

Lutheran-Catholic Covenant Commission
Northeast Ohio Lutheran Synod (ELCA) - Roman Catholic Diocese of Youngstown

2008-2011
Major Action Plans
Prayer - Study - Action

Prayer

P-#1: Plan a biennial diocesan/synodical celebration of the Covenant.

Prepare for a celebration in 2009 (October 20 or 27) and 2011. Explore the possibility of an annual Lutheran-Catholic event for prayer, study, or social action.

P-#2: Pray for unity in observances of significant occasions within the civic community and other religious traditions.

Encourage participation in joint ecumenical observances, e.g. Thanksgiving, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Pentecost. Distribute prayer/study resources for the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Study

S-#1 Support mutual initiatives for ongoing education and ministry formation.

Exchange information through the diocesan and synodical newsletters, web sites, etc. about significant speakers and other formation opportunities

S-#2 Identify and encourage neighboring congregations and parishes to gather for prayer and dialogue within the framework of each tradition's theology.

Identify relevant ecumenical issues and prepare appropriate dialogue resources.

S-#3 Use all available forms of media to promote and support ecumenical efforts and the goals of the Covenant

Continue shared radio programming on *Wineskins* and *Conversations*. Better utilize the website www.lccovenant.org. Explore the creation of a Lutheran-Catholic television program or series. Prepare a mobile display of Covenant resources.

Action

- A-#1 Encourage neighboring congregations to identify common ministry goals and strategies and support those congregations already planning together.**
Partner in disaster relief, summer camps, summer Bible schools, day care, food pantries, soup kitchens, etc. Continue to support local partnerships such as St. John the Baptist Church and Trinity Lutheran Church in Canton and encourage others such as St. Patrick Church and Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Youngstown.
- A-#2 Explore joint youth and campus ministry programming focused on learning, service and fellowship.**
Encourage joint collaboration between the Diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Diocesan Office of Campus Ministry, and the Lutheran Youth Coordinator.
- A-#3 Develop various social service responses to the emerging Hispanic migrant and permanent worker newcomer population.**
Strengthen the partnership and/or strategic relationship between diocesan Migration and Refugee Services, Catholic Charities Agencies, Lutheran Social Services, and local congregations especially related to emergency assistance, housing, job training and worker rights, and legalization issues. Continue to support the Stark County Migrant Initiative, Potter's Wheel, and other Hispanic ministry programs.
- A#4 Regularly exchange observers at diocesan/synodical councils and assemblies.**
Continue to consult with respective Bishops.
- A-#5 Establish a network of ecumenical contacts in Catholic parishes and Lutheran congregations for prayer, study and action.**
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