

Feed the Roots of Leadership

Feed the Roots of Leadership Fall 2012 Update

Thanks to you the *Feed the Roots of Leadership* Capital Appeal has already distributed more than \$230,000 supporting ministries that are lifting up tomorrow's leaders. Gifts and pledges to date bring our total to over \$700,000 raised towards these worthy causes.



Lord Jesus, we thank you for all the gifts we have received from your hand, including our campus, outdoor ministries and seminaries. Thank you for those who work diligently in these ministries. We pray that you will inspire a generous outpouring of support for these ministries through which you are changing lives. Amen.

Dear partners in mission,

My deepest thanks to all who have kicked off this *Feed the Roots of Leadership* campaign with gifts and pledges of more than \$700,000. Thanks to the congregations that have invited their members to learn about the ministries and share of their resources. Thanks to those who are involved in these ministries and who are changing lives through our outdoor and campus ministries and seminaries. Thanks to those who have been telling the compelling story of the need and who have invited others to be a part of it, especially the bikers, who have travelled miles to be sure that everyone hears of work to be done. Special thanks to Neal Fischer working continuously on publicity and to Keith Magnuson of Kairos, who is helping to guide our work following the death of Glenn Schoonover. None of it would have been possible without the hard work of the Steering Committee whose members are working diligently to plan for the continuation of the campaign in the months to come.

We have so much to be thankful for as we walk together in mission in the name of Christ.

Grace and peace,

Marie C. Jerge, Bishop
Upstate New York Synod, ELCA



Upstate New York Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Stories of how your support is already helping Lutheran Campus Ministry, outdoor ministry and seminarians.

Campus Ministries Receive Support

Lutheran Campus Ministry (LCM) of WNY is one of 5 Campus ministries that received some funding this year as a result of the *Feed the Roots of Leadership* campaign.

LCM of WNY has eight Peer Ministers - paid interns that each have a specific leadership ministry focus along with their own personal discernment. They gathered for a planning and group building retreat at Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center (LCLC) in August. Half of the Peer Ministers will be leading ministry projects offsite. The other half will live in intentional Christian community at The House. They will lead devotions, worship gatherings and missional outreach projects from this home base. They'll also keep the House open so that other students can stop in for conversations, study, or to get some free food or coffee. The hope is to expand to 12 peer ministers next year.



Outdoor Ministries Benefit

Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center (LCLC) is only one of several outdoor ministries in our Synod that is benefitting from the *Feed the Roots for Leadership* campaign.

In 2009, the Chautauqua County Department of Health required LCLC to construct a new water treatment and distribution system or risk a mandatory closure. Consequently, LCLC entered into a \$183,000 mortgage with the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA to pay for the new water system. The monthly mortgage payment prior to the *Feed the Roots of Leadership* campaign was a challenging \$1,302. By applying some of the funds received to the principle, now our new monthly payment is only \$833 and the balance is \$85,000. While this is still a large liability, we are grateful for the progress we've been able to make so far thanks to the campaign and especially the initial gift by Friendship Lutheran Church.



Seminarians Receiving Scholarships

The ELCA Fund for Leaders will provide about \$5000 in scholarships in 2012-13 to three Upstate New York Seminarians as a result of the *Feed the Roots of Leadership* campaign. Josiah Armstrong (Hope, Arcade) and Jay Berry (Atonement, Syracuse) both attend Philadelphia Seminary and Fritz Fowler (St. Peter, Verona) is at Gettysburg Seminary. Thanks in part to the gift from Friendship Lutheran Church to honor Pastor Arnold Nicholson, proceeds from Feed the Roots have been combined with other scholarship endowment funds to award grants that cover one half of the year's tuition.



More stories yet to come...