



**La Crosse Area Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
 God's Work. Our Hands.

## UPDATES FROM OUR SYNOD AND MINISTRY PARTNERS

12/22/11

### PRAYERS

- For Bishop Emeritus Stefan Guttormsson as he continues in hospice care at Bethany St. Joe's, La Crosse
- For a blessed ***Merry Christmas*** for all -- pastors, congregations and members - may the light of the Christ Child's birth permeate and warm all homes and lives . . .

*Love has come -- a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.*

*See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises:*

*Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high!*

*(Love Has Come, ELW 292)*

### UPCOMING SYNOD EVENTS

- **MSG - Middle School Gathering** - Sat/Sun, Jan. 28-29, Sugar Creek Bible Camp **SEE FLYER** and **REGISTER HERE**.
- **Living Well Day** - Thu, Jan. 12, Trinity, Sparta
- **Boundaries Workshop** - Thu, Jan. 26, synod office

Pastors are encouraged to attend both of these events! Fee for each event is only \$10, to cover meal and expenses. **SEE FLYER** for both events! (Pastors, if unable to attend our Boundaries Workshop on the 26<sup>th</sup>, you are also welcome to attend the event in Madison, South Central Synod of Wisconsin, with Barbara Keller on Tue, Jan. 24. See more info on that event **HERE**.)

### **LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF (LWR) Responds to Devastating Flooding in the Philippines**

Read more and see how to make a donation toward these efforts **HERE** and ELCA Disaster Response to other flooding throughout Southeast Asia **HERE**.

### **ELCA RESOURCE CATALOG - Have you checked it out?**

Turn to this catalog on the ELCA website to view resources for most every area of ministry in your congregation -- some free, many very inexpensive - a marvelous way to inform, educate and share. Take a look **HERE**.

**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE OF BISHOP DR. MUNIB YOUNAN**, Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land

**Christmas: Hope for Peace**

## WARTBURG THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY (WTS)

- **Continuing Education Opportunities** -- Look [HERE](#) for upcoming events.
- **WTS's Conference on Ministry: Considering Your Call** - Read more [HERE](#).

**JAPAN: Young (very young!) Missionaries and Christmas** "Our 9-year-old, Emilie, came home from school today with quite an amazing story of witness. She was chatting with a couple of friends about Christmas, saying "Well, you know it's not all about presents and Santa Claus, right?" Her friends looked at her with astonishment, and asked in their local dialect, "Eh? No way! Well then, what is it?" Read the rest of this story at <http://blogs.elca.org/handinhand> and scroll down to the story by the above name. (While you're there, check out the previous story too.)

Check this link <http://www.lacrosseareasyndod.org/resources/publications/synod-update-weekly-e-letter/> for documents shared in all recent Synod Updates.

### Quick Links...

[Our Website](#)

### Contact Information

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