

Keynote Speaker - Darrel Gerrietts



Pastor Gerrietts will lead us in vision and strategies for developing vital rural congregations with sessions titled "Doing it Together:" the creation, maintenance, and stewardship of small town and rural congregations. He will discourse on how networking can be a force for rural congregational renewal, revitalization and redevelopment.

Pastor Gerrietts is a recognized leader in rural and small town ministry. He was the 1995 recipient of the Friend of Rural Ministry recognition from Wartburg Theological Seminary's Center for Theology and Land. He serves as Pastoral Assistant to the Bishop. His current duties include rural ministry, leadership formation, and the calling of pastors for the Northeastern Iowa Synod.

Darrel was baptized at the former St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Chatsworth, Iowa, and confirmed and ordained at Trinity Lutheran Church in Akron, Iowa. He is a graduate of Wartburg College at Waverly, Iowa, and Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa. Darrel is married to Jeanette Christiansen. They have four children and four grandchildren (who are absolutely a delight!)



The Bishop in residence will be Marcus Lohrmann

Our Chaplain will be Pastor John Tickner



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 Ellen Mills (NE)

Pastor Jeff Wick, Assistant to the Bishop (S)

Pastor Laura Shreffler, Versailles (S)

Pastor Kate Crecelius (SO)

Penny Christensen, LOMO

Workshops

Stresses and Strategies: Ways to Keep Your Sanity - Bishop Marcus Lohrman

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. *Bishop Marcus Lohrmann is the Bishop for the Northwestern Ohio Synod.*

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 for the Northeastern Ohio Synod.*

Building a Year-Round Stewardship Ministry: Bill McKee

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. Bill McKee Director for Evangelical Mission, Assistant to the Bishop for the Southern Ohio Synod.*

Eradicating Malaria: Joene Herr

A child dies every 8 seconds from malaria. Pastor Joene Herr, Southern Ohio Synod coordinator for the ELCA Malaria Campaign, discusses ways to help assure the end of this deadly disease. *Pastor Joene Herr serves St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Ithaca and is the coordinator for the Southern Ohio Synod Malaria Campaign.*

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

Name	Age	Grade

Name	Age	Grade

(Registered children are expected to share a room with their parent/guardian.)

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.

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

Hotels:

Comfort Inn (855 Comfort Plaza in Bellville)

Quality Inn (1000 Comfort Plaza Bellville)

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

Registration Deadline: Friday, September 30, 2011

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 11

6:00 - 7:00 Registration at hotels

7:30 Community gathering at St. Paul, Bellville

Food, Fun and Fellowship

Keynote speaker introductory remarks

9:00 Worship

Saturday, November 12

Continental breakfast in hotels

9:00 Opening with devotions

9:15-9:45 Conversation with Bishop Lohrmann*

9:45-10:00 Break with refreshments

10:00-11:15 Keynote Speaker*

11:15-12:30 Workshops*

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 by for hiking)

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

(Youth programming will be provided during the Keynote)

Sunday, November 13

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, Bellville



Space is limited. Register early!

Registration Deadline: Friday, September 30, 2011

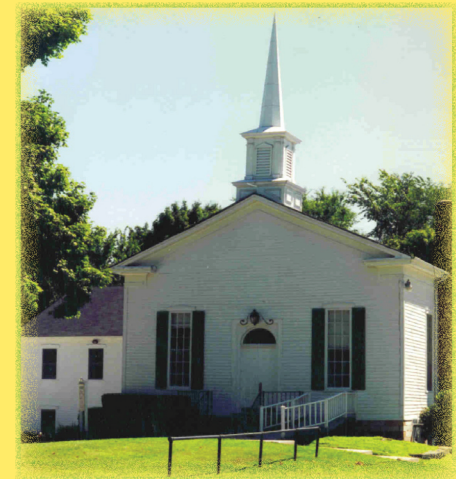
Strategies for Vital Rural Congregations

November 11-13, 2011

Friday - Sunday

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Bellville, OH



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

September 30th registration deadline