



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



La Crosse Area Synod, ELCA

Leaders Mailing

May 2011

La Crosse Area Synod LEADERS MAILING

This newsletter is sent out 7 times per year (Jan., Feb., Apr., May, July/Aug., Oct. and Nov.) to synod leaders, pastors and congregational leaders, and any others who request it. PLEASE share this document with others who would benefit.

- If you PREFER receiving a paper copy, simply reply to this e-mail and make that request.
- If you ARE receiving a paper copy and prefer to receive via e-mail, contact the synod office at 608-788-5000 or office@lacrosseareasynod.org

NEWS

CONGREGATIONAL OBSERVERS to 2011 Churchwide Assembly

One member of each ELCA congregation is invited to attend the assembly as a congregation observer. Observers have reserved seating and receive copies of the report of recommendations and materials distributed on the plenary floor for voting members, but have no voice or vote. Registration fee is \$150. Transportation, housing and meals are not included but individuals may purchase same meals provided for voting members. Questions can be sent to CWARRegistrar@elca.org or 800-638-3522 X2840.

2011 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Church Staff -- Please do not hesitate to contact the synod office for a total amount due for your attendees once they have all been registered. But when you contact us PLEASE give us the names of each person you are paying for, as that will make it much easier for us

Quick Links

www.lacrosseareasynod.org

[Grace Happens Here](#)

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

MEETINGS

Middle East Subcommittee, Mon, April 11, 1 pm, synod office

Endowment Fund Board, Mon, April 18, 4 pm, synod office

Lutheran Campus Ministry Development Event, Mon, April 18, 5:30 pm, synod office

East Conference Pastors' Meeting, Tue, April 19, 9:30 am, Bethany-Mauston

South Conference Pastors' Meeting, Not meeting in April

Lutheran Campus Ministry Board, Wed, Apr. 20, 7:30 am, Lutheran Campus Ministry office

North Conference Pastors' Meeting, Tue, Apr. 26, 9 am, Bell's Coulee

Assembly Planning Committee Meeting, Thu, April 28, 9:30 am, synod office

Deans, Thu, April 28, 3 pm, synod office

Executive Committee, Thu, April 28, 5:15 pm supper, 6 pm meeting, synod office

West Conference Pastors' Meeting, Tue,

and get you an answer much faster!

+ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION -- If you have not registered your folks for assembly and youth convo, please do so on the synod website home page www.lacrosseareasynod.org.

+ASSEMBLY INFORMATION -- Also on the website, click "continue reading this article" for more assembly information, location of conference caucus events, etc. More info will be added here as it becomes available.

+YOUTH CONVO -- An email was sent out April 1 to pastors and church office staff regarding the 2011 Youth Convo at the time of Synod Assembly; on-line registration available from website (above).

May 3, 9 am, Faith of Black Hammer, Spring Grove

Candidacy Committee, Tue, May. 3, 2-8 pm, synod office

Professional Service and Care Committee, Thu, May 5, 1-3 pm, synod office

Global Mission Committee, Thu, May 5, 4:30 pm, synod office

Peru Subcommittee, Thu, May 5, 6:30 pm, synod office

Interim Pastors, Mon, May 9, 10 am, synod office

South Conference Pastors' Meeting, Tue, May 10, 9 am, Fish Creek Ridge

Partners in Worship Subcommittee, Tue, May 10, 6 pm, Trinity Lutheran, Sparta

East Conference Pastors' Meeting, Tue, May 17, 9:30 am, Bethany-New Lisbon

Church in Society Committee, Tue, May 17, 6:30-8:30 pm, synod office

Lutheran Campus Ministry Board, Thu, May. 19, 7:30 am, Lutheran Campus Ministry office

Assembly Planning Committee Meeting, Thu, May 19, 9:30 am, synod office

Deans, Thu, May 19, 1:30 pm, synod office

Executive Committee, Thu, May 19, 4 pm meeting, synod office

Synod Council, Thu, May 19, 5:15 pm supper, 6 pm meeting, synod office

North Conference Pastors' Meeting, Tue, May 24, 9 am, Blair Parish, Blair

Mission Support Committee, Thu, May 26, 6 pm, synod office

Evangelism and Outreach Committee, Tue, May 31, 5:30 pm, synod

UPCOMING EVENTS

PRAYER VIGILS FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Thu, May 19, English Lutheran Church, 1509 King St, La Crosse, 5:30 pm

(3rd Thur. each month - April 21 is Maundy Thursday so you are encouraged to worship in your home congregation and keep

Middle East peace in your prayers) Coordinated by Marla Engbloom, 608-784-9783

Sponsor: Middle East Subcommittee

FAITH FORUM - 2 Events for lay & clergy

"Spirit Fed, Spirit Led Worship"

Presenter: Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, prof of Homiletics, LSTC (Luth. School of Theology -Chicago)

~Mon, April 11, 7-8:30 pm, Our Savior's-West Salem

~Tue, April 12, 7-8:30 pm, St. Peter-Prairie du Chien

See [flyer](#) on synod website (www.lacrosseareasynod.org) / Resources / Publications / Leaders Mailing) for more info.

Sponsor: Professional Service and Care Committee

SPRING THEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

Tue, April 12 - Sugar Creek Bible Camp

Presenter: Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, Prof. of Homiletics at LSTC

Please note, different material will be presented at Spring Theological than at Faith Forums so plan to attend both.

Sponsor: Professional Service and Care Committee

SYNOD W-ELCA CONVENTION

Sat, April 16, 8 am-3 pm

Grace Lutheran, Elroy, Wis.

Speaker: JoAnn Preston

Bishop Arends will preach at worship. Registration forms available in Feb. issue of the Crosswinds newsletter.

Cost: \$12. Call Carol Leopold (608-547-7071) or Leanne

Lutz (608-547-2512) with any questions.

Sponsor: Synod W-ELCA Board

office

PRE-ASSEMBLY CAUCUS MEETINGS

- WEST CONFERENCE - Sun, May 1, 3 pm, location, Our Savior's-West Salem
- SOUTH CONFERENCE - Sun, May 1, 7 pm, Bethel, Viroqua (hosted by Bethel & Bethany Parish)
- EAST CONFERENCE- Mon, May 2, 7 pm, Bethany, Mauston
- NORTH CONFERENCE - Mon, May 9, 7 pm, Blair Lutheran East (formerly First Lutheran)

Caucus events provide important preparation for the Synod Assembly. All voting members to Assembly should attend in order to:

- + Receive an Assembly book and other important information,
- + Hear the first reading of resolutions and proposed budget,
- + Participate in conference elections and nominations to the Synod Assembly, and
- + Serve as a communicator to your congregation about the upcoming Assembly!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Sponsor: Synod Assembly Planning Committee

2011 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Fri-Sun, June 10-12

Luther College, Decorah, Iowa

Theme: "Spirit Fed, Spirit Led."

Registration forms on synod website,

www.lacrosseareasynod.org home page.

ELCA Rep: Kenn Inskeep, ELCA Exec. for Research & Evaluation

Musician: Rachel Kurtz

Other guests: We hope to also host Rvdo. Armando Capcha, Pres. of ILEP (Iglesia Luterana Evangelica Peruana), our companion synod in Peru.

Sponsor: Synod Assembly Planning Committee

2011 W-ELCA TRIENNIAL CONVENTION

July 14-17, Spokane, Washington

Register [on-line](#). For further questions contact synod rep, Carol Leopold at 608-547-7071 or cleopold44@gmail.com.

FALL THEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

Sun-Tue, Oct. 16-18

Heartwood Conference Center, Trego, Wis.

Presenter: Heidi Stori, Ph.D., prof of Philosophy and Ethicist, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois

DEADLINES

(synod publishing deadlines)

May 1 - Coulee Courier

May 5 - Crosswinds

June 1- Leaders' Mailing

CALL PROCESS & PRAYER CONCERNS

SELF-STUDY

- Christ the King - Pastor (Interim: Rev. Steve A. Meyer, part-time)
- Bethel & Bethany, Viroqua - Pastor (Interim: Rev. Kris Fahey)
- Blair Lutheran - Pastor (Interim: Rev. Chris Hallemeier)
- First, Onalaska - Administrative Pastor (Interim: Rev. John Carrier)
- Immanuel & Wilmington, Caledonia - Associate Pastor (Interim: Rev. Jim Scaife, part-time)
- Luther Memorial & Our Savior's, Gays Mills - Pastor (Interim: Rev. Kent Johnson)
- Our Savior's, West Salem - Associate Pastor
- Our Savior's, West Salem - Senior Pastor (Interim: Rev. Roger Grow)
- Peace, Tomah - Pastor (Interim: Rev. Sue Sheffer-Meyer)
- St. Paul's, Wilton - Pastor (Rev. Kay Wold done July 10)

INTERVIEWING

Trinity, Sparta - Associate Pastor (Interim: Rev. Mark Carr)

PRAYERS

SYMPATHY

- The family of Erik Skarstad (son of Pr. Vern and Elaine Skarstad, retired pastor serving at Bells Coulee) whose funeral was Fri, April 8, Ascension Lutheran, Albert Lea, Minnesota
- For family of Carla Stanton (wife of Pr. Jason Stanton, Assoc. Pastor, First - Onalaska) on the death of Carla's father
- For the family of Kathy McHan (Kathy's husband, Breck, was formerly administrative pastor at First Lutheran-Onalaska) on the

Sponsor: Conference Deans

YOUTH

SYNOD YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERS

Next meetings: May 16 & June 20, noon, synod office

Convener: Dick Pirwitz at 608-847-5982 or

pirw@frontier.com

Sponsor: Congregational Life Committee

LYO HIGH SCHOOL GATHERING at a congregation near YOU!

Next date: Sun., May 1, 3:30-6:30 pm

church in Holmen - will list in a Synod Update. Come to celebrate May Day! also . . . team building and ministry skits. Mark your calendars!

Sponsor: Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) Leadership Team

GLOBAL MISSION

FROM OUR TEACHING PASTOR

"Fos Kristos sif kan kename...The body of Christ given for you..."

April 3, 2011 - Pr. Kristin Wendland

"I preached this morning at a congregation about 50 km outside of Nekemte. I was the first international visitor to preach there-or as their elder said, 'You are the first white person to be in our pulpit.' It was a real honor. What I enjoyed most, however, was helping to distribute communion. I remember being in Germany about 10 years ago and loving communion because it stretched beyond culture and language. Today I spoke the words 'The body of Christ given for you' in Afaan Oromo. I know what they mean, but at some level they are just syllables strung together. But what I held in my hand and put in their mouths...that was Jesus. We shared Jesus. Neither language nor culture nor skin color mattered in that moment. We shared Jesus."

Sponsor: Global Mission Committee and Ethiopia Companion Synod Sub-Committee

ETHIOPIA CELEBRATES! Over 10,000 people gathered for worship in the Central Synod "back yard" at the high point of their three day Jubilee Celebration. This fastest growing synod of the fastest growing Lutheran tradition church in the world, the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, preached, prayed, sang, and visioned their step into their next fifty years of life. The five-person delegation from the La Crosse Area Synod (in Ethiopia from March 14-30) embodied the twenty years of our companionship with the fifty-year-old synod.

death of her mother, Martha Carson, Mon, Mar. 14

- For the family of Pr. Roger Hjelle (Senior pastor, Good Shepherd, La Crosse) on the death of his mother, Mae Hjelle; Mae's funeral was March 5 at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran, Prairie du Chien

HEALING

- For Pr. Ken Eggen (retired), for support and healing (ongoing treatment for chronic lymphocytic leukemia)

CONGRATULATIONS

- Prayers of thanksgiving for Bonnie Klos (Our Savior's, West Salem), newly accepted seminary candidate who was recently notified that she is the recipient of a full tuition Leadership Scholarship from Luther Seminary

SUPPORT

For Harvey and Anne Wollman (parents of Pr. Dan Wollman, Middle Coon Valley Lutheran) who recently had flooding of their farm and home in rural Frankfort, S. Dakota

MISSION SUPPORT

Synod / ELCA Mission Support

Received \$63,568 from

Feb - Mar 2011

Received \$56,334 from

Feb - Mar 2010

Ethiopia Clinics:

Received Feb - Mar 2011 - \$919

STEWARDSHIP

A SPIRITUALITY OF FUNDRAISING

Dir. of Evangelical Mission/Asst. to the Bishop, Pr. Libby Howe wrote this [reflection](#) on the book of the same name by Henri Nouwen. Her reflection was shared in a recent stewardship e-letter by Pr. Chick Lane. (Check out the Luther Sem Stewardship page <http://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/> and subscribe to the newsletter.)

"GLOCAL" MISSION

Along with Bishop Arends there were: Connie Scharlau (Christ, Arcadia) from our first delegation in 1997, Pastor Mark Solyst (English, La Crosse) our first three-month teaching pastor at the Nekemte Christian Education College in 2002, Pastor Lindsay Jordan (Our Saviors, Viroqua) veteran of two prior delegations, and Pastor Kristin Wendland who remained in Nekemte as our ninth teaching pastor. Our delegation presented gifts of a commemorative banner, 57 Bible commentaries for students, and nine Greek New Testaments for students in Pastor Kristin's Greek class. In addition to the Jubilee, the delegation visited a number of Central Synod ministries, preached in five congregations around Nekemte, and visited with EECMY President Wakseyoum Idossa. Thank you to all who continue to support our walk with the Central Synod. Donations are always welcome to the general fund, the clinic fund, the book fund, and the scholarship fund. Approximately \$1,500 is needed by the end of May to meet our commitment to sponsor two pastoral students in the next school year. See enclosed [insert/donor form](#).

Sponsor: Global Mission Committee and Ethiopia Companion Synod Sub-Committee

GUESTS FROM PERU -- What is happening in your congregation?

We will have visitors from our Companion Church La Iglesia Luterana Evangélica Peruana (ILEP) in June and would love to have them see all the great things your congregations are doing. Pres. Pr. Armando Capcha, Treasurer Peregrina Flores (and maybe Pr. Ofelia Dávila) will be with us at Assembly and then stay through June 20th. So if you have VBS, a celebration, an event of any kind that would give our Peruvian brother and sisters a glimpse of our synod, please let us know. Contact Gregg Attleson at 608-735-4885 or attleson@mwt.net.

Sponsor: Peru Companion Synod Subcommittee

NEWS FROM MISSIONARIES -- in the Holy Land, Suriname and Peru

See page on missionaries that will be included in the 2011 Synod Assembly [Report](#).

TRIP TO ISRAEL - Fall 2011

Oct. 20-Nov. 5 Nine members of our synod will join together with nine members of the South Central Synod of Wis. on these dates for a trip to Israel and the Holy Land, led by Bishop Bruce Burnside of the South Central Synod. Those traveling from our synod include Dir. for Evangelical Mission/Asst. to the Bishop Pr. Libby Howe, Donna Berry (Peace, Tomah), Pr. Karyn Bodenschatz (Zion/Trinity, Adams), Pr. Dan & Lynn Henderson (Holmen Luth.), Richard Lampe (Zion, Big Flats), Michelle

GATHERING

-- the Global Church in our Backyard

Fri-Sat, July 29-30, 2011

St. Paul Lutheran, La Crosse

This is a great opportunity for members of your congregation to participate in an event that 1) builds skills and partnerships that will help your congregation in its ministries and 2) deepen their understanding of the changing context and practice of global **AND** local mission.

Many workshops covering a wide range of interests will be available. Keep watching for more info to follow!

Local Coordinator: JoAnn Salava, Chair, and Global Mission Committee

--GREEN IDEA--

Easy ways to "care for creation" for both individuals and congregations:

- Turn off the lights and TV when not in the room
- Use cloth napkins instead of paper
- Use organic products for the lawn rather than chemicals; pull weeds instead of spraying them
- Don't leave water running while brushing teeth or doing dishes.
- Use old T-shirts as rags for cleaning, dusting or wiping up spills; try to eliminate paper towels.

Synod Staff Listing

Bishop: Rev. Jim Arends -

bishop@lacrosseareasynod.org

Asst. to the Bishop / Dir. for Evangelical

Mission:

Rev. Elizabeth "Libby" Howe -

assistant@lacrosseareasynod.org

Synod Interim Pastor:

Rev. Chris Hallemeier

Exec. Assistant/Office Manager:

Melanie Timmerman -

office@lacrosseareasynod.org

Off. Asst./Call Process Secy: Deb Wold -

deb@lacrosseareasynod.org

Bookkeeper: Alice DaFoe -

bookkeeper@lacrosseareasynod.org

Dir. for Raising Up Leaders:

Rocky Danielson - rul@lacrosseareasynod.org

Synod Office:

2301 South Ave, La Crosse WI 54601

P - 608.788.5000 F - 608.788.4916

www.lacrosseareasynod.org

4/8/2011

Leaders Mailing - May 2011

Mathiason Moore (English Luth.), and Pr. Mark & Sharon Jolivette (Our Savior's, La Crosse). Please hold these folks up in prayer as they begin preparations for this journey of learning and sharing.

Office Hours:

8:30 - noon, 1 - 4:30 Mon - Thurs

8:30 - noon, Fridays

INSERTS INCLUDED WITH THIS MAILING:

- ~ [A Spirituality of Fundraising](#) - reflection by Pr. Libby Howe
- ~ [Donor form for Ethiopia honoring 50 year anniversary of Central Synod](#)
- ~ [Parish Paper - May 2011](#) - "When Does Success Lead to Failure?"

The Leaders Mailing is sent to approximately 575 people, including pastors, lay rostered leaders, youth workers, Mission Interpreters, parish staff, local media, members of synod organizations and to others who request it. It includes materials and events sponsored or endorsed by synod organizations. The deadline for text or copy-ready inserts is the first of January, March, April, July, September, October and December.

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