, ministry committee members, lay leaders, and anyone who would like to learn more about their gifts for ministry! There will be time during the workshop for congregational groups to meet and discuss how your congregation can use this process.

Workshop Leaders will be:

Dr. Robert Haak, Director of the Center for Vocational Reflection, Augustana College

Ms. Roberta Pierce, Southeastern Iowa Synod Gift Discernment Committee

Pr. Kurt Nordby, Director of the Illowa Lutheran Coalition

When: Saturday, September 9, 2006

Time: 9:00 a.m. – noon

Where: First Lutheran Church, 1230 5th Avenue, Moline, Illinois

There is no charge for this workshop. Refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP by September 1st to the Illowa Lutheran Coalition office at (309) 794-4000 or email illowa@mchsi.com with the number of people attending.

NEW FORUM SERIES BEGINS SEPTEMBER 21

Our next series of Forum events begins on September 21, 2006. Our first presenter for this season is Dr. Mary Hinkle Shore, Associate Professor of New Testament from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. She will address the topic of preaching stewardship from the Gospel of Mark.

We have a wonderful variety of presenters arranged for our workshops to further develop collegiality and leadership not only among our rostered leaders, but also for any others who may be interested in the program. A mailing with the details has been sent to rostered leaders in and beyond the Illowa area to permit you to register for the series, or determine which events you definitely will attend! Please check our website for further information and announcements: www.illowa.home.mchsi.com

CALENDAR

AUGUST

19 Spaghetti dinner benefit for seminarians Terrie Dyer and Elizabeth Conway at Calvary, Moline, 4-7 p.m. Free will offering.

19-20 John Ylvisaker in concert and worship at First Lutheran, Geneseo, as part of their sesquicentennial celebration. See their Website for more details:
www.firstlutherangeneseo.com

25-26 Eastern Iowa Youth Rock Festival sponsored by Zion, Princeton, Iowa, during Princeton Days Festival at Princeton Community Center Parking Lot. For more information, please contact Henry Bateman, (563) 289-5566.

SEPTEMBER

5 Illowa Luncheon at Augustana College Campus Center Board Room, beginning at 12:00 noon. Special guest speaker is Bishop Gary Wollersheim of the Northern Illinois Synod.

9 8 a.m. to noon. Workshop on finding one's calling and discerning individual gifts for ministry at First Lutheran, Moline. Presenters include Dr. Robert Haak, Ms. Roberta Pierce, and Pr. Kurt Nordby. See announcement elsewhere in this newsletter. (FREE!)

21 9 a.m. to noon. Illowa Continuing Education Forum, Wallenberg Hall, Augustana College. Presentation by Dr. Mary Hinkle Shore of Luther Seminary: "Preaching Stewardship from the Gospel of Mark"

OCTOBER

3 Illowa Luncheon at Augustana College Campus Center Board Room, beginning at 12:00 noon. Special speaker is Mr. Steven Bahls, President of Augustana College.

- 19 9 a.m. to noon. Illowa Continuing Education Forum, Wallenberg Hall, Augustana College. Presentation by Dr. Paul Hill of Luther Seminary: "Youth and Family Faith Formation"

NOVEMBER

- 7 Illowa Luncheon at Augustana College Campus Center Board Room, beginning at 12:00 noon. Guest speaker will be announced later.
- 16 9 a.m. to noon. Illowa Continuing Education Forum, Wallenberg Hall, Augustana College. Special presentation by Rev Mark S. Hanson, Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Please remember our Partner Ministries in Prayer

Sunday, September 3	Trinity, Pleasant Valley	Pr. Julie Higgs
Sunday, September 10	First, Moline	Pr. Fred Schmidt, Interim
Sunday, September 17	Zion, Princeton	Pr. Peter Sickels
Sunday, September 24	Salem, Moline	Pr. Joe Robb, Interim
Sunday, October 1	Illowa Lutheran Coalition	Pr. Kurt Nordby
Sunday, October 8	Redeemer, Bettendorf	Pr. Richard Pokora
Sunday, October 15	Trinity, Moline	Pr. Laura Koppenhoefer
Sunday, October 22	St. James, Bettendorf	Pr. Nate Montover
Sunday, October 29	Calvary, New Windsor	Pr. Jane McChesney
Sunday, November 5	Calvary, Buffalo	Pr. Jane Granzow
Sunday, November 12	Grace, Opheim	Pr. Jane McChesney & Dr. Robert Haak, Interims
Sunday, November 19	All Saints, Davenport	Pr. Lisa Dietrich
Sunday, November 26	St. Paul, Orion	Pr. Michael Lawyer