



Illowa Lutheran Coalition of the Quad Cities Area

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ILLOWA LUTHERAN COALITION NEWS AND NOTES DECEMBER 2007

FROM THE DIRECTOR

With this newsletter, I would like to share with you some events that I hope you will encourage participation and place on your congregational calendars. These events and activities are important ways that we can as ELCA congregations and institutions in the greater Quad City area, encourage what it means to be church together. The purpose of the Coalition is to be a witness to and a catalyst for the ministry we share together as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in the greater Quad City area.

First, the Illowa Lutheran Coalition is sponsoring a **monthly Administrative Assistants Luncheon**. Over the past number of years, there has been an informal luncheon meeting of congregational administrative assistants each month. We would like to formalize this event under the sponsorship of the Coalition and ask that each of our congregations provide the time and encouragement for your administrative assistant to participate in this monthly event. This meeting can be an important time as these people can gather and network around the important ministry they have in our congregations. Each month, your administrative assistant will receive via email, an invitation with the time and location of the event. Please encourage them to attend.

Secondly, please reserve the date of January 13th, 2008. This is the day of the **Illowa Lutheran Coalition Choral Festival**. Choir members and musicians from our congregations will gather at Centennial Hall on the Augustana College campus for a wonderful celebration of our ministry together as a Coalition. Wouldn't it be grand if we could fill Centennial Hall with members of our congregations and the community for this unique event? The Festival begins at 7:00 p.m. Be watching for information that you can include in your publications. Let's fill Centennial Hall!

Third, on Saturday, February 9th, 2008 from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., the Illowa Lutheran Coalition along with the Southeastern Iowa Synod and the Northern Illinois Synod will host a **Multicultural Ministry Event**, lifting up and celebrating our diversity. The whole Chicago-based ELCA Multicultural ministry team will be with us to present and lead workshops on the various aspects of multicultural ministry. This is a unique event that will hopefully raise awareness of multicultural ministry and perhaps spark some ideas of what your congregation can be doing in this important opportunity in proclaiming the good news of Christ. We will meet at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Davenport. Please invite the leaders of your congregation and those with a passion for multicultural ministry to attend this very important and meaningful event.

Finally, as in your congregation, planning for ministry in the coming year must take place. The **Annual Assembly of the Illowa Lutheran Coalition** will take place on Sunday, February 10th, 3:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Pleasant Valley, IA. Voting members at the Illowa Lutheran Coalition Assembly include all rostered individuals and the same number of lay voting members that attend your respective synod assemblies. Please be sure to be present as we review and plan our ministry together.

That's it for now. Have a very blessed Advent and Christmas season. Blessings in your ministry!

Pastor Kurt Nordby

Mission in Community

Choral Festival to take place on Sunday, January 13, 2008

It seems appropriate that we are in a season of anticipation and hope. Not only are we anticipating the birth of Christ; we are also excited about the Choral Fest, which will soon be here on Sunday, January 13, 2008, with rehearsal of choirs and instrumentalists in the afternoon and worship at 7:00 PM in Centennial Hall at Augustana College. We anticipate responses from our choir directors by the middle of December and we hope you will mark your calendars to join us as singers of some of the great hymns of the church and gain insights as we listen in on Martin Luther and his son, Hans, discussing how we hear God speaking to us. Please plan to join us for the Illowa Lutheran Coalition's 2008 Choral Fest.

Calendar of Events

DECEMBER

- 4 Illowa Professional Leaders luncheon at the Augustana College Center Board Room beginning at 12 noon. Special guest speaker is Sheryl Plumley of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Mississippi Valley.
- 13 9 a.m. to noon. Illowa Continuing Education Forum, Wallenberg Hall, Augustana College. Presentation by Dr. Omid Safi, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion and Director of the Middle Eastern and Islamic Civilizations Studies Program, Colgate University and Visiting Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: *Islam in America* (Please note the change in program for this month.)
- 14 Annual presentation of Handel's *Messiah*, by the Augustana Oratorio Society at Centennial Hall, 8 p.m.
- 15 Handel's *Messiah*, Centennial Hall, 8 p.m.
- 16 Handel's *Messiah*, Centennial Hall, 2 p.m.

JANUARY

- 8 Illowa Professional Leaders luncheon at the Augustana College Center Board Room, beginning at 12 noon. Guest speaker is Doug Schoonover of the Trinity Pathway Hospice Program.
- 10 9 a.m. to noon. Illowa Continuing Education Forum, Wallenberg Hall, Augustana College. Presentation by Pr. David L. Miller, Cornelsen Director of Spiritual Formation and Dean of the Chapel, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago: *Spirituality and Spiritual Formation*.
- 13 7 p.m. Illowa Lutheran Coalition Choral Festival, Centennial Hall. See information elsewhere in this newsletter.
- 15 Administrative Assistants luncheon at place to be determined

FEBRUARY

- 5 Illowa Professional Leaders luncheon at the Augustana College Center Chicago Room, beginning at 12 noon. Guest speaker is Lynn Batcher, head of Pastoral Care at Trinity Medical Center.
- 9 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Multicultural Ministry Event sponsored by Illowa, Southeastern Iowa Synod and Northern Illinois Synod at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport. Speakers and workshop leaders from the ELCA will be present.
- 10 Annual Assembly of the Illowa Lutheran Coalition at Trinity Lutheran Church, Pleasant Valley, beginning at 3 p.m.
- 12 Administrative Assistants luncheon
- 14 9 a.m. to noon. Illowa Continuing Education Forum, Wallenberg Hall, Augustana College. Presentation by Pr. Michael Stadie, Church Relations/Advancement Associate and Disaster Response Coordinator, Lutheran Services in Iowa: *Disaster Preparedness and Spiritual Care*

Please remember our Partner Ministries in prayer

Sunday, December 9	St. James, Bettendorf	Pastor Nate Montover
Sunday, December 16	First, Sherrard	Pastor Nancy Jaster and Pastor Ron Ferrell, Interim Associate
Sunday, December 23	Calvary, Buffalo	Pastor Jane Granzow
Sunday, December 30	Bethany, Woodhull	Pastor Nancy Jaster and Pastor Ron Ferrell, Interim Associate
Sunday, January 6	All Saints, Davenport	Pastor Lisa Dietrich
Sunday, January 13	Illowa Lutheran Coalition	Pastor Kurt Nordby
Sunday, January 20	Messiah, Aledo	Pastor David Schweppe
Sunday, January 27	Grace, Davenport	Pastors John Grebner and Kristin Berglund
Sunday, February 3	Augustana, Andover	Pastor Lynn Bergren
Sunday, February 10	St. Mark, Davenport	Pastor Paul Tweeten
Sunday, February 17	Cambridge, Cambridge	Pastor Al Beck, Interim
Sunday, February 24	St. Matthew, Davenport	Pastor Todd Hunter

