

# NOTES & QUOTES

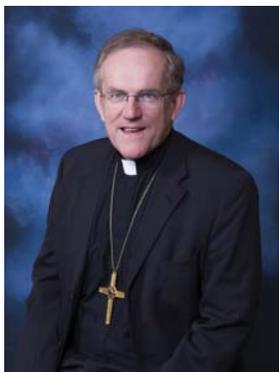
Volume 22, Issue 5

MAY 2009

## WAITING

Bishop Thomas A. Skrenes

tskrenes@nglsynod.org



*Waiting to drive, waiting to live away from home;*

*Waiting for the mortgage to be paid off, waiting to see the doctor;*

*Waiting for the tax refund, waiting for the dance, the game, the family wedding, the letter to arrive, the movie to begin,*

*Waiting is what we do.*

*Waiting for summer, waiting for the warm weather of Northern Wisconsin nights and Upper Peninsula days;*

*Waiting to go to camp, waiting for water skiing and canoeing;*

*Waiting for firecrackers and sunburn and hot dogs on an open fire;*

*Waiting is what we do in these early spring days.*

*Waiting for new life; waiting for renewal;*

*Waiting to be with the one who gave us life;*

*Waiting to be with our moms and dads, our sisters and brothers, our friends from generations now gone; waiting to smile in eternity;*

*Waiting is God, waiting for us!*



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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

BISHOP'S PAGES 1-4

TRANSITIONS 4

PASTOR JENNIE JOHNSON WREGE 6

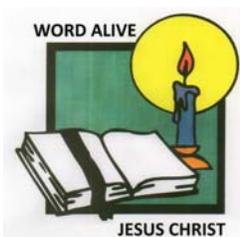
SYNOD FINANCIALS 7

THOMAS A. SKRENES, BISHOP (CONTINUED)

## GATHERING AS A CHURCH

## “Word Alive Jesus Christ”

Synod Assembly May 14-16



Synod Assembly time is now soon upon us! Called by the Holy Spirit, 350+ of our number will gather from nearly all of our ninety-four congregations in this important yearly time of worship, study, learning, reflection and decision making.

It will be a good event as our theme “Word Alive Jesus Christ” centers us on our ministry to be God’s people in this part of creation. Our days together will focus on God’s Word to us and how we can learn to use the Bible for God’s work in this world.

In my Bishop’s report to the Assembly, I made these comments about our time together in Marquette in mid-May.

“The whole ELCA is now involved in an emphasis centered on the Bible as *The Book of Faith*. Our keynote speaker at this Assembly, Dr. Audrey West, will share God’s Word with us as we open this book of light and life. This initiative is not a program of the Church. Its purpose is to renew all of us in our study of the Word of God. Book of Faith is a five-year ELCA effort, launched in August 2007, that invites this entire Church to become more fluent in faith’s first language - Scripture...There have been, and there will be, a number of events, studies and reflective opportunities for our congregations over the next few years as we further explore and learn to understand anew the Scriptures.”

May our Assembly be a place of the Word. May our time together in worship, in scripture reflection, in Assembly resolution debate and in meal fellowship be a time of “Word Alive Jesus Christ!”

*“May our  
Assembly  
be a  
place of  
the  
Word”...*

THOMAS A. SKRENES, BISHOP (CONTINUED)

## SEXUALITY SOCIAL STATEMENT AND MINISTRY RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE DISCUSSED AT OUR ASSEMBLY

The social statement *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust: A proposed social statement from the Task Force for ELCA Studies on Sexuality* and a second document *Report and Recommendation on Ministry Policies* will be deliberated upon this August at the Churchwide Assembly meeting in Minneapolis. I hope you have had opportunity to read the proposals that will soon be before this Church. While much of the documents are non-controversial, the recommendations calling for the possible rostering of pastors and other church professionals in same gendered-sexual relationships will be a matter of great concern. A number of our Synod congregations have sent resolutions to this Synod Assembly that deal with these matters. If you wish to read the resolutions, I encourage you to see our Synod website where all of them have been posted. Since the resolutions offer a number of opinions and conclusions, and since there may be more resolutions yet offered, the Assembly Agenda will allow sufficient time to discuss these matters and then to (if the Assembly chooses) make recommendations to the summer Churchwide Assembly on whether they should be adopted or not by this Church.

## OUR VISION FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY

At the 2008 Synod Assembly, a resolution was adopted encouraging the Synod leadership to “dream and envision who we are, and what we are to do, as God’s people called to live and minister in Christ’s name in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and Northeastern Wisconsin, and to formulate and articulate a vision of hope for our people, our congregations and our communities.” Also, at the May 2008 Synod Council meeting, a resolution was adopted by the Synod Council that lays out several questions that the Synod needs to struggle with including financial resources, Synod staffing, and support for youth ministries, as well as professional rostered leaders.

I am delighted that the Synod Council has taken leadership and ownership of this matter. We, on the Synod Council, have spent more time discussing these questions, concerns and dreams than any other single matter before the Council since the inception of the Synod. I am very impressed with the maturity, wisdom and insights that our leaders have brought to the question.

While we well know our limitations as a Synod, we, as a Synod Council, are a very hopeful and optimistic group. The Council is committed to the future of our ministry together. Great new ideas are coming out of your elected leadership.

Budget realities are not the driving force in any of our reflections. Yet we are thinking about the possibilities and ramifications of reduced mission support to the Churchwide ELCA and further reductions of staff on the Synod level. Difficult decisions are being made by congregations, the Churchwide organization and your Synod.

I am very proud of our vision for a growing Synod. I am very eager to listen to your thoughts and hopes for the future. Out of all of this may come a renewal of identity as a Synod. I have used “The Four Pillars” for several years now to define the four major emphases of our work together as a Synod. These pillars help me to articulate a vision for the calling and responsibilities of the Northern Great Lakes Synod:

**+Sharing the Faith**

**+Renewing Congregations**

**+Supporting this Ministry**

**+Strengthening our Leaders**



## TRANSITIONS

+God bless **Pastor Lynn Hubbard (Eden, Munising)** and his wife, Pastor Deborah Haffner Hubbard, on their acceptance of new calls. God bless them in their new responsibilities.

+God bless **Pastor Penny Olson (Faith, White Pine and Siloa Ontonagon)** as she has accepted a call to serve a congregation in suburban Baltimore, Maryland. God bless her as she seeks to serve Christ in this new ministry.

+Congratulations to **Pastor Peter Andersen (Christ the King, Escanaba)** on his retirement from full-time parish ministry at the end of June. Pastor Andersen and his wife, Marilyn, have been at Christ the King since 1994. Ordained in 1971, the Andersens will make their retirement home near Marquette. Thanks you, friends, for 38 years of faithful word and sacrament proclamation!

+God bless **Pastor Earnest Ness (Retired)** as he was recently hospitalized and is undergoing continued tests and treatments. **Pastor Nick Johannes (Porterfield and Beaver American)** is recovering from knee replacement surgery. Also recovering from a recent hospitalization is **Licensed Lay Minister Carol Neitzel (Our Redeemer, Champion)**. God bless these people as they heal and return to health.

+Thomas A. Skrenes, Bishop

# Thank You

## World Missionary Support

St. James, Rudyard  
 Calvary, Rapid River  
 Trinity, Stambaugh  
 Pioneer Lake, Conover  
 Bethel, Ishpeming  
 Trinity, Rhinelander

## Lutheran World Relief

Calvary, Rapid River  
 Holy Trinity, Chassell  
 Immanuel, Negaunee  
 Zion, Marinette  
 Prince of Peace, Marquette

## Seminarian Support

Calvary, Rapid River  
 Calvary, Minocqua  
 First, Trenary  
 Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp  
 Rev. David & Arlene Van Kley  
 Rev. Bonny Kinnunen  
 Robert & Lynn Aho

## Lutheran Campus Ministry

Calvary, Rapid River  
 Emanuel, Skandia  
 Bethany, Amasa  
 Trinity, Ishpeming  
 Grace, Gwinn

## Mosquito Netting Project

Trinity, Ishpeming

## ELCA Disaster Funds

Grace, South Range  
 Bethany, Amasa

## Tanzania Teachers' Gift

Bruce & Janice Collins  
 David & Mary Lou Blomquist  
 Lenn & Joann Seppi  
 Dale Eltman  
 Albert & Kathryn Sundine  
 Dave & Tracy Rowe  
 Peter & Trudy Johnson  
 Helen Ademino  
 Marian Gronquist  
 George & Jonelle Collins  
 John & Joan Lillie  
 Elaine Jalonen  
 James & Judith Quirk  
 Robert & Phyllis Gottschalk  
 John & Pauline Kiltinen  
 Helen Bjork

## Answer the Call

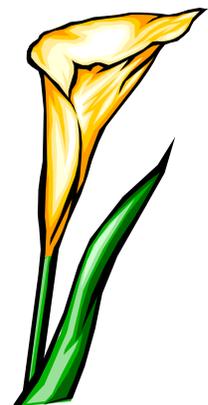
Calvary, Minocqua

## Lay School for Mission

Trinity, Rapid River

## Skogman Scholarship Fund

Bishop Dale & Jo Skogman



+ From the Assistant to the Bishop +  
 Pastor Jennifer Johnson Wrege

*For freedom Christ has set us free.  
 Stand firm, therefore,  
 and do not submit again to  
 a yoke of slavery.  
 Galatians 5:1*



On a recent trip "up north," which began in Chicago and concluded in Marquette, about every sixty miles I witnessed "climate change"!

In Chicago, the leaves were budding out, tulips were up almost ready to bloom, and the grass was green. The further north I drove, the temperatures were cooler, the trees less ready to bud out, spring flowers just beginning to emerge, and the grass still on the brownish side. By the time I was midway between Iron Mountain and Marquette, there was evidence of enough snow in the woods to cross country ski in some places.

One does not have to dig very deep to find buzz about the current environmental phenomenon known as climate change. People are all over the board about it, ranging from complete denial that there is anything to it at all, to a view that climatic disasters of every sort are just around the corner. But because the climate change I witnessed - the gradual arrival of spring - occurred the week after Easter, my thoughts moved to a kind of climate change that also happens among us - a change in the climate of one's heart and the change in the climate of a congregation. This CLIMATE CHANGE of the heart or a congregation is nothing less than radical because it marks the difference between living in bondage to sin and living in the freedom that Jesus bestows.

It's no surprise that all of us have had those things in our lives which we battle over and over again. Try as we might by means of our own

strength, learning, might, power, or resources we find ourselves still engaged in that same old battle. It's a sure and certain sign that we are in *bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves*, and that we are in need of daily forgiveness of sins and renewal as Martin Luther's *Small Catechism* teaches us.

In the same way communities of faith - congregations - also live and function in a certain climate. It might be interesting to think of some words that describe the climate of your congregation. Do you discern that there is a climate where people of all ages, skills, interests, talents, and gifts are encouraged to use their gifts in mission and ministry? Was the first word that describes the primary characteristic of congregational climate that popped into your mind "anxiety" about meeting current financial responsibilities? Is the climate welcoming and grace-filled, especially to visitors and guests? Does the congregational climate have an air of fear about it, especially when the congregation looks at embracing something new? Does the climate of your congregation allow for ministries to emerge, change, or grow that reach out to the needs of people in your community? Does the climate in your congregation strive to maintain things as they are? How have you experienced the wind of the Holy Spirit blowing in the climate of your congregation? Have you any idea about how the wind of the Holy Spirit will blow in your congregation in the next year or so?

As spring and summer march north bringing a climate change triggering renewal, regeneration, and life, so does Jesus move to bring renewal, regeneration, and life to each of us and to the congregations to which we belong.

What sort of CLIMATE CHANGES are happening in you or in your congregation?

Blessings!

## Pastoral Vacancies and Interim Pastors

Bethany, Covington - Pastor Scott Williams

Holy Cross, Baraga - Pastor John Autio

Immanuel, Escanaba - Pastor Jonathan Schmidt

Grace, Gwinn - Pastor Steve Gauger

First, Ewen; Our Saviour's, Paynesville; Trinity, Trout Creek - Pastor Gerald Anderson

Bethany, Perkins - Pastor Peter Andersen

Concordia, Palmer & Our Saviour's, Negaunee - Pastor Virginia Eggert

Holy Trinity, Chassell - Pastors Jimalee Jones & Peter Gundersen

St. James, Rudyard - Pastor Barry Levine

Zion, St. Ignace & Trinity, Brevort - Pastor George Kaiser

Emanuel, Skandia - Pastor James Duehring

Prince of Peace, Eagle River - Pastor Bill Hayes

Eden, Munising - Pastor Eleanor Russey

Siloa, Ontonagon & Faith, White Pine - Pastor John West

While the 2009 pledged amount for mission support is 2.6%, or \$27,020 less than 2008, through the first quarter of the year, actual receipts are .9% or \$1,767 less than last year. We offer our thanks to congregations who faithfully remit their benevolence gifts each month in support of the many ministries of the Synod and ELCA. Together we can make a difference in the life and mission of Christ's Church. *Betsy Koski, Bookkeeper*

As of 3/31	2008	2009	\$ Change	% Change
Pledged Amount	1,032,591	1,005,571	-27,020	-2.6%
Amount Received	193,504	191,737	-1,767	-.9%
Designated Gifts	34,433	34,798	+365	+1%



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**WE'RE ON THE WEB**

**[WWW.NPLSYNOD.ORG](http://WWW.NPLSYNOD.ORG)**

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**Volume 22, Issue 5  
MAY 2009**



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**ON-LINE DEVOTIONS FOR MAY 2009**

**[www.prayfaithfully.org](http://www.prayfaithfully.org)**

**CONFIRMATION STUDENTS:**

**May 3-9 / Zion, Skanee**

**May 10-23 / Trinity, Stonington and Bethany,  
Perkins**

**May 24-30 / Calvary, Rapid River**

## *Campus to Congregation*



May 2009

### News for our companions in the Northern Great Lakes Synod

from the campus pastor's office at Finlandia University

*“side by side . . . growing in faith toward God and love toward neighbor”*

## Sundays in America

Finlandia University recently had the privilege of hosting author Suzanne Strempek Shea for two days in late April. She was first scheduled to come in early February and wasn't able to get in because of the snow, but fortunately we were able to re-schedule. Perhaps she has some kind of snow curse because this time she was delayed a day getting out due to our unwelcome late April snowfall!

Shea spoke with a number of classes, shared her story at a lunch for clergy (one clergy person, actually!) and received an enthusiastic response as the final speaker of Finlandia's Writer's Journey Seminar, speaking primarily about her most recent book, *Sundays in America: A Yearlong Journey in Search of Christian Faith*.

From Easter 2006-Easter 2007 Ms. Shea visited a different church each Sunday which resulted in her memoir, *Sundays in America*. It is a very interesting look at the various settings, traditions, peculiarities and personalities (think Joel Osteen) that one might call church. Her experiences were varied—some congregations were experiences of worship and fellowship that were inspiring, while others she might consider down-right dangerous. Her book and visit caused me to think

about the task of the church to be the church. Yes, church is a gathering together for worship, but shouldn't that be to worship God and not the particular heritage or fashion of our community (think the Cowboy Church USA, church #2 in the yearlong journey in search of Christian faith)? But the church is really the people (not the building) and isn't the church sent into the world? Do people have to search for Christian faith on Sundays because it isn't visible enough on any other day of the week?

The very first church she visited was a lively Baptist church in New York and a woman behind her, recognizing she was a visitor, would lean forward at certain points in the service and say “Whatchya need, baby?” That seems like a good start in being the church—leaning forward and tenderly asking, “Whatchya need, baby?”.

### Highlights

**Diploma Works Exhibition, April 27–May 22.** The 2009 graduates of the International School of Art & Design will have their diploma works on exhibit at Finlandia's Jutila Center through late May.

**Campus and Community: Together for Good.** Finlandia University, the City of Hancock, and Hancock Public Schools are teaming up for an innovative collaboration. This is a strategic and creative long-term exchange of resources: Finlandia University educational and recreational resources exchanged for two Hancock School District properties: Condon Athletic Complex and the Hancock Middle School. We invite you to learn more about his initiative and its intended benefits by visiting the Finlandia University Web site.

#### Campus Pastor's Corner

With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on high?....He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:6,8)

-René Johnson, interim campus pastor and director of servant leadership







A Year of Prayer...  
A Lifetime of Praying!

prayfaithfully@nglsynod.org  
www.nglsynod.org/prayfaithfully

## Prayer Calendar - May 2009

1	Pray for <b>Pastor LaVonne Stephenson</b> and the members of <b>Our Redeemer, Newberry</b> as they celebrate <b>1 year of ministry together</b> this day.
2	Pray for those <b>3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders</b> who will attend the <b>Hearts &amp; Hands Retreat</b> at Fortune Lake these days. Pray also for those <b>adults</b> who will lead these young people.
3	Pray for those attending and participating in the <b>NGLS Spring World Hunger Gathering – Hunger Walk, Ride, Program</b> – this day, and for <b>Krystal MacClinton</b> (ELCA World Hunger), presenter.
4	Pray for the members of <b>Ukonga Lutheran Church (Rev Andrew Kinghomella), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania</b> and their <b>NGLS companion</b> congregation <b>Calvary, Rapid River (Rev. Steve Gauger)</b> .
5	Pray for the members of the <b>Synodical Women’s Organization Board</b> who meet this day.
6	Pray for the members of <b>Christ, Edmondson MD (Rev Bob Schmitt), Gloria Dei!, Arnod MD (Revs Tom Williamsen, Ana Langerak, Hudo Zavandro), and Haven, Hagerstown MD (pastor)</b> .
7	Pray for <b>LLM Carole Neitzel, her husband Dick,</b> and the members of <b>Our Redeemer, Champion</b> .
8	Pray for our <b>retired clergy and their spouses – Rev Leon &amp; Kay Lindquist and Rev Rell &amp; Louise Spickerman</b> .
9	Pray for those in our congregations who share their <b>gift of music</b> .
10	Pray for <b>those preparing for confirmation</b> – may they remember their baptism and the promise God made to them, may their faith be strengthened, their hearts opened, and their lives forever changed by the presence of the Holy Spirit at work in them. Give thanks for <b>Moms</b> , too!
11	Pray for <b>LLM David Mason, his wife Linda,</b> and the members of <b>Trinity, Stonington</b> .
12	Pray for the members of <b>Emanuel, Skandia</b> and <b>Interim Pastor James Duehring</b> as they continue in the call process during a <b>pastoral vacancy</b> .
13	Pray for the members of <b>Joy Reigns, Edgewater MD (Rev Nicki Parrish), Mt Moriah &amp; St Paul, Foxville-Greensburg MD (Rev Julie Brigham), and People’s Community, Baltimore MD (Rev Titus Clarke)</b> .
14	 <b>Praise to Jesus the crucified, now ascended Lord!</b> Pray for the members of <b>Synod Council</b> who meet this day in anticipation of Synod Assembly these next days.
15	Pray for those attending <b>Synod Assembly</b> these days. May the Holy Spirit be in the midst of our worship, fellowship, and discussions.

16	Pray for pastors who celebrate <b>anniversaries of ordination</b> this day – <b>Donald Wandersee</b> (retired) <b>53 years</b> & <b>Len Gilley</b> (Salem, Bark River) <b>6 years</b> ... for <b>Pastor Jonathan Schmidt</b> & the <b>members of First, Gladstone</b> as they celebrate <b>12 years of ministry together</b> ... for <b>Pastor Len Gilley</b> & the <b>members of Salem Bark River</b> as they celebrate the <b>126<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the congregation</b> .
17	Pray for those <b>seminarians commencing</b> at <b>Wartburg Theological Seminary</b> , Dubuque IA this day. Pray for the <b>pastors and professors</b> who have taught these students. Pray for the <b>congregations</b> that have supported them these years and those that will receive them as they go forth to serve our Lord.
18	Pray for those participating in and those leading the <b>Seasons of Pastoral Life Retreat</b> at Mary Grove.
19	Pray for the <b>spouses of deceased pastors</b> – <i>Dora Jane Swanson and Ruth Warmanen</i> .
20	Pray for the <b>members of Spirit of Life, Wilmington DE (Rev Clarence Pettit), St John, Essex, MD (Rev Lans Alexis), and St Luke, Hampden MD (Rev Michael Dubsy)</b> .
21	Pray for the members of the <b>Finance Committee</b> who meet this day.
22	Pray for <b>LLM Timothy Mulvaney</b> , his <b>wife Debbie</b> , and the <b>members of First, Trenary</b> .
23	Pray for <b>Pastor Norman Peterson</b> , Immanuel, Rhinelander, as he celebrates his <b>33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of ordination</b> this day.
24	Pray for pastors celebrating <b>anniversaries of ordination</b> this day – <b>George Kaiser</b> (retired) <b>42 years</b> and <b>John Shallow</b> (Good Shepherd, Peshtigo) <b>28 years</b> .
25	Pray for <b>LLM Judy Mattson</b> , her <b>husband Howard</b> , and the <b>members of Zion, Skanee</b> .
26	Pray for the <b>members of the Palmer Suomi Parish</b> and <b>Interim Pastor Virginia Eggert</b> as they continue in the call process during a <b>pastoral vacancy</b> .
27	Pray for the members of the <b>Lay School Board</b> who meet this day – <i>Revs Jonathan Schmidt, Robert Sutherland, Mary Weinkauf, Jimalee Jones, &amp; Devon Barrix, along with Pauline Kiltinen, Judy Mattson, Judith Quirk, and Bishop Skrenes</i> .
28	Pray for the <b>members of St Mark, Wilmington DE (Rev Fred Melton), St Paul, Cumberland MD (Rev John Duffus), and St Paul, Newark DE (Rev John Keating)</b> .
29	Pray for the <b>members of Our Redeemer, Newberry</b> and <b>Pastor LaVonne Stephenson</b> as they celebrate the <b>121<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the congregation</b> this day.
30	Pray for those pastors celebrating <b>anniversaries of ordination</b> this day – <b>Bishop Emeritus Dale Skogman</b> (retired) <b>44 years</b> and <b>Jonathan Schmidt</b> (First, Gladstone) <b>23 years</b> .
31	 Pray that the gift of the Spirit given first at <b>Pentecost</b> , given to you in your baptism, may be renewed this day and every day, guiding and nurturing you in a life of faithful discipleship.

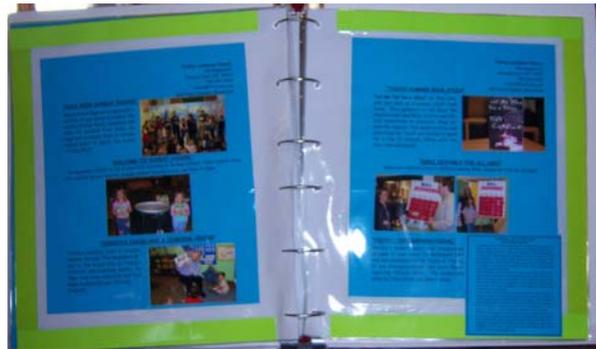


# book of faith

Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

What Book of Faith Events, Programs or Discoveries Are Happening In Your Congregation

## Northern Great Lakes Synod Collection Resource



Help build a collection of Book of Faith resource ideas for our synod by sending a summary page and a picture of ways your congregation has implemented the Book of Faith. They will be displayed in a BIG BOOK, similar to the one pictured, at the 2009 Synod Assembly. Email your resource/idea entry and pictures to [jenjohn@nglsynod.org](mailto:jenjohn@nglsynod.org) or use the form on the back and mail to: Pastor Jennie Johnson Wrege, 1029 N. Third St., Suite A, Marquette, MI 49855. This flyer and form may also be downloaded at [www.nglsynod.org](http://www.nglsynod.org).





# book of faith

Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Person submitting this resource/idea)

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_

Name of *Book of Faith* event, program, project or discovery:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please enter a description below:



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



# Tour de Revs 2009

**3 Guys, 1 Bike, 100 Days, 13,000 miles, 65 cities  
A Mission to Fight World Hunger**



## Mark Your Calendars for June 24, 2009!

**Make plans to meet the “Tour de Revs” pastors on Wednesday, June 24th and pedal in with them to Messiah Lutheran Church in Marquette, Michigan.** To bike in with Tour de Revs, meet at 5:30 p.m. ET at the Holiday Gas Station in Harvey (corner of M28 and US 41). We will gather in the parking lot located between Messiah Lutheran Church and the Synod Office at 6:00 p.m. ET. A light meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. upstairs in Messiah’s Magunson Hall followed with a program at 7:00 p.m. ET. A \$5 donation is suggested for the meal with the proceeds going to World Hunger. Please contact the Synod Office by phone (906)228-2300 or by email [npls@nplsynod.org](mailto:npls@nplsynod.org) and let us know how many are planning on joining us for the meal.

**The program is free to the public and will answer these two questions:**

- What are the realities of World Hunger and what can each Christian do to end this crushing pain?
- What is a triplet bamboo bicycle and how do you ride that thing?

## The 3 Rev Riders

**We are ELCA pastors dedicated to hunger and wellness issues.** We have over 70 years of successful leadership within the Church. Our commitment to wellness is what allows us to make this incredible journey (our average age is 60). The Tour de Revs was conceived five years ago and was given life in the summer of 2007. David Twedt, Ron Schlak, and Fred Soltow have been colleagues and friends for fifteen years and this ride has become a spiritual journey in the campaign against World Hunger.

From mid-May through late August, the three ELCA pastors from the West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod will put foot to pedal and seat to saddle and travel over 13,000 miles. They will make stops in each synod, the 2009 Youth Gathering and the Churchwide Assembly. They will bike into Marquette on June 24<sup>th</sup> from Lansing and depart on June 25<sup>th</sup> for Duluth.

## A Bicycle Built for Three...from a Tree!

Yes, the bike that will carry the Tour de Revs is a custom made BAMBOO, 3-person bike, which in technical jargon is called a “triplet”.



Bamboo has numerous qualities that make it an excellent material for a bicycle frame. It has excellent tensional rigidity with the dampening quality of carbon fiber and the durability of steel. This means it will be a great bike to ride- lots and lots of fun!

Bamboo is a readily available, self-generating, renewable resource that leaves no carbon foot-print. The bamboo is smoked and treated to prevent splitting. It is then sealed with tung-oil to preserve the bamboo while providing an au-naturelle finish. The drive-train and components on this exciting, unique bike are Shimano-Ulterga, designed for durability and dependability. The wheels are custom built to carry the 600 lb. payload over the 13,000 miles of the tour.

Craig Calfee built his first bamboo bike eleven years ago as a novelty for a bike exposition and has been building bamboo bikes for retail sales going on years. He has sold over 100 bamboo bikes to date. He has designed frames and complete bikes include tandems, mountain bikes, road bikes and triathlon bikes. The triplet he is designing for the Tour de Revs will be the first triplet bicycle made out of bamboo.

## Our Mission & Goals

**The goal of the Tour de Revs is to encourage contributions to support ELCA World Hunger activities.** We are seeking funds from individuals, congregations, and Synods to support the ELCA in meeting the \$25 Million annual goal set in 1999. Along the way, the Team will also encourage folks to set personal health and wellness goals.

We hope to achieve the following:

- **REVELATION**.....support this church in communicating our God-given opportunity and responsibility to provide for those less fortunate so that all may have adequate nutrition to sustain life and wholeness. The ride will also stress the need for everyone to take personal responsibility for health and wellness.
- **REVOLUTION**.....stimulate synod hunger committees and local congregations to formulate and implement realistic plans to eradicate hunger within this lifetime! We also want to get our religious partners active to make “wellness” a higher priority within this church.
- **REVENUE**.....with the help of all of our contributors, we will assist ELCA in reaching their goal of raising 25 million dollars for ELCA World Hunger. We believe this exciting venture in ministry can raise 5 million dollars. Let us always remember that this event is a thank-offering for the grace we have first experienced as we attempt to live out Christ’s command to love God and neighbor as self.



**ELCA World Hunger**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.