

**Report of the Coordinator for Ministry  
Leadership, ELCA Region 6  
Indiana-Kentucky Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

**Marilyn Smith, Associate in Ministry**

**June 5 – 7, 2008**

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**Southeast Michigan, North/West Lower Michigan, Indiana-Kentucky,  
Northwestern Ohio, Northeastern Ohio, and Southern Ohio Synods**

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Grace and peace in the name of Jesus!

Assemblies make it possible for us collectively to discover what we need to do and then identify and gather the resources to faithfully carry out the Great Commission. Between assemblies, countless numbers of staff and volunteers do both the preparation and the follow-through that bracket the actions of assemblies. The nine regions of the ELCA work with synods and churchwide to facilitate networks of rostered and volunteer leaders to equip, challenge, and nurture leaders to carry out various responsibilities as part of the church's mission. Examples of this in Region 6 are:

+ *Consultations* are gatherings of representatives of synods and churchwide. In 2007, leaders in Region 6 participated in several consultations and discussed and planned for more effective ministry in these areas:

\*Global Mission and World Hunger Leaders from synods in Region 6 and church wide staff joined together in a regional meeting to gain new information to strengthen support for synod and congregational efforts in these areas.

\*World Hunger leaders from synods in Region 6 gathered here in Region 6 in Columbus Ohio, to meet with leaders from churchwide staff and synods across the ELCA. Information and experiences designed to increase support of leaders and their efforts in congregations in World Hunger.

\*Region 6, specifically the Southern Ohio Synod, also hosted a very innovative and successful Global Mission Event that provided learning and growth opportunities for leaders in mission here in the US and around the world.

+ *Candidacy Committees*, appointed by synods to partner with the whole ELCA, seminaries, congregations, and individuals, discern with and prepare those whom the church identifies as appropriate candidates for rostered ministry in the ELCA. Candidacy helps assure that congregations seeking leaders for public ministry have appropriate candidates for this service. A report about the specifics of candidacy in your synod is included elsewhere among the reports.

+The *Region 6 Archives* is a collaboration of the synods of Region 6. A detailed report has been submitted by our Archivist, Jennifer Long.

+The *Region 6 Steering Committee* provides advice, consent, and planning for the work related to the region. I am personally grateful for their partnership in this effort. The Steering Committee is composed of the synods' bishops and vice-presidents and Ms. Tammy Jackson of the ELCA Department for Synodical Relations. Ms. Judy Rehmel, vice-president of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, serves as chair and Bishop John Schreiber as secretary-treasurer.

During 2007, the Region 6 Office relocated from the coordinator's home in Bluffton, Ohio, to shared office space with the Indiana-Kentucky Synod in Indianapolis. The region appreciates this opportunity to partner with the I-K Synod. Please note the new contact information is below.

With gratitude for the privilege of joining with you in these and many other opportunities for mission and ministry,

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