

Synod Assembly Breakouts

Friday June 6, 2008

Morning: 11:00 to 11:50

1. *Looking for a Clue about Ministry to and with Young Adults?*

Thoroughbred Room 7

Presenters: I-K Synod Campus Ministry Staff and Mitch Phillips, chair, I-K Synod Campus Ministry Committee

Recent research by Robert Wuthnow in his book, “After the Baby Boomers: How Twenty- and Thirty-Somethings are Shaping the Future of American Religion,” reports that 20% of young adults are not affiliated with a church or religious community – and another 55% are effectively unchurched because they are uninvolved in any church. What are the concerns of young adults? What are the faithful and bold ways in which our congregations can engage in ministry to and with young adults? We have missionaries serving on the front lines of this ministry – our I-K Synod Campus Ministry staff. Come and hear their perspective on these questions and engage them in conversation about young adults.

2. *Pending Resolutions*

Thoroughbred Room 6

Presenters: I-K Synod Reference and Counsel Committee

Resolutions presented to the assembly are not just opportunities to vote; they are invitations to conversation and action in the name of Christ under the umbrella of our common mission to make Christ known. Participants in this breakout will have opportunity for discussion of those resolutions before this year’s assembly, their background, implications of their adoption, and the nuances of the issues behind them.

3. *Discussion of 2009 IN-KY Synod Budget and Future Financial Challenges*

Thoroughbred Room 8

Presenter: Kevin Bardonner, I-K Synod Treasurer

The synod’s budget suggests the ways in which we will fund the mission and ministry we are called to do together. The synod’s treasurer will lead an in-depth discussion of next year’s proposed budget and address related questions and concerns. The 2009-2010 budget will be discussed in plenary and a decision regarding adoption will be made on Saturday morning of the assembly.

4. *Every Person a Missionary (EPAM): What’s It All About?*

Thoroughbred Room 1

Presenters: Tana Kjos, Creative Director, A Renewal Enterprise; Heather McCulloch, I-K Synod Assistant to the Bishop

“What’s God up to & how can I help?” That simple question is at the heart of EPAM. Come explore the theological and biblical principles that are behind this question and giving shape to this exciting new initiative. We’ll work, think, and have fun together. And we’ll begin imagining what would happen in our own lives, in our congregations, and in our world if we were ALL asking that question everyday. Bring your Bible!

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5. *The Plight of the Oromo People of Ethiopia*

Thoroughbred Room 2

Presenters: Haile Hirpa and Ron Poisel, Christ Lutheran, Jeffersontown, KY

For the past three years, the Indiana–Kentucky Synod has been holding the Oromo people of Ethiopia in prayer. In those three years there have been some significant developments in Ethiopia. There has been new hope and there has been much disappointment. The Meles government continues to rule with an iron fist despite a constitution on paper that is quite different from the way the government functions. The U.S. state department report on Ethiopia indicates that there are many human rights violations and a government that is not living up to its claim of being a democracy. The need for prayer continues. This breakout will provide background information concerning the Oromo situation and give up-to-date reports of what is happening in order to encourage well-informed, continuing prayers for the Oromo people.

6. *How to Organize a Hunger Appeal in Your Congregation*

Thoroughbred Room 4

Presenters: Henry Zorn, Christie Brown, Laura Higgins, Michael Goldberg, and Angie

McKenzie – Pastor and members of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Cincinnati, OH

With congregational laity from Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Cincinnati, Ohio, participants in this information-packed breakout session explore the nooks and crannies of a comprehensive congregational program of hunger funding and education. Presenters will provide practical hands-on encouragement. Nancy Arnison, director of the ELCA World Hunger Appeal, will also briefly address world hunger from national and international perspectives.

7. *Faithful Stewardship in Your Congregation*

Thoroughbred Room 5

Presenters: Brenda Dembroski and other members of the I-K Synod Stewardship Team

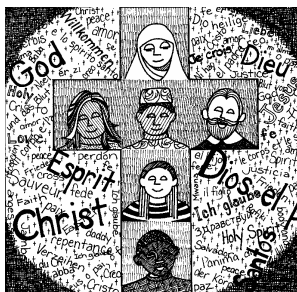
Join us for an interactive motivational workshop where you can be updated on the latest stewardship resources available. Brenda and the team will review Consecration Sunday, Celebrate Generosity and the YES program. There will be a question and answer time. We will also have many resources available to view and prizes to give away.

8. *To Each Has Been Given...*

Thoroughbred Room 3

Presenters: Larry Olson and Dakota Road, 2008 Synod Assembly Musicians

Following the insights of 1 Corinthians 12 & 13, our assembly musicians will provide insight and practical guidance for finding a way through “worship wars” (e.g. “traditional” vs. “contemporary”) to welcome the gifts of the whole people of God in planning, leading, and participating in worship.



Synod Assembly Breakouts

Friday June 6, 2008

Afternoon: 3:30 to 4:20

1. *“Go Tell It on the Mountain/Mountain Top Removal Coal Mining: Why Christians Should Care.”*

Thoroughbred Room 7

Presenters: Holly Shipley, Associate in Ministry at Faith Lutheran Church, Lexington and Dave Cooper, Bluegrass Group Sierra Club Chair

This breakout session will focus on mountain top removal coal mining (a type of mining that removes the tops of mountains to extract coal) and how it affects the environment and the people living in areas mined as well as the theological ramifications of such practices for Christians. This type of mining is utilized frequently in Kentucky, West Virginia, Tennessee and Virginia. We will explore why we as Christians should care about this issue and what we can do to help prevent and speak out against these mining practices.

2. *Building the Church with the Mission Investment Fund*

Thoroughbred Room 8

Presenter, Brenda Dembroski, ELCA Mission Investment Fund

Investments by congregations, their members and ELCA-related institutions in the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA earn interest as they are loaned to mission congregations for purchases of land and construction of new church buildings. In fact, low-interest MIF loans are generally the only source of capital funds for mission congregations. At this workshop, you will learn about the investment opportunities MIF provides for congregations and their members in the Indiana-Kentucky Synod to build the future of Christ’s church while earning competitive rates of interest.

3. *Spiritual Direction*

Thoroughbred Room 5

Presenter, Amy Beitelscheis-Albers,

Spiritual Direction is not just for rostered leaders any more! Actually, it never was. Come learn about and experience in short form this ministry that can assist you in deepening your spiritual life and in discerning God’s call for you.

4. *The Lutheran ONE Campaign*

Thoroughbred Room 6

Presenter, Joe Swanson, Faith Lutheran Church, Lexington, KY

Have you wondered how to get involved in the global movement to alleviate hunger and poverty? Are you familiar with the United Nations’ Millennium Development Goals and their impact on your daily life? When was the last time you sent an email or letter to one of your representatives in state or federal government about an issue involving poor or marginalized people, if ever? Come learn about this important and exciting way to be involved in following Jesus in caring for the poor.

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5. *Every Person a Missionary (EPAM): How's it Going to Work?*

Thoroughbred Room 1

Presenters: Tana Kjos, Creative Director, A Renewal Enterprise; Heather McCulloch, I-K Synod Assistant to the Bishop

Learn about the 5 missional practices that will shape the way EPAM happens in our synod. These are practices that you can take back to your congregation and start using immediately: 1) Asking purposeful questions, 2) Using participative processes, 3) Working playfully, 4) Taking place seriously, and 5) Being productive. Remember, "The joy of the Lord is our strength." Plan on laughing and learning together!

6. *Book of Faith: Becoming Fluent in the First Language of Faith*

Thoroughbred Room 4

Presenter: Beth Lewis, President & CEO of Augsburg Fortress

Join Beth Lewis, President & CEO of Augsburg Fortress, and learn about the exciting new ELCA initiative, Book of Faith. In this workshop you will learn what this initiative is about and how it can be launched in your own congregation. You will come away with (1) An overview of the Book of Faith initiative to encourage biblical fluency throughout the church; (2) An understanding of the resources available to support the initiative in your local congregation; (3) Opportunities for thinking about and sharing how the Bible and biblical fluency provides a solid foundation for our vocations in our congregations, with our families, in our places of work, and in the world as daily missionaries.

7. *God in Between: Acting Boldly in Chile*

Thoroughbred Room 2

Presenters: Linda Doerge and Candy Simms who were members of the 2007 I-K Mission Trip to Chile.

This presentation looks at the ways that the I-K Synod is working with Iglesia Evangelica Luterana en Chile (IELCH) in order to empower and equip women and families in the areas of education, health, and economic development.

8. *How Missional is Your Congregation?*

Thoroughbred Room 3

Presenter: Jill Rowland, Synod Assembly Keynote Presenter

Explore and learn to use an assessment tool Pastor Rowland has crafted to assist in assessing your congregation's missional identity and effectiveness. This assessment moves beyond numbers to gaze deeply into your congregation's missional vitality. Pastor Rowland will also share tips for growing as a missional congregation.

