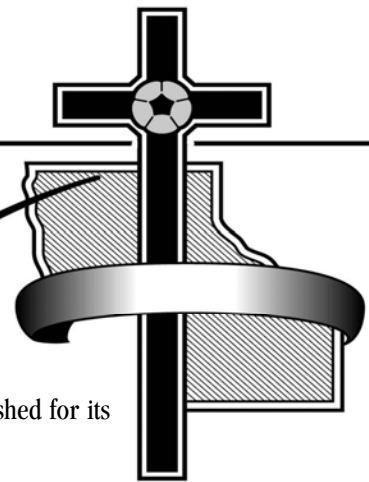


# CROSS *Connection*



The *Cross Connection* is a monthly publication of the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod published for its clergy, associates in ministry, lay leadership and ecumenical friends.

## FROM THE BISHOP

*God's beloved people,*

I had my first look at the Sea of Galilee this morning.

So much of Jesus' life is wrapped up in his travel and teaching around this lake! As water it's not all that impressive and the town of Tiberias has it's own version of lakefront Chicago's "Million Dollar Mile," so I'm glad we have enough time today to explore the lake and take in the history.

This trip to Israel has been a good one and there will be more to say in the weeks ahead, but for now, an invitation. Your church, from your congregation, to the synod, to our Churchwide partners, have approved initiatives for the year ahead, intending by such planning to move intentionally into God's future for us. I hope you had a good discussion at your Annual Meeting about what the year ahead holds for you. At the synod expression we will be sharpening the focus of our Great Commandment/Great Commission initiative by setting goals under each of our Guiding Principles. Along with the Churchwide effort on biblical literacy, called the Book of Faith initiative, I believe we are poised to address the heart of faith and the heart of God's call to us.

In our Guiding Principles we have declared that everything about our ministry begins and ends in Jesus of Nazareth; he is "first, last and always" and we cry out, "Come, Lord Jesus!" I was in Nazareth yesterday and one of the gifts of such travel is the geographic realities Jesus' faced. From the Sea of Galilee it's a 40 mile climb of 8 thousand feet to Nazareth! It is just such stories that begin to bring to life our Lord of history and I hope to use this column in the coming year to stimulate your fascination with Jesus.

I hope you will accept this invitation to delve more deeply into the life and ministry of Jesus. To the extent you are refocused on his life I hope you will become more eager "tellers" of his story because it is our conviction that even in this course and confusing religious age, people are drawn by the power of Jesus' life and ministry. Does the promise of your own life transformed and the ministry of your church strengthened and advanced give you hope in this new year? I hope so, and I look forward to being your companion and fellow pilgrim in this journey with Jesus.

God's richest blessings,  
**Pr Martin Wells**  
Bishop

## FEBRUARY 2009

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## CALL PROCESS STATUS

<b>A</b>	Process beginning/congregational study	<b>I</b>	Interim	<b>AP</b>	Associate/Assistant Pastor
<b>B</b>	Names received or on-site visits in process	<b>P</b>	Pastor	<b>VP</b>	Visitation Pastor
<b>C</b>	Call in process/issued	<b>CP</b>	Co-Pastor	<b>AIM</b>	Associate in Ministry
<b>NV</b>	New Vacancy	<b>LP</b>	Lead Pastor	<b>TM</b>	Transition Minister
<b>TC</b>	Term Call	<b>SP</b>	Supply Pastor		(available for the open-ended call)

<b>POS</b>	<b>LOCATION/CONGREGATION</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>PASTORAL CARE</b>
<b>P</b>	Cheney, WA - Emmanuel	<b>NV</b> .....	
<b>P</b>	Colfax-Endicott, WA - Peace/Trinity	<b>A</b> .....	Phylis Stromme <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Davenport-Egypt, WA - Zion/Christ	<b>B</b> .....	Roger Bruggink <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Jackson, WY - Shepherd of the Mountains	<b>A</b> .....	Barbara Harrison Condon <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Kamiah-Orofino, ID - Faith/Ascension	<b>NV</b> .....	
<b>P</b>	Kennewick, WA - First	<b>B</b> .....	Keith Hammer <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Mountain Home, ID - Grace	<b>A</b> .....	Scott Berner <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Othello, WA - Pilgrim	<b>B</b> .....	Teresia Calene-Hasseries <b>I</b>
<b>AP</b>	Yakima, WA - Central	<b>NV</b> .....	Mike Scheid <b>LP</b>
<b>P</b>	Spokane, WA - Prince of Peace	<b>A</b> .....	David Ophus <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Sunnyside, WA - Our Saviour's	<b>NV</b> .....	Ron Shipman <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Twin Falls, ID - Our Savior's	<b>A</b> .....	Stan Hoobing <b>I</b>

### CALLS ACCEPTED

Rev. Shelley Bryan Wee, on leave from call-family, has accepted the position of campus minister at Eastern Washington University in Cheney. Rev. Wee will stand for call by the Synod at the February Synod Council meeting. She began serving at EWU in the Emmanuel Lutheran campus ministry office January 1, 2009.

## CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS

Did you know we have 3, count them 3, campus ministry sites in our synod? This is something to be proud about. Not only that but we have great campus ministers to fill those sites. Just recently we filled one of those spots at Eastern Washington University. To continue the great ministry at EWU the Campus Council is proud to announce that it's new Campus Pastor is the Rev. Shelley Bryan Wee. We look forward to her ministry at EWU and the energy and passion she will bring to this site. The Campus Council also would like to extend to all our congregations the invitation for us to come and share with you all what is happening at EWU-LCM, without your continued support and contributions we would not be able to do this fantastic ministry. If you haven't contributed to campus ministry here in our synod please consider it.

Again, congratulations to Pastor Shelley and we look forward to some wonderful years at EWU!!



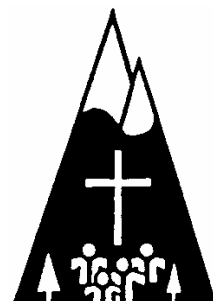
Blessings,  
**Pastor Matthew Larson**  
 President EWU-LCM Council

AT  
 Eastern Washington University

## NEW PROGRAM DIRECTOR AT LUTHER HEIGHTS BIBLE CAMP

On February 1st, Michelle Chandler will be installed as the Luther Heights Bible Camp (LHBC) Program Director by Bishop Martin Wells. The installation will be at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Idaho Falls. Michelle previously served on the Camp staff as a Camphand, Counselor and most recently as an Assistant Program Director last summer. She is a graduate of California Lutheran University with a Fine Arts Major and Religion Minor.

*Welcome to Luther Heights and to the Synod!*



## RURAL MINISTRY NETWORK NEWS ...

### FEBRUARY 3-5, 2009

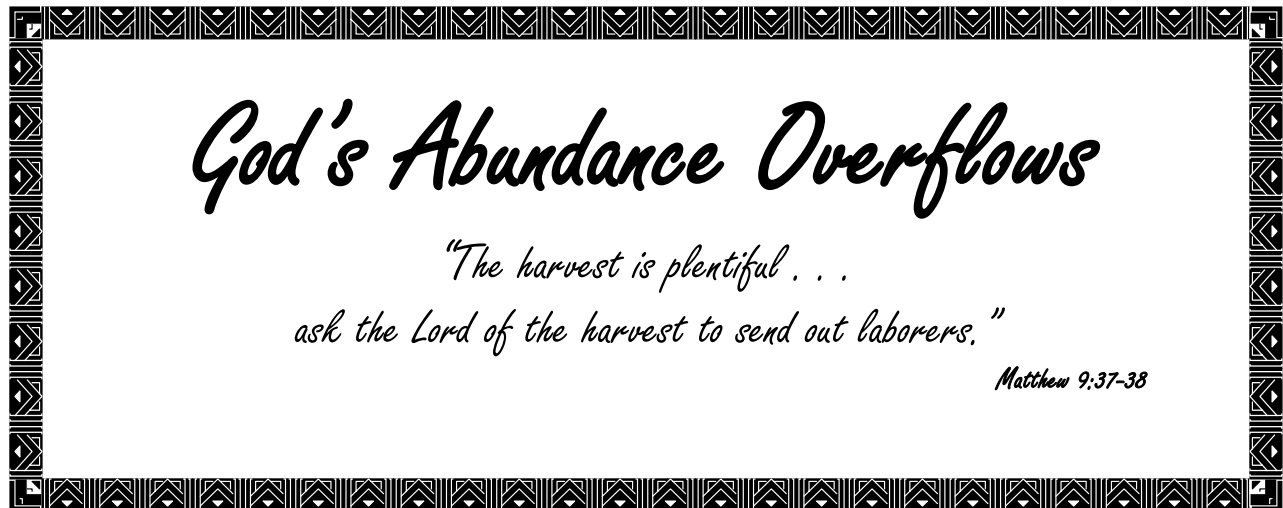
The date is February 3-5, 2009 . . . the place is the Spokane Convention Center . . . come see the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod booth at the Spokane Ag Expo. Members of the Rural Ministry Network have reserved a booth and will be at the Ag Expo to answer questions about Rural Ministry in the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod.

Congregations in the greater Spokane area and North Idaho have received a letter with news about how they can staff the booth and prepare materials introducing their congregations.

For more information, contact Pr. Mark Nelson at the Synod Office (509/838-9871). *Come see YOUR church at the Ag Expo!*



## 2009 SYNOD ASSEMBLY NEWS



## 2009 Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Assembly

**May 1-3, 2009**  
**Yakima, Washington**  
**Yakima Convention Center**

**Keynote Speaker—Diana Butler Bass**

- Registration packets were mailed January 15
- Ministry Partners information will be mailed in late January
- Mailings information also available at [www.ewaidsynod.org](http://www.ewaidsynod.org)

## OUR CHURCH IN ACTION

### FEBRUARY 2009

*We ask that you keep the ministry of the synod as well as those listed below in your prayers*

- 14 Daniel Cronrath (Retired - Lewiston, ID) ~ 55th Anniversary of Ordination  
 20 Mark Koonz (Emmanuel - Walla Walla, WA) ~ 15th Anniversary of Ordination



#### ***Please Remember in Prayer ...***

...Pr. Rick Evenson (Medical Lake, WA) and family as he continues his treatment and recovery for multiple myeloma.

...Ms. Connie Myers, wife of Pr. Steve Myers (Spokane, WA) as she undergoes treatment for cancer.

...Pr. Bob Kenyon (Emanuel-Ritzville, WA) and family as they mourn the death of his father, Robert Kenyon, Jr. who died January 6th.

...Pr. Robert Johnson (Bellevue, WA), father of Pr. Ginny Johnson (St. Paul - Quincy, WA) as he deals with ongoing health issues.

...Congratulations to grandparents Rev. Chuck & Linda Spiedel (Boise, ID) and family at the birth of their grandson, Beckett Michael Stewart, born December 18, 2008.

#### **PRAYER REQUESTS . . .**

If you or someone in your family wants to be included in the Synod Prayer Requests, please email your request for inclusion in the *Cross Connection* (please list specifics if you want them included) to the synod office by e-mail [office@ewidsynod.org](mailto:office@ewidsynod.org) or call 509/838-9871. We want to protect the privacy of members of our synod and will not publish a request without the permission of the individual to be included on the prayer list.

## COMPANION SYNOD NEWS

Dear Friends,

I am so thankful to report that our congregations have met the goal for the dining/assembly hall for Tumaini Secondary School. At this time (letter written December 11, 2008) our synod has collected \$33,364 for the Dining Hall, this added to the amount that has already been sent of \$11,000 we have met more than our goal of \$42,000. I also understand that more designated funds for the project will be coming in shortly. Marj Nishek will be corresponding with the Tumaini school regarding the future needs.

Funds will be sent through Lutheran Mission Cooperative as follows:

\$31,000 ~ to Tumaini Secondary school for the dining hall (this meets the goal they requested)

\$ 5,000 ~ WELCA contribution for girls scholarships

\$ 3,000 ~ for the Medical Student scholarship at Lugala Hospital

Hermey Meyer

Chair, Synod Global Mission Committee

## MISSION MOMENTS AROUND THE SYNOD ...

*"...yet all are one in thee for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!"* So ends verse 3 of "For All the Saints", ELW #422.

This hymn is lived out with celebration and service in downtown Spokane. St. Paul Lutheran Church of the Logan neighborhood near Gonzaga University and Emmanuel Lutheran Church of the Browne's Addition neighborhood have merged to become **All Saints Lutheran Church of Spokane**. All are one in Christ; the homeless, the underemployed, the life long Lutherans, retired and working people, old and young, different races, orientations, and backgrounds. All are welcome and all are involved in serving as Jesus served. There's a meal for the homeless, a community garden in the summer months, a lower income housing project with other ELCA partners, youth activities, quilters, studies, and always Word and Sacrament. Thanks to you for your support of the ministries of All Saints. Your continued prayers are requested for this, our newest congregation, as it celebrates its formation and continues in mission.




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## ELCA BOARD OF PENSIONS NEWS

### HELP US ALL SAVE \$20,000 IN 2009

The opportunity for us to each earn a 2% discount on ELCA health contributions is available from the ELCA Board of Pensions again in 2009. Receiving the discount works the same as in 2008 -- each congregation and organization in our synod will receive a 2% discount on health contributions once 75% of our eligible ELCA-primary plan members and spouses complete the confidential Mayo Clinic Health Assessment.

The 2009 health assessment opened on the Mayo Clinic EmbodyHealth web portal on January 1st. If we achieve 75% health assessment participation by March 29th, we'll receive a 2% discount for all of 2009; if we achieve it after March 29th we'll each earn the discount starting the month after reaching 75%. Our collective estimated 2009 savings potential is \$20,000.

#### Do your part ~

Helping us earn the discount is simple: Take the assessment on the EmbodyHealth web portal at [www.elcaforwellness.org](http://www.elcaforwellness.org) and earn yourself 100 personal wellness dollars in the process.

Instructions for how to register on EmbodyHealth and take the assessment are available at [www.elcabop.org](http://www.elcabop.org). Follow the 2009 ELCA-primary link.

#### Get your numbers for the health assessment ~

Now is the time to prepare. Try to have your medical numbers on hand so you can enter them when you take the health assessment: height, weight, HDL, LDL, total cholesterol, triglycerides, blood sugar (glucose) and blood pressure. While the numbers aren't required to complete the assessment, having them will give you a better idea of your health status.

Don't know your numbers? Schedule a checkup using your 100% medical preventive benefit. If you've had a checkup in the last year, contact your clinic for the numbers.

Please take the assessment by March 29th. Doing so will help us achieve our goal of 75% participation and give each of us a 2% discount on ELCA health contributions for the entire year.



**Board of Pensions**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### RELAX, REFRESH, RENEW

Experience a variety of activities that will refresh and renew you. Options include guided meditation, healing touch, mini sessions of massage and reflexology and more. A healthy lunch is included in the afternoon.

**Date:** Saturday, February 7, 2009

**Time:** 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Place:** St. Joseph Family Center Campus ~ 1016 N. Superior St., Spokane, WA 99202

**Cost:** \$50 (\$45 if registered two weeks prior) Extend your day to an overnight retreat with continental breakfast for an additional \$30

**RSVP:** 509/483-6495

### MINDFULNESS MEDITATION: AWAKENING INTO PRESENCE WEEKEND RETREAT

Learn to explore the inner world of sensations, feelings and thoughts with an attitude of curiosity and kindness. This retreat will include periods of sitting, walking and eating meditations and time for sharing. Open to all levels of meditations experience, including beginners.

**Facilitated by:** Dori Langevin, Psy.D

**Date:** February 20 at 7:00 p.m. thru Sunday, February 22 at 12:00 p.m.

**Place:** St. Joseph Family Center Campus ~ 1016 N. Superior St., Spokane, WA 99202

**Cost:** \$145 plus donation for teacher

**RSVP:** 509/483-6495

**About St. Joseph Family Center:** St. Joseph Family Center is an outpatient counseling, spirituality, and healing arts center sponsored by the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia. Our Center and its environment promote an ongoing awareness of the interdependence of one's physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual states. Through the integrated services we provide, we facilitate healing and growth within a person, a family and our community. Visit [www.stjosephfamilycenter.org](http://www.stjosephfamilycenter.org)

### WORSHIP SUMMIT 2009

Mark your calendars! On **Saturday, March 7, 2009**, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church will host Integrity's satellite broadcast of *Worship Summit 2009*, a time of worship, teaching and encouragement for those involved or interested in contemporary praise and worship music. This one-day event will feature some of today's foremost worship artists, including Paul Baloche, Brian Doerksen, Lincoln Brewster, Ross Parsley and others.

Register at [www.popsokane.org](http://www.popsokane.org) or call 509/465-0779 for more details.



### GROWING IN WISDOM RETREAT

Shepherd of the Valley in Boise, Idaho is hosting a retreat on **March 27-28, 2009**. Participants will meet 7:00 -9:00 p.m. Friday and 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday.

How do we open ourselves to inner work so our longer lives become more meaningful lives? Which of two paths of life do we take? Topics will include: How to Harvest Wisdom; Our Lives as One Cycle of the Year; Living Life with Vitality, Gift of Forgiveness; Experience of Mentoring; Inter-generational work and more. This retreat is facilitated by Sr. Barbara Jean Glodowski OSB of the Monastery of the St. Gertrude in Cottonwood, Idaho. She is a certified Spiritual Director and has completed her studies in Lifelong Spiritual Development with Dr. Richard Johnson.

Cost of the retreat is \$25 with Saturday lunch included. All transportation, housing and meal costs are the responsibility of the participants.

Contact Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church at [admin@sov-id.org](mailto:admin@sov-id.org) or call 208/362-1112 for more details.

*All are welcome to attend!*



## HAPPENINGS AT THE BOOK PARLOR

Read • Reflect • Act

Everyone wants a "special sale" and The Book Parlor has one too!

Please be sure to stop in and mention "the church shelf" for your February discount. Remember, we are open Monday through Friday, 10- 5:30 and Saturdays 10-2:00. We have a clearance section just for our Lutheran brothers and sisters and because of all the wonderful snow before Christmas, we still have a beautiful selection of Fair Trade gifts. You should also know that we have added a "food corner" with the help of a Cluster grant and our partnership with All Saints Lutheran (the "new" church).

The Book Parlor is actively working on the addition of a new, improved website to make it easier for all of our cyberspace customers. Stay tuned!

Also, we are in need of your books or your neighbors books! If you are thinning out, cleaning up or just ready to part with some of them, we would love to have them. It keeps our West Central neighbors reading, makes us some money for our ministry of hospitality and we'll even schedule a pick-up if you can't make it in. Just give us a call at 328-6527.

*Thanks! The Book Parlor Staff*

**Read • Reflect • Act**

1414 W. Broadway Ave  
Spokane, WA 99201  
(509)328-6527  
lutheranbooks@msn.com  
www.lutheranbookparlor.com



## IDAHO INTERFAITH ROUNDTABLE AGAINST HUNGER

Another indicator of the desperate need for food by Idahoans during this economic crisis from the IDAHO CARE LINE 2-1-1. They reported that food-related requests are skyrocketing. This includes requests for food stamps, community dinners, food pantries, etc. In the past 5 months, the IDAHO CARE LINE 2-1-1 requests have quadrupled, up 438%. In June 2008 - 702 requests and then in November 2008 - 3,075 requests.

IIRAH (Idaho Interfaith Roundtable Against Hunger) is looking at possible legislation to support during the coming Idaho Legislative session. If you would like to connect with us on helping hungry Idahoans, contact us at idroundtable@yahoo.com. Issues do move quickly so get connected with IIRAH to stay in touch.

Do continue to educate your congregation about the NEW Grocery Tax Credit law in Idaho. Now those who haven't filed an income tax return can file for a Grocery Tax Credit refund.

Questions, ideas, solutions . . . contact us at idroundtable@yahoo.com. The Roundtable believes in the vision of the ELCA's two feet of service, direct service & advocacy to work at the root cause of hunger. *Join us in seeking solutions.*





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314 S. Spruce St., Suite A  
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

February 2009 Newsletter

Please reproduce any and all articles for publication in congregational newsletters or bulletins. The *Cross Connection* is also available on the synod Web site at [www.ewaidssynod.org](http://www.ewaidssynod.org). **Deadline for articles is the 5th of each month.**

## SYNOD CALENDAR

### FEBRUARY

- 3-5 Spokane Ag-Show
- 5 **Newsletter Article Deadline**
- 5 **Executive Committee Meeting @ Synod Office**
- 6-7 **Synod Council Meeting @ Messiah Lutheran - Spokane, WA**
- 16 Presidents' Day - Synod Office Closed
- 27 Deadline for Resolution & Early Nominations
- 27-28 Outreach Committee Meeting

### MARCH

- 5 **Newsletter Article Deadline**
- 5-11 Conference of Bishops - Chicago, IL
- 13-14 Candidacy Committee Meeting @ Synod Office
- 19-20 Deans Meeting @ St. Joseph's - Spokane, WA
- 19-22 Bishop's Assistant Gathering - San Francisco
- 25-26 EOCM Review Table - Chicago, IL
- 27 **2nd Mailing for Assembly**
- 27-30 ELCA Church Council Meeting - Chicago, IL

INFORMATION ON THE 2009 SYNOD ASSEMBLY CAN BE FOUND  
AT  
[WWW.EWAIDSSYNOD.ORG](http://WWW.EWAIDSSYNOD.ORG)



## Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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