



# Our diakonia day

Vol 4, Issue 1 March 2007

## HELLO FROM THE EDITOR!

If you have news or information for this newsletter, please feel free to e-mail it to me ([mjmouw@uic.edu](mailto:mjmouw@uic.edu))



By Mary Mouw

## UPCOMING EVENTS

June 23, 2007 at 2 pm – graduation for Metro Chicago synod at St. Mark, Aurora

July 14, 2007 at 2 pm – graduation for Northern Illinois, St. Barnabas, Cary

October 13, 2007 – National Board Meeting

October 20, 2007 – Metropolitan Chicago Synod steering committee meeting

February 2007 – Northern Illinois retreat

March 1, 2008 – National Board Meeting.

June 28, 2008 – graduation for Metro Chicago synod at Grace, River Forest

July 12, 2008 – graduation for Northern Illinois synod

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Carol Nordtvedt – daughter ill

Carole Edwards – brother ill

## NEWS ABOUT US

Seven diakonia graduates have applied for the Metropolitan Chicago synod's new Synod Deacon Program.

+ Ronn Brower passed away.

## NORTHERN ILLINOIS OPENS NEW SITE – IN PERU!

The Northern Illinois synod will be starting up a new site in Peru, IL this September. The classes will be held at St. John Lutheran Church. The pastor of this church, Tim Kenyon, had taught in the Rockford site before he moved to the Peru area. This site offers an opportunity to recruit students from the Central/Southern Illinois synod.

## MOLINE SITE TO CLOSE

With regret, the Northern Illinois Synod diakonia program has decided to temporarily close the site in Moline. The enrollment at this site is low. Diakonia hopes to reopen this site in the future.

## DON WILLIAMS

For the past few years, Don Williams has acted as the location manager for Schaumburg.

Due to health reasons, Don will not be continuing in this role after May of 2007. Diakonia would like to thank Don for his service to the program.



## BETHANY GRANT

Bethany Lutheran Church in Batavia has selected diakonia as one of their



grant recipients. Diakonia is grateful to them for their donation.

## REVIVED TO BE SENT

Pr. Kathryn Bradley Love, a pastor in the national office, has initiated a Revival effort within the ELCA. The diakonia retreat was the first time the program was offered within the ELCA. Pr. Rayford Grady and Pr. Thomas Lowery led the retreat for about 50 people. Also for the first time, diakonia opened the retreat to non diakonia people.

## NATIONAL BOARD MEETING

The diakonia national board met in Philadelphia, PA to discuss a variety of issues. Members from each synod where the diakonia program is held were present. The board discussed expansion to new synods, the handbook, and constitutional issues. Ray Bebee, Pr. Eric Dawson, and Rebecca Dahlstrom represent the Metropolitan Chicago synod. Doug Liston and Pr. Gary Heedum represent the Northern Illinois synod.

## SWO DONATION

The Northern Illinois Synod Women's Organization has provided a donation to the diakonia program to help assist with their work with Spanish speaking people. Diakonia would like to thank the group for their donation.

## NEED A NEW DIAKONIA CROSS?

If you are a graduate and need a new diakonia cross, please contact Rebecca Dahlstrom or Doug Liston.

## SPIRITUAL FORMATION FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

Pr. Eric Gritsch led the Northern Illinois synod retreat on January 20. Pr. Gritsch used his new book [A Handbook for Christian Life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century](#) to lead the retreat. About 50 people led the retreat which included non diakonia people for the first time.

## WEBSITES

Diakonia has a national website and a webpage on the two synod websites:

[www.thediakoniaprogram.org](http://www.thediakoniaprogram.org)  
[www.mcselca.org/diakonia/index.html](http://www.mcselca.org/diakonia/index.html)  
[www.nisynod.org/ministries/diakonia.htm](http://www.nisynod.org/ministries/diakonia.htm)

Many thanks to Doug Liston, Jeff Drake, and Karin Graddy for maintaining these sites for us.

## NORTHERN ILLINOIS CONGREGATIONAL RESOURCING EVENT

Ronn Brower represented diakonia on the annual CRE event in Kishwaukee. Ronn held a workshop on diakonia and also put up a display table.

