

Pastors, Associates in Ministry, Diaconal Ministers, Lay Interim Ministers, Lay Congregational Leaders, Lay Worship Leaders, Church Musicians, Choir Directors and Church Administrators

You are invited to participate in the 7th Annual Workshop for Smaller and Rural Congregations to be held Saturday, August 22nd at Epiphany Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne, Indiana (We define smaller congregations as those with worship attendance of 125 or less each week)

New sessions this year include: “Planning a Workshop/Small Church Event”, “Thanking Six Times” “How About a Contemporary Worship Service At Our Church?”, “Prayer: Connecting with God”, “Communication and Technology in Small and Rural Congregations” and “Engaging the Laity for Ministry”.

A Workshop Registration Fee of \$15.00 covers the cost of materials and on-site lunch. Registration begins at 8:30 A.M.; the workshop begins at 9:00 A.M. and concludes at 2:30 P.M. with Closing Devotions. Pre-registration helps us plan and saves you money.

Pre-register by August 18th and save \$5.00. Send your name, address, the name of your church, and pre-registration fee of \$10.00 to:

**Marceile Redmon
5226 Brookview Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46835**

Call 260-486-1664 or send an email to: Marceile@redmons.com

Include an e-mail address and we will confirm your Pre-registration. Registration on the day of the Workshop is \$15.00. Please make all checks payable to Epiphany Lutheran Church.

Directions to Epiphany Lutheran Church:

From US.24: Take I 69 North. See directions below.

From I 69 North or South: Leave I 69 North (or south) at I 469 exit 115. Take the Maplecrest Road (South) exit. Go through two traffic lights (the first is Rothman Road and the second is Evard Road), then immediately look to the left for Epiphany Lutheran Church. The church sits back from the road but their sign is very visible from the road. If you pass the Fire Station on your right, you have gone too far.

From US.30 East or West: Take the I 469 (north) exit and get off at the Maplecrest Road exit. Turn left (south), go through two traffic lights (the first is Rothman Road and the second is Evard Road) then immediately look to the left for Epiphany Lutheran Church. The church sits back from the road, but their sign is very visible from the road. If you pass the Fire Station on the right, you have gone too far.

For help with directions the day of the workshop, please call 1-260-485-5122. Someone will be at the church at 8:00 am that morning.

Workshop Schedule:

8:30 Registration, coffee and fellowship in the Narthex

9:00 Announcements and Devotions in the Sanctuary

9:30	Prayer: Connecting With God	(Shirley Neale)	Sanctuary
	What Works!	(M. Redmon)	Library
	Thanking Six Times	(B. Dembroski)	Fellowship Hall
	Reading the Scriptures	(Ed Redmon)	Music Room

10:30	Contemporary Music	(Jon Dembroski)	Sanctuary
			Library
	Stewardship With Youth	(Brenda Dembroski)	Fellowship Hall
	Prayer: Connecting with God	(Shirley Neale)	Music Room

11:30 Lunch served on site in the Fellowship Hall

12:30	What is the “E” in ELCA?	(Pastor Mack Goeglein)	Sanctuary
	Embracing God’s Gifts	(Brenda Dembroski)	Fellowship Hall
	Communication and Technology	(Ed Redmon)	Library
	Planning a Workshop/Event	(M. Redmon)	Music Room

1:30	Evangelical Spiritual Direction	(Pastor Mack Goeglein)	Sanctuary
	Congregational Stewardship	(Brenda Dembroski)	Fellowship Hall
	Engaging the Laity	(Ed Redmon)	Library
	Worship Planning	(M. Redmon)	Music Room

2:30 Departing Devotions in the Sanctuary

Once again there will be a table in the Narthex stacked with gently used music, choir pieces, devotional books, ministry books and bible study material. This is a good way to share resources with other congregations. Please feel free to bring something to share.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

NEW!! PRAYER:CONNECTING WITH GOD! Led by Shirley Neale of Trinity Lutheran, Wabash and one of the founders and board members of Prayer House, also in Wabash.. How's your prayer life? Do you feel as though God isn't answering your prayers? How do you pray and when? What does scripture say about prayer? This session is all about prayer and prayer ministry . Come share YOUR experiences with prayer and discover how to become better connect with God. (1 hour session)

NEW!! PLANNING A WORKSHOP OR SMALL CHURCH EVENT! Led by Marceile Redmon (Director of Music at Light of the Cross Worship Center, Fort Wayne) I am often asked, "How did you plan this workshop? How difficult was it to coordinate?" In this session, I'll share with you the steps needed to plan a workshop or small church event, with a minimum of cost! Be prepared to be surprised!! (1 hour session)

NEW!! "WHAT DOES THE "E" IN THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA MEAN?" Led by Pastor Mack Goeglein. (Pastor Goeglein has been Parish pastor, part of Campus Ministry, and adjunct professor of religion at several colleges and universities. He is currently retired and works in the area of Spiritual Direction in the ELCA) It is very difficult to define the historic Christian term "evangelical" in our day.. Is it the opposite of Catholic? Is it descriptive of Pentecostalism? of Mega-church-ism? of Lutherans Alone? All of these? None of these? Whatever. It does remain, however, the great divider of Christ's Church. (1 hour session)

NEW!! HOW ABOUT A CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE AT OUR CHURCH? Led by Jon Dembroski. In this interactive workshop, Jon will address questions that congregations face when contemplating a contemporary worship service. Questions like: When should we have it? How do we put a praise band together? How do we choose music? What kind of equipment will we need? Who is our audience? How will it be funded? (1 hour session)

NEW!! THANKING SIX TIMES: Led by Brenda Dembroski. None of us say thank you enough in our everyday lives, at work and especially in our congregations. This workshop session allows participants to learn and practice some principles of donor appreciation. It includes presentation, brainstorming and guided practice in the development of a "donor gratitude tool" by individual participants. (1 hour session)

NEW!! ENGAGING THE LAITY FOR MINISTRY: Led by Ed Redmon. This session focuses on how to involve the laity in meaningful ministry. Suggestions will be offered for challenging, equipping, empowering and engaging folks to move beyond Sunday morning worship and into ministry that will revitalize the small and rural congregation. This session includes discussion time. (1 hour session)

NEW!! COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY IN SMALL AND RURAL CONGREGATIONS: Led by Ed Redmon. In this session we will explore the role technology can play in the communications efforts of small churches. Not all small churches are in-tune with the present day opportunities that technology has to offer. In this session we will discuss newsletters, digital projectors, presentation software, networks, listserv services, email, websites and more. (1 hour session)

BACK BY REQUEST ! EVANGELICAL SPIRITUAL DIRECTION! Led by Pastor Mack Goeglein. Spiritual Direction: What it is and is not...and why it is so important. Just as it is true that a physician who has himself for a physician has a fool for his physician", a strong case can be made against "loner Christians". There are, of course, many ways for the Christian not to be alone: church participation, pastors, friends, etc. Spiritual direction or mentoring has emerged among us in recent times and provides a very special way of "walking together: in the faith". (1 hour session)

BACK BY REQUEST! TRADITIONAL OR CONTEMPORARY MUSIC: PLANNING WORSHIP Led by Marceile Redmon (Director of Music at Light of the Cross Worship Center in Fort Wayne). Sometimes it is hard to know which direction to go when planning worship music. This session will talk about all genres of sacred music and how to know which will fit with your congregation's style of worship. We will also take a look at planning every Sunday worship music and liturgy. (1 hour session)

BACK BY REQUEST! WHAT WORKS! Led by Marceile Redmon. Networking can be a gift to the smaller and rural congregation. This session is all about sharing what is working in different congregations in the areas of stewardship, worship, education, and other areas of ministry. Bring your tried and true ministry ideas to share with others! (1 hour session)

BACK BY REQUEST! READING THE SCRIPTURES Led by Edward H. Redmon. For all too many parishioners Sunday worship time is the only exposure to a faith nurturing experience. In light of this, excellence in worship becomes paramount to faith formation. Effectively reading Scripture prepares the listener for the sermon message and significantly contributes to the faith nurturing process. This session is for lectors and readers who wish to acquire the reading skills needed to "bring to life" the stories told in the weekly worship lectionaries. Participants will be invited to read and should come expecting to practice the principles presented during our time together. (1 hour session)

BACK BY REQUEST! EMBRACING GOD'S GIFTS (PERSONAL STEWARDSHIP) Led by Brenda Dembroski (member of the IK Synod Stewardship Team) This interactive workshop session includes a Scriptural study of our personal giftedness, concentrating on our role in family, work, church life and the community. What gifts do we possess? How do we see gifts in others? How do we use these gifts? What kind of a leader are we? How can we better serve our Lord with gratitude and joy? (1 hour session)

BACK BY REQUEST! CONGREGATIONAL STEWARDSHIP: Led by Brenda Dembroski (member of the IK Synod Stewardship Team). How can we be strong, spiritual leaders in the area of stewardship and finance? How can we implement generosity as a staple in our congregation's life and purpose? How do we as leaders and congregation address the crucial mindset of scarcity? Let's explore the scriptures and discuss our roles as leaders together? (1 hour session)

BACK BY REQUEST! STEWARDSHIP WITH YOUTH : Led by Brenda Dembroski (member of the IK Synod Stewardship Team). How do you talk to kids about generosity? What do they think about giving, saving and spending? Let's look at some creative ways to motivate and educate our youth, the future of our congregations, and let them teach us! Take home resources will be available and we will have a question and answer segment. (1 hour session)