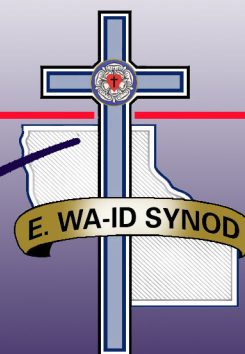


CROSS

Connection



From the Bishop

October 2014

God's beloved People,

I hope that the new program year has launched for you and that you feel good and confident about the ministry ahead! These certainly are busy days, and days filled, we pray, with faithfulness in mission. This is how we respond to the generosity of God and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit!

As a synodical church we've just finished a very good and productive Synod Council meeting, anticipating the year, launching new programs, and responding to Synod Assembly actions. As usual we were very well led by VP Gary Gemar, Secretary Paula Kenney, and Treasurer Tami McHugh.

This was the first time for the Synod Council to meet the four new Net-Workers and to get a sense for them as members with us, and their work to come. The Net-Workers have been on the job for a month now and all reported feeling their way forward with the congregations they serve. The next major introductory moment will come at the Bishop's Convocation, mid-month in Walla Walla, where the Net-Workers will meet, for the first time, with the pastors of the networking areas. Please pray for all of us as we launch off on this bold proposal for strengthening the ministry of our congregations!

Two items from Synod Assembly were tended to: The first was the resolution encouraging congregations to open up conversation with Thrivent representatives about how favored social ministries receive Thrivent funding. Thrivent representatives Joel Johnson and Chris Hoaglum reported that Thrivent is reconsidering how grants are made through members and that this process is being described in Thrivent chapters this fall. In direct answer to the question about

particular social ministries that may no longer be eligible for Thrivent funding, this policy was confirmed after Thrivent review and expansion of the "approved list." A more complete report to congregations is in the writing stages.

The second Assembly item referred the Synod Council asked that better "End of Life" teaching be offered in congregations. The Council was glad to hear that a solid task force is working on this matter and that a curriculum will be reviewed in January 2015 and available to congregations soon after that.

This was an energetic and enthusiastic meeting of the Council with several new members received, comments from former members reviewed, and lots of reports shared. It was a meeting full of laughter and great stories of congregations in mission. Faith, Leavenworth, in particular has a great story to tell about work they've done to install photovoltaic panels on a local school as part of their "creation care." Watch for the full story in the insert pages to the Lutheran magazine.

Here's the bottom line on this meeting: Based on Synod Council work and from congregational stories, to the group planning a great Synod Assembly for next April in Pasco, we are a church "making way," that is, under power against the cultural currents of our day. We are serving the neighbor and the world in Jesus' name. We are the Church of Jesus Christ, in mission, thanks be to God!

Blessings and peace,

Bp Martin Wells





2014 Idaho Summit on Hunger and Food Security "Together Nourishing Idaho"



Learn more about how
hunger summits are
organized from the
2012 Final Report:
[2012 Hunger Summit
Final Report](#)

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, October 28th, 8:00am - 4:00pm
The Riverside Hotel
2900 W. Chinden Blvd., Boise, ID

Greetings!

It's that time again - the 2014 Summit on Hunger and Food Security in Idaho will be held on Tuesday, October 28! Registration will open soon. Please visit www.idahohungersummit.org for more information.

2014 Idaho Summit on Hunger and Food Security attendees will participate in facilitated small group workshop discussions on hunger and food security in Idaho, learn how hunger and food insecurity impacts all Idahoans, and will be a part of the solution and identify "next steps" for Idaho.

Featuring Presentations From:

Dr. Janey Thornton
Deputy Under Secretary for USDA Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, Washington DC, will deliver the keynote address. [Read more...](#)

Hattie Kauffman

Author of *Falling into Place*, First Native American News Correspondent and News Anchor for ABC & CBS, and Member of the Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho will deliver the luncheon presentation. [Read more...](#)

For more information, please contact:

<http://www.idahohungersummit.org>
2-1-1 or 1-800-926-2588
info@idahohunger.org

Call Process Status

| | | |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| A Process beginning/congregational study | I Interim | AP Associate/Assistant Pastor |
| B Names received or on-site visits in process | P Pastor | VP Visitation Pastor |
| C Call in process/issued | CP Co-Pastor | AIM Associate in Ministry |
| NV New Vacancy | LP Lead Pastor | L Lay Position |
| TC Term call | SP Supply Pastor | TM Transition Minister (available for the open-ended call) |
| VP Visitation Pastor | | |

| POS | LOCATION/CONGREGATION | STATUS | PASTORAL CARE | |
|-----|---|--------|-------------------------|------|
| P | Blackfoot, ID – Emanuel Lutheran | A | | |
| P | Bonnars Ferry, ID – Trinity Lutheran | B | Kimberly Meinecke | I |
| P | Chewelah, WA – St. Paul Lutheran | NV | Betty Krafft | SP |
| P | Firth, ID – Bethel Lutheran | A | | |
| P | Gifford, ID – Good Hope Lutheran | A | Valerie Beesley | TEEM |
| P | Grandview, WA – Immanuel Lutheran | A | Gary Rhode | |
| P | Kamiah, ID – Faith Lutheran | A | | |
| P | Kennewick, WA – Lord of Life | A | Ron Shipman | I |
| P | Orofino, ID – Ascension Lutheran | A | | |
| P | Pocatello, ID – Church of the Good Shepherd | A | Barbara Harrison-Condon | I |
| P | Sandpoint, ID – First Lutheran | A | Bob Chenault | I |
| P | Spokane, WA – Bethlehem Lutheran | NV | Steve Wee | SP |
| P | Thayne, WY – Star Valley United Church | NV | Al Schoonover | SP |
| P | Terrace Heights, WA – Tree of Life | NV | Mo Garcia | L |
| TM | Toppenish, WA – Faith Lutheran | A | Jillian Ross | TM |

Roster Changes

Calls Accepted

Rev. Walter Klockers has accepted the call to serve Immanuel Lutheran Church in Moses Lake, WA. He began July 13, 2014.

Rev. Marsha Hendrickson, Ascension in Orofino, ID has accepted a call to serve in Flagstaff, AZ. Her last Sunday at Ascension was August 31, 2014

Rev. Joel Martyn has accepted the call to serve as Associate Pastor at Central Lutheran Church in Yakima, WA. He expects to begin September 22, 2014

Rev. Daniel Forsgren has accepted the call to Trinity in Coeur d'Alene, ID. He expects to begin late in October.

Installations

Rev. Kent Narum will be installed at Holden Village in the evening on Friday September 26.

Rev. Walter Klockers will be installed September 28, 3 pm. Dean Mary Daniels presiding.



Join us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/EasternWashingtonIdahoSynodELCA>

Presidingbishop

By Elizabeth A. Eaton

Divine foolishness

Christ crucified is God's clearest and most complete act of love



MICHAEL WATSON

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart" (1 Corinthians 1:18-19).

U h oh. Paul wrote this to the Corinthians who were going astray. They were quite

smitten with the elegant formulas of the Greek philosophers. The wisdom of the wise was a good thing. Foolishness, on the other hand, was considered a moral defect. They had become boastful, and Paul had to remind them that not many of them were wise or powerful or noble according to the standards of the world.

The Corinthians had begun to believe that their own effort and understanding was the basis of their life and faith. It's clear they had not read Martin Luther's explanation of the third article of the Apostles' Creed.

Their cultural context is not so different from our own. We value knowledge and power and privilege. And while it might have been true that not many in the Corinthian church were "wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth" (verse 26) we are now. We can't claim to be the 99 percent. We *are* the 1 percent. So what does that mean for the church today?

I remember the moment in a lecture hall in divinity school when I came to the abrupt and shocking realization that theology was not rocket science. This was quite disappointing because I was in a university full of actual rocket scientists. How could I hope to be taken seriously by other disciplines in the university—by the law school, the medical school, the business school—when what I was studying was the life and times of a Galilean preacher? I longed for a

lab coat, a briefcase, even a calculator—anything that would demonstrate that my discipline was just as sophisticated, and therefore valuable, as any other.

I wonder, sometimes, if the church is a little embarrassed by the foolishness of the cross. The foolishness is not just that the brutal and humiliating crucifixion of Jesus is actually the way God's love was manifested, but that God's love is so complete. This is the overwhelming simplicity of God. God loves us completely. There is no way or any need to dress that up. It just is.

A contemporary Christian mystic said, "The relationship with God is so simple and deep and true and the church just wants to glitz it up." Because this simple, deep, true relationship does not rise to the level of a complicated, technical, theoretical system.

We often obscure God with our "realistic," "wise" and "clever" schemes. So we set about launching programs. We develop five-year plans. We make sure that all of our congregations are fitted with correct signage. We look for synergies and metrics. Then we think out of the box, push the envelope, put language to it and circle back so that, at the end of the day, we've achieved a critical mass.

A contemporary Christian mystic said, 'The relationship with God is so simple and deep and true and the church just wants to glitz it up.' Because this simple, deep, true relationship does not rise to the level of a complicated, technical, theoretical system.

This is not to discount secular best practices or expertise. Heaven knows the church can learn a lot from the business world. But it is to say that our starting point is our helplessness. Our starting point is to get human agency out of the way.

In a sense, Paul's letter to the Corinthians is a "come to Jesus moment." Do we want wisdom?

Well, here it is—Christ crucified, God's clearest and most complete act of love. Come to Jesus. Do we believe it? Can we live it? This is what people are looking for—to be completely loved by the One who knows us completely.

Theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote that discipleship is "not hero worship but intimacy with Christ." Strangely, that intimacy actually propels us out into the world. In God's love we have been given our life so that, in love, we can give our life away. That is a divine foolishness. □

A monthly message from the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Her email address: bishop@elca.org.

This column originally appeared in The Lutheran's September issue. Reprinted by permission.

*The 2015 Synod Assembly will be held
from April 24-26 at the Pasco Red Lion!*

Volunteers are needed to help plan and put on this "Annual Family Reunion" of our synod. Get in on the fun as this promises to be a great event.

*Ken and Stephanie Tesch have volunteered to
co-chair the committee.*

*If you have any questions, please contact Ken and Stephanie at 509-942-9120
or Karla Olson, Synod Assembly Manager at assembly@nctv.com.*

**Certificate Program in Children, Youth & Family Ministry
January 5-23, 2015
Trinity Lutheran College, Everett, WA**



Trinity Lutheran College will offer a three-week Certificate Program in Children, Youth & Family Ministry, January 5-23, 2015. The program is designed to equip church staff, volunteers, and pastors for effective leadership in congregational children, youth, and family ministry. It is a terrific opportunity for professional development or those who want to become more involved in **children's and youth ministry**.

Students learn from a faculty in an interactive seminar format, including class discussions, presentations, conversations about readings, videos, role plays, and more. Topics include biblical and theological foundations for faith formation, Bible study methods, human lifespan development (birth through end-of-life), pastoral care skills, and program administration, as well as creative programming for service projects, Confirmation, intergenerational ministry, managing volunteers, spiritual formation, and more.

For additional information about training content, costs, housing options, and registration, visit www.tlc.edu/cyfcenter or contact Rev. David Ellingson at 425.249.4722 or david.ellingson@tlc.edu.

Synod Directory Update

We will be producing a new Synod Directory this fall, for distribution at Convocation in Walla Walla. If you have changed your email, have a new website or any other changes to be included, we would love to know so that the directory is current. Please send your changes or updates to office@ewaidsynod.org

Thank you



Whitworth University
Office of Church Engagement

YouthWorship 2014

Where? Whitworth University

When? September 26-27, 2014

Who? High-school-age musicians and leaders

Cost? \$70 by September 12, \$80 after



Join us for a workshop designed to equip and encourage high-school students to use their gifts and talents to lead worship in youth groups and congregations through dynamic teaching, group discussion, and hands-on musical-skill development with Whitworth professors and student leaders.

For more information or to register, visit

www.whitworth.edu/youthworship.

Questions? Contact Ben Brody (bbrody@whitworth.edu).



Wartburg Theological Seminary Offers Two New Continuing Education Opportunities This Fall!

Wartburg Seminary is pleased to announce two new continuing education opportunities this fall for those wishing to learn more about the Bible or our Christian tradition. These resources are available to all learners, regardless of training or educational backgrounds. Sign up on your own or take either course with others from your congregation!

LET JUSTICE ROLL



**WELCOMING THE STRANGER:
LOVING OUR IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS**

Join us for Let Justice Roll 2014

Theme: Welcoming the Stranger: Loving our Immigrant Neighbors

What: A weekend immersion experience for high school youth exploring God's call to "do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly..." The program will include cross-cultural conversations, field-trips, worship, and a fiesta with food, music and dance!

When: Friday evening, October 3 to Sunday morning, October 5.

Where: El Camino de Emaus, Burlington, WA

Cost: \$95 per student (includes lodging, meals, and programming)

Visit TLC.edu/cyfcenter/cyf_ljr.html for more information.
Questions? Registration? Email ljr.tlc@gmail.com.

Sponsored by Trinity Lutheran College.
Let Justice Roll is planned by a network of social advocacy-minded church leaders around Puget Sound.

*We ask that you keep the ministry of the church,
our synod, and the whole world in your prayers,
as well as the people listed below . . .*

Kevin Olson, husband of Rev. Karen Bates-Olson, for healing, after a successful surgery and good prognosis.

Rev. Jim Sheldon, as he awaits a heart transplant.

Congregations and Pastors in call process.

Rev. Tom Christensen, recovering from surgery.

Jon Browder, receiving hospice care.

Judy Webb, Region 1 FSO, on her upcoming retirement.

Art Blum, may he be completely healed from complications arising with a badly broken ankle.

Those effected by fires, storms, flooding and diseases that overwhelm people and communities.

Linda Howell, Rev. David Kappus, Kristin Koskella and Jim Peterson as they begin work as the Synod's Net-Workers.

Prayer Requests . . . to be included or removed from the Synod Prayer Request list,
please send your request to the synod office@ewaidsynod.org, or call 509-838-9871.

Pray with us



After the Harvest: A Church Journeys Beyond the Community Garden

Check out this great article about a congregation, garden, grant and partnership with the Extension by Pastor Megan Manlove. It was recently featured in Metro-Chicago (ELCA) Synod's online magazine "Let's Talk."

<http://mcsletstalk.org/food-and-justice/harvest-church-journeys-beyond-community-garden/>

Wonderful Continuing Education Opportunity!

Every year in late winter, clergy and lay people from across the country ascend the Rocky Mountains of Colorado for a week of continuing education, spiritual renewal, and winter play:

Theoprobe 2015

Winter Park, CO February 7-13, 2015

Presenters:

Terri Martinson Elton, PhD
Leading in the Midst of Change

Reed Carlson, PhD Candidate
The Prince of Persia: Five Studies in the Book of Daniel

For more information go to: <http://www.theoprobe.com/>

Pastor Phil Misner
Cell (call/text) -- 509-288-1862

Peace Lutheran Church, Colfax -- 509-397-2121
Trinity Lutheran Church, Endicott -- 509-657-3329

HOLDEN VILLAGE ON THE ROAD

October 17-19, 2014, Ellensburg, WA

Food, worship, Bible study, classes, crafts, outdoor activities,
update on mine / village renewal

Opt for entire weekend or 1 day

Registration: www.holdenvillage.org

Information: Cindy Shultz, email program@holdenvillage.org

You are welcome to participate in any of our events, but we have an event in Ellensburg, October 17 to 19, that we would specifically like to invite you to attend/invite others to come to.

This event is family-oriented with special activities planned for children. Our goal is to give you an experience similar to what you would find on a visit to Holden Village.

The special elements of life at Holden are included: worship, Bible study, teaching sessions, craft opportunities, a hike and/or outdoor recreation and family-style meals. You have the option of coming for the weekend or coming for just the day on Saturday. This one-day event will close with Marty Haugen's Holden Evening Prayer. The weekend retreat will include Prayer Around the Cross, Friday night, Evening Prayer on Saturday and a closing worship with Eucharist Sunday morning.

Featured will be an update on the construction at Holden Village, both the mine clean-up work and village renewal projects. Ample time and opportunity will be given to conversation and connecting anew with fellow Villagers.

The price for the one-day event includes lunch, dinner, snacks and activities for children ages 3 and up. Adults (13 and older) are \$47.50 and children are \$28.50 (3 and up). Children under 3 are free. The family rate (two adults and their children under 18) is \$148. Adults may come at the reduced rate of \$28.50 if they are unable to afford the full price. The price for the weekend event (\$113/person 3 and up) includes six meals, snacks, two nights' lodging and activities for children ages 3 and up. Children under 3 are free. Because we are charged by the local camp for each attendee, we are not able to offer an additional discount.

To register click [here](#) or go to our website, www.holdenvillage.org

Back to School Connections

Do you have a graduating high school senior who will be starting college in the fall? Our Lutheran Campus Ministry sites at EWU, WSU and U of I would love to connect with students from your congregation. Please send names of students and any other contact information you may have to:

Karla Neumann-Smiley, DM
lcm@uidaho.edu

Rev. Randy "Nick" Nicolai
lutheranswsu@turbonet.com

Rev. Shelley Brian-Wee
pastor@lcmewu.com



For the latest information from the Synodical Women's Organization, please visit our website at:
<http://www.ewaidsynod.org/womenoftheelca.html>



Eastern Washington-Idaho Synodical Women's Organization
Women of the ELCA

A Bowen Family Systems Theory Seminar & Clinical Training

Thinking Systems Day by Day

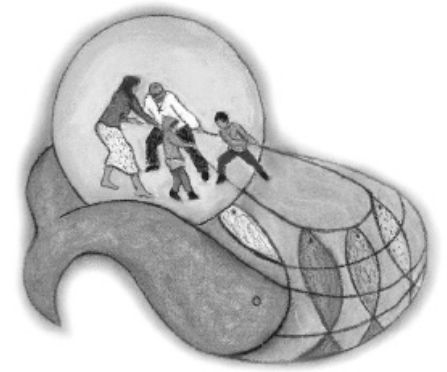
This unique, concentrated course of learning and study of Bowen Family Systems Theory (BFST) offering presentations and case study coaching is open to members of the helping professions and to others who have a working knowledge of BFST. There will be one two-hour session per month from October 2014 through June 2015. **The objective is to assist individuals in the study and learning of BFST and to encourage the practice of applying systems thinking to the individual's personal and professional lives.**

The first session will be on **Thursday, October 16, 2014, 1:30 p.m. at Salem Lutheran Church, 1428 W. Broadway Ave.** Following sessions are scheduled for the third Thursday of each month at 1:30 p.m., although changes to the schedule are possible with the agreement of other participants. The seminar will be limited to eight full participants. Those who only wish to attend only some of the sessions may do so. *Contact W. T. Soeldner for interest in the course or for questions either by email waltsoe@allmail.net or by phone (509)270-6995.*

**EASTERN
WASHINGTON
IDAHO SYNOD**

of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

314 S. Spruce St., Suite A
Spokane, WA 99201-5823



**October 2014
Newsletter**

Let Down the Nets
Lifting Our Vision
Jesus First, Last, Always
God's Grace, Our Gratitude
The Spirit Powers Us
No Fear! Transformation
Connections Multiply Miracles
Go, Tell & Serve



Please reproduce any and all articles for publication in congregational newsletters or bulletins.
The **Cross Connection** is also available on the synod website at
<http://www.ewaidsynod.org/synodpublications.html>.
Deadline for articles is the 5th of each month.

Synod Calendar

September 2014

- 21 Celebration Lutheran - East Wenatchee
Festival and Open House 1:00 pm
- 28 Rev. Klockers Installation
Immanuel - Moses Lake

October 2014

- 3-5 Let Justice Roll - Burlington, WA
- 4 Mission Interpreter Training
10:00 - 2:00 Immanuel, Moses Lake
- 12 Deans' Meeting
- 13-16 Bishop's Convocation
Walla, Walla, WA
- 15 Free Lectuer by Dr. Tim Wengert
Marcus Whitman - W²
- 24-25 Candidacy Meeting
Spokane

November 2014

- 17-19 First Call Theological Education



Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our Hands

Staff

- Bishop The Rev. Martin Wells
- Director for Evangelical Missions .. The Rev. Helga Jansons
- Program Administrator Cathy Steiner
- Assembly Manager Karla Olson
- Communication Director Gib Dominguez
- Net-Worker Linda Howell
- Net-Worker The Rev. David Kappus
- Net-Worker Kristin Koskella
- Net-Worker Jim Peterson