

Bishop's Road Show

April 27, 2009

Dear Friends,

Christ is risen. He is risen indeed!

On Saturday, April 25, 2009, your Synod Council (SC) placed the final touches upon the **2009 Synod Assembly**. SC will be bringing 10 Recommendations to the Assembly with one of those being that the offering from Friday night's Eucharist will go to Community Lutheran Partners, Inc.

We had received three nominations when we needed almost twenty. SC is responsible for trying to present to the Assembly two nominees per open position. SC filled out the slate, and letters will be sent this week by Synod Vice President, Jim Hansen. When you receive one of these letters, please **complete the nomination form** that is enclosed in this mailing and return it to the synod office on the same day that you receive our request.

Pr. Riegel wrote a **Synod Policy** for the day that we would receive a bequest or a portion of a bequest through a congregation. SC made some changes to this document, and it should appear on the synod web site (www.wv-wmd.org) in early May.

It was noted that Helen Harms, Pat Franklin and Bishop Dunkin worked on the **Synod Committees**, and it is our hope to contact folks and have full committees by the September meeting date. SC added Melissa Bannister (Christ, Vienna), Stan Golden (First, Parkersburg) and Pr. Allen Schwarz (St. John, Davis) to the Bishop's Lay Worship Leaders' Committee. Pat Keller (New Hope, Minnehaha Springs) and Sherri Schafer (St. Mark, Wheeling) were added to the Synod Committee on Stewardship.

Ten congregations made the request that they be given permission to send same gender voting members to the 2009 Synod Assembly. All of these requests were approved.

Yesterday, Good Shepherd, New Martinsville and Messiah, Moundsville **voted to extend a call to Seminarian Sean Smith**. Sean and I are now working with his home congregation in North Carolina on a date for Ordination.

This week I will be attending the spring Board Meeting of Gettysburg Seminary. When the board adjourns on Wednesday, Terry and I will begin a few days of vacation that will conclude on Sunday. Should an emergency arise, please phone the synod office, and Maureen will assist you. I will return to the synod office on Tuesday, May 5.

Yours in our Lord's service,

+ Ralph