

21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference on Congregational Ministries  
Workshops Brochure

Registration Deadline  
March 10, 2010



## Mission and Ministry Across the Generations

Keynote speaker:

**Kristen Glass**

Director for Youth & Young Adult Ministry  
Vocation Education Unit, ELCA



Kristen Glass is a Director for Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, where she is responsible for providing leadership for the organization's work in facilitating the collaboration, cooperation, and coordination of ministry with both youth and young adults (18-30 year olds). This includes work with the 28 Colleges and Universities, and 8 seminaries of the ELCA as well as work with national and global ecumenical faith partners. Kristen is a frequent keynote speaker and workshop leader on themes relating to youth and young adults, lifestyle, culture and faith formation.

### CORE VALUES of the NJ Synod upon which these workshop are based:

• FAITHFULNESS

Rooted and nurtured in relationship with God through Word and Sacrament, we follow Jesus for the sake of the world. Daily prayerful discernment and striving for excellence in discipleship move us forward into God's future.

• RESPECT

This is about justice: justice for each child of God, honor especially for the least, and respect in all relationships so that they are life-giving, grace-filled, safe, and create peace, as the Creator intended.

• DIVERSITY

All of God's children together express the wonder and majesty of creation. Life in community, fully and richly inclusive and marked by unfailing hospitality, is a sign of God's Kingdom.

• GENEROSITY

To live is to give. Giving beyond expectation or reason can reflect the grace and compassion of the One in whose image we are made.

• CHANGE

The Gospel is about transformation, stirred by the power of life over death. Hope-filled people can change; hopeless people cannot.

• INTERDEPENDENCE

Synod literally means to walk together. Our journey together is experienced as accompaniment, committed to collaboration, marked by multiplication, and blessed with synergy as we engage in God's mission.

### TIME BLOCKS:

- a Workshops offered during the time block 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
- b Workshops *or lunch* offered during the time block 11:15 AM – 12:15 PM
- c Workshops *or lunch* offered during the time block 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM
- d Workshops offered during the time block 1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

- Lunch will be served at 11:15am – 12:15pm (time block b) and 12:30pm – 1:30pm (time block c), so you should leave one of those time blocks open.
- People with limited mobility who need accessible workshop rooms should register for the workshops of their choice and indicate **“limited mobility”** on their registration form.
- Workshop descriptions are submitted by the workshop presenter(s).
- Targeted workshop audience is adult, unless otherwise noted.
- Workshops that children will attend are listed at the end of the brochure under “Workshops for Children”.

**a Time Block (10:00 – 11:00 AM)**

1. 2010 Vacation Bible School - BAOBAB BLAST
2. A Discussion with NJ Synod GLBT Persons Task Group
3. A Formula for Congregational Mission Transformation I
6. Book of Faith As Tool for Mission
7. Bridging the Gap
12. ELCA Social Statement "Caring for Health..."
15. Engaging the Aging
21. Growing the Culture of Call in Your Congregation
23. How Do We Make a Difference? Our Voice in Advocacy
29. Israel and Palestine: An Update
34. Lutherans Feeding Friends
35. Ministry with Young Adults
36. Mission Adventures: Stories of Imagination and Strength
37. Mission and Ministry in Namibia
40. Moving from Pastor-Centered Church to Mission- ...
42. New Connectivity: Internet...Changing the Way...
47. Respecting the Neighbor's Bound Conscience...
50. Stepping Up to the (Offering) Plate
57. Where Are They and When Will They Come?
60. Worship in a Changing Key
63. Youth Gathering 2009 - 2010-2012
69. Devotional Family Life: Kids' Perspective (Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> grades)
70. Children's Program (3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grades)

**b Time Block (11:15 AM – 12:15 PM)**

3. A Formula for Congregational Mission Transformation II
5. Beauty, Body Image and Self Esteem - Real Life for Girls
9. Children's Ministry - Beyond Sunday School
11. diakonia...
14. Ending Childhood Hunger - A Call to People of Faith
16. Face in the Mirror: A Transgendered Experience
18. Gift of Light - Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs
24. How Is the Book of Faith Initiative Going?
26. Identifying/Calling People to Ministry ...
27. Immigration Debate: A Biblical & Lutheran Response
32. Lutheran Youth Organization: Then, Now & Next
35. Ministry with Young Adults
38. Mission Driven Church: What Business Are We in?
41. NCD: Potential for Ongoing Growth
46. RESPECT I
48. Social Networking Safety for Youth...and Ministry Leaders
52. Three Colors of Your Spirituality
53. Treasurers' Forum - for Treasurers...
55. Welcoming & Including Persons with Disabilities
66. Youthworker: Care and Feeding (and Finding)

**Registration Begins 8:00 am**  
**Opening/Keynote Address 9:00 am**

**c Time Block (12:30 – 1:30 PM)**

4. A Little Child Shall Lead Them
6. Book of Faith As Tool for Mission
8. Budget As A Mission Document
13. Encourage! Equip! Evangelize!
17. Fair Trade: It's Not Just Coffee - Shop for JUSTICE...
20. Green Buildings: How to...Green Church Spaces
25. I Can't Take It Anymore!
28. Impact of the Economy on Your Congregation...
30. It's Not Over Yet: HIV/AIDS in NJ
31. Life of Arab Christians in Palestine and Israel
33. Lutherans and Immigration
39. Mission Journey Groups: Conversation...
40. Moving from Pastor-Centered Church to Mission- ...
41. NCD: Potential for Ongoing Growth
45. Price Is Right Game Show - LSM Style!
49. Solar Energy Systems and You
56. When God Comes Calling
60. Worship in a Changing Key
62. Your Hungry Neighbor
64. Youth Ministry 101
68. Children's Program (Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> grades)
45. Price Is Right Game Show – LSM Style (3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grades)

**d Time Block (1:45 – 2:30 PM)**

4. A Little Child Shall Lead Them
5. Beauty, Body Image and Self Esteem - Real Life for Girls
10. Devotional Family Life
11. diakonia...
16. Face in the Mirror: A Transgendered Experience
19. Good Morning, Good Friday: An Interactive Youth Activity
22. Holding a Bread for the World Offering of Letters
25. I Can't Take It Anymore!
26. Identifying and Calling People to Ministry...
27. Immigration Debate: A Biblical & Lutheran Response
28. Impact of the Economy on Your Congregation...
43. New Visions Day Homeless Center
44. No Prep Bible Study
46. RESPECT II
51. Sufficient Sustainable Livelihood for All ...
54. Vigils at the Elizabeth Detention Center
55. Welcoming & Including Persons with Disabilities...
58. Will Our Children Be Stewards?
59. Work Hard/Play Hard
61. Young People, Their Powers, and Your Congregation!
65. Youth Ministry in the Digital Age
67. Children's Program (Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> grades)
58. Will Our Children Be Stewards? (3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grades)

## **1. 2010 Vacation Bible School – BAOBAB BLAST, God’s Great Get-Together (1-a)**

Encourage kids to have a life-changing experience under the baobab tree where they will have the opportunity to hear God’s word and be amazed at God’s wildlife creatures. As the sun rises and sets on the savannah, so too, will faith and relationships grow as kids explore connections with God, family, friends, and others around the world.

*Judith Bailey, St. John, Ocean City; Church Resource Specialist, Augsburg Fortress Publishers; VBS Director for thirty years in three congregations*

## **2. A Discussion with the NJ Synod Ministry with Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual & Transgendered Persons Task Group (2-a)**

The ELCA Human Sexuality Statement. The public debate over gay marriage. “Reconciling in Christ.” Have questions around GLBT issues surfaced in your congregation or in your own heart lately? Here’s a chance to ask questions, participate in group discussion, learn about valuable resources, and pray together for our ministry with GLBT people.

*NJ Synod Ministry with Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual and Transgendered Persons Task Group is made up of clergy and lay volunteers who joined together to be a resource for congregations that want to improve their ministry and outreach*

## **3. A Formula for Congregational Mission Transformation**

### **Part I (3-a)**

### **Part II (3-b)**

This two-session workshop will present a formula for understanding the dynamic of missional change transformation. Beginning with Bible study and prayer, participants will learn how to apply the formula to their particular setting, engage their congregation in making a decision to change, and developing a strategic plan for transformation. Workshop is limited to 15 persons. Each participant will receive a packet of materials useful for implementing the formula in her/his congregational setting. Participants are expected to attend both sessions.

*Rev. Judith Spindt, Assistant to the Bishop, NJ Synod; Director, Evangelical Mission, ELCA; Chair, Transformational Ministry Team, NJ Synod*

*Audience: High school – adults*

## **4. A Little Child Shall Lead Them (4-c, 4-d)**

Children can be our most effect evangelists. Learn how to reach out to children in your community and equip them to invite others into our churches. Programs and resources will be available for all participants.

*Linda Walker, AiM, Good Shepherd, Somerville; Director, Adult & Family Ministries, Good Shepherd*

*Audience: High school – adults*

## **5. Beauty, Body Image and Self-Esteem – Real Life for Girls (5-b, 5-d)**

This workshop is geared for adults to learn about the real life pressures that young girls face in today’s world. We will look at these issues with activities that adults can use not only to counsel young girls, but also to host their own workshop.

*Pat Crawford, Christ the King, Kendall Park; Youth & Family Leader for congregation; Graduate, Youth & Family Ministry Certification program, The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg*

## **6. Book of Faith As Tool for Mission (6-a, 6-c)**

How can Bible study and small group ministry lead and guide people to the work of mission? How can the structure and integrity of small group ministries help people find a desire to serve? How does the Book of Faith Initiative revitalize an entire congregation? Together we’ll explore and attempt to answer these questions.

*Rev. David Stoner, St. Paul, Hainesport; He’s served the NJ Synod for over 24 years in various congregations; His passion is adult education and the mission of the future church*

## **7. Bridging the Gap (7-a)**

Sharing of ideas and information to bridge the gap between adults and youth (including children) in worship. We will explore lectionary-based curriculum, puppet shows, bringing the lesson home and other means of creating intergenerational sharing of the Sunday experience.

*Rev. Barry Benson, Shepherd of the Hills (SOTH), Sparta; Team Leader, NJ Synod Evangelism Team; and Ronn Sacchiero, Minister of Music, SOTH, Sparta*

## **8. The Budget As A Mission Document (8-c)**

Congregation budgets “reveal” who we are. This workshop will provide a simple model for preparing a narrative mission that is based on four missional behaviors. The imagination and orientation of the familiar precedent-based program budget will be challenged by this model. What does it mean that Jesus said, “Where your treasure is, that is where your heart will be?”

*Rev. Scott Schantzenbach, Assistant to the Bishop and Stewardship Specialist, NJ Synod; Coordinator, Synod Mission Campaign, Mission on the Move*

## **9. Children’s Ministry – Beyond Sunday School (9-b)**

The church needs to renew its call to ministry with children – now! This workshop will look at children’s ministry programming ideas, as well as the theological imperative and sacramental nature of this ministry. Bring your own experiences, concerns and hopes!

*Youth Ministry Mission Team, NJ Synod*

*Audience: High school – adults*

## **10. Devotional Family Life (10-d)**

How does the congregation contribute to home devotional life and, how do leaders reinforce that by what goes on at the church building? What resources are out there? How do we get them to the folks? How do we count the cost? What needs to be developed? Sample resources include: bulletin inserts, types of Bibles, ritual devotions at specific times (mealtimes, bedtime, other daily set-aside times), devotions relating to the church year (Lent, Advent, so-called “ordinary time”). Examples will be provided and attendees are encouraged to bring examples from home or congregation.

*Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo, Gloria Dei, Chatham*

## **11. diakonia of New Jersey: Serving the Holy Spirit through Love, Spiritual Awareness and Lay Leadership (11-b, 11-d)**

**diakonia** is a two-year process of spiritual formation and theological education for Lutherans, or anyone wishing in good faith to study these teachings. The course usually runs September through May, weekly for three hours. Some homework is expected. It is an ongoing series of 12 five-week modules offered every two years and taught by Lutheran pastors at local churches.

*Gladyrose Rusch, Christ the King, Kendall Park; Chair, NJ diakonia; diakonia graduate 2002; Serves on the diakonia National Board and the NJ WELCA Board, and Marlene Tona, Cross of Glory, Aberdeen*

## **12. ELCA Social Statement “Caring for Health: Our Shared Endeavor” and Current Healthcare Reform Legislation (12-a)**

Participants will review aspects of national healthcare legislation within the framework of the 2003 ELCA Social Statement “Caring for Health: Our Shared Endeavor.”

*Cathy Malmstrom, Grace, Mendham; Co-leader, Healthcare Task Group; Justice and Peace Mission Team, NJ Synod*  
*Audience: High school – adults*

## **13. Encourage! Equip! Evangelize! (13-c)**

How do we encourage people to tell their faith stories? How does our setting equip us for “telling the story”? What are we doing now as a congregation to evangelize in our community? How can we learn from each other what it means to be a church that is sent, not settled?

*Rev. Linda Wood, Zion, Riverside; Member, NJ Synod Evangelism Team and MOM Implementation Team; NJ Synod Council*  
*Rev. Ingrid Wengert, Saint Matthew, Moorestown, Member, NJ Synod Evangelism Team*

## **14. Ending Childhood Hunger - A Call to People of Faith (14-b)**

In 2010, all of the Federal Government’s programs that provide food for low- and moderate-income families will need to be re-authorized. Expanded funding and new approaches to things like the School Breakfast Program can have serious impact on child nutrition. The workshop will explore ways the faith community can advocate for change that will help feed those who are hungry and contribute to a campaign to end childhood hunger in this decade.

*Rev. Bruce Davidson, Director, The Lutheran Office of Governmental Ministry in New Jersey; Serves on the NJ Anti-Hunger Coalition*  
*Audience: Middle school - adults*

## **15. Engaging the Aging: Adult/Senior Ministry-All! (15-a)**

Join us for a time of envisioning what ministry to, among, and with our adult/senior congregational members and friends might look like. View how one congregation is approaching this ministry, and please come with ideas, contact information, and hand outs to share from your own congregation.

*Rev. David Jones, Lord of Life, Tabernacle; Has served 3 congregations in NJ with significant senior populations, and*  
*Susan Dreisbach, Lord of Life, Tabernacle; Director of Adult/Senior Ministry*

## **16. The Face in the Mirror: A Transgendered Experience (16-b, 16-d)**

Welcoming all God’s children begins with familiarity. Cynthia defines basic terms related to the wide variety of transgendered people, and shares personal experiences growing up transgendered in a Lutheran congregation, her marriage and helping other transgendered people online and in person.

*Members of the NJ Synod Ministry with Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual and Transgendered (GLBT) Persons Task Group:*  
*Cynthia Majors, President, Tri-State Transgendered Support Group; and Sharla DeLawter, St. Paul, Teaneck*

## **17. Fair Trade: It’s Not Just Coffee – Shop for JUSTICE in Produce, Snacks, Clothing, Flowers, Toys and More (17-c)**

Put your faith into action when you shop for your congregation, family, organization, worksite and self! By supporting Fair Trade, we make choices in line with our religious beliefs and affirm human dignity by promoting fair wages, environmental rights, children’s rights, women’s rights, indigenous rights and the right to organize.

Plus we enjoy high quality, wonderful products we feel good about!  
*Mimi Confer, St. Paul, Teaneck; Team Leader, Justice and Peace Mission Team; Chair of congregation’s Social Ministry Team; Chair of congregation’s Offering of Letters for many years*  
*Audience: High school – adults*

## **18. The Gift of Light – Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs for Congregations (18-b)**

Participants will learn about opportunities to distribute free Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs) to their members and community, or to conduct a CFL sale to support their church’s ministry. The workshop will be run by GreenFaith, an interfaith environmental coalition.

*GreenFaith (GF) is NJ’s interfaith coalition for the environment; Founded in 1992, GF inspires, educates and mobilizes people of diverse spiritual backgrounds to rediscover their relationship with the sacred in nature and to restore the earth for future generations*

## **19. Good Morning Good Friday: An Interactive Youth Activity (19-d)**

Workshop will explain Holy Trinity’s Good Morning Good Friday program for children. GMGF is an interactive event that moves the kids through various crafts and educational segments to teach them about Good Friday. We will review detailed plans that will give you step-by-step instructions to coordinate such a program. We will also have a brainstorming discussion on how to kick off this idea and to build a network of active congregations.

*Mary “JJ” Keelan, Holy Trinity, Manasquan; She is a certified project manager*

## **20. Green Buildings: How to Build, Improve, and Maintain Green Church Spaces (20-c)**

Environmentally preferable, life-enhancing options exist for our congregations. Join this conversation to learn more about how your congregation can “green” your consumption habits. Learn how to participate in simple actions that will save resources and reduce the impact of your congregation on the environment every day.

*Jeff Spann, ELCA Church Building Consultant for Regions 7 & 8*  
*Audience: High school - adults*

## **21. Growing the Culture of Call in Your Congregation (21-a)**

Project Connect is a discernment initiative that focuses on young people aged 18-30 as it provides opportunities and resources for discerning a call to ministry. In this workshop we will hear an update about Project Connect as it enters the next phase of its life. We will also discuss and brainstorm ways that local congregations can cultivate a culture of call through existing ministries so that people of all ages will have ways to discern God’s call for them.

*Rev. Annemarie Cook, St. Thomas, Brick; Project Connect Discernment Advocate, NJ Synod; Has been involved with youth and young adult ministry for 5 years; Has completed a safe church boundaries training program*  
*Audience: High school – adults*

## **22. Holding a Bread for the World “Offering of Letters” in Your Congregation (22-d)**

Push for changes in the US tax code to benefit low-income families and help them lift themselves and their children out of hunger and poverty. Expanding existing tax credits to low-income working people will help to make work pay and enable parents to educate and feed their children. Tips for holding a *Bread for the World* “Offering of Letters” to members of Congress on behalf of low-income workers. For all – whether experienced or new to Offerings of Letters.

*Mimi Confer – see workshop #17; Audience: High school – adults*

### **23. How Do We Make a Difference? Using Our Voice in Advocacy (23-a)**

A look at effective ways to engage in congregational and public education on tough issues that challenge people today. We will focus on issues of homelessness, hunger, poverty, health care and other tough social issues. What is our faith calling us to do in this time? What resources do we have to help us to be bearers of justice?

*Rev. Bruce Davidson – see workshop #14*  
*Audience: Middle school – adults*

### **24. How Is the Book of Faith Initiative Going? (24-b)**

Wonder what the Book of Faith Initiative is all about? Looking for ways for your congregation to participate in the Initiative? Searching for assistance in understanding the four approaches to engaging the Bible and the five Lutheran keys to approaching the Bible introduced in the Initiative? Want some help in selecting resources for your ministry setting? Then this is the workshop for you!

*Rev. Paul Lutz, Prince of Peace, Princeton Junction; Member, NJ Synod Council; NJ Synod Advocate, ELCA Book of Faith Initiative*  
*Audience: High school – adults*

### **25. I Can't Take It Anymore! (25-c, 25-d)**

Are you totally stressed out? Are you ready to blow a gasket? Well, this is where you need to be! Join us as we learn how to slow down physically, breathe deeply to calm down mentally, and meditate to open up spiritually. This GENTLE yoga class will include ways to relax – body, mind & soul. Please bring a mat or large towel.

*Debbie Crawford, Grace, Freehold; Student of yoga for over twenty-five years; Officially certified as a yoga instructor; Congregational youth ministry leader*  
*Audience: Middle school – adults*

### **26. Identifying and Calling People to Ministry within the Congregation (26-b, 26-d)**

Ever hear this, “Why do the same people do everything? Why don't people volunteer?” In this workshop you will begin to understand why, and learn to practice a Biblical model of identifying and calling people of all generations into ministry within your congregation.

*Rev. Brett Ballenger, Prince of Peace, Marlton; Member, NJ Synod Leadership Team; He has served as Mission Redeveloper at Faith, Lavellette, and Youth and Family Ministry Redeveloper at Holy Cross, Toms River; Audience: High school – adults*

### **27. The Immigration Debate: A Biblical and Lutheran Response (27-b, 27-d)**

Experience a Biblical explanation of the experience of immigration and its ethical repercussions for the contemporary church. The importance of the role of the church in this debate will also be discussed, taking into account our understanding of the Lutheran teaching about the two kingdoms.

*Rev. Nelson Rabell, Apostles, Turnersville; STM in Biblical studies; Former President, Lutheran Latino Association of the ELCA, and Rev. Giselle Coutinho, Bridge of Peace, Camden*

### **28. The Impact of the Economy on Your Congregation and What You Can Do about It (28-c, 28-d)**

The economy has impacted families across the country. Your congregation is made up of families who may be dealing with job loss, an inability to pay bills, credit problems, reduced retirement savings and difficulty paying for college. This workshop outlines resources, including award winning financial education seminars, job loss seminars and trained financial advisors. This workshop will

discuss the economy and how you can help your members cope with the problems that arise.

*Robert Sunbury, Lord of Life, Tabernacle; Financial Associate, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans*

### **29. Israel and Palestine: An Update (29-a)**

This workshop will focus on the threat to Israel's security, the continued development of settlements and the economic situation in the Holy Land. It will also touch upon life in Gaza.

*Bob Marshall, Prince of Peace, Marlton; Chair, NJ Synod Peace, Not Walls Task Group*  
*Audience: High school – adults*

### **30. It's Not Over Yet: HIV/AIDS in NJ (30-c)**

Workshop will raise awareness that HIV/AIDS is still being transmitted and still claiming lives in NJ in 2010. It will challenge remaining stereotypes and myths. What does HIV/AIDS look like today? How can we join in preventing further transmission of the virus? What can we, as communities of faith, do to meet this serious health challenge?

*Laura Sanchez, Bridge of Peace, Camden; Lives in Camden, where she has worked in the fields of HIV/AIDS, family welfare, poverty ministry and domestic violence for 20 years; Her HIV/AIDS experience includes prevention, counseling & testing and education & training*  
*Audience: High school – adults*

### **31. The Life of Arab Christians in Palestine and Israel (31-c)**

This workshop will focus on the health, employment, education and social life of Arab Christians in both Israel and Palestine.

*Bob Marshall – see workshop #29*  
*Imad Hanna, St. John, Summit, Member, NJ Synod Peace, Not Walls Task Group; Audience: High school – adults*

### **32. Lutheran Youth Organization: Then, Now & Next (32-b)**

This workshop will look at the ELCA's Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) – a brief history, our synod's involvement in last summer's LYO Convention in New Orleans and the future shape of the LYO. We also want to hear your thoughts and concerns about possibly restarting a NJ Synod LYO.

*Youth Ministry Mission Team representatives to the 2009 LYO Convention: Jaleasha Caban (Christus, Camden), Jenn DeValue (Grace, River Edge), Anders Adams (St. Paul, Hainesport), Adrianna Gentile (Redeemer, Trenton), Amanda Gebhart (St. Michael, Cherry Hill), and Carla Ferreira-Advisor (St. Matthew, Union City)*

*Audience: Middle school - adults*

### **33. Lutherans and Immigration (33-c)**

A review of the ELCA's new Social Policy Resolution on Immigration. What does this document mean for congregations, the NJ Synod and our churchwide units? How do we educate and advocate around this new statement and its implications?

*Rev. Bruce Davidson – see workshop #14*  
*Audience: Middle School - adults*

### **34. Lutherans Feeding Friends (34-a)**

In these tough economic times, many NJ residents are finding it harder than ever to put food on the table. Come and learn about how your congregation can start a food pantry/feeding ministry and about LSM's Lutherans Feeding Friends program.

*Lee Zandstra, Saint Matthew, Moorestown; Director of Community Partnering/Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ*

### **35. Ministry with Young Adults (35-a, 35-b)**

A major concern of congregational and other leaders is how to engage Young Adults, people in their 20s and 30s, in vibrant and effective ministry within the congregation and in their communities. This session will introduce you to the current generations of young adults and to the very distinctive ways in which they approach the world. We will explore how to tap into congregational strengths and how congregations and other church-related institutions and networks can be places of energizing, effective and engaging ministry with young adults and a catalyst for intergenerational partnership.

*Kristen Glass, Keynote Speaker – see cover page for bio*

### **36. Mission Adventures: Stories of Imagination and Strength (36-a)**

New and renewing ministries abound in NJ. Hear the stories of congregations and neighborhoods that discover new life by claiming the Biblical witness and sharing faith conversations with neighbors and friends. Stories of mission are contagious and focus our eyes on God at work in our context. Come and find inspiration and contagious passion for God's work in your community.

*Rev. Linda Wood, see workshop #13*

### **37. Mission and Ministry in Namibia (37-a)**

We do God's work walking together with our companions in Christ, the Evangelical Lutheran Churches in Namibia. Hear about the stories of faith from the children, youth and adults in Namibia.

*Rev. Bruce T. Ewen, Assistant to the Bishop, NJ Synod; Coordinator for Evangelism and NCD; Certified ELCA Coach for NCD; Companion Synod Liaison to Namibia*

*Audience: High school – adults*

### **38. The Mission Driven Church: What Business Are We in? (38-b)**

We can't do work that matters until we define what matters. The conversation in this workshop will seek to identify "what matters." The workshop will focus on both the Biblical story and some of the organizing principles that congregations adopt (maybe unknowingly) while shaping their ministry.

*Rev. Scott Schantzenbach – see workshop #8*

### **39. Mission Journey Groups: Conversation among Mission Revolutionaries (39-c)**

Learn about the growth of Mission Journey groups that provide pastors and lay leaders with conversation, perspective, and encouragement about the missional church. These intentional gatherings are grounded by the six core values of the NJ synod. Learn more about the content and context of Journey Groups and how you can participate in the conversation.

*Rev. James Kromholz, Holy Trinity, Nutley; Team Leader, Resource Development Team, and*

*Frank Johnson, St. Paul, Hainesport; Participant, Mission Journey Group; Member, NJ Synod Mission on the Move Team*

### **40. Moving from a Pastor-Centered Church to a Mission-Centered Church: One Congregation's Experience (40-a, 40-c)**

As a result of attending this workshop, you will become familiar with a leadership model that transformed a small congregation into a dynamic mission-focused church. This process of change occurred over 5 years. At its core, this model builds on vibrant lay membership, collaborative leadership, and the Holy Spirit's guidance. Come and learn about this experience of growth and renewal.

*Rev. Sara Lilja, Senior Consultant, Dialogue Center for Counseling and Consulting, Cherry Hill, NJ*

### **41. NCD: Potential for Ongoing Growth (41-b, 41-c)**

Your congregation is a dynamic living organism whose health is constantly changing. No matter how healthy your congregation is, there are always areas for improvement. Come and learn how NCD insights can provide a more detailed picture of ministry so you can track the dynamic change in mission.

*Rev. Bruce T. Ewen – see workshop #37*

*Audience: High school – adults*

### **42. The New Connectivity: How Internet Innovation Is Changing the Way We Do Church (42-a)**

This workshop will not explain how to engage the technical aspects of our electronic revolution, but it will open a conversation about the mission implications of new technology. Evaluate the trade-offs and discuss how websites, email, listservs, Facebook, Twitter, Skype and other internet technologies relate to the identity and ministry of your congregation as the people of God.

*Rev. Clark Olson-Smith, St. Stephen, South Plainfield; and Dawn Appelget, Coordinator, NJ Synod website; Member, Mission on the Move Team*

*Audience: High school – adults*

### **43. New Visions Day Homeless Shelter (43-d)**

New Visions Day Homeless Shelter is a haven for the homeless or at-risk in Camden. Come learn about this ministry, how you can be a part of it, and how you can help support homeless ministries in your own congregations and neighborhoods.

*Lee Zandstra – see workshop #34; and*

*Kevin Moran, Director, New Visions Homeless Day Shelter*

*Audience: High school - adults*

### **44. No Prep Bible Study (44-d)**

Looking for a "no experience necessary," "no advance preparations required" approach to engaging the Bible? Looking for inviting methods to help others open scripture, methods that leave them wanting more? Then this workshop is for you. Participants will consider ways to engage scripture that offer powerful experiences of dwelling in the Word.

*Rev. Paul Lutz – see workshop #24*

### **45. The Price Is Right Game Show Lutheran-Social Ministries-of-New-Jersey-Style! (45-c)**

In the mood for a wacky game show? Come be a contestant as you make wagers, play the games and learn more about the amazing things Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey (LSMNJ) does all over the state. Prizes and how you can be involved in LSMNJ are included for all! Younger children (grades 3rd – 6th) are invited, too.

*Lee Zandstra – see workshop #34*

*Audience: 3<sup>rd</sup> grade – adults*

### **46. R.E.S.P.E.C.T. – A Little Respect**

#### **Part I (46-b)**

#### **Part II (46-d)**

At the 2009 NJ Synod Assembly, we adopted a resolution to move forward to abolish racism and look at the factors inhibiting people of color from experiencing the fullness of leadership in this synod. Join us for a guided discussion to seek ways to help congregations commit to a celebration of racial and cultural diversity, a valuing of all people and action on behalf of and in support of social justice for all. **Participants are expected to attend both sessions.**

*Anti-Racism Team Members:*

*Rev. Andrea Walker, St. John, Summit*

*Rev. Clark Olson-Smith – see workshop #42; and*

*LuAnn Barnes, Administrative Assistant to Bishop Riley*

*Audience: High school – adults*

#### **47. Respecting the Neighbor's Bound Conscience and the Heart of Lutheran Ethics (47-a)**

In the recently-approved ELCA social statement on sexuality, one important phrase was "the bound conscience." Professor Tim Wengert, who served on the ELCA Task Force on Studies in Sexuality, will lead participants to understand more fully how this term originally developed in the Reformation and why it may be useful in moral deliberation today.

*Dr. Timothy J. Wengert, The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, Ministerium of Pennsylvania Professor, Reformation History*

#### **48. Social Networking Safety for Youth, Young Adults and Ministry Leaders (48-b)**

The internet can be a wonderful place to reconnect with old friends and keep up with the latest news, but it can also make us vulnerable to deception, bullying, and over-exposure of personal information. This workshop will address these issues and will give helpful information on how to maintain safe boundaries while using sites like Facebook and Twitter. Live internet demonstrations will be used.

*Rev. Annemarie Cook – see workshop #21*  
*Audience: Middle school – adults*

#### **49. Solar Energy Systems and You: Is a System in the Future of Your Church or Your Home? (49-c)**

We will discuss the churches in the NJ Synod that currently have solar panels, what they did to get them and how they like them. There will also be information for churchgoers and homeowners on where they can get assistance to help purchase solar panels for their churches and homes.

*David Olson, Abiding Presence, Ewing; Retired Chemist; Closely involved in his congregation's move to use solar panels*

#### **50. Stepping up to the (Offering) Plate (50-a)**

In the first half of 2009, almost 37% of congregations surveyed by Indiana University reported an increase in giving over 2008. Congregations are looking for ways to remain engaged in stewardship ministry despite the economic turmoil. This workshop will investigate creative strategies for understanding stewardship as a "faith practice" among participants in your congregation.

*Rev. Scott Schantzenbach – see workshop #8*

#### **51. "Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All" – ELCA Social Statement on Economic Justice (51-d)**

With difficult economic times and serious issues of unemployment facing our nation and state, this workshop will give participants a chance to discuss the implications of our church's teachings on economic justice. We will look to see how the church can be a positive voice and just partner in helping to address the needs of those most seriously impacted by issues of unemployment, under-employment, just taxation policies, jobs & the need for a living wage.

*Rev. Bruce Davidson – see workshop #14*  
*Audience: Middle school – adults*

#### **52. The Three Colors of Your Spirituality (52-b)**

Christian Schwarz, founder of the Natural Church Development movement, has a new book which addresses "passionate spirituality," one of the measures of congregational health. Within each color there are shades, and then there are those on the "border," giving us 9 spiritual styles. God "broadcasts" on all 9 channels! Develop a deeper appreciation for your own, and for the others.

*Rev. Margay Whitlock, Zion, Rahway; Trained as an NCD Coach in the NJ Synod and in the ELCA; She recently heard Christian Schwarz discuss his new book*

#### **53. Treasurers' Forum – for Treasurers, Financial Secretaries, Pastors and Lay Leaders (53-b)**

Session will include 1) information on the NJ Synod's Office of the Treasurer, 2) financial control practices for congregations and 3) questions and answers.

*Tom Kull, NJ Synod Treasurer and Property Manager, and Beth Peroni, NJ Synod Bookkeeper*

#### **54. Vigils at the Elizabeth Detention Center (54-d)**

We will discuss who winds up at a detention center and why. We will learn about the conditions of detention centers and their effect on those held there. We will discuss why we do vigils there and how to put together your own vigil.

*Members of the NJ Synod Immigration Task Force who have led vigils at the Elizabeth Detention Center:*

*Cathy Malmstrom – see workshop #12; and Tom Solomita, Christ the King, Kendall Park*

*Audience: High school – adults*

#### **55. Welcoming and Including Persons with Disabilities into Our Faith Communities (55-b, 55-d)**

This workshop will discuss ways in which congregations can welcome and include persons with disabilities into our faith communities. Also discussed will be the involvement of the ELCA and NJ Synod in ministry among persons with disabilities.

*Jamie Roos, Diaconal Minister, Good Shepherd, Somerville; Chaplain, Arc of Somerset Co.; Team Leader, NJ Synod Task Group on Ministry with Differently-abled Persons*

#### **56. When God Comes Calling (56-c)**

As the Bible demonstrates, God calls various kinds of people into different vocations and tasks in the ELCA. There are a few different ways that leaders can serve the church in addition to becoming an ordained pastor. In this workshop we will hear stories of call from three rostered leaders who serve the church in three different ways. In the midst of their stories, we will be introduced not only to the leaders, but also to their particular ministries and how God continues to call people into a life of service.

*Rev. Annemarie Cook – see workshop #21*  
*Audience: High school – adults*

#### **57. Where Are They and When Will They Come? (57-a)**

Where are the young adults in our congregations? What are they looking for in a church? Join a conversation between two active church leaders as they wrestle with the issue of making Lutheran congregations hospitable and spiritual for 20 – 35 year-old young adults.

*Linda Walker – see workshop #4*

*Ralph Walker, Our Savior, Paramus; Former youth leader at First Lutheran, Montclair*

#### **58. Will Our Children Be Stewards? (58-d)**

Young adults are the fastest growing population segment filing for bankruptcy. Join this workshop to learn a way to talk about stewardship with your children and grandchildren. A set of resources will go home with each participant to assist you in building stewardship faith practices in the next generation. Parents, bring your child/ren with you to this workshop.

*Rev. Scott Schantzenbach – see workshop #8*  
*Audience: 3<sup>rd</sup> grade - adults*

### **59. Work Hard/Play Hard (59-d)**

Come explore ways rostered leaders can maintain a healthy balance of work and play. We will share expectations and realities surrounding work time and Sabbath time that can result in a healthy leader.

*Rev. Peggy Marks, Temple, Pennsauken; Team Leader, NJ Synod Leadership Mission Team, and  
Rev. Tracie Bartholomew, Assistant to the Bishop, NJ Synod*

### **60. Worship in a Changing Key (60-a, 60-c)**

A look at the changing style of hymns and worship music and how that affects worship, evangelism and a congregation's identity.

*Rev. David Jost, Pastor, St. Paul, Hainesport, and  
Denisemarie Porter, Assistant Director of Music, St. Paul,  
Hainesport*

*Audience: High school – adults*

### **61. Young People, Their Powers and Your Congregation (61-d)**

Young people are growing into their emerging powers – physical, emotional, intellectual, social, economic and sexual powers; and yet the church continues to treat them primarily as students, or asks them to light the candles at worship. This workshop hopes to call us to let me “be doers of the Word and not just hearers of the Word.” We’ll consider current research, theology, experiences and lots of practical suggestions.

*Jason Reed, NJ Synod Youth Ministry Specialist; Associate, Youth & Family Institute; Former congregation youth director*

*Audience: Middle school – adults*

### **62. Your Hungry Neighbor (62-c)**

The challenges and triumphs of working for justice and peace for our neighbors.

*Rev. Christine Regan, St. Stephen, Woodbury; Chair, NJ Synod Hunger Task Group; Involved with anti-hunger ministries for over 20 years; participated in ELCA Hunger Leaders Gathering in 2009*

*Audience: High school – adults*

### **63. Youth Gathering 2009-2010-2012 (63-a)**

Hear stories of the life-changing 2009 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans from adult and youth participants. Also find out all about the 2010 Northeast Regional and the 2012 ELCA Youth Gatherings. We’d love to hear your Gathering stories for 2009 or earlier!

*Jason Reed – see workshop #61  
Youth Gathering Participants*

*Audience: Middle school – adults*

### **64. Youth Ministry 101 (64-c)**

This workshop will look at the fundamentals of beginning and administering a congregational youth ministry program, with a major, but not exclusive, focus on youth groups. We’ll consider the practical and theological reasons for YM programming, the relational nature of YM and how to administer, plan and lead such endeavors.

*Jason Reed – see workshop #61*

*Audience: High school – adults*

### **65. Youth Ministry in the Digital Age (65-d)**

This workshop will explore the many and various ways youth and young adults connect with each other and how these networks can become resources for ministry. We will explore how Facebook, Twitter, Email, Texting, and other technologies can be tools for outreach, event planning, keeping in touch, and much more. Live internet demonstrations will be used.

*Rev. Annemarie Cook – see workshop #21*

### **66. The Youthworker – Care and Feeding (and Finding) (66-b)**

Please feed the youthworker! The (partially) domesticated *Youthworkerus Lutheranius* is a marvelous gift from God, but needs support, training and nurture. This workshop will address the needs of volunteers and paid staff, including a look at strategies on how to “staff” your youth ministry in healthy ways. This workshop is for both youthworkers and those who care about them!

*Jason Reed – see workshop #61*

## **WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN**

### **For Children: Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

#### **67. Children’s Program (67-d) (4<sup>th</sup> time block; #69. is 1<sup>st</sup>)**

Program for children will include Bible stories, activities, music and crafts geared for children from Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

*Children K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade will take a “b” lunch: 11:15am – 12:15pm*

#### **68. Children’s Program (68-c)**

Program for children will include Bible stories, activities, music and crafts geared for children from Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

#### **69. Devotional Family Life: Kids’ Perspective (69-a) (1<sup>st</sup>)**

Kids, teach your parents and siblings a nightly blessing, encourage your folks to read your Bible stories. Learn some table graces.

*Rev. Wendy Trozzo – see workshop #10*

### **For Children: 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

#### **70. Children’s Program (70-a)**

Program for children will include Bible stories, activities, music and crafts geared for children from 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

*Children 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade will take a “b” lunch: 11:15am – 12:15pm*

#### **45. The Price Is Right Game Show Lutheran-Social Ministries-of-New-Jersey-Style! (45-c)**

In the mood for a wacky game show? Come be a contestant as you make wagers, play the games and learn more about the amazing things Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey (LSMNJ) does all over the state. Prizes and how you can be involved in LSMNJ are included for all! Younger children (grades 3rd – 6th) are invited, too.

*Lee Zandstra – see workshop #34*

*Audience: 3<sup>rd</sup> grade – adults*

#### **58. Will Our Children Be Stewards? (58-d)**

Young adults are the fastest growing population segment filing for bankruptcy. Join this workshop to learn a way to talk about stewardship with your children and grandchildren. A set of resources will go home with each participant to assist you in building stewardship faith practices in the next generation. Parents, bring your child/ren with you to this workshop.

*Rev. Scott Schantzenbach – see workshop #8*

*Audience: 3<sup>rd</sup> grade – adults*

### **For Youth: Middle School**

**See workshop #s:** 14, 23, 25, 32, 33, 45, 48, 51, 58, 61, 63

### **For Youth: High School**

**See workshop #s:** 3, 4, 9, 12, 14, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 37, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 48, 51, 54, 56, 58, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64