

Welcome to the 20th annual Southeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly, **Called into God's Marvelous Light...To tell the story!**, June 8-9, 2007. As an assembly of congregations we gather together to worship, study the Bible, and participate in the decision-making business of the church. It is hoped you will be renewed, refreshed and enlightened by your assembly experience.

Rev. Dr. Elaine Siemsen

Bible Study

Rev. Dr. Elaine G. Siemsen is the campus pastor for Lutheran Campus Ministry - Mankato.

Siemsen began her undergraduate career at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. She graduated Cum Laude with a BA degree in Theater and Communications with a teaching certificate for secondary education. Siemsen entered seminary at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago (LSTC) as a second career.

After nearly 10 years in parish ministry, Siemsen returned to do graduate work at LSTC. She completed a Ph. D. in Systematic Theology in June of 2000.

After moving to Minnesota in 1998, Siemsen served in a variety of ministry situations including rural settings in Iowa and Minnesota. From 2002 through 2006, she taught in the Department of Religion at St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn.

Siemsen is the author of *Constructing a North American Theology through the work of Joseph Sittler: Embodied Grace*, published by the Mellen Press in 2003. Her latest work, working title of *Resistant Hope* will be published by the Wipf and Stock Publishers in fall of 2007.



Bill Huff

Gutenberg to Google Presentation

Bill Huff is the Vice President of Publishing at Augsburg Fortress. A lifelong Lutheran, Bill is an active member of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Minneapolis, Minn. He earned his B.A. at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and his M.A. at Luther Seminary. Bill's professional experience includes spending several years as an accounting executive in advertising, as the Marketing Director for Seraphim Communications and as the Service Development Director for Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota. In 1998, Bill began his career at Augsburg Fortress as the Marketing Director of the Congregational Resources publishing team. For the past four years Bill and his team have focused on product development for notable resources, such as the *Here We Stand* confirmation curriculum, the *Akaloo* life-long faith formation resource, *No Experience Necessary* adult Bible study and various other faith formation resources.



Rev. Kathie Bender Schwich

ELCA Churchwide Representative

Pastor Kathie Bender Schwich serves the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as Executive for Synodical and Constituent Relations in the office of the Presiding Bishop, as well as serving as one of Bishop Mark Hanson's assistants. In these roles, Pastor Bender Schwich coordinates the work of the ELCA's Conference of Bishops and provides support to the staffs and councils of the 65 synods of this church. In addition, she serves as the ELCA's liaison to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and oversees the work of the ELCA's Bureau for Federal Chaplaincy Ministries.



Previously, Kathie served as Executive for Leadership in the ELCA's Division for Outreach. She also has served as Bishop's Associate for Developing a Healthy Ministerium in the Metropolitan Chicago Synod, as Director of Church Relations for Stephen Ministries in St. Louis, Missouri, and as a parish pastor in Traverse City, Michigan, and Park Ridge, Illinois.

Pastor Bender Schwich is a native of Saginaw, Michigan, and a graduate of the University of Michigan, Saginaw Valley State University, and Luther-Northwestern Theological Seminary in Saint Paul, Minnesota. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Interfaith Airport Chapel Corporation of Chicago, the Governing Council of Advocate Lutheran

General Hospital, and on the congregation council of St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Park Ridge, Illinois. She has written for *Lutheran Woman Today* and was one of 40 selected to attend the 2003 Program for Women and Power: Leadership in a New World, through the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Kathie is married to Pastor Daniel Schwich. Together they are the parents of three sons.

Celebrating 100 Years of Lutheran Campus Ministry

Study, Worship, Offering, and a Party

This year's Assembly will recognize the 100th Birthday of Lutheran Campus Ministry. As a part of this celebration, we welcome Rev. Dr. Elaine Siemsen (campus pastor from Lutheran Campus Ministry - Mankato) as a Bible study leader, Friday evening worship will be led by Lutheran Campus Ministry students, our offering taken at Saturday morning worship will go towards Lutheran Campus Ministry, and Friday night will end with a Birthday Party for their ministry.

To support the ministry of Lutheran Campus Ministry, Mankato and Winona have tee shirts available for \$25 (Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will match 50%). Contact either Rev. Elaine Siemsen or Rev. John Carrier to buy one in advance, or visit their display in the North Lobby.

Lutheran Campus Ministry provides an ELCA presence at more than 180 state and private colleges and universities, with cooperating congregations in campus ministry at an additional 600 campuses nationwide.

Welcome

