

River Crossings Subscriptions

Each year the Synod Assembly voting members are added to the *River Crossings* mailing list. To keep our list manageable, we remove them the next year. If you were a 2009 lay voting member, are not a voting member in 2010, and would like to continue to receive *River Crossings*, just let us know.

Submit your request to Katie Livingood at the synod office by calling 507-280-9457 or 800-426-6376 in Minnesota or e-mail livingood@semnsynod.org If you would prefer to save resources and receive *River Crossings* by e-mail, please let Katie know. E-mail subscriptions receive one e-mail a month with a link to the online PDF files. The online version is typically available 1-2 weeks before the hard copy version.

Cheryse on Sabbatical

Cheryse Brenno-Sloan, the synod's Call Process Administrative Assistant, will be on sabbatical June 14 through September 12. All call process work will still be handled, but we do ask for some patience during this time.

Synod Office Closed

The synod office will be closed May 6-10 for the Synod Assembly, May 19 as the staff participates in an off-site activity, and May 31 for the Memorial Day holiday. Emergency contact will be available on the automated phone system.

Remember in Prayer

Health Concerns

- Joan Christopherson, wife of Rev. G. Neil Christopherson
- Rev. Donald Deines
- Rev. John Henriksen
- Rev. Ronald Jensen
- Nola Mathre, wife of Rev. Henry Mathre
- Rev. Tim McDermott
- Rev. Van Miller
- Shannon Reuss, wife of Rev. Peter Reuss
- Rev. Don Roberts
- Fern Steffen, wife of Rev. Richard Steffen

Unique Colombia Display to Visit Synod

The background:

The bloody, 60-year conflict in Colombia has touched every village, every church and every family in the war-torn country. It has created the worst humanitarian crisis in the western hemisphere, yet few in the U.S. know about it.

In the last 20 years alone 70,000 people have died—mostly innocent civilians. More than four million have fled the violence, making Colombia home to the second largest internally displaced population in the world.

And the violence persists. In recent years, Colombian soldiers have murdered nearly 1,000 innocent people and thousands of others continue to endure violation of their human rights at the hands of paramilitary and guerilla forces.

By and large these stories go untold. Truth is silenced with fear and deadly oppression. But to achieve peace, the voices of the victims must be heard.

Lutheran World Relief works with partners in Colombia to give voice to the men, women and children who have suffered oppression, violence, and even death over the course of this horrific conflict.

It is our hope, and the hope of our partners, that through this exhibit you will learn more about the conflict in Colombia and, more crucially, be motivated to act.

We cannot change the painful history of Colombia, but together we can change the future.

The Display:

Remember Me: Voices of the Silenced in Colombia is an exhibit of original art that brings to life the decades-long conflict in Colombia.

The Remember Me exhibit allows you to see the faces, hear the stories, and experience the struggles of the victims of conflict in Colombia.

View the display during the Synod Assembly on stage in the Auditorium. Non-registered visitors are welcome to come view the display free of charge. We expect to have another opportunity for viewing later this summer. Watch synod publications for more information.

For more information on the display, visit <http://remember.lwr.org/>

Lutheran World Relief is proud to present this exhibit along with our local partners in Colombia.