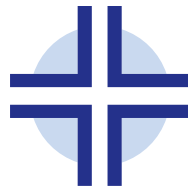


ATLANTIC DISTRICT
BE TRANSFORMED!
FESTIVAL OF WORKSHOPS



In response to the Crisis in Haiti, please bring your health kit items, new underwear, sandals or flip flops to the registration area for pick up by Orphan Grain Train and Lutheran World Relief. See flyer or website, www.ad-lcms.org for details.

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world,
but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.
Then you will be able to test and approve what God's
will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.
Romans 12:2



THE ATLANTIC DISTRICT
LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

171 WHITE PLAINS ROAD
BRONXVILLE, NY 10708
(914) 337-5700
FAX: (914) 337-7471
WWW.AD-LCMS.ORG

MARCH 6, 2010
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

CONCORDIA COLLEGE, BRONXVILLE, NY

SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

- 8:30 AM** **Check In, Fellowship and Morning Praise led by Solid Ground, Trinity, Hicksville**
- 9:30 AM** **Opening remarks and Key Note Speaker, Mary E. Hilgendorf, Concordia University, Wisconsin**
- 10:30 AM** **Workshop Session 1**
- 11:45 AM** **Workshop Session 2 or Lunch**
- 1:00 PM** **Workshop Session 3 or Lunch**
- 2:15 PM** **Workshop Session 4**
- 3:30 PM** **Closing and Sending Blessing**

- Registration form is separate from this brochure and is available at www.ad-lcms.org or in your church office.
- Early Registration Cost: \$25 per person. Registration form and payment must be received by February 19, 2010. Lunch and hospitality at Check In are included. Late registration is \$30 per person if received after February 20th.
- Directions to the campus: www.concordia-ny.edu click on "About Concordia"
- Consider car or van pooling and sharing your experiences on the trip home.
- Designate one Check In Person to pick up folders for all pre-paid individuals in your congregation the morning of the Festival.
- Please drop off all donations for Haiti at the Registration table

There will be a prayer session in the room to the left of the Registration area in the Sommer Center during Session One. This will be to pray for the work of Atlantic District Congregations, Schools and Missions. Prayer requests may be handed in at registration.

Thank You to the seven Atlantic District Task Forces for sponsoring the Festival of Workshops, to our many workshop presenters for their time and expertise and to Concordia College for use of their campus.

TRANSFORMING WORSHIP

HOW CAN THEY HEAR?

Reading the Word of God during a worship service brings great gifts to people; it leads to people being transformed. This workshop focuses on some important things to remember when given the honor of reading God's Holy Word in public for the Christian assembly. Context, preparation, tone, inflection, movement and other issues are considered in this workshop.

– SESSION 4

Rev. Dr. Dien Ashley Taylor, Pastor, Redeemer Evangelical, Bronx

THE CREATIVE USE OF SCRIPTURE IN WORSHIP: JUST DO IT!

Do you want to bring biblical readings to life? Do you want to move beyond the cheesy-sermon-set-up-skit? This interactive hour is designed to fill your worship tool kit with principles of interpretative reading and drama. Join us as we work together to try out a few ways of allowing the "Word of Christ to dwell in us richly."

– SESSION 2

Claire Partlow, Flemington, NJ: Doctoral Candidate, Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies, Orange Park, FL; MA, Theology and Culture Concordia, Irvine

SMALL VOICES IN WHOVILLE

Let's get beyond "happy-clappy" in our worship gatherings and instead learn to hear the cry of and give voice to the under-represented in our midst—the grieving, the poor, the victims, the immigrant.

– SESSION 3

Claire Partlow, Flemington, NJ: Doctoral Candidate, Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies, Orange Park, FL; MA, Theology and Culture Concordia, Irvine

TRANSFORMING BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT

BE NOT AFRAID: CONGREGATIONAL RESOURCES FOR IMMIGRANTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Learn about tools from Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service to assist your newcomer ministries. This workshop will discuss immigration issues that congregations face, best practices for serving immigrants and building awareness among all members, and review the “Be Not Afraid” series of resources available in English and Spanish. – **SESSIONS 1 & 3**
Tara Mulder, Director for Outreach, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

DISASTER – WHAT TO DO BEFORE IT STRIKES YOU

This workshop will take an insider look at disaster response and preparedness. We will endeavor to provide you with resources for you and your congregation to be better prepared in the face of disaster. The workshop will also look at one arm (Orphan Grain Train) of the national response network of our synod and what our district has accomplished in the past few years. There will be time for questions. – **SESSION 4**
Rev. Derek Lecakes, Pastor, Immanuel, Niskayuna, and Richard Lomnitzer, Holy Trinity, Adirondack, NY Regional Division, Orphan Grain Train

TRANSFORMING RELATIONSHIPS: RELATIONAL DYNAMICS

THE SHAPE OF YOUR RELATIONSHIPS

An interactive exploration of the primary importance of the cross-shaped nature of relationships in the congregation for the sake of Christ’s mission. Relational dynamics downward from above, upward from below, across and through the community as the heartbeat of mission and ministry. Provides the Lutheran base and framework for methodologies of outreach. – **SESSION 1**
Rev. Dr. David H. Benke, Pastor, St. Peter’s Brooklyn & President, Atlantic District, LCMS

BUILDING CONNECTIONS

An exploration of ways to build and foster meaningful relationships, both within the congregation and with the greater community. This workshop focuses on practical ways to better connect individuals to the life of the congregation. – **SESSION 2**
Rev. Jeffrey Browning, Pastor, and Ginny Demille, Director of Christian Outreach, Resurrection, Garden City

UNDERSTANDING OUR MUSLIM AND HINDU FRIENDS

The New York metro area is home to large and growing Muslim and Hindu communities. This session will introduce participants to the world views and feelings of Muslims and Hindus in order to promote understanding, friendship, and faith sharing. – **SESSION 1**
Rev. Joshua Hollmann, Pastor, Christ, Woodside and Rev. Johnson Rethinasamy, Urban Strategist-NY & Pastor, Immanuel, Whitestone

MOSAIC MINISTRY: A MULTICULTURAL APPROACH TO CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY AND MISSION

American society is increasingly diverse and multicultural. And the Church is called by Jesus to be many peoples - one family in Christ. This session will explore concrete patterns of ministry and mission in an intentional multicultural community of faith and a mosaic church context. – **SESSION 2**
Rev. Joshua Hollmann, Pastor, Christ, Woodside and Rev. Johnson Rethinasamy, Urban Strategist-NY & Pastor, Immanuel, Whitestone

CHARTING THE COURSE – THE NITTY-GRITTY DETAILS OF A SHORT TERM MISSION TRIP

Let’s be honest, the devil’s in the details, as they say. We all want our mission trip to be amazing and life-changing, yet the way to make that a reality is through excellent planning and preparation. Don’t fret, you can make the most of your next short-term mission trip by learning how to “Work the Plan.” We’ll take 30-plus years of short-term mission experience and show you how to chart a course that takes care of all the details of your trip. This includes travel, safety, timelines, training, spiritual growth, and some other things you may never have thought of! It’s about doing your part as the leader so God can change lives during your trip. Rev. Derek Lecakes will also be on hand to give an overview of what the Atlantic District is doing in the area of short term mission trips. – **SESSION 3**
Toby Rowe, Mission Program Manager, Group Workcamps Foundation

FAMILY MINISTRY AS OUTREACH

A look at successful family outreach programs at some of our Atlantic District Churches. Learn how to connect school children and parents to the church through afterschool activities that draw people into fellowship and deeper relationships. Hear about Friday Night Family Night and other fun and exciting ways to develop relationships and instill Christian values. – **SESSION 4**
Debbie Vergara, Deacon, Trinity, Hicksville, Erica Corlito, DCE Intern, St. Peter’s, Brooklyn, and Col. Melvin Butts, Redeemer Evangelical, Bronx

TRANSFORMING RELATIONSHIPS: RELATIONAL DYNAMICS

WHAT IS ALPHA?

Alpha is an opportunity to explore the meaning of life in a relaxed, friendly setting. The Alpha course usually meets once per week for 10 weeks, and includes an amazing one-day or weekend getaway. Each session, people enjoy great food, laughter and learning in a fun and friendly atmosphere where no question about life or God is seen as too simple or too hostile; questions like, Is there a God? Why am I here? Where did I come from? Where am I going? Learn how this can be a vital part of your congregation's ministry. – **SESSION 3**
Tim Elwell, Deacon, & Alpha Leader, Village Lutheran Church, Bronxville

STARTING FROM SCRATCH: STRATEGIES FOR CHURCH PLANTING FROM THE GROUND UP

In 2008, the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Garden City, New York, initiated an effort to plant a new mission in Old Westbury at the site of a former parish, Our Redeemer. DELTO Vicar Justin Vetrano, lay leaders and volunteers have spearheaded the effort. THE LIFE Church, the new mission, is a case study in Church Planting. Vicar Vetrano will tell their story step by step, ministry by developing ministry, with time for dialog on expanding this type of mission effort and other ministries. – **SESSION 2**
Justin K. Vetrano, Vicar, THE LIFE, Old Westbury

TRANSFORMING CONNECTIVITY

WEBSITES FOR CHURCHES: “WHY WE ARE DOING IT THAT WAY”

Is your church planning a website? Is your congregation looking to update your present website? Would you like to “jazz up” your site or add interesting new features like “Twitter,” “Discussion Groups,” or “Podcasts?” Join in a lively panel as three District Websites are explored and as the IT or Visionary behind the sites' creation talk about “Why We Are Doing It That Way.” Time at the conclusion of the panel will be reserved for questions from the workshop attendees. – **SESSIONS 1 & 4**
Panelists: Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell, Senior Pastor, Village Lutheran Church, Bronxville, www.VLC-NY.ORG; Rev. Jonathan P. Priest, Pastor, St. John The Evangelist, Brooklyn, www.sjebrooklyn.org; Mr. Naresh Seoprasad, President, Redeemer Evangelical, Bronx, www.redeemerlutheranbronx.org

TOUR OF THE VIRTUAL HOME BASE OF THE ATLANTIC DISTRICT (AD-LCMS.ORG)

Get keyed in to new website and web features with which all District Congregations, Rostered Workers and Laity should be familiar. As we seek to be “green” and good stewards of God's creation, the Atlantic District has stepped up efforts at sharing digital information. Knowing how to effectively use the key aspects of the AD-LCMS.ORG Website (and adjacent features at LCMS.ORG), the e-communicés and e-blasts are crucial to save our world's resources and also to get the information from “the Bishop's Office” to your congregation, church, school or Lutheran agency. Crucial for Church or School Secretaries or Administrative Assistants, Pastors, Teachers, Deacons, Board or Council members and all who want to be “in the loop” of District and Synod news and events. Each workshop registrant will receive a special gift from the Communications Task Force, so sign up early! – **SESSION 3**
Workshop Tour Guide and Host: Jennn Partlow, Atlantic District Youth Ministry Coordinator & AD-LCMS.ORG Web Manager

TRANSFORMING CHILD, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

SAY YES TO NO

This session is an initial look at the overall concepts of the recently launched course, “Say Yes to No,” produced by the National Institute on Media and the Family. This is an easily taught parenting program to raise happy, self-reliant kids. The course is based on the book, “No, Why kids need to hear it and ways parents can say it,” by Dave Walsh. Schools and congregations may wish to implement this course as an outreach tool or even as a way to engage parents during VBS. – **SESSION 4**
Carol Mittelstaedt, Atlantic District Mission Society Coordinator

EDUCATIONAL PLANNING PROCESS

Are you part of a pre-school or elementary school looking into the future? The Educational Planning process is a tool that could help you do that! This workshop will introduce you to a program which would bring together all facets of your school and congregation to help create a plan to grow. – **SESSION 1**
Lois Dierlam, Asst. Professor of Education, Concordia College-NY, and Linda Mitchell, Executive Director, Lutheran Schools Association

THRIVING YOUTH MINISTRY IN SMALLER CHURCHES: SECRETS FOR CULTIVATING A DYNAMIC YOUTH MINISTRY

Are you in a “small” church? Don’t feel bad – you’re the majority! With the average church in America clocking in around 75 members, there’s no reason why “small” has to equal “less” when it comes to a healthy, thriving youth ministry. We’ll break down stereotypes, rally around biblical and philosophical direction, and gain a ton of practical ideas for creating a ministry that teenagers will love to be a part of – no matter how many of you there are. Plus, five lucky people will receive Group Workcamps Foundation’s newest resource for small churches, “Thriving Youth Ministry in Small Churches,” by Rick Chromey and Stephanie Caro.

– SESSION 1

Toby Rowe, Mission Program Manager, Group Workcamps Foundation

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This workshop will present exciting ideas and best practices for running a successful Vacation Bible School at your church. Two successful churches will share tips and ideas on how they run their VBS so that you’ll have practical advice and help that you can use this summer. – **SESSION 3**
Karen Ruby, Trinity, Islip, and Carol Sandblom, Redeemer Evangelical, Bronx

CREATING LIFE-CHANGING DEVOTIONS FOR YOUTH

“Devotions” are a staple part of most youth ministry moments. Yet, first hand reports tell us that only about 5% of people can repeat the main idea of a devotion just five minutes after it ends! So let’s get REAL with devotions. During our time together, we’ll unpack Group’s unique, R.E.A.L. approach to learning and show you how to create devotions, messages, and experiences that are both memorable and life-changing, as well as fun for your youth. You’ll leave with the skills and simple steps needed (plus the noticeable absence of the weight on your shoulders) to deeply connect your students to Jesus. – **SESSION 4**
Toby Rowe, Mission Program Manager, Group Workcamps Foundation

CALLING ALL LCMS NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING GROUP LEADERS!

Is your church sending a group of youth to the LCMS National Youth Gathering this summer in New Orleans? If so, send your leader(s) to this workshop where we’ll meet one another, share ideas for fund raising, and discuss Atlantic District gathering opportunities during our time in New Orleans, as well as any other questions or concerns you might have. – **SESSION 4**
Jenn Partlow, Atlantic District Youth Ministry Coordinator & AD-LCMS.ORG Web Manager

TRANSFORMING LEADERS

TRANSFORMING CHURCHES NETWORK (TCN): TURNING INWARDLY FOCUSED CONGREGATIONS OUTWARD

Transforming Churches Network (TCN), a Recognized Service Organization of the LC-MS, in cooperation with the National Missions Staff of the LC-MS has developed a process designed to assist local congregations in revitalizing their mission focus. The three major components of the TCN process are the Learning Community for pastors and church leaders, the Weekend Congregational Consultation and follow up Directional Coaching for the pastor and the congregation. This workshop will give an overview of the TCN process. – **SESSION 1**
Rev. James Jaekel, Vice President, Atlantic District, LC-MS, & Chair, Transforming Congregations and Leadership Task Force, with members of the Task Force

TRANSFORMING CHURCHES NETWORK (TCN) LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Participation in a Transforming Churches Network (TCN) Learning Community is an excellent entry point for the pastor and congregational leaders who desire missional revitalization in the congregation they serve. So that missional revitalization can happen, pastors and congregational leaders need to be equipped and supported as they lead the charge of turning the focus of their ministries outward toward unreached people. This workshop will give an overview of what happens in a Learning Community, what learning materials are used, and how one can get involved in a Learning Community. – **SESSION 4**
Rev. Neil Mittelstaedt, Pastor, Our Saviour, Rego Park, with members of the Transforming Congregations and Leadership Task Force

BE TRANSFORMED! WHAT GOD’S WORD SAYS ABOUT WOMEN

These are amazing times for women. At no other time in history have women been offered so many opportunities in education, medicine, politics, and business as in American society today. How will religious institutions respond to these secular opportunities for women? Most importantly, how does Scripture answer the tough questions being asked by Christian women leaders today? – **SESSION 2**
Mary Hilgendorf, Professor of Education & Former Director of the Women’s Leadership Institute, Concordia University, Wisconsin

BE TRANSFORMED! CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Religious institutions in 21st century America are challenged to meet the needs of the “high tech/ high touch” Information Age. How is your congregation dealing with change in order to meet these challenges? On a personal level, how are you dealing with change as a leader in your congregation? This sectional will analyze different leadership styles, which might be most effective in meeting the challenges of the 21st century. We will also explore the leadership styles of individuals in Scripture who dealt with the challenges of change in different ways in different days. – **SESSION 4**
Mary Hilgendorf, Professor of Education & Former Director of the Women’s Leadership Institute, Concordia University, Wisconsin

TRANSFORMING LEADERS

PRINCIPLES OF LEADERSHIP TO REACH YOUR VISION

This workshop will outline key principles and a process to building a group into a team with a focus on a common goal. We will discuss some of the key challenges you are facing and possibilities that exist for your church or ministry. We will also use real life stories to illustrate how to implement the ideas that are shared. – **SESSION 3**

Christopher J. Jones, CFP, CHFC CLU, Center for Wealth Preservation

IT'S ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS: GROWING VOLUNTEERS

Growing volunteers for your organization can be exhilarating or drudgery. If you believe in the mission, then it's just about growing relationships to find the right volunteers. Introductions, fact-finding missions, growing friendships, targeting talents, and being a steward of those talents are vital for the mission and can be rewarding for you, personally, as well.

– **SESSIONS 1 & 2**

Jane Lottes, Director of Development, Long Island Lutheran High School, Brookville

DEACONS IN THE ATLANTIC DISTRICT – A UNIQUE CALLING

Learn how individuals are using their unique gifts to be a blessing to their own congregations, pastor and neighborhood. Learn about courses, internships, the application and recommendation process and cost of serving as an Atlantic District Deacon. In addition, join Deaconess Raquel A. Rojas, the Deaconess Intern of Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church and Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Bronx, to hear about serving as a deaconess in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. How thankful we are that our Lord provides so many ways to serve! – **SESSION 3**

Rev. Deric Taylor, Associate Pastor, Village Lutheran Church & The Chapel School, Bronxville

TRANSFORMING STEWARDSHIP: PERSONAL AND PARISH FINANCIAL RESOURCES

FOSTERING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY: HOW TO ENCOURAGE EXCELLING IN THE GRACE OF GIVING

All biblical stewardship of time, talents, and treasure is motivated by free will giving. What are the biblical and practical ways that pastors and leaders can encourage liberality in giving? – **SESSION 1**

Rev. Victor Nelson, Pastor, Resurrection, Cairo

YOUR CHURCH'S PROPERTY, WORKERS, AND OTHER ASSETS, AND HOW TO PROTECT THEM

What to do to safeguard your property through proper planning and maintenance, and how to insure against disaster when something goes wrong. Money-saving tips on the correct care of your property, what to look for in a contractor, and how to save money on your insurance.

– **SESSION 3**

Michael Jakob, Carriage Trade Insurance, and Michael Colacicco, Projects & Assets Manager for the Army's Housing Privatization Initiative, West Point

CHURCH PLANNING AND FINANCES

This workshop is aimed at church leaders and examines strategic planning to grow your church (including demographics), investment opportunities and loans available through the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF). – **SESSION 2**

Peter Labenberg, District Vice President of the LCEF, & Atlantic District Executive for Stewardship & Finance

FOUR FACETS FOR PERSONAL FINANCIAL FREEDOM

2010 can be a time to start over and to stay focused on achieving financial freedom. No matter what the economy, taking responsibility in this one area of your life can improve the quality of your relationships and your life in general.

- I. Examine your savings mindset
- II. Examine your relationship to money
- III. Examine your exit strategy for debt
- IV. Examine your mindset for the future

Be empowered to change by the qualities which Christ gives.

– **SESSION 4**

Rev. Gregory Dwyer, Director of Church and Alumni Relations, Concordia College-NY