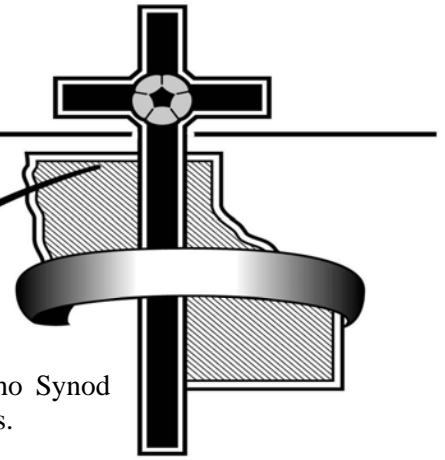


CROSS

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

FEBRUARY 2010

God's beloved people,

Many of you will be meeting soon for the Annual Meeting of your congregation. This is the time and place where you make the policy decisions on behalf of the congregation and set missional direction for the next year. The Synod Council, meeting last September, adopted the following missional directions for the Synod's ministry, based on our Guiding Principles (in italics below). These goals were reported in the supplement pages to the December Lutheran magazine and are offered here in order to give tangible expression to what missional goals look like. Don't forget to adopt a budget in support of your goals!

Eastern Washington and Idaho Synod missional goals for 2009-2010:

Jesus: First, Last, and Always and Amen. Come Lord Jesus

-- To invite a guest speaker for Assembly 2010 to reflect on the ministry of Jesus Christ and how that ministry as served as a call in the speaker's life. This goal will be reached as we welcome Mark Allan Powell to address his book, "Loving Jesus."

Gratitude. Gratitude.

-- Expedite consideration of two grant requests filed under the Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church (Richland) Mission Fund; for music ministry and for youth ministry in West Richland area. This goal is being reached as the music ministry grant request is being rewritten and a new "call for proposals" will be issued this month.

No Fear! Transformation!

-- Pursue the opportunity of phased development for senior housing at The Beacon at Southridge. Talks with the Mission Investment Fund will occur this month and a full report will be available before Assembly.

-- Call a new Director of Evangelical Mission to serve on Synod staff and with funding from our Churchwide partner. Pastor Helga Jansons has joined the Synod Staff as Director for Evangelical Mission. Please invite her to consult with you!

Miracles of Hope

-- Plan for and sponsor a region-wide consultation on Campus Ministry and explore an additional campus ministry site at Boise State University in cooperation with Immanuel Lutheran, Boise. A consultation with Campus Ministers will occur in June.

Yes! Everybody Come

-- Pursue a new ministry grant for Tree of Life Lutheran Church, Terrace Heights and

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FROM THE BISHOP CONTINUED . . .

the calling of Abuid Fajarto as pastor; support the existing ministry of the Yakima Valley Hispanic Outreach Ministry; and support Misael Fajarto as a candidate for ordination at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. Abuid Fajarto has had his initial interview and will meet with ministry leaders again in January. Misael has begun seminary training at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. Please keep him in your prayers!

A SPECIAL WORD REGARDING ANNUAL MEETINGS:

Please note that your regular annual meeting is not the appropriate place to take a vote to leave the ELCA! A first vote to leave takes its own "Special Meeting" where, after notice has been mailed to the members, it becomes the only item on the agenda. Our constitutions provide this method for matters of such import and effect that they require their own, separate consideration. Congregation presidents or others who preside at the Annual Meeting should rule such a motion out of order as inconsistent with the congregation's Constitution. Please consult your constitution for the proper way to bring such a matter to the congregation for consideration.

Pastor Martin Wells,
Bishop
msmmwells@aol.com

ELCA BOARD OF PENSIONS NEWS

Oh, what we could do with \$19,196

The opportunity for us to each earn a 2% discount on ELCA health contributions is available from the ELCA Board of Pensions again in 2010, with a few changes. This year, [each congregation and organization in our synod] will receive a 2% discount on health contributions if 65% of our eligible ELCA-primary plan members and spouses complete the confidential Mayo Clinic Health Assessment by **April 30**.

What does 2% mean to you? It happens to be the amount of your ELCA health contribution rate increase for 2010. If our synod reaches 65% Mayo Clinic Health Assessment completion by April 30, all congregations and organizations in our synod will effectively see their rate increase cancelled out.

Our collective 2010 savings potential is \$19,196. Think of the mission this money could support!

So, do your part. Take the assessment on the EmbodyHealth web portal at www.elcaforwellness.org (and earn yourself \$150 to offset out-of-pocket medical costs by doing so). Then, let your spouse, co-workers and peers with ELCA-primary health coverage know you've done it and encourage them to take it too.

Find instructions for how to register on EmbodyHealth and take the assessment are available in *Understand my benefits* at www.elcabop.org.

EASTERN WASHINGTON-IDAHO SYNOD MISSION SUPPORT

Fiscal Year ~ February 1, 2009 - January 31, 2010

2009	December	74,323.60	Year to Date	817,782.16
2008	December	70,500.71	Year to Date	846,924.13
	Difference	+3,822.89	Difference	(29,141.97)

Many ministries and agencies depend on your faithful giving each month.

CALL PROCESS STATUS

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

POS	LOCATION/CONGREGATION	STATUS	PASTORAL CARE
P	Boise, ID - King of Glory	A	Keith Hammer I
		Kari Sansgaard AP
L or P	Chelan, WA - Holden Village Director(s)	B	
P	Chelan, WA - Village Pastor	A	
P	Chewelah, WA - St. Paul	A	Jeryl Phillips-Kelley TM
P	Colfax-Endicott, WA - Peace/Trinity	A	Phylis Stromme I
P	Gifford, ID - Good Hope	A	Valerie Beesley-TEEM
P	Kamiah, ID - Faith	A	Art Finney I
P	Kennewick, WA - First	C	Matthew & Kristen Kuempel SP
P	Mountain Home, ID - Grace	A	
P	Nampa, ID - Trinity	A	Dick Sansgaard I
P	Orofino, ID - Ascension	A	Barrett Lindsey I
P	Quincy, WA - St. Paul	A	Bill Voris I
P	Spokane, WA - Prince of Peace	B	Darrel Lundby I
P	Sunnyside, WA - Our Saviour's	A	Ron Shipman I
P	Troy, ID - Troy	A	Teresa Calene-Hasseries
P	Yakima, WA - Christ	A	Jillian Ross I

RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS

Rev. David Kappus resigned as Associate Pastor of Church of the Master in Coeur d'Alene, ID as of December 31, 2009

Rev. Gail Hart will resign as pastor of Faith Lutheran in Pierce, ID as of January 31, 2010

CALLS ACCEPTED

Rev. Al Schoonover has accepted the call to be pastor of Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church in Jackson, WY. He began January 15. Installation to be announced

Because this is a unique, ecumenical context, the staff at Holden Village has asked us to publish the following position vacancy. Note that all ELCA applicants that are screened to a shorter list will need to work within the call process of the Eastern Washington – Idaho Synod so that the selected candidate may be called to this position.

Holden Village -- a Lutheran center for retreat and renewal -- seeks a pastor to proclaim the gospel, facilitate daily worship and weekly Eucharist, and serve as a spiritual/theological leader for the village. The pastor should be ordained on the roster of the ELCA, LCMS, or denominations with which the ELCA is in full communion. An understanding of and commitment to Lutheran theology and traditions in worship is required. The pastor should be an outstanding preacher, and be flexibly creative in worship expression. Competence in pastoral care is also desired. Start: August-September 2010 for a two-year term. Interested applicants should contact the Holden Village Directors at director@holdenvillage.org

A more detailed job description is given in reply to potential applicants' emails, and more about Holden Village can be found at <http://www.holdenvillage.org/>.

FROM THE DIRECTOR FOR EVANGELICAL MISSION

Lent is a time of turning around. “Return to the Lord our God...” God’s character is gracious, merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

How do we live our lives in relationship to God’s character and God’s intentions for the world?

What if our turning around this Lent included not just facing God at the altar – most church-goers already do that – but turning toward the world?

On Ash Wednesday congregation members might repent not of their private and personal sins, but rather of our corporate sin of being curved in on ourselves as a Church.

Our Lenten commitment would then be to “forget ourselves on purpose” and to embrace the larger vision that only God can grant.

Symbolically at every Wednesday night’s worship service those who gather could join hands in a circle with each person facing outward with the common purpose of reaching out into the community. Better yet, what if parishioners gathered in small groups in the community on Wednesday nights; for example at the mall or at a soup kitchen? Worship might look a little different; like identifying what God is up to.

Then through the week people could be encouraged to make a commitment of living out a deeper connection with the world around us by:

- Asking ourselves wider-ranging questions about how God is at work in the world
- After reading the newspaper following up with prayer or action
- Driving/ walking observantly in the neighborhood to see what God needs us to do
- Meeting with a community leader and asking how the church could serve the community
- Attending a Chamber of Commerce meeting
- Brushing up on your Spanish language and using it to connect with someone
- Attending a fundraiser
- Going to a senior’s lunch or visit a nursing home (without caroling)
- Memorizing a scripture passage that would inspire others

Imagine if for the six weeks of Lent we would adopt the “self-forgetfulness of faith” and become more gracious, merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Pr. Helga Jansons

helga.jansons@elca.org

helga.jansons@ewaidsynod.org

LUTHERAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

SUNDAY, MARCH 7TH: COLUMBIA BASIN BRUNCH - KENNEWICK

Join us at our new, more spacious and elegant venue, the **Pasco Red Lion Hotel**, for the 2010 edition of our annual LCS Columbia Basin Celebration Brunch. The afternoon’s festivities will begin at 12:00 with a social hour and auction item preview, followed by a brunch buffet, silent and live auctions, and program.

For more information, contact Jean Tucker at 509/735-6446

2010 EASTERN WASHINGTON-IDAHO SYNOD ASSEMBLY

LIVE CHRIST!

God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

1 John 4: 9

Friday, April 23—Sunday, April 25
Doubletree Hotel—Boise Riverside

Featuring:

◆ KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Mark Allan Powell

◆ GLOBAL MISSION CENTER with

Bishop Renard and Rosemary Mtenji
Ulanga Kilombero Synod, Tanzania

Registration Materials Were Mailed January 15th

Youth and Young Adults are encouraged to participate as voting members to the 2010 Synod Assembly.

At the 2009 Churchwide Assembly, amendments to the constitutions, bylaws and continuing resolutions of the ELCA were adopted to allow for expanded roles for youth and young adults in the governance in all expressions of our church including our synod assembly. The goal is that at least ten percent of the synod assembly voting members would be persons who are youth (not yet 18 when elected/appointed) and young adults (between the ages of 18 and 30 when elected/appointed.) As your synod council explores ways to implement this goal for future assemblies, we are asking congregations to have conversations with the youth and young adults in their midst. Please consider electing/appointing a young person as one of your voting members if you do not already do so. Lifting up and empowering our young people to serve is part of our calling as a congregation!

OUR CHURCH IN ACTION

FEBRUARY 2010

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

- 5 Ginny Johnson (Pilgrim - Othello, WA) ~ 15th Anniversary of Ordination
 17 Eric Olsen (Director @ Camp Luther Heights) ~ 25th Anniversary of Ordination
 18 Omar Stuenkel (Retired - Coeur d'Alene, ID) ~ 65th Anniversary of Ordination

Please Remember in Prayer ...

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

...Ms. Marilyn Ulleland, wife of Pr. Duane Ulleland (Spokane Valley, WA) as she continues treatment for cancer.

...Pr. Palmer Gedde (Retired - Yuma, AZ) and family. Palmer was diagnosed with a fast spreading malignant cancer.

...Mary Anderson (Seattle, WA) and family as they mourn the death of Pr. Bob Anderson. A memorial service will be January 23rd, 1 pm at Immanuel Lutheran in Seattle, WA

...Mr. Dan Watrous (son of Dave & Dee Watrous - Richland, WA) as he continues treatment for throat cancer.

...Pr. Roger Pettenger (Retired - Pullman, WA) and family as he continues his treatment for multiple myeloma.

...Pr. Bob McCoy (Walla Walla, WA) as he recovers from recent health challenges.



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@ewaidsynod.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.

2010 Region 1 Pastors Conference April 12-14, 2010

“JESUS, EBENEZER and LUTHER: Surviving the Changes”

Region 1 Pastor's Conference, April 12-14, 2010 to be held at The Hotel Grand Pacific in Victoria, BC. The theme of the conference: **Surviving the Changes, Preaching and teaching in a pluralistic world.** The guest speakers are: The Rev. Raphael G. Warnock; Senior Pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. He is the pastor of the church of MLK, Jr. and is a noted preacher and teacher. The second speaker is Dr. David Lose, Preaching Prof at Luther Seminary. The cost for the conference is: Sharing a room \$355 each; Single in a private room \$510; Couples \$660. Registration includes 2 nights in the hotel, 4 meals and program costs.

For more information go to our Web site: www.region1pastors.com

There is a \$150 discount for couples and a \$50 discount for Pastors who are first time attendees.

For registration information contact:

Linda Hull

linehull@gmail.com

509-526-5251

ELCA CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT

Friends in the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod,

I am Pastor Phil Wold, and I was elected to the ELCA Church Council in April, to fill the term begun by Pastor Dave Peters, who took a call as the Montana Synod Director for Evangelical Mission. I would like to share a few impressions with you from the ELCA Church Council meeting of November 13-15, 2009.

These were difficult days in our ELCA offices, as we decided to reduce the budget by 10%, and many positions were cut. Bishop Hanson spoke of how many who learned that their positions would be terminated, handled this news with humbling grace.

In the new budget, we sought to be mindful of our strategic priorities. We have kept our commitments to new congregational starts, to churchwide staff assigned to synods for mission and stewardship work (Your ELCA Director for Evangelical Mission: Pastor Helga Jansons), to campus ministries, seminaries, companion churches and missionaries.

In reflecting on these decisions, Bishop Hanson said it well. "However one interprets the numbers, the consequences are the same, mission is diminished, lives are impacted and faith is tested." He then asked, "where will we turn?" "We will turn to the book of faith." He read from Romans 5:

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Bishop Hanson then said: "How good is that? This is the good news that is itching to be told throughout our Church."

Concerning Ministry Policies, we passed a reinstatement process revision and considered drafts of ministry policy documents. You may read and comment on these at www.elca.org/ministypolicies.

The time spent in Chicago was rich, and the schedule was full. We started our days with breakfast meetings that began at 7 a.m. (central time!) I was able to meet in a small group discussion with Beth Lewis, CEO of Augsburg Fortress. (Let me suggest that every congregation should, when possible, use Augsburg materials - consider it like "shopping locally.")

Much like a Synod Assembly, I walked away from this weekend with a sense of gratitude for the varied and faithful ministries of our Church. I was glad to have met so many wonderful people who serve our church with passion and faith.

It crossed my mind that, part of my sadness in the face of some leaving our ELCA, is that these are people much like those I met on this weekend, passionate partners in the Gospel. May God guide us as we seek to minister together in the love which God has brought into our lives in the person of Jesus Christ.

Peace to you,
Pastor Phil Wold
Trinity Lutheran Church ~ Sheridan, Wyoming
307-672-2411
pastorphil@actaccess.net

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY CERTIFICATION SCHOOL

Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp has partnered with Vibrant Faith Ministries and Wartburg Seminary to offer a Youth and Family Ministry Certification School on **March 12-17, 2010**. This school is the only one of its kind in the nation and offers the next best training to a masters degree. People from across the country seek out this training.

The cost for the school is \$2,500 which includes the week at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp in northwest Montana, the 5 weeks of on-line intensives, a final weekend at FLBC, all food and lodging, and certification.

More information and registration materials can be found at the Vibrant Faith Web site: www.vibrantfaith.org.

We hope that you will consider this exciting opportunity! Please contact Brooke Ells at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp if you have any questions, 406-844-3201 or brooke@flbc.net.

YELS (YOUTH EMPOWERED FOR LEADERSHIP & SERVICE)



YELS will be taking place **June 27 - 30, 2010** at Shoshone Base Camp. The registration cost will be \$165.00 per person.

For more information, contact Mr. Tom Rounds (Chair of the Synod Youth Committee) at tomar_216@msn.com or Dustin Wendt (LYO President) at dustin.wendt@hotmail.com.

Watch for additional information in future issues of the *Cross Connection*.

NEWS FROM THE BOOK PARLOR



“Community is the spirit, the guiding light of the tribe, whereby people come together in order to fulfill a specific purpose, to help others fulfill their purpose, and to take care of one another. The goal of the community is to make sure that each member of the community is heard and is properly giving the gifts he has brought to this world. Without this giving, the community dies. And without the community, the individual is left without a place where he can contribute. The community is that grounding place where people come and share their gifts and receive from others.”

Sobonfu Some - from *“The Spirit of Intimacy”*

Thanks to all of you for your continued support of this community ministry here in West Central Spokane. As connections are made, neighbors get to know one another and learn of opportunities where their gifts can be offered for the common good. I am continually amazed at how eager people are to be of service to one another when they know they can help. Whether it's giving up a seat on the bus or working together to replace a neighbor's roof, people want to be connected.

When you are a customer and a supporter of The Book Parlor, you are a partner with us in this community ministry. And at the same time, we become a partner with you in your congregation's ministry. Thanks for participating with us in this “grounding place where people come and share their gifts and receive from others.”

The Book Parlor Staff

Connie ~ Casey ~ Lolita ~ Cheri

509-328-6527 ~ info@TheBookParlor.com

www.TheBookParlor.com

Read • Reflect • Act

LUTHERAN PUBLIC POLICY OFFICE ~ WASHINGTON

Lift Every Voice

Faith Advocacy Day is Tuesday, February 16. If you have not previously attended Faith Advocacy Day—or you have not attended for many years—we invite you to consider joining us in 2010. This year's theme is "Lift Every Voice."

2010 is the first year Faith Advocacy Day is *Interfaith* Advocacy Day. In just a few years, this day has transitioned from a Lutheran event to an ecumenical event to—now—an interfaith event! People of all faiths from across Washington State will be gathering in Olympia to voice their concerns to legislators and advocate for justice.

The day begins at the United Churches of Olympia with an interfaith worship service, followed by an overview of the day and briefings on important issues and bills in the current legislative session. Our primary focus will be on the state budget: the \$2.7 billion shortfall and our support of a substantial revenue package to balance the budget. Then, the 200+ people of faith will move to the Capitol, where they will meet with their district legislators and have some "Question and Answer" time with House and Senate Leadership.

Interfaith Advocacy Day promises to be a great day this legislative session. We hope you will join us on February 16th to advocate for all of God's creation. And, please invite people from your congregation, as well as your Jewish and Muslim neighbors, to attend with you.

Visit our website for registration and transportation details: www.lppowa.org. Additionally, we have resources for individuals and congregations who want to participate, but are unable to attend on the 16th. Contact us at lppooffice@lcsnw.org for more details.

Staffing Transitions at the LPPPO

Our office manager from 2008-2009, Kirstin Docken Showalter, said "goodbye" to the LPPPO and Seattle on January 15, 2010. She will be journeying to the Midwest and East Coast to pursue graduate school and/or international service opportunities.

However, we are joined again by David Coombs, who you may remember was on staff at the LPPPO from 2006-2008. Please take a few minutes to contact David and welcome him back: lppooffice@lcsnw.org, 206.464.4133.

SMALLTOWNANDRURAL (STAR) LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 4-5, 2010

IMMACULATE HEART RETREAT CENTER, SPOKANE, WA

Registration is now open!

Lay leaders, clergy, Synodically Authorized Ministers, TEEM candidates, and others serving in rural mission sites are invited! We will **meet** Thursday, February 4th, 1:00 pm at Immaculate Heart Retreat Center, 6910 South Ben Burr Road, Spokane, WA 99223. **Cost** for this event is only \$75.00 per person which includes an overnight at the retreat center and three meals. Cost is low because of a generous grant from our ELCA. There are a variety of great **presenters** like Rev. Cindy Wuts from the Rural Ministry Network, Devanie Helsing from the Food Resource Bank, Helga Jansons, our new Director for Evangelical Mission, with our own Mark Nelson and Mary Daniels offering program support. Central to the event is **prayer** and **worship**, with plenty of time for **fellowship** and **conversation**. We'll **close** with worship and lunch on Friday, February 5th.

To register, call or email the Synod Office at 509-838-9871, office@ewaidssynod.org. You can pay when you come to Immaculate Heart, but save your place now!



**EASTERN
WASHINGTON
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

February 2010 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.ewadaysynod.org. **Deadline for articles is the 5th of each month.**

SYNOD CALENDAR

JANUARY 2010

- 28 Executive Committee @ Synod Office
- 29-30 Synod Council @ Immaculate Heart
Retreat Center - Spokane, WA
- 30 Legislative Conference
St. John's Cathedral-Spokane, WA

FEBRUARY 2010

- 2-4 Ag Expo—Spokane
- 4-5 Rural Leaders Retreat @ IHRC
- 5 **Newsletter Article Deadline**
- 15 President's Day
SYNOD OFFICE CLOSED
- 19-20 Region 1 Campus Ministry Event @
St. Joseph's Retreat - Spokane, WA
- 26 LCSNW Chocolate Champagne Gala
Spokane
- 27 **Nomination & Resolution Deadline**

MARCH 2010

- 4-9 Conference of Bishops
- 5 **Newsletter Article Deadline**
- 7 LCSNW Columbia Basin Brunch-
Kennewick, WA
- 7-10 Lutheran Staff Association Retreat
@ Cannon Beach, Oregon
- 18-19 Dean's Meeting - Spokane, WA

Cross Connection Mailing List

If you are currently receiving the Cross Connection and wish to be removed from the mailing list, please cut your mailing label from the back of the newsletter and mail it to the Synod Office or send an email to office@ewadaysynod.org. ***Thank you!***



Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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