

Northern Illinois Synod
2009 Congregational Resourcing Event

Word of God. Word of Life.

Saturday, March 7, 2009 • 8:30 am - 3:15 pm
Kishwaukee College, Malta, Illinois

sponsored by the Northern Illinois Synod Congregational Life Committee

Schedule

8:30 am – 9:30 am.....	Registration, coffee, & rolls
9:30 am – 10:00 am.....	Welcome/Worship
10:00 am – 10:30 am.....	Keynote
11:00 am – 12:00 pm.....	Workshop Session a
12:00 pm – 12:45 pm.....	Lunch
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm.....	Workshop Session b
2:15 pm – 3:15 pm.....	Workshop Session c

Please copy this brochure and distribute to additional members of your congregation.

For online registration or additional brochures, visit the Northern Illinois Synod website at www.nisynod.org/cre or contact Nancy Corey at the Rock Island Synod Office, ncorey@nisynod.org 309-794-4004.

2009 CRE Workshops

Session A

(Note: Some workshops are offered in more than one session)

A Hidden Resource: Utilizing our Local LYO, Lutheran Youth Organization *LYO* This session will focus on how the LYO can be a resource to congregations, what young people are interested in, and the best ways to communicate with young people in the congregation

Answers in Ministry Support: Salary Guidelines and Mutual Ministry *Pr. Tom Rogers and other members of NIS Ministry Support Committee* Calling a new pastor or staff member? Wanting to better support your current staff? This workshop will suggest best practices for supporting the professional ministers in your congregation.

Book of Faith *The Reverend Dr. Matthew J. Marohl and Elizabeth Martin, Associate in Ministry* Welcome to the ELCA's "Book of Faith" initiative! The Book of Faith initiative invites the whole church to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered, and sent by the Word.

Celebrating Creation in Worship *Pr. Don Knowles, NIS Green Team* A sampling of liturgies and worship resources that celebrate God's creation and our call to be stewards.

Congregational Council Orientation *Bishop Gary M. Wollersheim, Northern Illinois Synod* Topics to be covered include: "God's work. Our hands.", tips on running a meeting, basics of parliamentary procedure, who decides what - congregational meeting, council, committees, staff, counting the offerings, overview of the Synod and ELCA, and more.

Current Trends and Practices in Stewardship *Pr. Kurt Nordby, Director for Evangelical Mission & Assistant to the Bishop of the Northern Illinois Synod* Come and join a discussion about financial stewardship. This discussion will center on basic elements and practices in the stewardship ministry of thriving congregations.

Diakonia: Adult Lay Education *Kim Halper and Denise Rode* Diakonia is a two-year process of spiritual formation and theological education for members of the ELCA.

ELCA Building Homes for Palestinian Christians in Jerusalem

Pr. David H. Nelson of Grand Detour on behalf of the ELCA's Mt. of Olives Housing Project Palestinian Lutherans and other Christians are leaving Jerusalem due to a severe housing shortage. The ELCA and LWF churches are seeking to reverse this trend by constructing 84 low-cost, affordable apartments on the Mt. of Olives in Jerusalem, creating hope for many.

Extending the Caring Arms of the Church

Pr. Daniel Schwick, Director, Lutheran Advocacy - Illinois Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) offers individuals and congregations multiple ways to do God's work with our hands. Find out how easy it is to be involved in our ministry through LSSI.

God in the Golden Years

Dr. John Prabhakar Dr. Prabhakar, a retired surgeon, will discuss advancing years and the joys that go with it, purpose and opportunities to serve God, how Bible looks at people in their mature years, and how God uses people in their Golden years. He will share God's blessing, purposes, and promises in his book *God in the Golden Years*.

God's Care in Time of Crisis

Pr. Daniel Schwick, Director, Lutheran Advocacy - Illinois Introduction to a four-hour training event for congregations interested in responding to natural or human-caused disasters in their community or in nearby communities.

Lift Every Voice

Pr. Daniel Schwick, Director, Lutheran Advocacy - Illinois How to organize congregation-based or multi-congregation based teams to promote justice advocacy (human care, earth care, etc.) based on ELCA Social Statements.

Make It Simple: Stewardship in These Times

Bob Sitze, author of Starting Simple: Conversations About the Way We Live (Alban Institute 2008) Participants will explore the contents and possibilities of the new ELCA stewardship resource, *Make It Simple*, an exercise in hopeful approaches to annual response and stewardship education, focused on the twin themes of simplicity and generosity.

Ministries with Military Families

Pr. Marcia Strahl, Synod Representative for Care for Returning Veterans, Doris Swanson, and Sue Smith, members of First Lutheran Church, Chadwick Does your congregation have a ministry with military families? If not, do you want to have one? This will be a resource sharing session to develop these kinds of ministries.

Moral Deliberation

Pr. Frank Moyer and Pr. Kurt Hansen This workshop will help participants reflect on the process of developing a position on moral issues. We will review relevant theories of moral development and examine Biblical bases for moral choices. Participants will develop and understand their own system of moral decision-making and open up possibilities for other choices.

Mwangaza Education for Partnership: Have

"Light," Will Travel *Mike Wadle* Mwangaza is entering its third phase of enlightening the teachers of Tanzanian Lutheran Secondary Schools. We will look at Mwangaza's leadership in sharing the Light of Learning through interactive seminars: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow.

On-Line Health Assessment

Bishop's Task Force on Health and Wellness Computers will be available during all sessions for any rostered leader who is insured through the Board of Pensions Health Plan to complete the 2009 Mayo Clinic Health Assessment. This will provide you with a better understanding of your health status, as well as how you can improve it. If 75% of BOP insured persons in the Synod complete the survey, each congregation and the Synod itself will receive a 2% discount on the premium it pays. You will also be eligible for funds through your Personal Wellness Account to offset out-of-pocket medical costs. To complete the survey, you will need to bring the following information from your physician: your weight, your blood pressure, the total of your low-density lipoprotein (LDL) and high-density lipoprotein (HDL) levels, your triglyceride level (fasting), and your blood sugar level. Computer assistance will be available if you need help with the online form.

Peace House Africa

Paula Dyrhaug, Director of Development, Peace House Foundation, Eden Prairie, Minnesota In the spirit of giving hope, Peace House Africa is creating a brighter future for orphans, vulnerable children, and their communities through nurturing care, dynamic education, technology research, and business development. We are building a major boarding school, Peace House Secondary School, in Arusha, Tanzania to achieve our goals. We hope to develop relationships with congregations who would like to travel to Tanzania, stay in our housing on site, and volunteer with our students. The session will outline our achievements thus far and our goals for the future.

Racism After Obama?

Pr. Frank Samuelson, chair of NI Synod Anti-Racism/Multicultural Committee The election of President Obama is a sign of progress in race relations and social justice in America. However, racism, prejudice, and oppression are still often daily facts of life for people of color in our overwhelmingly white society. How are white people involved in, and affected by racism today? And what can we do about it?

Simple, Effective Care

Dr. Chuck Olson, Gayle Kuespert, Sharon Beksel, and Connie LaFontaine The Barnabas Caregiving Program has helped hundred of ill, disabled, and homebound people since its creation in 1991. Caregivers have benefited as much as these special people. Come for a simple, effective, lay caregiving program.

St. Paul's Fun & Fit After-School Ministry

Judy Thess and Pr. Mike Lawyer, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Orion Ideas and examples of starting an after school program. Powerpoint presentation, handout, and discussion to help spread this children's ministry to fight childhood obesity and feed bodies, minds, and spirits.

Standing in Awe

Pr. Bruce Booher Reconnect with the experience of awe, so often neglected in our Nature Deficit Disorder-prone culture.

Thrive in Retirement

To be announced. *How to Thrive in Retirement* is a fun, interactive program packed with thought-provoking insights. Explore how you can prepare for your retirement and at the same time attain personal goals regarding your family, your congregation, and your community.

Treasurers 101 *Ms. Deborah Simonson Smith, Associate Vice President of Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA* Are you a newly elected congregational treasurer or haven't attended this workshop before? You will receive many resources in areas such as financial oversight, insurance, federal and state reporting requirements.

When Does Spaghetti Stick to the Wall? When It's Good! *Melody L. Kuphal, Light of Christ Lutheran Church, Algonquin* Looking for creative worship ideas (and ministry ideas, too)? In this fast-paced workshop, we will share a variety of practical ideas that have worked in our congregation and others. We'll also share your ideas and celebrate God moments together. Some of these good "noodles" are sure to stick!

Where Did They Go? A Ministry for Sustaining High School Youth *Dr. Bob Haak, Director for Center for Vocational Reflection at Augustana College, Rock Island, and Becca Pooch, Community Engagement Coordinator at Augustana College* A mentoring ministry celebrates unique gifts, passions, and interests of youth and adults. You will learn how to develop such a ministry within your congregation and will be equipped to recruit, train, and assess as it grows. You are invited to take this opportunity to reflect on the impact mentoring could make in your community.

World Hunger: The Next Step *Pr. Wayne Derber, chair of NIS Hunger Subcommittee* Learn more about world hunger and consider what might be the next step that your congregation can make to help feed the many hungry people in the world.

Your Synod's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) *Employee Assistance Program representative* Did you know that the synod has a benefit for your congregation's employees, in addition to those who might be covered through the ELCA's Board of Pensions? Come to this workshop and find out more about these services and how they can benefit your rostered and lay leaders.

Session B

Come and See *Mary Jo Brummet, Director of Communications, and Dick Carlson, Council Member of First Lutheran Church, Geneseo* Example of an ongoing multi-level campaign that energizes our members and welcomes unchurched members of our community to "Come and See" our congregation's facilities, ministries, and activities.

Constitution 101 *Pr. Roger V. Asplund, chair of Synod Constitution Review Committee and Mr. Bob Ramage, Trinity Lutheran, Galesburg* When was the last time your congregation reviewed its Constitution and Bylaws? This workshop will review the Model Constitution for Congregations of the ELCA and the process of amending your congregation's constitution.

Celebrating Creation in Worship *see description in session a*

Current Trends and Practices in Stewardship *see description in session a*

Diakonia: Adult Lay Education *see description in session a*

Ethnic Associations and Ministries in the ELCA *Pastors Keith Forni, Philip Mathai, and Frank Samuelson* Pr. Philip Mathai will report on the recent Asian Lutheran International Gathering. Pr. Keith Forni on the Latino-Hispanic Lutheran Association, and Pr. Frank Samuelson on the newly formed European American Lutheran Association. We will discuss how we can learn from and support these ministries.

Extending the Caring Arms of the Church *see description in session a*

Greening Congregation Action Planning *George Davis, Facilities Director of Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center* Format an Action Plan of how to go about creating a "Green Team" within your congregation.

Hearing the Scriptures *Pr. Jeff Schlesinger, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Princeton* When the scriptures were originally composed, they were passed on orally. In this workshop, you will hear an oral presentation of Paul's letter to the Galatians. Time will be spent discussing how this type of presentation may help us in our study of scriptures today.

Introduction to Foods Resource Bank Growing Project *Paul Youngstrum and Pr. Paul Peterson* Foods Resource Bank is a non-denominational mission program whose objective is to help needy people in foreign lands attain the pride and dignity of growing their own food and to become self-sufficient. Rural and urban congregations partner together to reach this objective. This workshop will introduce the program, how to get started, and share examples of projects in operation.

Is Your Church "Sound"? *Jack Belford, Director of Sound and Audiovisual, Light of Christ Lutheran Church, Algonquin* This open discussion session will outline basic sound needs and issues that churches face. We will also cover the fundamentals of sound and equipment. The session is geared toward the novice to intermediate "sound tech."

Jesus, Justice and Jazz *Peg Miller* This workshop offers up-to-date information regarding the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans in '09: information on venues, travel arrangements, housing, current plans, etc. and an opportunity to ask questions.

Joseph's Dilemma: "Honor Killing" in the Birth Narrative of Matthew *The Reverend Dr. Matthew J. Marohl* The story of the birth of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew is told in eight verses. Embedded in this short narrative is "Joseph's dilemma." Listeners are told that Mary was found to be with child. So, what was this righteous man to do?

Lift Every Voice *see description in session a*

Living in Harmony with Creation: A Family-Oriented Approach *Daniel J. Durbin* This session will present a family-oriented approach to enhancing environmental stewardship within your congregation. Thinking of natural resource consumption in terms of "family-units" can provide a very helpful, tangible way for the laity to implement environmental stewardship in their daily lives.

Session C

Lord, Teach me to Pray *Esther Prabhakar* This workshop on prayer is unique in that it utilizes a pictorial prayer book filled with words of God and photos of people you pray for. Esther Prabhakar, the Vice-President of our Synod, is the author of this book. Esther will explain how she uses the prayer book to enrich her prayer life and will share stories from India as well. Her prayer book is available for purchase. May the word of God come alive in our prayer life.

Make It Simple: Stewardship in These Times
see description in session a

Mwangaza Education for Partnership: Have "Light," Will Travel
see description in session a

On-Line Health Assessment
see description in session a

Peace House Africa
see description in session a

NIS Global Mission Update *(will continue through session c)*
NIS Global Mission Committee Members Learn how your congregation can work together with an NIS Companion Congregation in Arusha, Tanzania, or in Tamil Nadu State, India. Find out about congregational connections, student and school and library sponsorships, and NIS mission trips. Learn how the NIS works with ELCA-Global Mission, Lutheran Partners in Global Mission, and other agencies.

Sabbaticals: A Benefit to Congregation and Leader *To be determined* A common misconception is that a sabbatical is nothing more than a fancy name for vacation. When done correctly, nothing is further from the truth. This workshop will give ideas to the leader and the congregation for planning and executing a sabbatical, as well as implementing ideas learned while on sabbatical.

Simple, Effective Care
see description in session a

Standing in Awe
see description in session a

Thrive in Retirement
see description in session a

Treasurers, Finance Committees, etc. *Ms. Deborah Simonson Smith, Associate Vice President of Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA* Is your congregation ready to receive gifts of stocks and other types of giving beyond the offering plate? In these tough economic times, members give gifts that benefit them and the congregation.

Where Did They Go? A Ministry for Sustaining High School Youth
see description in session a

Your Synod's Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
see description in session a

Becoming a Truly Welcoming Congregation
Pr. Suzanne Anderson-Hurdle and members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Romeoville Are you passionate about reaching those who feel left out of the church? Do you desire to connect with the disconnected in your community? Join us as we share our journey of becoming a truly welcoming congregation.

Celebrating Creation in Worship
see description in session a

Constitution 101
see description in session b

Diakonia: Adult Lay Education
see description in session a

ELCA Building Homes for Palestinian Christians in Jerusalem
see description in session a

Hearing the Scriptures
see description in session b

Here We Stand: ELCA Social Statements *Jennifer DeLeon, Associate Director, Lutheran Advocacy - Illinois* How does the ELCA decide the church's position on contemporary social issues? What are those positions? What difference do they make?

Leaders of Color Enrich our Church *Pr. Philip & Joy Mathai (India), Ms. Freida Sullivan (African-American), and Ms. Esther Prabhakar (India)* Meet some Lutheran leaders from various ethnic backgrounds and learn how they enrich the lives of our congregations and synod. Explore how we can help to increase and empower more of these leaders.

Make It Simple: Stewardship in These Times
see description in session a

On-Line Health Assessment
see description in session a

NIS Global Mission Update *(continued from session b)*

Peace House Africa
see description in session a

Simple, Effective Care
see description in session a

St. Paul's Fun & Fit After School Ministry
see description in session a

Standing in Awe
see description in session a

Sorting Through the Alphabet *Ms. Deborah Simonson Smith, Associate Vice President of Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA* Do you understand independent contractors vs. employees, classifying employees for audit purposes, UBIT, CGAs, and other parts of the alphabet soup that you are required to know?

Your Own Personal Computer Help Desk *Mary Brodd* Got a computer question? We'll try to find the answer together! Get help on computer and internet issues in a free-form open lab format. Remember, there is no such thing as a stupid question!

2009 CRE Registration Form

Registration Deadline is March 1

Register online at www.nisynod.org/cre or use the form below.

Registrations may be sent individually or as a group by the congregation.

Congregation				
City/Town				
Total Number of Participants		Amount Enclosed \$		
Participant's Name	E-mail address	Preliminary Workshop Choices		
		Session a	Session b	Session c

Childcare will be available on site in the campus Childcare Center with pre-registration. Children will be with others in their age group and will be provided lunch and age-appropriate activities coupled with a lively and interactive schedule throughout the day. A free-will offering will be graciously accepted.

Child's name	Age	Parent's name	Allergies, medications, or other pertinent information

Fees

Registration with payment on or before March 1 is \$17.00 per person and includes lunch

Registration after March 1 is \$22.00 per person. Lunch may be provided, if enough are available.

(Please make checks payable to *Northern Illinois Synod*)

Express check-in will be available for those congregations registered with payment prior to the event.

Return this completed registration form by March 1, 2009 to:

Nancy Corey-Registrar, Northern Illinois Synod-ELCA, Augustana College - Lutheran House, 639 38th St.,
Rock Island IL 61201-2296 Phone: 309-794-4004, Fax: 309-794-2088, E-mail: ncorey@nisynod.org

Word of God. Word of Life.

Northern Illinois Synod

2009 Congregational Resourcing Event

with keynote presenter Dr. Matthew Marohl

Saturday, March 7, 2009

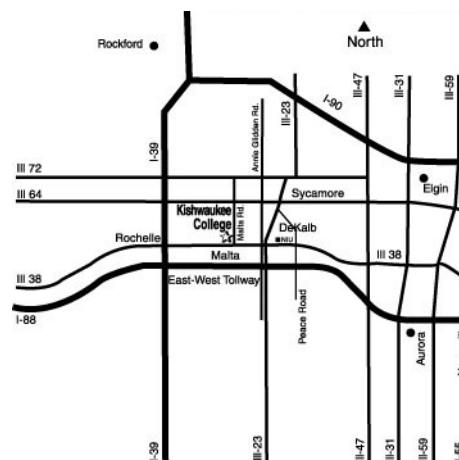
8:30 am-3:15 pm

Kishwaukee College

21193 Malta Road • Malta, Illinois 60150

between DeKalb and Rochelle on IL Rt. 38

Kishwaukee College is handicap accessible.



The Northern Illinois Synod's Congregational Resourcing Event is one of this synod's finest yearly events. Church council members, teachers, musicians, staff, volunteers, and leaders--everyone in a congregation--can take advantage of this learning event to strengthen skills, gather resources, network with others, and discover new ways to enhance congregational and individual ministries. Come, experience and bring home new ministry tools.

Change Service Requested

Northern Illinois Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.
103 West State Street
Rockford IL 61101-1105
www.nisynod.org



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