



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

*MetroWord*

## Attend the Koinonia Leadership Introduction on December 5, 2009

*Offered as part of the Turnaround Synod Initiative*



Register online at [www.mcselca.org](http://www.mcselca.org) for **Koinonia Leadership Training**, an in-depth program developed by Stephen Ministries in St. Louis that could transform your ministry and your congregation. To introduce congregations to Koinonia Leadership and to help as many as possible become involved, the synod is sponsoring a Koinonia Leadership Introductory Workshop, for a pastor and three to five lay leaders per congregation, on **Saturday, December 5, 2009**. Please plan to arrive by **8:45 a.m.**, and we will finish no later than **1:00 p.m.** The workshop will take place at Trinity Lutheran Church, 675 E. Algonquin Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016. Light refreshments will be provided.

If you have questions about the registration process, please contact Dina Tannous at [dtannous@mcselca.org](mailto:dtannous@mcselca.org), or **773-248-0021, ext. 14**.

If you have any questions about the workshop itself, please contact the Rev. Carol Breimeier at [cbreimeier@mcselca.org](mailto:cbreimeier@mcselca.org), or **773-248-0021, ext. 13**.

## Bishop Miller to Speak at Palestinian Solidarity Sunday to Be Held November 15, 2009



Bishop Wayne N. Miller will be the featured speaker at this year's Palestinian Solidarity Sunday that will be held on **November 15, 2009**, from 4-6 p.m. at the Lutheran Church of Martha & Mary at 606 W. Golf Rd., Mount Prospect, IL 60056.

Bishop Miller will be talking about the January 2009 trip that 44 bishops took to the Holy Land. He will also be available for informal conversation after the service. The Working Group on the Middle East is sponsoring the late afternoon event that will include worship, prayer, discussion, a Middle East products bazaar, and Palestinian food. The offering and all funds raised at this event will be donated to the Mount of Olives Housing project.

See the flyer that accompanies this newsletter for more information.



## November TSI Update

by the Rev. Carol Breimeier, Associate to the Bishop

It’s funny how we can hear something new in a passage of Scripture we know almost by heart. A pastor who attended the bishop’s “mission conversation” at Augustana, Hyde Park, in late October had such a moment on hearing the bishop read the familiar parable from Luke 14 of the slave sent three times to bring in people to fill the master’s banquet hall.

Remember the story? The first round of invitees have reasons—material and matrimonial—for skipping the party. So the host sends the slave out a second time to “bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.” When there’s still room for more, the host sends the slave a final time, now with instructions to go wherever he needs to go to compel enough people to come so that the hall will be filled.

One person who’d come to talk mission with the bishop was struck, by the idea that our churches are like a banquet already set out and at risk of going to waste because there’s room for so many more people, and good things to share with so many more people than are already coming. He said he caught, on this hearing, a sense of urgency—the urgency of the call to fill the room, which is the call to share the banquet.

Interestingly, “establishing a sense of urgency” is the necessary first step in a process of transformation in an organization, according to noted author John Kotter (*Leading Change*, 1996). And it’s not only the first step, says Kotter. If an organization is going to be able to keep up the effort needed for transformation, that sense of urgency needs to be ongoing and constant. This is as true for congregational renewal as for reforming the culture of an established business.

Of course, “urgent” and “frantic” are two different things. It’s hard to be thoughtful and focused when worry is overwhelming. The sweet spot is where “concerned enough to do something about it” meets “confident that we *can* do something new and faithful and good.”

That’s where I think we can help one another. Through the Turnaround Synod Initiative, we will offer the kind of support (through workshops, coaching, networking, and resourcing) that can help your congregation live with a sense of urgency without slipping into worry, and keep your focus on the new things that God can do in you and through you.



We’ve started down this road together already. Almost 200 people attended the Hole in the Roof evangelism workshops and started talking together about reaching beyond the walls of our churches with the

gospel of Jesus Christ. People are training to serve as coaches, to provide ongoing support to congregational renewal teams. Congregations have opted in to the Turnaround Synod Initiative as “resource congregations,” ready to help as they can. And congregations continue to sign up to take advantage of the Transforming Church Index survey offered by TAG Consulting.

In early December, all the congregations in the synod will have the chance to check out Koinonia Leadership Training as a possible program for both leadership development and congregational revitalization (see article on page one).

Eleven congregations are expected to be in the first round of TSI “focus congregations.” We’ll get started with the first steps together on this particular road to renewal beginning in January.

All of this is aimed at one thing: growing, thriving congregations that are busily—and joyfully—heading out, time after time, with invitation after invitation, to reach people with the life-saving, life-giving Good News of Jesus Christ...until the banquet hall is filled.

Read more about the Turnaround Synod Initiative at <http://www.mtselca.org/what/mission/tsi/>.

## Synod Assembly Dates and Location



**Metropolitan Chicago Synod**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
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Next year's synod assembly will be held on **June 4-5, 2010**, at the Crowne Plaza O'Hare Hotel, 5440 River Road, Rosemont, IL 60018.

## 2010 Rostered Leader Salary Guidelines Available Online



The 2010 Salary Guidelines for Rostered People are available online as a PDF at <http://www.mtselca.org/congregation/admin/forms/index.php>.

## Watch *Ready to Forgive: An African Story of Grace*

Chicago WLS-TV ABC7 will air *Ready to Forgive: An African Story of Grace*, hosted by Rwandan genocide survivor Immaculee Ilibigaza, at 12 p.m. on Sunday, **November 15, 2009**. This captivating story about forgiveness was shot entirely on location in Uganda,



*Ready to Forgive: An African Story of Grace* is a production of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for the National Council of Churches and funded in part by a grant from Odyssey Networks.

Visit [www.elca.org/readytoforgive](http://www.elca.org/readytoforgive) or [www.interfaithbroadcasting.com](http://www.interfaithbroadcasting.com) for more information.

## Wheat Ridge Ministries and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to Host Living Well Day for Professional Church Workers



Wheat Ridge Ministries, in partnership with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, is pleased to host a Living Well Day for

Professional Church Workers in Wheaton, Illinois, on Wednesday, **November 4, 2009**. The day will take place from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Le Jardin at Cantigny Park in Wheaton.

The featured presenters will be Dr. Mary Chase-Ziolek, Professor of Health Ministries, North Park Theological Seminary, Chicago, Ill., and Rev. William Geis, Senior Pastor, St. John's Lutheran Church, La Grange, Ill. Dr. Chase-Ziolek's morning presentation is titled, "Good Is the Flesh," while the Rev. Geis's presentation is "Go the Distance: For Self, Family & Ministry."

During the afternoon, attendees will have their choice of activities. Dr. Chase-Ziolek will lead a presentation on "Faith & Food: An Experience," while an outdoor walk and stretch through the Cantigny Park grounds will also be offered. Those planning to take part in the walk and stretch are encouraged to bring or wear appropriate clothing for the November weather.

Attendees will also be welcome to stay after the Living Well Day and tour Cantigny Park, which includes the Robert R. McCormick Museum, the First Division Museum, and the Cantigny Gardens. Registration is available online at [www.wheatridge.org/lwd](http://www.wheatridge.org/lwd). For more information, call Thrivent Financial for Lutherans at **630-598-2100**. Lunch will be provided; space is limited.

The event is complimentary for all professional church workers.

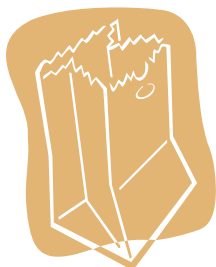
## Taizé Prayer Service Offered November 13, 2009



A Taizé Prayer service will be held Friday, **November 13, 2009**, at 7:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2328 Central Rd., Glenview, IL 60025,

at the corner of Central and Shermer. The community is invited to pray for peace, unity, and reconciliation in the spirit of the Taizé Community. For more information, call **847-724-6060** or e-mail [barbarakudirka@holytrinityglenview.org](mailto:barbarakudirka@holytrinityglenview.org).

## Faith & Science Brown Bag - Standing in Awe



Awe is a vital dimension of faith and life, yet it is often ignored in our day, both in the world and in the Church. The Rev. Bruce Booher will explore how science can help us open our eyes to the wonders of God's creation that surround us.

Bring your lunch and join the conversation on Tuesday, **November 3, 2009**, 12-1 p.m., at the Lutheran Center, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. Directions are available at [www.elca.org/localmap.html](http://www.elca.org/localmap.html).

Booher is pastor of First Lutheran Church in Plano, Ill., and serves on the Steering Committee of the ELCA Alliance for Faith, Science and Technology. An avid amateur astronomer, he studied physics and astronomy at M.I.T. Booher has been a regular presenter at Global Mission Events, and he leads Weekend of Wonder retreats.

Read more on his web site at <http://www.mysteryandawe.com>.

## PAI Will Meet December 2

The Parish Administration Initiative (PAI) - a group of Metropolitan Chicago Synod congregation staff members who gather every other month for discussion on topics relating to the improvement of administration - will meet again on Wednesday, **December 2, 2009**, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at Living Lord Lutheran Church, 1044 Congress Drive, Bartlett, IL 60103. For more information, call Sue Rankin at **630-830-3630**. More information about PAI is available online at [www.mtselca.org/congregation/admin/parish](http://www.mtselca.org/congregation/admin/parish).



## Mark Miller to Lead Music Workshop November 7 and 8

Mark A. Miller will lead a workshop, "Creating Community through Music: Ancient/ Future Resources for a Singing Church," on **November 7 and 8, 2009**. Miller is considered one of the brightest and best of the younger generation of church musicians today. He brings an amazing versatility of gifts in composing, playing keyboard/organ, leading song, and performing gospel music. He serves on the faculty at Drew University and Yale University. Miller's songs are published in a number of songbooks.

You can attend either the Saturday workshop, **November 7, 2009**, at the Presbyterian Church of Western Springs or the Sunday workshop, **November 8, 2009**, at the United Church of Rogers Park. Workshops are from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. both days. You can find more details at [www.ucrogerspark.org/WorshipAlive/Miller.htm](http://www.ucrogerspark.org/WorshipAlive/Miller.htm), or by calling Mark Bowman at **773-728-8274**. Registration is \$35 paid in advance or \$45 at the door. There is a discount of 20% for groups of three or more from the same congregation. This workshop is part of the *Worship Alive!* workshop series.

## Visit the Annual Fair Trade Holiday Market at Our Saviour's, Arlington Heights



The annual Fair Trade Holiday Market will be held at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 1234 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60004, on **Saturday,**

**November 7, 2009**, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There is no admission fee. Fair Trade goods are marketed so that the artist, crafter, or grower is paid a fair wage. Woven and beaded articles from Guatemala marketed through Mayaworks, assorted giftware from around the world brought by Ten Thousand Villages, and Fair Trade Equal Exchange coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and Divine chocolate will be available.

Bake sale proceeds will be donated to the Augusta Victoria Hospital. Alternative gifts available will be shares of animals through Heifer International, Mayaworks scholarships, and bed nets for malaria prevention. Shop for handcrafted items and help change people's lives.

If you have questions about the market, please call Sheryl Kelso at **847-364-4834**.

## LSSI Seeks Volunteers



LSSI's "Do Good Works!" seeks volunteers. Would you like to help some of the most vulnerable children and seniors served by Lutheran

Social Services of Illinois (LSSI)? There are wonderful opportunities to make a difference in someone's life. Simple gestures such as warm winter coats and a toy for a preschooler might be the only gifts our clients receive at the holidays. Please contact Theresa Coglianesse at LSSI offices **847-635-4672** to find out more. We would like all of the

children in our Head Start programs to have warm clothes, our foster care children to have Christmas presents, and our seniors to have food and care at the holidays.

## Coaching Training Applications

*Offered as part of the Turnaround Synod Initiative*



Anyone interested in being trained to support individuals and congregations through coaching is invited to submit an application for our January Coaching 101 workshop. Jonathan Reitz, ELCA coaching coordinator, will provide the training on **January 22 and 23, 2009**.

For an application and a timeline for coach training in the synod, or for a copy of an introductory PowerPoint, please call or e-mail Dina Tannous (**773-238-0021, ext. 14; dtannous@mcselca.org**). If you have questions about coaching, please get in touch with either the Rev. Carol Breimeier (**cbreimeier@mcselca.org**) or the Rev. Hector Garfias (**hgarfias@mcselca.org**).

Applications are due in the synod office by **November 20, 2009**.

## Supporting Families Around the Death of a Child

On Tuesday **November 3, 2009**, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Advocate Christ Medical Center and Hope Children's Hospital will host a one-day conference on supporting families around the death of a child. Registration is required. To pre-register by phone, call **800-323-8622**. Please contact the Rev. Stacey Jutila, Chaplain and Pediatric Bereavement coordinator with questions at **708-684-5174** or **stacey.jutila@advocatehealth.com**.

Sponsored by: Advocate Christ Medical Center and Hope Children's Hospital Office of Mission and Spiritual Care and Hope Children's Hospital Pediatric Bereavement Committee.

## Employment Listings

**Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church** is seeking a Contemporary Music Coordinator to lead all aspects of Contemporary Music at the church. This includes leading and performing with the worship band on designated weeks and coaching team leaders in directing rehearsals. Other responsibilities include: participation in song selection and musician scheduling, preparing musical arrangements, coordinating with the A/V technical team, and participating in the contemporary worship planning team.

The position includes leading one weekly rehearsal and one Sunday Service. The candidate shall play guitar and/or keyboard. Weekly time commitment of 10-12 hours. Please submit resume to Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church, Attn: Phil Herrmann, 285 Washington St., Grayslake, IL 60030, or e-mail Phil Herrmann at [pcherrmann@att.net](mailto:pcherrmann@att.net).

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**Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church** seeks a part-time Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator to provide vision and coordination for the congregation’s ministry with 7-12th graders.

Qualified candidates will have a heart for young people and ministry with youth, demonstrate at least two years paid or volunteer experience with this age group, have a strong personal faith, and be able to communicate that with others.

The successful candidate will enjoy worshipping at Bethlehem at least three Sundays per month. Interested parties should forward a resume and three references to Pastor Jennie English at [jennie.english@ameritech.net](mailto:jennie.english@ameritech.net), or via mail to the church at Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, 9401 S. Oakley, Chicago, Illinois 60643.

**United in Faith Lutheran Church** in Chicago is seeking a Director of Music for one traditional and one contemporary service. The candidate should be proficient in playing the organ and the piano and directing choirs and a contemporary band. Needs to be available to plan and lead worship approximately 20 hours per week. Detailed job description can be found at [www.unitedinfaith.org](http://www.unitedinfaith.org).

Please submit resume to United in Faith Lutheran Church, 6525 W. Irving Park Rd, Chicago, IL 60634. For information, call **773-283-2326**, or e-mail: [uifadmin@unitedinfaith.org](mailto:uifadmin@unitedinfaith.org).

## Small Grants Available



Thanks to generous gifts from saints throughout the ages, Resurrection Lutheran Church in Chicago is blessed to provide grants to ministries in the community and throughout the larger Church. Resurrection invites you to apply for a grant. Grants typically average \$2,000 and have gone to support a wide variety of organizations and projects. For more information about the annual application process and a sample of recent grantees, visit [www.rlclakeview.org](http://www.rlclakeview.org), or call the church office at **773-525-0605**. Applications are due **November 30, 2009**.

## Blood Drive at Living Lord, Bartlett, November 14, 2009

Living Lord Lutheran Church in Bartlett will host a community blood drive on Saturday, **November 14, 2009**, from 8 a.m. to noon. Heartland Blood Centers will sponsor the event. For an appointment, please call Holly Gould at **224-238-3093**. Walk-ins are also welcome. Remember that one donation can save three lives. Living Lord Church is located at 1044 Congress Dr., Bartlett, IL 60103, just south of Stearns Road on Route 59. Thank you for making a difference in the community.

### Metropolitan Chicago Synod Directory Changes

Name	Change	Effective
Brown, Timothy J.	Pastor, Luther Memorial Church, Chicago, Ill.	10/17/2009
Fisher, Thad W.	On Leave from Call	9/5/2009
Hellstedt, Peter A.	Senior Pastor, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Schaumburg, Ill.	10/15/2009
Henning-Ferkin, Krista	Associate Pastor, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Libertyville, Ill.	10/1/2009
Ideran, C. Michael	Chaplain, Alexian Brothers Hospital Network, Arlington Heights, Ill.	6/1/2009
Washington, Maxine M.	Retired	8/1/2009
Winke, Dayna M.	On Leave from Call	9/1/2009

### Rostered Leaders New to the Metropolitan Chicago Synod, ELCA

Welcome to the **Rev. Timothy J. Brown** who was ordained on October 17, 2009, by Bishop Wayne N. Miller at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Chicago, Illinois. Rev. Brown earned his bachelor’s degree in theology from Valparaiso University in Indiana in 2003 where he also earned his master’s degree in education in 2005. He earned his MDiv from the Lutheran School of theology at Chicago in 2009. Rev. Brown is married to Rhonda Brown.

Welcome to the **Rev. Krista Henning-Ferkin**, who transferred to us from the New England Synod of the ELCA. She is currently serving as associate pastor at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Libertyville, Illinois. Rev. Henning-Ferkin earned her bachelor’s degree from Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1992 and her MDiv from Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey, in 1996. She is married to the Rev. Kris D. H. Ferkin and has two children: Rachel and Luke.

### Dr. Larry Rasmussen to Examine Lutheran ‘Earth-honoring’ Theology and Practice



Lutheran theology and practice offer essential elements for Earth-honoring and Earth-healing faith. Yet Lutherans themselves often fail to make the connections of the sacramental life to “greening” church

and society. On Thursday, **November 5, 2009**, ethicist, teacher, and writer Dr. Larry Rasmussen will address this “disconnect” in his lecture, “Waiting for the Lutherans.” This Earth Year at LSTC presentation of the annual Lutheran Heritage Lecture begins at 11:30 a.m. in the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago Common Room, 1100 East 55th Street, Chicago. The event is free and open to the public.

Dr. Rasmussen served as Reinhold Niebuhr Professor of Social Ethics at Union Theological Seminary, New York City, from 1986-2004. His current work focuses on moral and theological reorientation in response to humans’ unsustainable uses of natural resources. Rasmussen received the Joseph Sittler Award for Outstanding

Leadership in Theological Education and the Burnice Fjellman Award for Distinguished Christian Ministries in Higher Education.

Rasmussen is the author of *Earth Community, Earth Ethics*, winner of the 1997 Grawemeyer Award in Religion. His other works include *Earth Habitat: Eco-Injustice and the Church’s Response* (as co-editor) and *Ethics for a Small Planet: New Horizons on Population, Consumption, and Ecology* (co-author). In addition, he has been published widely in journals and magazines.

Dr. Rasmussen graduated from St. Olaf College, earned a B.D. from Luther Theological Seminary, studied theology at the Freie Universität in Berlin, Germany, and completed his Ph.D. in social ethics at the Union Theological Seminary in New York City. From 2007 to 2009, he served on LSTC’s board of directors.

The Heritage Lecture series is designed to provide a contemporary perspective on the Lutheran tradition. This year’s lecture is part of Earth Year at LSTC, a year-long observance and renewal of the seminary’s commitment to care of creation.



## Metropolitan Chicago Synod Calendar

(For the most up-to-date calendar information, visit [www.mtselca.org](http://www.mtselca.org))

- November 4** First Call Theological Education Program – Synod Office, 9AM
- 7** Candidacy - Entrance Interviews and Meeting – Synod Office  
Devotions begin at 8:45 a.m. with Entrance Interviews until 10:30 a.m.  
Meeting begins after 10:30 a.m.
- 12** Working Group on the Middle East Meeting – Lutheran Church of Martha And Mary,  
606 W. Golf Road, Mount Prospect, IL 60056, 7:30PM
- 14** Stewardship Strategy Team Meeting – Synod Office, 9AM  
Antiracism Core Team Meeting – Synod Office, 10AM
- 15** Synod Newsletter Articles Due
- 19** Interim Pastors Meeting – Synod Office, 10AM
- 20** Deadline for February Synod Supplement to *The Lutheran*
- 26-27** Synod Office Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving

### Attend the Synod’s Mission Interpreter Orientation Event on January



Register for and attend the **January 16, 2010**, Mission Interpreters Orientation that will take place 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the synod office located at 1420 W. Dickens Ave., Chicago, IL 60614. For more information about Mission Interpreters, and to register online, visit [http://www.mtselca.org/what/stewardship/mission\\_interpreters](http://www.mtselca.org/what/stewardship/mission_interpreters).

<b>Rostered Leader Vacancies - Congregations Actively Engaged in the Call Process</b>		
KEY: (A) Self-study (B) Candidate search or interviewing (C) Call Extended (D) Call Accepted (PT) Part-time (*) Associate Position		
<b>Central</b>	Zion, Deerfield (B)	St. James, Chicago – on hold
Bethel West, Chicago (A)	<b>Northeast</b>	Zion, (Stony Island), Chicago (A)
Edgebrook, Chicago – on hold	Ebenezer, Chicago (A)	<b>Southwest</b>
Edison Park, Chicago (B)	St. Paul, Evanston (B)	Trinity, Oak Lawn (B)
Mission of Christ, Chicago – on hold	Trinity, Evanston (B)	Zion, Tinley Park (B)
St. James, Chicago (A)	<b>Northwest</b>	<b>West</b>
<b>Near West</b>	Grace, Mt. Prospect (A)	Church of the Master, Carol Stream (A)
Prince of Peace, Addison (B)	Lord of Life, Schaumburg (A)	Grace, Glen Ellyn (B)
<b>North</b>	Resurrection, Franklin Park (A)	Hosanna!, St. Charles (*) (B)
Sagrada Corazon, Waukegan (A)	<b>South</b>	Our Savior, Aurora (A)
Shepherd of the Lakes, Grayslake (B)	Calvary (Spaulding), Chicago – on hold	



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The Metropolitan Chicago Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America publishes *MetroWord* monthly. The deadline for submitting information is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the current month for the next month’s issue. Articles will be edited for space and clarity. Contact the synod office at 1420 W. Dickens Ave., Chicago, IL 60614-3004.

Ph: 773-248-0021 - Fax: 773-248-8455 Web page: [www.mtselca.org](http://www.mtselca.org) MetroWord e-mail: [jdrake@mtselca.org](mailto:jdrake@mtselca.org)  
*MetroWord* is also available online as a PDF at [www.mtselca.org/news/metro\\_word](http://www.mtselca.org/news/metro_word).



An evening of worship, prayer and discussion for individuals and congregations about life and events in the Middle East

**Partake of Palestinian foods  
following the service**

**The offering & all funds raised  
will be donated to the  
Mount of Olives Housing Project.**

# Witnessing the Holy Land

◆————◆  
**Bishop Wayne  
Miller**

**Speaks about his  
January 2009 trip to the  
Holy Land with 44 ELCA  
Bishops**

**Sunday, November 15, 2009  
4:00 PM until 6:00 PM**

**Lutheran Church of Martha & Mary  
606 West Golf Road  
Mount Prospect, Illinois**

## **Discussions with Bishop Miller and Rev. Twila Schock about life in the Holy Land**

- The separation barrier, its impact on Israelis and Palestinians; its relation to other walls and barriers
- The Mount of Olives Housing Project
- Ways for congregations to become more informed and take action

- \* Middle Eastern bazaar to support Palestinian farmers and artisans with olive oil, olive wood products, Christmas decorations, woven products and other handicrafts
- \* Review and purchase Steadfast Hope education materials as well as books about the Holy Land

Sponsored by the  
Working Group on the Middle East, Metropolitan Chicago Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America