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## **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Amazing (g)race competition to be held in St. Paul**

SAINT PAUL, Minn. – On your mark, get set go. On Sept. 11, 2010 Saint Paul will be filled with teams racing around the city to earn the ultimate bragging rights of winning the Amazing (g)race competition.

Fashioned after the highly popular “*Amazing Race*” television series, teams are invited to sign up for a race around the city. While the competition events are highly secretive, racers can expect to participate in challenges that will take strength, agility, mind power and speed.

“We are very excited to be hosting this event,” said Michaela Koopmans, event organizer. “We have so many great ideas on where the competition will be held and what we will ask participants to do. After experiencing this first race, we know that participants will be excited to compete in years to come.”

The race will be open to the first 50 teams that register. Two individuals - whether relatives, friends, or spouses – will be asked to pay a \$50 registration fee for the event. Participants must be 18-years-old or older or sign up with an adult. Teams can pay or raise \$100 before the race to get a pass to advance out of one leg of the race of the participant’s choosing. Event organizers are also interested in working with area businesses that might be willing to have participants stop by or compete at their locations. For more information or to register for the event, please contact Sally Ea or Joy McElroy at [clc.amazingrace2010@gmail.com](mailto:clc.amazingrace2010@gmail.com) or 651-222-3619.

While the race is intended to be an engaging competition and superb time for all participants, it will also raise funds for multicultural youth from Christ Lutheran Church to go overseas on a service trip to Guatemala. In the past, the youth have traveled to Arkansas and participated in Heifer International where they learned about global poverty and the difference providing livestock - pigs, goats, chickens, bees or cows- can have on a family and community. Last summer, the teens travelled to New Orleans and were part of service project to clean up the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Next year’s trip will mark the first time – many students don’t have passports- that these teens will travel overseas. “I am very excited to see a new culture and work with women, farmers and kids,” Eyasu Ogbazghi said. “I want to learn a new way of life and can’t wait to practice my Spanish.”

The race registration will begin at 9 a.m. The race will start at 10 a.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, 105 University Avenue, St. Paul, MN, across the street from the state capitol.

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