

# David Beckmann

## Keynote Speaker

David Beckmann is one of the foremost U.S. advocates for hungry people. He has been president of Bread for the World for 15 years, leading large-scale and successful campaigning to strengthen U.S. political commitment to overcoming hunger and poverty. Before that, he served at the World Bank for 15 years, overseeing large projects and driving innovations to make the Bank more effective in reducing poverty.



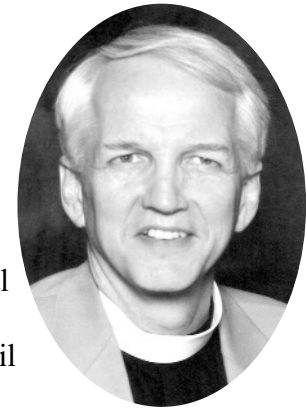
*Photo courtesy of Bread for the World/ Brian Duss*

Bread for the World is a nationwide faith-based citizens' movement against hunger that mobilizes a quarter of a million constituent letters to Congress each year. Thousands of Bread for the World activists meet with legislators, get coverage in local media, and organize others in their communities. Bread for the World is supported by 50 diverse religious bodies and works in partnership with many secular institutions. It is one of the largest organizations in the world dedicated to building the political will to end hunger.

# Bishop Peter Rogness

## Bible Study

Rev. Peter Rogness was elected bishop of the Saint Paul Area Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in April 2002.



Among much other service to the church and other achievements, Rogness is the author of *A Common Foundation: Shared Principles for Overcoming Poverty*, a document written in 2004 and endorsed by more than 30 religious leaders around Minnesota. The document outlines the principles shared by all faith communities in walking with those living in poverty and shapes the synod's ecumenical efforts to end poverty. Working in partnership with Archbishop Harry J. Flynn, he has sought to bring public attention to the needs of the state's most vulnerable people. He was part of a group of international ecumenical leaders who participated in a religious summit on poverty prior to the G8 summit in Scotland in 2005. In 2006, he co-authored with the Rev. Nancy Maeker, *Ending Poverty: A 20/20 Vision*, a guide for individuals and congregations.