

Keynote Speaker

Pastor Gemechis Buba



“What can Lutherans in America learn from their sisters and brothers in Africa?” There is a passion for God’s Word and sharing of the Gospel with others. At the same time the African church struggles with too few pastors, so ministry must happen differently. Our small town and rural ministries also face challenges. Dr. Buba will share the exciting story of African Lutheranism and how it relates to what we are doing in rural Ohio.

The Rev. Dr. Gemechis D. Buba is currently serving as the Director of African National Ministries in the ELCA. He is originally from East Africa, Ethiopia and is currently living in Chicago, Illinois with his wife Nassisse Baro Tumsa.

Dr. Buba has participated in multiple international ministries through revivals, leadership development conventions and evangelical mission events. In his journey across this globe he has ministered the Gospel of Jesus Christ in three languages: English, Oromo and Amharic. He has authored numerous articles, booklets and produced materials for Christian educational use.

Above all, he is proud to be called a Child of God, which is the highest privilege and authority in the Kingdom of God.



Tri-Ohio Synod Small Town and Rural Committee

Pastor Dennis Maurer, Assistant to the Bishop (NW)

Pastor Randy Swanson, Rockford (NW)

Pastor Joe Allen, Payne (NW)

Pastor Ron Zoesch, Assistant to the Bishop (NE)

Pastor Mel Kirk, Wooster (NE)

Pastor Jeff Wick, Assistant to the Bishop (S)

Pastor Laura Shreffler, Versailles (S)

Penny Christensen, LOMO

Bishop in Residence will be from NWO Synod.

Our Chaplain will be Pastor John Tickner.

Workshops

Stresses and Strategies: Ways to Keep Your Sanity

Stress – good and bad - is inherent in life and especially in the ministry of a pastor who feels pulled in many directions at once. Together we will explore simple and practical ways to cope with the stress in our lives so that we can have and share the abundant life that Jesus came to give us.

The Rev. Mary Carson is an Episcopal priest who serves as the Interim Executive Director of Lutheran Chaplaincy Service in Cleveland and Interim Pastor of the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Lorain.

Resource Center: Karen Kaufman

Across the church we network in a variety of ways for inspiration and to save needless perspiration! You will be introduced to several free venues for obtaining resources for congregational ministry. *Karen Kaufman is the Resource Specialist for the Northeastern Ohio Synod*

Book of Faith: Karen Kaufman

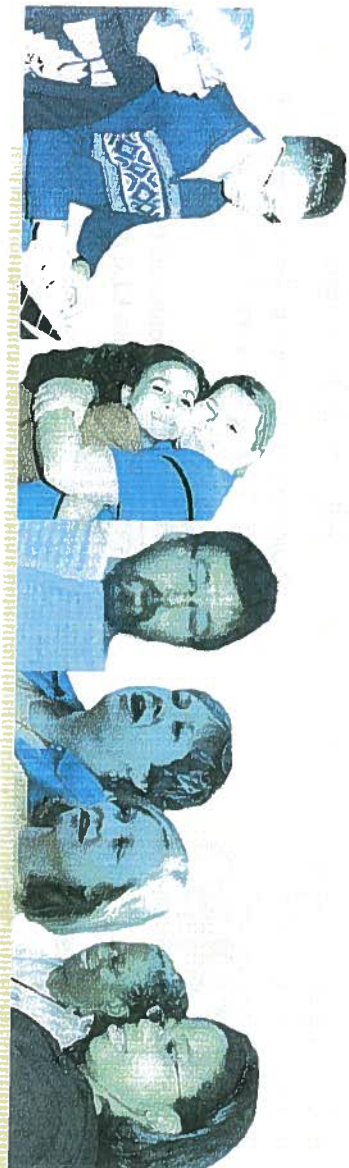
Look at new ways and new resources for engaging members of your congregation in this important initiative. Have a success story? Bring hand-outs to share if appropriate! *Book of Faith Advocate Leader*

Stewardship - Make it Simple: Ron Zoesch

If stewardship is a dirty or avoided word in your congregations...if you've just finished trying to raise the budget and told it can't be done, then let's talk about a resource that can be used year around and not just on that dreaded "pledge Sunday" each year. And it doesn't take a lot of money or a huge group of people to "Make it Simple." *Rev. Ronald Zoesch, Director for Evangelical Mission, Assistant to the Bishop, Northeastern Ohio Synod, ELCA.*

Conversation with Pastor Buba

A time to continue the conversation inspired by Pastor Buba's presentation.



Rural & Small Town Ministry Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Day phone _____
(____) _____

Evening phone _____

Email _____

Names and ages/school grades (K-12) of children attending:

Name	Age	Grade
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Special needs: (dietary or other) _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Fees: \$70 per adult for double occupancy

Roommate _____

\$100 per adult for single room; \$25 per child with a maximum of \$175 per family. Programming only (no lodging) is \$50 per adult or \$100 max per family.

Belleville is central to all three synods and is easily accessible from I-71.

Hotels:

Comfort Inn (855 Comfort Plaza in Belleville)
Quality Inn (1000 Comfort Plaza Belleville)

Lodging will be assigned by category ~ families at Comfort Inn and all others at Quality Inn. Participants will receive a confirmation letter upon receipt of the registration form.

Registration Deadline: Sunday, August 1, 2010.

Make checks payable to: Northwestern Ohio Synod
Return completed registration form and check to:

Small Town & Rural Ministries
Northwestern Ohio Synod
621 Bright Road, Findlay, OH 45840

Retreat Schedule

Friday, November 12

6:00 - 7:00 Registration at hotels

7:30 Community gathering at St. Paul, Belleville

Food, Fun and Fellowship

9:00 Worship

Saturday, November 13

Continental breakfast in hotels

9:00 Opening with devotions

9:15-9:45 Conversations with Bishop

9:45-10:00 Break with refreshments

10:00-11:15 Workshops*

11:15-12:30 Keynote Speaker*

12:30-1:15 Lunch at St. Paul

1:15-2:30 Workshops*

2:30-5:30 Free time

(swimming at hotels, Mohican State Park is close for hiking.)

5:30-7:30 Devotions, Dinner with *Keynote

(Youth programming will be provided during the Keynote.)

Sunday, November 14

Continental breakfast in hotels

9:30-10:30 Bible Study

10:30 Worship with Holy Communion

The Bishop will be preaching.

12:00 Lunch at St. Paul

1:00 Head home

*Youth programming will be provided
by LOMO at St. Paul, Belleville.



Space is limited. Register early!

Registration Deadline: Sunday, August 1, 2010.

“What can the

African Church

Teach us in Rural Ohio?”

• November 12 - 14, 2010

Friday - Sunday

St. Paul Lutheran Church

48 Church Street

Belleville, Ohio 44813



Pastors and their families of
Small Town and Rural Ministries
in Ohio are invited to a weekend
of rest, fellowship and education;
this is an opportunity to network
with those in similar ministry settings.

Programming for youth is provided by LOMO
staff. There is also a waterpark for the kids.



Sponsored by the three
Ohio ELCA Synods

August 1st registration deadline