

# THE BUILDER-----

-----A PUBLICATION OF THE NORTHWEST CONFERENCE-----

-----OF THE INDIANA-KENTUCKY SYNOD, ELCA

Volume 2010, Issue 2

July 9, 2010

*The Builder* is intended to share information with the parish leaders in our conference. Please make additional copies of this newsletter and share them with other leaders in your congregation. Please send information about events or activities that are taking place in your parish so we can share it through this newsletter. Send it to: [darlenedeck@verizon.net](mailto:darlenedeck@verizon.net)

THANK YOU!

The following article includes excerpts from a message (6/21/10) from Pat Hansen, Global Missions Committee Florida-Bahamas Synod. She works closely with the Lutheran congregations in Haiti. This was her first trip to Haiti since the earthquake.

## REFLECTION ON HAITI

"We traveled to Haiti to spend a week assessing the situation. The first sites to be worked on may be in Carrefour where the church was completely destroyed. This was decided upon because this congregation has been in this area for many years. The construction will be a multi-purpose community center. The second site may be the completion of a large community center located in Thiotte. This center was begun several years ago by Lutheran World Federation & Thiotte cooperative but there was not sufficient money to complete it. ELCA plans to work with Haiti for five years.

"We were able to visit a camp which is one of three monitored by the Lutheran World Federation. The Haitians are trying very hard to live as normally as possible, but there is still the fear of more tremors and quakes. They sleep in the tent cities at night and then go out to work during the day returning to their homes to change clothes, sometimes prepare meals and then return to the tent city.

"We were invited to a meeting held in the ACT building not far from the Guest House[where we stay]. ACT is the organization of Churches Acting Together and Lutheran World Federation has been an active part of that group for many years as they have responded to one disaster after another. Dr. Olav Tviet, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches helped to chair the meeting. Lutheran World Federation and other protestant and civil representatives were present and gave descriptions of what was happening with their groups. The Catholics and Episcopalians were not represented. There is great concern about working together to solve problems – especially the fear of another disaster with a hurricane when people are in tents that cannot withstand the torrential rain.

"There are acres upon acres of tent cities visible from Port-au-Prince to Leogane. Like a tornado, the earthquake smashed dozens of houses and left one or two standing. Because Haitian buildings have concrete roofs, when the walls crumbled the structures simply pancaked. We were impressed with the resilience and determination of the Haitians to keep going. They have a great sense of community which is missing in many of our cities. It will take a long time to recover but with our help a new Haiti will rise and become stronger."

CONFERENCE NEWS BRIEFS

**ELECTION RESULTS**

Janet Bakken, a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Michigan City, was elected to serve on Synod Council as our conference representative. She replaces Paul Knoerzer, who has served as our representative for 2 terms.

Nancy Walter, a member of Holy Shepherd, St. John was elected to serve as a delegate to the 2011 Churchwide Assembly. Janet Bakken is the alternate.

Nick Prabhu, a member of Holy Shepherd, St. John was elected to serve on the Synod Council and to serve as a delegate to the 2011 Churchwide Assembly.

Pr. Charles Strietelmeier, pastor at Augustana, Hobart was elected to serve on the Synod Council.

The elections for the following positions will take place at the Fall Conference Assembly, October 17

Conference Secretary	Council Members:	1 lay female
Conference Treasurer		2 lay males
		2 clergy

If you know of anyone who would be interested in serving on the council, please contact the Nominating Committee: Virginia Murray and Pr. Roger Storms

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Hope Lutheran Community, Crown Point, Indiana, July, 2010

Hope Lutheran Community has been financing bill boards advertizing Hope Lutheran throughout Crown Point for the last few months. We have a contract to have bill boards through December, 2010

In August, Hope will canvas a mile radius around the church and place door knob flyers on the doors of the residences.

As of July, there are 10 Crown Point residents who faithfully attend each Sunday. Because of various visitors and family members of the 10 who attend on occasion, Hope usually has between 17-20 attend worship each Sunday. Those from Crown Point who attend are now volunteering to be lectors and communion assistants.

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, Bishop Stuck will be the guest presider/preacher at Hope and on July 18<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Michael Zurek (Holy Shepherd, St. John) will be the guest presider/preacher.

One of Nancy Walter's internship sites is being an assistant at Hope. At least once each month, Nancy preaches at Hope and when she is present and not preaching, she serves as assistant minister.

Freda Scales, Pastor  
Hope Lutheran Community  
219.241.0380  
701 E. Clark Street  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
[www.elcahope.com](http://www.elcahope.com)

## NORTHWEST INDIANA CONFERENCE CALENDAR: JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER

### JULY

- 19 Conference Council Meeting – 7:00 pm – Augustana, Hobart
- 25 Installation Service: Pastor Justin Baxter, 3 pm - Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Merrillville

### AUGUST

- 14 Lutheran World Relief Workshop– First United, Hammond

### SEPTEMBER

- 9 Diakonia – Course: Old Testament begins- 7pm – 10 pm – Augustana, Hobart
- 11 Installation of Bishop-elect, William Gafkjen  
Northwest Indiana Ministerium – Stole & Scroll – Valparaiso University  
Conference Outreach & Evangelism Team Meeting
- 17-18 I-K Synod Council Meeting
- 20 Conference Council Meeting – 7:00 pm – Augustana, Hobart

### LOOKING AHEAD

- October 2 – NWI Cluster, Women of the ELCA – Fall Retreat – Gloria Dei, Highland
  - October 14 – Diakonia – Course: Christian Doctrine begins -7 pm – 10 pm –Augustana, Hobart
  - October 17 – Fall Conference Assembly – Trinity, Valparaiso
  - October 30 – Lutheran World Relief shipping date – Christ Lutheran Church, Valparaiso
  - November 7 - 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Gary
  - November 7 – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Cross of Christ, Crown Point (LOFS)
- NOTE: Deadline for articles and information for next issue of the newsletter is SEPTEMBER 1ST

## CONGREGATIONS NEWS BRIEFS

Center for Congregations is hosting a “Flourishing Congregations” workshop on October 14<sup>th</sup> at the Radisson Hotel at Star Plaza. The cost is \$50 per congregation. Must have at least two people attending, but no more than 5.

For more information: [www.centerforcongregations.org](http://www.centerforcongregations.org). or contact Andrew Bailey at [pastorajbailey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pastorajbailey@sbcglobal.net).

### **Wanted: Worship and Arts Director, Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, St. John, IN**

Responsible for developing and maintaining a varied worship program in a growing and dynamic congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in a Northwest Indiana suburb of Chicago. Plays an Allen electronic organ, directs musicians for both traditional and contemporary Lutheran worship services, and provides some musical leadership for youth and children. Also integrates other artistic worship expressions into the congregation’s worship life. Entails regular weekend and evening work. Full-time with benefits. Submit resumes and references to Pastor Mark Vance at [hslcmvance@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hslcmvance@sbcglobal.net).

Cross of Christ is celebrating it’s 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on November 7<sup>th</sup> with one service at 10 a.m. followed by appetizers in the fellowship hall. A dinner is planned for 2 p.m. at Salem Fellowship Hall located behind Lakes of the Four Seasons. Tickets for the dinner will be available September 12-October 31, 2010 - \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for children 12 and under. Please call the church office at 988-3650 for more information.

From the Conference Dean,

I am Pastor Andrew Bailey. I was elected dean of the conference at the May ministerium meeting at St. Paul Lutheran in Michigan City. I have served at Griffith Lutheran for eight years. My first call was at Bethany Lutheran, LaPorte. I am married to my wife, Rebecca; and have four young children.

My primary duty as dean is to be a liaison between the synod office and conference congregations. My first duty as dean will be to install Pastor Justin Baxter at Emmanuel, Merrillville on July 25<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm.

If you have any questions or comments which need addressing you may contact me at [pastorajbailey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pastorajbailey@sbcglobal.net), 219-838-1626 (w) or 210-742-3119 (cell).

God's blessings,  
Rev. Andrew J. Bailey, Dean

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DIAKONIA "...equipping the saints for diakonia; building up the Body of Christ" (Eph. 4:12)

What is diakonia?

The program is a two-year process of spiritual formation and theological education for baptized members of the Evangelical Lutheran church in America or anyone wishing in good faith to study these teachings: The process occurs in three basic ways:

- by thorough grounding in the classic seminary disciplines of practical, systematic, historical and Biblical theology;
- by identifying particular skills and aptitudes in ministry and encouraging their use in the local parish;
- by providing spiritual growth through worship, retreat, and a supportive community of fellow students, mentors, and instructors.

Diakonia is a two year course of study which consists of twelve courses – six courses each year. Each course is five weeks in length, meeting once a week for three hours.(7-10 pm) Classes are held at Augustana Lutheran Church, 207 N. Kelly St., Hobart, IN

On Saturday, May 22, at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Schaumburg, IL, 30 students graduated from this year's diaconia program. Classes are held in several locations throughout the Chicago area. 10 of these graduates are from Northwest Indiana Conference. They included:

- Don MacMillan from Augustana, Hobart
- Janet Bakken, Donna Knoll, Virginia Murray & Bonnie Ziesmer from St. Paul, Michigan City
- Paul Knoerzer, Corlin Stein, Kathy Stein, Nancy Walter & Jack Walter from Holy Shepherd, St. John.

Schedule for the courses beginning in the fall are:

Old Testament: September 9, 16, 23, 30, October 7 -

Instructor: George C. Heider – Associate Professor of Theology, Valparaiso Univ.

Christian Doctrine: October 14, 21, 28, November 4, 11

Instructor: Christine Schrey –

Differentiating Our Faith in an American Context: November 18, December, 2, 9, 16, January 6

Instructor: Pr. Mark Vance – Pastor, Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, St. John, IN

For additional information and registration forms contact: Rebecca Dahlstrom, 708-763-0879

## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF WORKSHOP

*"Only white towels and put everything in a nice plastic bag." I get really nice towels at Goodwill."  
"No nail files. They're considered weapons." "A cross right in the center would look so nice?"  
"Warm countries don't need quilts." "LWR just needs kits. That's all they do." "Malaria nets -  
Huh?"*

You'd be surprised at the misinformation out there – unless you've spent time going through kits for an ingathering. Such an event at our 2007 Biennial Synodical Women's Organization (SWO) convention brought home the need for a Lutheran World Relief Workshop in difference clusters (conference) throughout the I-K Synod.

The first LWR Workshop will be held at First United in Hammond, August 14. Specific times and presenters have not been worked out, but that information will be included in the *Northwex* (NW Cluster newsletter) which is sent to individual churches, and posted online.

If you have a passion for LWR and Fair Trade, and would like to be a presenter or serve in another way, contact Dorothy Nevils ([maslivend@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maslivend@sbcglobal.net)), Nancy Walter, NWI Cluster Coordinator ([nanjackwalter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nanjackwalter@sbcglobal.net)), Annette Holtan, NWI Cluster Partner ([markholtan@att.net](mailto:markholtan@att.net)), and of course, Darlene Deck ([darlenedeck@verizon.net](mailto:darlenedeck@verizon.net))

If you want to learn about the Lutheran World Relief Ministries – plus get the other stuff straight – watch for details and plan to attend.

Dorothy Nevils,  
Indiana-Kentucky Synodical President  
Women of the ELCA

### NOTICE!

Women of the ELCA IK Synodical Organization will hold a training event at Cross and Crown, 5233 E 79<sup>th</sup> Street, Indianapolis, Saturday, August 7, 9 AM-2:30 PM (EDT) Registration is \$8 or \$15/2 from the same congregation, and includes meals. Babysitting is also available with kids' lunches at \$4.00. Registration forms are online at [iksynod.org/ministry/IK-SWO/IKSWO.asp](http://iksynod.org/ministry/IK-SWO/IKSWO.asp). NW congregational units who missed last year's training should register with Darla Werner, 5915 Budd Rn Ct., Indianapolis, IN 46250, by July 28, 2010.

For more information, [dwerner9164@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dwerner9164@sbcglobal.net) or [maslivend@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maslivend@sbcglobal.net)

INDIANA-KENTUCKY SYNOD, ELCA  
NORTHWEST INDIANA CONFERENCE

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