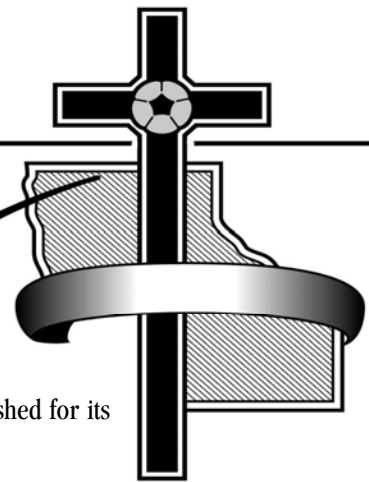


# CROSS

# Connection



The *Cross Connection* is a monthly publication of the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod published for its clergy, associates in ministry, lay leadership and ecumenical friends.

## FROM THE BISHOP

JUNE 2009

### *God's beloved people,*

I know you join me in thanksgiving for the rich feast of texts we've considered in worship during these last several weeks. Centering on the notion of "love," our Lord Jesus has taken us to school on all that this love can mean. Together with the texts from 1 John it has been a wonderful feast!

Of all the words we've shared I think I am most drawn to the notion of an "abiding" love as in "abide in my love." (John 15:9-11). When I think of this I actually hear music and the sound of my great-grandmother Winkie's tremolo on the hymn "Abide with me." (ELW 629). Winkie was a great saint of the faith and an inspiration to a very young boy. It seems a miracle that I can hear our voices sing together, but it is true. This love abides.

Abiding love. I think of the Babushka dolls, those colorful Russian, wood-carved nesting dolls that open up to reveal another doll within. At the heart of the nesting dolls is always a tiny baby. This baby is like the final seed buried within generations of belief, the deepest abiding of God, Jesus right at our core. Martin Luther taught us to receive scripture as the cradle bearing the infant Jesus. Like nesting dolls our lives cradle the Jesus that abides within.

Jesus abides in other ways as well. My imagination tells me that over my lifetime I am being filled with the bread and wine of Holy Communion. At the point of death there will be none of me left, only Jesus. This Jesus-who-has-replaced-me will be welcomed home by his Father, my eternal life now deeply nested in Jesus, in God. What a comfort it is to know that my sinful life has been replaced by Jesus' perfect life and that I have an abiding home in God forever! This is the perfect love that casts out fear.

"I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me!" (ELW 629, vs 4)

And now, as if it weren't enough, we celebrate Pentecost and the gift of God's Holy Spirit. This is yet another way we know God's abiding love as our Spirit, even in its deep groaning, makes the appeal for confidence and hope in life.

Blessing and peace to you in this Sabbath season. May you know God's abiding love!

**Pr Martin Wells**

Bishop

mshmmwells@aol.com

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Call Process Update	2
Calendar	8
Lutheran Book Parlor News	3
Lutheran Campus Ministry	5
PLU Summer Theological Conference	6
Prayers	3
Synod Assembly Update	4
Tour de Revs	7
YELS	6

# CALL PROCESS STATUS

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

<b>POS</b>	<b>LOCATION/CONGREGATION</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>PASTORAL CARE</b>
<b>P</b>	Cheney, WA - Emmanuel	<b>A</b> .....	Paul D. Anderson <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Colfax-Endicott, WA - Peace/Trinity	<b>A</b> .....	Phylis Stromme <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Davenport, WA - Zion	<b>A</b> .....	Roger Bruggink <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Jackson, WY - Shepherd of the Mountains	<b>A</b> .....	Barbara Harrison Condon <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Kamiah, ID - Faith	<b>A</b> .....	Art Finney <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Kennewick, WA - First	<b>B</b> .....	Keith Hammer <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Mountain Home, ID - Grace	<b>A</b> .....	Scott Berner <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Nampa, ID - Trinity	<b>NV</b> .....	
<b>P</b>	Othello, WA - Pilgrim	<b>C</b> .....	Teresia Calene-Hasseries <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Orofino, ID - Ascension	<b>NV</b> .....	
<b>P</b>	Spokane, WA - Prince of Peace	<b>A</b> .....	David Ophus <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Sunnyside, WA - Our Saviour's	<b>A</b> .....	Ron Shipman <b>I</b>
<b>P</b>	Twin Falls, ID - Our Savior's	<b>A</b> .....	Stan Hoobing <b>I</b>
<b>AP</b>	Yakima, WA - Central	<b>B</b> .....	Mike Scheid <b>LP</b>

**RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS**

The Rev. **Lon Bechtel** of King of Glory Lutheran in Boise, ID will resign as pastor, effective June 30, 2009. His last Sunday will be June 7th.

The Rev. **Ed Pace** of St. Paul Lutheran in Chewelah, WA has announced his retirement from parish ministry. His plans are to complete his serve at St. Paul's by the end of the Summer.

**CALLS ACCEPTED**

The Rev. **Paul D. Anderson**, on leave-graduate study, has accepted the call from our Synod Council to serve as Interim Pastor. Pastor Anderson is currently appointed to Emmanuel Lutheran in Cheney, WA.

The Rev. **Matthew Kuempel**, on leave from call in the Central States Synod, has accepted the call from our Synod Council to serve in correctional chaplaincy in the Lower Columbia Basin Cluster.

The Rev. **Allan Schoonover**, on leave from call in the South Dakota Synod, has accepted the call from our Synod Council to serve in special ecumenical service at the Presbyterian Church of Jackson, WY.

**INSTALLATIONS**

The Rev. **Michael Nelson** will be installed as pastor of Christ Lutheran Church in Egypt, WA on Sunday, June 7th. Installation time has not been set at this time.

## OUR CHURCH IN ACTION

### JUNE 2009

*We ask that you keep the ministry of the synod as well as those listed below in your prayers*

- 6 Gordon L. Braun (Retired - Moscow, ID) ~ 55th Anniversary of Ordination
- 16 Theodore E. Leidenfrost (Retired - Moscow, ID) ~ 55th Anniversary of Ordination
- 16 Steven P. Gutzman (St. John/Emmanuel - Medical Lake/Reardan, WA) ~ 35th Anniversary of Ordination
- 16 William S. Martens (Richland - Richland, WA) ~ 40th Anniversary of Ordination
- 20 Paul M. Anderson (Zion - Fairfield, WA) ~ 5th Anniversary of Ordination
- 21 Allen G. Ingebritsen (Retired - Greenacres, WA) ~ 50th Anniversary of Ordination
- 24 Kenneth Bartle (Our Savior - Pinehurst, ID) ~ 30th Anniversary of Ordination
- 25 Matthew T. Larson (Good Shepherd - Spokane Valley, WA) ~ 10th Anniversary of Ordination



#### ***Please Remember in Prayer ...***

...Pr. Rick Evenson (Medical Lake, WA) and family as he continues his treatment and recovery for multiple myeloma.

...Ms. Connie Myers, wife of Pr. Steve Myers (Spokane, WA) as she undergoes treatment for cancer.

...Ms. Marilyn Ulleland, wife of Pr. Duane Ulleland (Spokane Valley, WA) as she undergoes treatment for cancer.

## THE BOOK PARLOR



### GROWING WITH THE BOOK PARLOR...

**Read • Reflect • Act**

Many, many thanks to all of our brothers and sisters throughout the Synod for contributing to the success of our first "full" participation at the Assembly!! Cheri and Casey enjoyed being there and have now recovered from hauling boxes! The financial gain was significant and will support our on-going ministry of hospitality in West Central Spokane and beyond. We are grateful for the new and returning customers and the privilege of providing you with your "material" needs in the future.

We are now preparing for the Montana Synod gathering in June. Soon, we may need to create a "Book Parlor Mobile" and perhaps we should sell lutefisk by the piece!!!! Also, we want you to start checking our **NEW IMPROVED WEBSITE** by mid-June. We expect this upgrade to be of great help to our out-of-town partners and we will want your feedback and input as we perfect it over the next few months. The address is [www.TheBookParlor.com](http://www.TheBookParlor.com) and of course it will be linked to the old address. We will post the most current updates regarding the new space with All Saints Lutheran and Spokane Urban Ministries, so stay tuned!

Again, sincere thanks! And know that your partnership with us allows us to share God's love in tangible ways, day by day, with the immediate neighbors all around Salem Lutheran Church. Blessings!

P.S. 2010 Sunday's and Season's is already in!

See you at The Book Parlor!

***Connie, Casey, Cheri and Lolita***

1414 W. Broadway Ave., Spokane, WA 99201

(509)328-6527 ~ [lutheranbooks@msn.com](mailto:lutheranbooks@msn.com) ~ [www.TheBookParlor.com](http://www.TheBookParlor.com) (coming soon)



## 2009 SYNOD ASSEMBLY UPDATE

### *Gratitude, Gratitude... Indeed! Thank you all for a wonderful assembly!*

It is with a grateful heart that I share a brief summary of the 2009 Eastern-Washington Idaho Synod Assembly. Grateful for the many hands who planned, prepared and served us so well in Yakima. Grateful for the beautiful weather and lovely convention center that set a backdrop for our work together. Grateful for the honest and patient hearts as we shared conversation about our various business items and resolutions. Grateful for the faithful volunteers whom we thanked for their service to this church. Grateful for those among us who are willing to take the leadership reins. Grateful for the gift of the Holy Spirit who centered, inspired and enlightened us. Gratitude, Gratitude – God’s Abundance indeed overflows!

The wonderful theme, “God’s Abundance Overflows,” set the stage for our time together. It is out of knowing what God has first done for us – loved and forgiven us – that we live together as the part of the body of Christ known as the EWAID Synod. Each year in assembly we gather for worship, reports, workshops and the business items. Here is a brief (and not fully inclusive) summary of events and actions:

1. We centered ourselves in God’s Word and Holy Communion.
2. We approved the synod budget – and we are looking good – thank you for your generous support of YOUR ministry.
3. We learned new tools for sharing conversation – the RESPECT guidelines and Mutual Invitation.
4. We enjoyed the gift of the Lutheran Book Parlor.
5. We were informed and inspired by our guest presenters: Diana Butler Bass, a teacher, author and church historian and Marcus Kunz, our churchwide partner who serves in the office of the presiding bishop.
6. We passed Resolution 1 – Urging the ELCA to encourage and support negotiations and investigating financial support in the West Bank and Gaza.
7. We passed Resolution 2 - Amending the “plan of operation” of the EWAID Synod SHARE fund – which will allow us to be better stewards of this fund through diversification of investments.
8. We did not pass Resolution 9 – Which would asked that the Churchwide Assembly to utilize a 2/3 majority when voting this summer on current policy and practice for rostering.
9. We passed Resolution 10 – Inviting the EWAID Synod attendees to act on their baptismal calling to advocate justice and peace by writing a letter to one of their government officials.
10. We passed Resolution 11 (replacement for Resolutions 3-8) – encouraging the Churchwide assembly to adopt the proposed Social Statement on human Sexuality and the implementing resolutions and adopting the four parts of the proposed Recommendation on Ministry Policies as recommended by the ELCA Church Council.
11. We passed Resolution 13 – Which encourages the continued support of our sister synod in Tanzania, by continuing to raise funds for a new dining hall at the Tumaini Lutheran Seminary; and for the synod to formally invite the new Ulanga Kilombero Diocese bishop and his wife to our next synod assembly!
12. We elected new synod council members and committee members – thank you!
13. We thanked and blessed “retiring” synod council members – thank you for your service!
14. We had a slate of interesting workshops.
15. We were able to honor congregations and rostered leaders for significant milestones in their ministries.
16. During our closing worship we gathered as God’s people – not always agreeing, but trusting in God’s mercy and redemptive love for us. It was a delight to install Shelley Bryan Wee as the new pastor at Lutheran Campus Ministry at Eastern Washington University. (Go Eagles!)

Gratitude, Gratitude. May the light of Christ continue to shine through you as you boldly proclaim God’s love – and serve as God’s hands in your ministry outpost.

***Susan Berg***

Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod VP

---

# LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY @ EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



**LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY**  
**EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**  
 639 Elm St., Cheney, WA 99004  
 509-235-5081 | lcmewu@yahoo.com

## SPONSOR A COLLEGE STUDENT WITH A “FINALS WEEK SURVIVAL KIT”

During the stress of finals week, (June 8-12) **Lutheran Campus Ministry at Eastern Washington University** will deliver a Survival Kit to students! Show your care and support for students and **Lutheran Campus Ministry** by sponsoring one or more students!

Please send **\$18.00 per Survival Kit!** Each “kit” contains items such as scripture and prayers for the week, coffee, candy, microwave popcorn, pens, cookies, and a “Genuine Lutheran coffee” ceramic mug. Yes ... everything a student needs to do a good job with their finals.

Please support **Lutheran Campus Ministry at EWU** and your favorite students with a donation by **Monday, June 1, 2009**. Matching funds by Thrivent Financial West Spokane Chapter.

Send to:  
 Lutheran Campus Ministry at Eastern Washington University  
 Pastor Shelley Bryan Wee  
 639 Elm St.  
 Cheney, Washington 99004

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ / Email \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I will sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ student(s) at \$18.00 per kit

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ I am a Thrivent Member \_\_\_\_\_

Please deliver my kit to: \_\_\_\_\_

(Name of student and school address if known)

*(If you do not have a particular student, we will select one for you!)*

## YOUTH EMPOWERED FOR LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

### YELS Event

**June 28 - July 1, 2009 @ Shoshone Base Camp**

The youth of the Eastern Washington/Idaho Synod will be having their annual service and leadership event, YELS (Youth Empowered for Leadership and Service), June 28-July 1, 2009. It will be held at Shoshone Base Camp. At the event, youth will perform service projects, make new friends, and learn more about leadership, service, God, and themselves. There will be guest speakers and fun activities. The cost will be \$165.00 for each youth or adult. Four youth and one adult from each congregation are invited to attend!

If you have any questions or want to register your group for the event, please contact either Hailey Rile, LYO President, at [evolleyball09@comcast.net](mailto:evolleyball09@comcast.net), or Tom Rounds at [tomar\\_216@msn.com](mailto:tomar_216@msn.com). **The deadline for registration is June 1, 2009.** We hope to see you there!

## PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY SUMMER THEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE



**JUNE 15-18, 2009**

**“A CONTINUING CONVERSATION ON THEOLOGY AND PASTORAL LIFE.”**

While the media may divide Christian communications into “liberal” and “conservative” camps, many Christians hold another view: by virtue of their baptism, Christians are called to a public vocation that is a bit more complex than any neat category. At this conference, clergy and lay leaders will explore and discuss the Christian sources of public witness, the theological foundations of social engagement, and the pastoral means to nourish a congregation focused on service in the world.

**Conference Leaders:** Cynthia Moe-Lobeda, Associate Professor of Christian Ethics in Seattle University’s Department of Theology and Religious Studies; Kevin O’Brien, Assistant Professor of Christian Ethics at Pacific Lutheran University; Samuel Torvend, Associate Professor and Chair of the Religion Department at Pacific Lutheran University; John Rosenberg, Lead Pastor at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Olympia, WA.

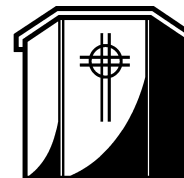
For more information contact the Office of Congregational Relations at 253/535-7424 or by e-mail [crel@plu.edu](mailto:crel@plu.edu).

## WORSHIP FURNISHINGS . . .

Does your congregation need some worship furnishings with a rich history? Do you know of another congregation that does?

Former members of Our Savior’s Lutheran in Spokane have been storing the following items:

- Rear altar with detachable reredos
- Kneeler
- 2 Pews for two (acolyte size)
- Pulpit & Lectern
- Baptismal font
- Paraments and antependia that fit much of the above
- A US flag and stand



The Our Savior’s folks will give these items to a congregation that can use them. A simple U-Haul trip would be your only cost. For more information, call the Synod office, 509-838-9871, or contact Carole Kirkevold at [ckirkevold@comcast.net](mailto:ckirkevold@comcast.net).

## TOUR DE REVS 2009

### 5 Million Dollars for World Hunger

(original article by Betty Lou Bryant, edited for reproduction)



Wow! What a goal! What do we think of when we hear the words “World Hunger?” Can we imagine our children or grandchildren going to sleep at night hungry? Can we imagine little or no food to eat all day? As we walk through the aisles at the local grocery stores, the shelves are groaning with their heavy loads of foods available for us to select. There are so many options that it’s difficult to make a choice. We are a nation of plenty.

But that is not the case in many countries of the world. And that’s what started the thinking of three Lutheran ministers who decided they wanted to do something about it. And here’s how it all started.

Rev. David Twedt, who was a Lutheran Pastor in Wheeling, WV, and Pastor Fred Soltow from Shepherdstown, WV, are good friends and did some biking together. In fact, in the fall of 2001 they rode around West Virginia to all the Synods in the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and raised \$13,000 for bicycles for pastors in Madagascar. Unfortunately, Pastor Fred hit a dog and broke his shoulder and his bike. While that slowed them down a little, they continued to talk about a bike trip for World Hunger. Their motto was going to be, “Bish to Bish, Cheeseburgers and Fries.” Their thinking was to go from Bishop to Bishop asking people to donate the price of a cheeseburger and fries for World Hunger.

Another Pastor friend of Soltow’s is Rev. Ron Schlak of Charleston, WV. The two have worked together for many years. A few years ago Ron started bike riding for his health. In 2007, all three coincidentally found themselves in Shepherdstown at the same time and were eating lunch at the Blue Moon Café. Of course, the conversation turned to the dream of an extensive bike ride for World Hunger. Twedt suggested they all ride on one bike—a concept unknown to the other two. The very next day, call it “divine intervention” if you will, Soltow’s son-in-law, Tony, called from California where he was attending a custom bike trade show. He said, “Dad, I’ve found the perfect bike for you. It’s made of bamboo.” The next day, Soltow called the bike builder, Craig Calfee, and asked him if he could build a bike for three. His reply, “We can do that.”

The bike is impressive. The bamboo used for the frame is 2½” in diameter and, according to Soltow, “stronger than steel, but much lighter in weight.” The “triple” weighs 52 pounds and is the only one in the world. Soltow will ride in front and control the steering, shifting and brakes—front and rear disc brakes. He says it’s quite tricky as it doesn’t respond as quickly as a normal bike and the turning radius is larger than some small cars. There are 30 speeds, and it seems to take an eternity for each shift because of the extra long cables from front to back. They have gone as fast as 48 miles an hour going downhill and average 20 to 25 mph on the flat. He says it “rides really well.”

This venture is called, “The Tour de Revs.” The three “Revs” don’t just refer to the pastors, they also refer to Revelation, Revolution and Revenue. The revelation is to “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 revolution is to “stimulate synod hunger committees and local congregations to formulate and implement realistic plans to eradicate hunger in our lifetime.” The revenue is “the goal of this ride...to support ELCA World Hunger Appeal in reaching its goal of \$25 million annually for ELCA World Hunger. We believe this exciting venture in ministry can raise \$5 million.”

At each stop, they plan to work with the local congregations, clergy and synod staff, as well as the community at large, to address hunger and wellness issues that have been identified. Two areas of interest are: What are the realities of World Hunger and what can each of us do to end this crushing pain? and How does good stewardship relate to Health and Wellness?

The itinerary for this trip is unbelievable, 65 cities, 13,500 miles in 100 days. The Revs plan to honor the Sabbath. They will preach, but otherwise Sundays will be days of rest and a bit of privacy for each of these intrepid travelers. A number of the parishes they plan to visit are very excited about this project and are involved in numerous fund-raising activities.

The Tour de Revs will be in Spokane July 1 and 2. We’ll host a picnic breakfast and bike ride with the Tour at Coeur d’Alene Park in Browne’s Addition on the 2nd. Would you like to be involved? Would you like to contribute to ELCA World Hunger? Call the Synod Office at 509-838-9871 or simply send your check made out to “Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod” designated for Tour de Revs” to our Synod office at 314 South Spruce Street, Suite A, Spokane, WA 99201-5823. For more information contact Bishop’s Assistant Rev. Mark Nelson also at the Synod Office.



**EASTERN  
WASHINGTON  
IDAHO SYNOD**

NON-PROFIT  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
SPOKANE WA  
PERMIT 277

of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

June 2009 Newsletter

Please reproduce any and all articles for publication in congregational newsletters or bulletins. The *Cross Connection* is also available on the synod Web site at [www.ewaidsynod.org](http://www.ewaidsynod.org). **Deadline for articles is the 5th of each month.**

## SYNOD CALENDAR

### MAY

25 SYNOD OFFICE CLOSED - MEMORIAL DAY

27-28 Pre-Retirement Seminar - Spokane, WA

### JUNE

5 **Newsletter Article Deadline**

9-11 First Call Theological @ Palisades

15-18 PLU Summer Retreat

21-24 Region 1 Bishop's Summer Retreat

28-30 July 1 YELS @ Shoshone

### JULY

1 YELS @ Shoshone

3 SYNOD OFFICE CLOSED - 4TH OF JULY

22-26 ELCA Youth Gathering - New Orleans

### AUGUST

5 **Newsletter Article Deadline**

9-15 Abriendo Caminos @ Holden Village

17-23 Churchwide Assembly - Minneapolis, MN



### Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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

Phone: 509/838-9871 ~ FAX: 509/838-0941

E-mail: [office@ewaidsynod.org](mailto:office@ewaidsynod.org)

Web site: [www.ewaidsynod.org](http://www.ewaidsynod.org)

### STAFF

Bishop ..... Rev. Martin Wells  
Assistant to the Bishop ..... Rev. Mark Nelson  
Office Administrator ..... Laurel Eschenbacher  
Program Administrator ..... Cathy Steiner  
Newsletter Editor ..... Laurel Eschenbacher  
Assembly Manager ..... Karla Olson