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## NEWS ADVISORY

### RESTORING SOUL TO HEALTH CARE

*Lutheran HealthCare to host its fourth annual Health and Spirituality Lecture*

**September 29, 2008, Brooklyn, New York...**Lutheran HealthCare will host its fourth annual Health and Spirituality Lecture on Friday, October 10 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (At Lutheran Medical Center's main campus, 150 55<sup>th</sup> Street, Brooklyn.) Daniel Sulmasy, OFM, M.D., Ph.D., will present this year's lecture, "Restoring Soul to Health Care." The annual event hosted by Lutheran HealthCare, a nationally recognized leader in religiously informed cultural competence, explores the relationships between spirituality, health and healing.

"Lutheran is fully committed to serving the whole person; mind, body and spirit," said Reverend Don Stiger, senior vice president for Mission and Spiritual Care. "This means understanding and actualizing the vital interconnections of health and spirituality, providing pastoral care and education, promoting religiously informed cultural competency and growing faith/health partnerships with community congregations of all types."

Dr. Sulmasy, a Franciscan Friar, holds the Sisters of Charity Chair in Ethics at St. Vincent's Hospital - Manhattan and serves as professor of medicine and director of the Bioethics Institute of New York Medical College. In 2005, Governor Pataki appointed him to the New York State Task Force on Life and the Law. Dr. Sulmasy received his M.D. from Cornell, Ph.D. from Georgetown, and completed a post-doctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins. He is the author of numerous books and articles and serves as editor-in-chief of the journal Theoretical Bioethics.

Lutheran HealthCare's cultural competence program was designed with an understanding of how knowledge of cultural differences contributes to better health care. Facilities now include prayer rooms, chapels, mosques, multilingual staff and directional signage. The medical center offers one of the area's first dedicated Chinese health care units and a wide variety of menu options.

In its faith based mission, Lutheran HealthCare serves a one-of-a-kind community of diverse faith groups throughout southwest Brooklyn. The Mission and Spiritual Care Office of LHC is responsible for the social ministry relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), mission effectiveness, pastoral/spiritual care, and relationships with congregations and faith based organizations.

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*As Brooklyn's premier health care network, Lutheran HealthCare (LHC) is a comprehensive medical and social support system committed to providing services for the whole person -- physically, emotionally and spiritually. The LHC system of community health providers includes Lutheran Medical Center, the Lutheran Family Health Centers, Lutheran Augustana Center for Extended Care and Rehabilitation, Community Care Organization, Inc, Health Plus, senior housing programs and more. Learn about LHC and its 125-year-old commitment to serving Brooklyn neighborhoods by visiting [www.LutheranMedicalCenter.com](http://www.LutheranMedicalCenter.com).*