

# A Rainbow of Prayer

Over two thousand rainbow scarves, created lovingly by volunteers, adorned voting members and supporters alike at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Churchwide Assembly in 2007 demonstrating support for a welcoming church. In August 2009, the ELCA meets for its next assembly. There are several proposals before the Assembly that pertain to the full inclusion of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender members and their families in the life of the church. Lutherans Concerned/North America (LC/NA) is supporting proposals addressing these issues, including the Social Statement on Human Sexuality, the rostering of partnered LGBT ministers, and the blessing of same-gender relationships.

These decisions will be met with much soul searching and prayer. To that end LC/NA would like to provide prayer shawls to be used by participants at the assembly. These shawls will be for use in the chapel area and to remind participants to prayerfully consider every issue. LC/NA is requesting the participation of all RIC congregations to contribute at least one shawl. The shawls will be tagged with the contributing church's name and story.

The shawls may be quilted, woven, crochet, or knit. The size should be about 72" x 18". The design is left up to the person creating the piece. They can be as simple or elaborate as desired, with or without fringe, and of any color – the intent is to have a rainbow of **individually colored, not rainbow-colored**, shawls. Should a congregation find they are unable to contribute a shawl but would like to participate in the project, they are invited to make a monetary donation and a shawl will be created and tagged for them. Congregations are asked to have a service of blessing for the shawl(s) before sending them.

The hope is to have every RIC congregation and LC/NA Chapter represented, as well as other churches and individuals who wish to contribute. Please let us know at [DylanF@lcna.org](mailto:DylanF@lcna.org) if you are planning to make one or more so we can estimate participation.

**The goal is 500+ prayer shawls.**

**Completed shawls should be received by August 10, 2009:**

**Lutherans Concerned / North America**

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