

The Lutheran World Federation 2003 Pre/Post Assembly

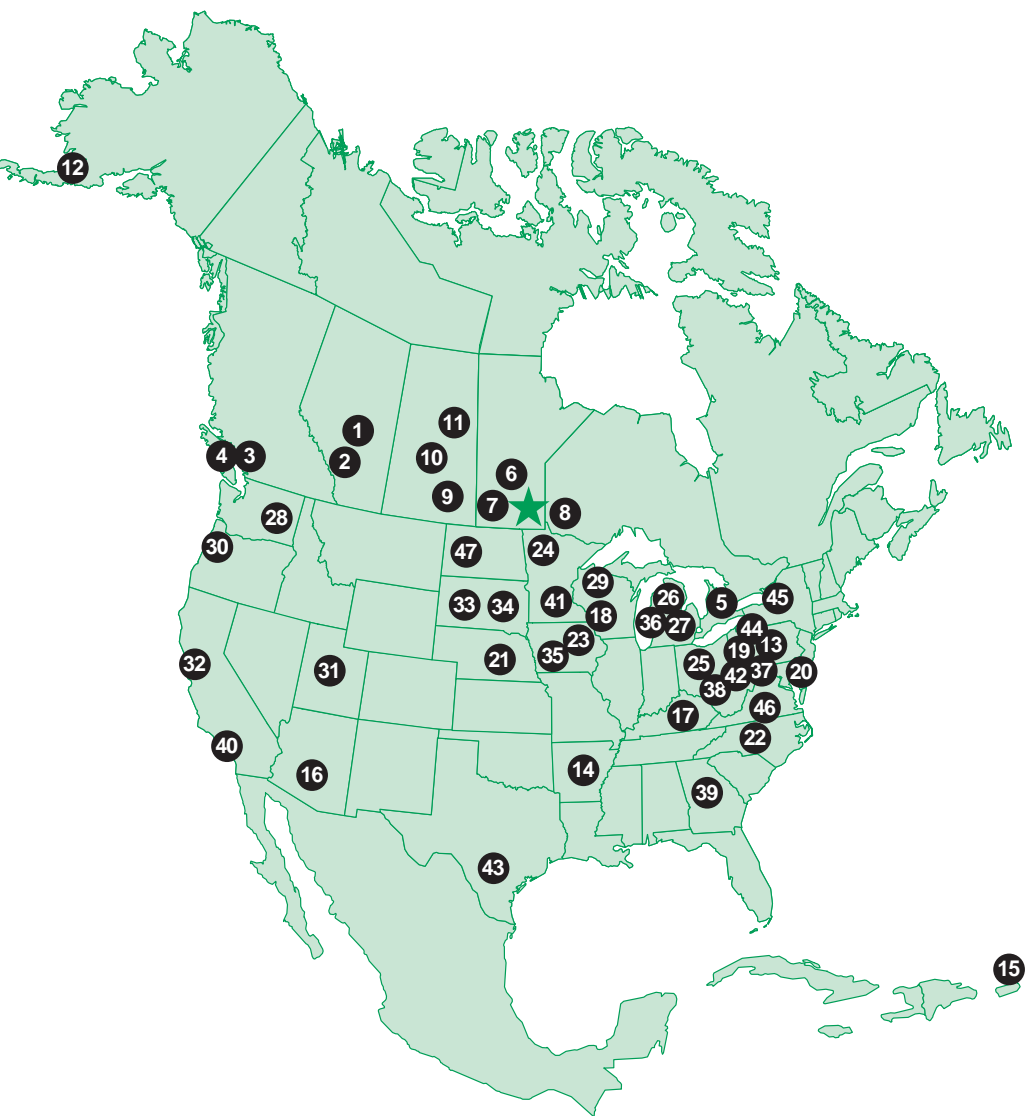
VISITATION PROGRAM

*Welcome to
ministry in
North America*

July 15 - 20 & August 1 - 10, 2003

VISITATION PROGRAM SITE MAP

The numbers on the map illustrate the locations of the visitation programs listed on the following pages.
The star indicates the city of Winnipeg.



See, taste, feel...

and be part of the body of Christ
in mission in North America!



North American Lutherans stand ready to welcome you into their homes, neighborhoods, congregations, and ministries during the 2003 Lutheran World Federation Pre/Post Assembly Visitation Program. Together, we will experience ministries, gain new perspectives, and make new friends. You'll also share insights into ministries and challenges from your own church and country.

Five- to seven-day visits to Canadian ministries will take place before the LWF Assembly, and three- to ten-day visits to United States and Caribbean ministries after the Assembly.

The Lutheran World Federation 2003 Pre/Post Assembly

VISITATION PROGRAM REGISTRATION FORM

For best selection, return this completed form by
January 20, 2003 to:

The Lutheran World Federation
Assembly Office
P.O. Box 2100
route de Ferney 150
1211 Geneva 2
Switzerland
Fax: +41-22-791-6630

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Country: _____

Interpretation needed to: French German Spanish

I will have a traveling companion: No Yes (list name below):

List your top three visitations by site number and title:

Site Number *Title*

Who can participate?

All delegates to the Assembly from LWF member churches are eligible to participate. Visitors and non-delegates are also welcome to participate in the visits as space allows. Of course, ELCIC and ELCA members will participate in local visitations.

Unfortunately, outgoing LWF Council members cannot participate in the pre-Assembly visits and Council members elected in Winnipeg cannot participate in post-Assembly visits.

How do I choose?

Each visitation site is described in this invitation. Use this information to select a first, second, and third choice. North American planners will match you with a visitation site. You will be notified of your visitation site **before** you make travel arrangements to the Assembly.

How much will this cost?

North American hosts will cover the cost of local accommodation and food. You pay only for your transportation to or from Winnipeg and incidentals such as film, personal items, and gifts.

Is financial assistance available?

LWF has designated some funds for subsidized official delegates from churches and countries that cannot cover such costs. Please contact Kathy Magnus, LWF Regional Officer for North America, at kmagnus@elca.org or 001-773-380-2636.

What is my role?

Your job is to listen, learn, experience, and share. Your hosts want to learn more about you, your perspectives, and the context of your church. As all participants learn about one another, communion among Lutherans will be deepened.

When will I be notified of my visitation site?

Planners will match you with a visitation site and notify you of your destination **before** you make travel plans. When you know your destination, begin to make travel arrangements for the Assembly and your visit. Your hosts will contact you with more detailed information about your itinerary, accommodations, daily activities, and other aspects of your visit.



ELCIC Pre-Assembly Visitation Sites in Canada July 15-20, 2003

1 Synod of Alberta and the Territories (Edmonton)

Life Abundant, in Poverty and Plenty

Based in Edmonton, this visit will examine economic and social issues from the perspectives of wealth and poverty. Participants will interact with Albertans to explore how Alberta's wealth and poverty inform mission. After each day of contrasting experiences—from life in the inner city to suburban mega-mall, from multi-faith discussion to a casino—you will gather to share issues of poverty and plenty in your own context.

2 Synod of Alberta and Territories (Calgary)

Life Abundant, in Poverty and Plenty

Based in Calgary, this visit will examine economic and social issues from the perspectives of wealth and poverty. Participants will interact with Albertans to explore how Alberta's wealth and poverty inform mission. At the conclusion of each day of contrasting experiences, you will gather to share issues of poverty and plenty in your own context.

3 British Columbia Synod

Journey to Winnipeg

On this modern-day pilgrimage, you and Canadian Lutherans will journey together from Vancouver, British Columbia to the LWF Assembly. Each day new participants will join the growing group and evenings will offer time to worship, sing, and celebrate their common faith—sometimes around a campfire! Discover Canada's vast western geography and share faith stories with Canadian Lutherans as you travel to the Assembly. This will involve long days of travel by car and visiting many communities.

4 British Columbia Synod

Sharing Our Faith in a Multicultural Setting

Vancouver is one of the finest cities in the world. Mountains, the ocean and its mild climate invite many to call it home. Only 20 per cent of its residents are baptized Christians. Discuss how glamour, poverty, and multiculturalism challenge the church as you experience an inner-city mission, examine Chinese-Canadian ministry, and talk with the chief of an urban native reservation.

5 Eastern Synod (Ontario)

Healing Ministries in Canada

In Kitchener-Waterloo, Toronto, and Niagara Falls, Ontario, you will encounter how the church responds to Canadian healthcare issues through ministries centered on healing. You will tour nursing homes operated by the Lutheran church, experience a congregation's soup kitchen ministry, and learn firsthand about parish nursing in Toronto. Share your own church's healing ministries during your stay.

6 Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod

Stewardship of the Land

Globalization challenges faith and farm life in rural areas of the Province of Manitoba. Explore a variety of farming methods and gain insights into the changing agricultural environment as you visit large, corporate farming operations as well as smaller diversified businesses. Expect to share how your church connects faith and agricultural issues with the farmers and others you meet along the way.

7 Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod

The Inner City: Ministry in Our Midst

Explore the root problems of poverty in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Discover a variety of lifestyles and cultures within the inner city and learn how local churches are beginning to respond to this ministry in our midst. Share the roots of poverty in your country and how your church's ministries respond.

8 Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod

Lakes, Loons, and Learning

Experience an outdoor camping ministry located in the rugged forest of northwestern Ontario lake country. Join Canadian families who have

gathered for a week of singing, worship, and Bible discussions. You'll also enjoy swimming, fishing, and waterskiing as well as the peace and solitude of the woods and the songs of the loons on the lake.

9 Saskatchewan Synod

For the Healing of the City (Regina)

Is your church involved in ecumenical partnerships, hospital and nursing home chaplaincies, or campus and prison ministries? Bring your own perspectives to this exploration of congregational and institutional ministries in the city of Regina, and immerse yourself in Canadian life and culture through this visit.

10 Saskatchewan Synod


For the Healing of the City (Saskatoon)

Is your church involved in ecumenical partnerships, hospital and nursing home chaplaincies, or campus and prison ministries? Bring your own perspectives to this exploration of congregational and institutional ministries in the city of Saskatoon, and immerse yourself in Canadian life and culture through this visit.

11 Saskatchewan Synod

Blessings Beyond the Crop

Lutheran ministry is facing challenges in the rural areas of Saskatchewan. Spend time in several rural churches and learn how Lutherans are cooperating with other denominations to provide ministry to small, rural communities. Visit a church-sponsored high school and a retreat/camping center near Prince Albert, as well as large and small farms. Share your experiences of ministry in rural settings. This visit will involve considerable travel by car.



ELCA Post-Assembly Visitation Sites in the United States, and the Caribbean, August 1–10, 2003

Visits range from three to ten days.

12 Alaska Synod

Seward Peninsula Lutheran Ministry

Visit the ELCA's northernmost congregations, whose members are Inupiaq Eskimos living in small villages in Alaska. Explore this rich culture with pastors and lay people, and learn how faith in God nourishes a people marked by loss of ancestral languages, cultures, and lands. Share how your culture was impacted by early Christian missionaries. As you sing, pray, and offer testimony during worship, you'll discover why this ministry thrives in a cold, remote region.

13 Allegheny Synod (Pennsylvania)

Equipping the Saints to Do Ministry in Challenging Times

When pastors are few and money is scarce, churches need to be creative—especially when the population is shrinking, and the influence of fundamentalism is on the rise. In rural Pennsylvania, the “Discerning Your Discipleship” (DYD) program helps prepare lay people for leadership positions. Come meet teachers and graduates, learn about the positions they fill, and visit sites where the DYD program is enabling ministry to live and thrive in a challenging environment.

14 Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod

The Heifer International Ranch

Experience Heifer International, which helps impoverished families around the world become self-reliant through the gift of livestock and training in their care. Surrounded by Arkansas's beautiful Ouachita Mountains, you'll learn more about Heifer's mission, the

root causes of hunger and poverty and how animals can make a difference. On the Heifer Ranch, you'll stay in a Global Village house, meet Heifer Project staff, and talk about programs, projects, and concerns in your own country or region.

15 Caribbean Synod (U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico)

Caring from the Cradle to the Grave

In the Caribbean Synod, Lutheran Social Services Virgin Islands (LSS-VI) provides support for people from cradle to grave. Queen Louise Children's Home in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, is one of the oldest such homes in the western hemisphere. LSS-VI extended-care facilities shelter those in their final days. Discover how the Caribbean Synod ministers through LSS-VI to provide a holistic ministry to people in times of crisis, and worship in congregations on the Spanish-speaking island of Puerto Rico. Share your experiences and insights into crisis care.

16 Grand Canyon Synod (Arizona)

Navajo Lutheran Mission

Encounter the Navajo Nation while building a hogan—an eight-sided traditional Navajo home—for a needy family. No special building skills are needed; you will work side by side with Navajos and Arizona Lutherans. Visit local ministries in Phoenix before traveling to the construction project at Rock Point through Grand Canyon National Park. Expect warm days and cool nights in the high desert.

17 Indiana-Kentucky Synod

Mission in the Midwest

This synod welcomes you to several distinct, mission-focused ministries: the "Renewing Congregation" of St. Peter Lutheran Church near Milton, Kentucky, which has tripled in size following a period of redevelopment ... Lutherans for Habitat for Humanity in Evansville, Indiana ... the Wernle Children's Home in Indiana, home for young men 8-18 who have been separated from their families by court order ... and an Indiana ministry focused on the migrant work population. How does your church engage in mission?

18 La Crosse Area Synod (Wisconsin)

Women in Leadership, Women in Ministry

In beautiful La Crosse you'll find rolling hills, the scenic Mississippi River, and outstanding women leaders in education, health care, government, and the church. Meet Bishop April Ulring Larson, the first woman bishop in the ELCA, and get to know women pastors, chaplains, judges, law professors, doctors, and college administrators. Come be inspired and share your church's story of how women are engaged in ministry.

19 Lower Susquehanna Synod (Pennsylvania)

From Wittel Farm to Gettysburg

Explore south central Pennsylvania through two unique outdoor ministries—a one-day mission program for children at the 85-acre Wittel Farm, and nearby Camp Kirchenwald. You'll also enjoy fellowship with members of local congregations, and visit synod offices, special ministries, and Gettysburg Seminary, located near the site of the 1863 Civil War battle that inspired Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. We look forward to hearing about special ministry in your context.

20 Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod

Government Policy and the ELCA

Meet national government officials to discuss challenges provoked by economic globalization and governmental relations between the U.S., your country, and other nations regarding concerns of the church. Learn how Lutheran World Relief, the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, and the ELCA Lutheran Office of Governmental Affairs are adapting their work to heightened global conflicts and tensions. Experience ministry in a local congregation and build on or develop new relationships with people in our synod.

21 Nebraska Synod

Where the American West Begins

Nebraska's 264 ELCA congregations are set in cities, small towns, and among farms and ranches in a land of beautiful, grass-covered sand hills! As you follow the Platte River and the Oregon Trail, you'll see the old west come alive and today's ministries unfold. Meet Native Americans at the Lakota Center in Scottsbluff and recent immigrants from the Sudan in Omaha. Come and share your experiences.

22 North Carolina Synod

Ministry in the Mountains

The North Carolina Synod runs from the Atlantic coast to the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains, where you'll experience the synod's Mountain Conference. In Asheville, experience inner-city ministries and visit the Biltmore House, built by 19th century millionaire Cornelius Vanderbilt. You'll also participate in Lutheran church camps, a Lutheran retirement facility, and the Church of the Living Waters, located on the Qualla Boundary, home to members of the Cherokee Indian tribe. Come, share the ministries of your church.

23 Northeastern Iowa

Diverse and Changing Rural Life and Ministry

Come visit Iowa, known as the center of American agriculture. Facing the challenges of rural life and population shifts, congregations and ministries of the Northeastern Iowa Synod continue to thrive. Taste life in the rural U.S. as you encounter farms, small towns, and ministries as well as two church colleges and Wartburg Seminary. Discover how the church is alive and active in rural America, and share stories of your own rural context.

24 Northwestern Minnesota Synod

Lutheran Disaster Response

In 1997, the Red River flooded a 300-mile area in North Dakota and Minnesota. Last summer, the Roseau River flooded countless acres and destroyed many crops. Come learn how congregations, communities, and Lutheran Disaster Response (a joint ministry of the ELCA and the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod) respond to floods and other disasters through volunteer clean-up efforts, fundraising, and partnerships. Experience how Lutherans minister in disasters by bringing God's word of comfort, healing and renewal, and share insights from your own context.

25 Northwestern Ohio Synod

Social Ministry in the Nation's Heartland

See Lutherans at work in social ministries with a variety of themes and purposes and enjoy the hospitality of the heartland. Find out what's great about the Great Lakes, where the faith and faithfulness that Lutherans brought from Europe in the early 1800's still bears fruit. From seminaries and colleges to inner-city missions and homes for

orphans and older folks, today's social service agencies reflect the touch this Gospel heritage provides. We look forward to hearing from you.

26 North/West Lower Michigan Synod

Outreach 2010: A Decade of Outreach in Witness to the Gospel

Learn about outreach strategies for new congregations, declining congregations, and urban ministries. Congregations will share plans for reaching out to their communities so they may know Christ's healing love. Meet people who are using innovative approaches to staffing mission churches, and discover ongoing outreach in campus ministry, social service agencies, the women's organization, and church camps. Share how you witness to the gospel in your context.

27 North/West Lower Michigan Synod – Women of the ELCA (WELCA)

Biennium of Caring

Participate in the 2003 Synodical Gathering of the North/West Lower Michigan Women of the ELCA (WELCA) and see how WELCA is laying the foundation for life-long caring. Learn how WELCA is developing self-help skills in women who are caregivers in homes, churches and communities ... offering support and education for ministry and Christian daily life. Meet WELCA leaders from congregations of every size, structure, and setting. Come, share your experience with us.

28 Northwest Washington Synod and Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod

Holden Village

Be part of life at Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat center in the spectacular Glacier Peak Wilderness of Washington's North Cascade mountains. This remote village draws guests and volunteers from all across the U.S. and Canada who form a community of worship, learning, hospitality, celebration and service for justice and peace. During summer 2003, the Village will explore the LWF theme, "For the Healing of the World." Come share your faith and experience in forums, Bible studies, teaching sessions, worship and informal gatherings. And enjoy beautiful mountain hiking in the richness of God's creation.

29 Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

Summer Ministries in the North Woods

Could Bible camping and Vacation Bible School be part of your ministry? Visit two ministry sites and find out. At Luther Point Bible Camp, you'll see camp from the inside out. Enjoy traditional camp activities and get the "how to" from the program director and camp counselors. Later in the week, you'll discover how Glen Flora Lutheran Church hosts a successful, community-wide Vacation Bible School. All while enjoying the friendly congregations and beautiful forested hills of northwest Wisconsin.

30 Oregon Synod

Oregon and its Diverse Ministries

Oregon is known for its ocean beaches, ancient rain forests, snow-clad volcanoes—and for being the least-churched state in the U.S. In response, the Oregon Synod spreads the Gospel to Spanish-speaking migrant workers, inner-city youth, and many others. Learn how local Lutherans struggle with issues of logging, farming, water management, and environmental stewardship, and experience the ecumenical relationships and political advocacy that are integral to the witness of the ELCA in the northwest. What are the issues and challenges in your context?

31 Rocky Mountain Synod (Utah)

Lutheranism in a Mormon Context

Learn more about the Mormon Church—the Church of the Latter Day Saints, whose missionaries are present in every country in the world. Tour the headquarters of the Latter Day Saints in Temple Square in scenic downtown Salt Lake City, Utah. Encounter the LDS missionary training program and discover how Lutheran pastors and lay leaders of the Rocky Mountain Synod are building bridges between the LDS and the ELCA. What is the experience of your church?

32 Sierra Pacific Synod (California)

Theological Education in the ELCA

Visit congregations in the beautiful San Francisco Bay area, and then settle into the Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. You and faculty members of PLTS and the ecumenical Graduate Theological Union will converse about Lutheran theological education in the U.S. and your own context. How does the development of future leaders of

churches intersect with the LWF theme, “For the Healing of the World”? Ideal for theologians, seminary professors, and others interested in theological education.

33 South Dakota Synod

Lutherans Bring Hope and Healing to Thousands in South Dakota

Discover how Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota (LSSSD) cares for, supports, and strengthens individuals, families and communities. In Sioux Falls, you’ll see many services in action, including mental health counseling, child care, consumer credit counseling, refugee resettlement and housing, and a variety of services for older persons. See how God’s love inspires LSSSD to serve more than 32,000 people every year. What are the issues and challenges in your context?

34 South Dakota Synod

Powwow on the Pine Ridge

Encounter the Native American Indian people of South Dakota. Visit the Wounded Knee Memorial, meet tribal leaders, see buffalo, and worship in local congregations in the Lakota (Sioux) language. Attend a three-day gathering or “powwow” on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Participate in a service project or visit the Badlands, experience the ELCA’s ministry among native people, and share your own experiences.

35 Southeastern Iowa Synod

Following Jesus in Growing Congregations

Welcome to the heartland! Experience a slice of congregational life at Lutheran Church of Hope in West Des Moines. In less than 10 years, this congregation has grown from a dream to 2500 people—with 2000 in Sunday School! Come experience Iowa and this congregation’s ministry and its core values: “Jesus is life: the rest is details” and “Lost people matter to God, and so they matter to us.” How does your church grow congregations?

36 Southeast Michigan Synod

Urban Ministry

Compare and contrast life and ministry in Detroit and its suburbs, home of the U.S. auto industry. Through visits, presentations, Bible

study, and field trips, you'll encounter issues of individual and congregational survival, racism, loss of farmland, and environmental preservation, in the context of being brothers and sisters in Christ. Worship with member congregations of the Detroit Lutheran Coalition and its suburban counterparts. What are the issues and challenges in your context?

37 **Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod**

Public Education: Principles, Programs and Partners

Explore the concept and concerns of U.S. public education with ELCA members who are teachers, principals, and administrators. As you visit schools and meet students and parents, you will examine curriculum and programs that incorporate peace and diversity. Draw on your own experience as you reflect on what constitutes equitable education for all students, as well as the role of parents and community in public education.

38 **Southern Ohio Synod**

Amazing Grace Traveling Day Camp

Taste Appalachia, a mountain region that stretches through the eastern and southeastern U.S. Worship with local people and experience Appalachian heritage and culture. Amazing Grace Traveling Day Camp, a cooperative ministry, reaches out to children and families living in poverty, especially focusing on the unchurched. Experience the hospitality, music and art of our region and share your perspectives.

39 **Southeastern Synod (Georgia)**

International Worshiping Communities

In dynamic Atlanta, Georgia, host of the 1996 Summer Olympics, visit thriving church communities that serve new immigrants and international business people who speak Oromo, German, Korean, and Spanish. Encounter leaders of the refugee resettlement program and other social programs of the Lutheran Ministries of Georgia. Other visits include the Carter Center for Conflict Resolution, instituted by Nobel Peace Prize winner former President Jimmy Carter, and the Martin Luther King Center. What are the issues and challenges in your context?

40 Southwest California Synod

Lutheran Maritime Ministry

Meet some of the 10 million seafarers who move goods worldwide as you visit the Ports of Long Beach, Los Angeles, and Hueneme, California. Through port and shipboard visits, you'll learn how Lutheran Maritime Ministry reaches out to seafarers of all nations and cultures with Christian witness and Word. Learn about ships and seafarers and how their personal and spiritual needs are met by this important Lutheran ministry. Plus you'll be in exciting southern California! Come and share your experiences.

41 Southwestern Minnesota Synod

Bible Camp: A Unique ELCA Ministry

Spend a week in one of three Bible camps and participate in a summer camping ministry for youth. You will also serve as a resource person for the week, sharing your stories of life and faith in your culture. Before and after your week at camp, you'll visit and sample the life and ministry of a local parish. This experience is limited to 12 participants (four at each camp) and facility in English is important as it will enhance interactions with campers.

42 Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod

Global Mission Bus

Take a trip on "Wheels to the World!" This 26-foot long mobile classroom brings global mission to southwest Pennsylvania, home to some of the oldest Lutheran congregations in the U.S. As a passenger, you'll explore the beautiful rural countryside, visit local ministries, and share the gifts of your culture with the people you meet.

43 Southwestern Texas Synod

The United States of America and Mexico: Lutheran Border Ministries

Lutheran Texans come in all hues and languages but are united in one love of the Lord, Jesus Christ. Experience the wide range of ministries in southwest Texas: small town parishes in the scenic hill country; bilingual ministries along the Rio Grande River, the border between the U.S. and Mexico; and large parishes that serve the metropolitan area of San Antonio. Welcome, brothers and sisters. *Bienvenidos, hermanos y hermanas.*

44 Upper Susquehanna Synod (Pennsylvania)

Tradition and Change

In the early 1800s, thousands of Lutherans settled in the rolling hills, forests and farmland of central Pennsylvania. Come learn how this synod's town and country ministry grounds residents in tradition while helping them cope with the rapid changes of the world. You will also meet residents of Amish communities, which are strong in our area. A one-day Global Mission Celebration will lift up the worldwide community of Christians.

45 Upstate New York Synod

A Summer Visit to the Snow Capital of the U.S.

Come sample our ministries and share yours! Visit a working farm and learn about agricultural concerns and issues ... a dynamic city congregation whose ministries include housing, children's services, ministry to the poor, and drama productions ... a hospice center for terminally ill patients ... a church camp in the woods ... a summer day camp ... and more. You'll visit local landmarks and enjoy fellowship, all without the snow we are famous for in winter.

46 Virginia Synod

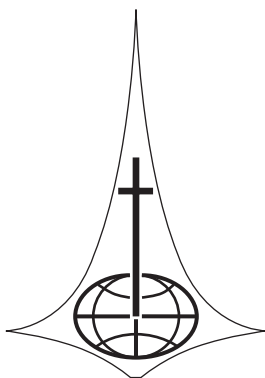
What is God Doing in Appalachia?

Explore a deep and rich culture amid the majestic Appalachian mountains, within hidden hollows and byways, and along the corn and tobacco fields. Travel with circuit preachers, take part in an old-fashioned corn roast, learn about the extraction industries of coal and timber, and look at the region's fragile ecological balance. Come sit on the front porch and swap stories of globalization. Come learn the music ... hear the good stories and the bad ones ... and see what God is doing in this part of Appalachia.

47 Western North Dakota Synod

Lutherans Outside the Box

Why and how do Lutheran outdoor ministries influence the church? Explore these questions as you experience camp life firsthand. Settle into the Metigoshe Ministries Retreat Center and live the "outside the box" life and thinking that take place inside a close camp community. Meet counselors (some of them international), campers, and local Lutheran laypersons as you share your experiences, and enjoy discussion, worship, fellowship, reflection, and some good old-fashioned camp activities.



THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA
EGLISE EVANGELIQUE LUTHERIENNE AU CANADA



go global



**For help in answering questions related to
The 2003 Lutheran World Federation
Pre/Post Assembly Visitation Program:**

Kathy Magnus
The Lutheran World Federation
Regional Office in North America
8765 West Higgins Road
Chicago, IL 60631
USA

+1-773-380-2636
email: kmagnus@elca.org