

## **Bishop's Office Message for August, 2004**

**Dear Partners in Ministry,**

The National Lutheran Youth Gathering, "Listen Up", convenes August 12-15 in Hamilton, Ontario. Over 1500 youth from across Canada will gather for worship, study, reflection, fellowship, and fun. I have been very impressed over the years with the organization and planning of this biennial event, and I look forward to being with our youth once again this year. The level of energy of this group feels like it could light a small city for many days. This year's theme will encourage our youth to listen carefully to God's call on and in their lives as they consider their vocation as followers of Jesus. Please pray for this event, for all who will be travelling to and participating in it, and for all those who are planning for it, that God will work through this gathering in a powerful way.

My wife, Jane, and I have just returned from the Global Mission Event in Bozeman, Montana, which was hosted jointly by the ELCIC and the ELCA. With over 800 participants from all over the world from 3 to 83 years of age, the energy level reminded me of our youth gatherings. There were many from Canada present, and I encourage you to attend one in the years to come. They provide a wonderful window on the Christian Church around the world. Enjoy the remainder of the summer!

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