



Festival

OF WORKSHOPS

Atlantic District - LCMS

Engaging the World with the Gospel of Hope!

“Joining Jesus on His Mission”

Saturday March 11, 2017

Check In 8:30AM - 9:30AM
Program 9:30AM to 3:30PM

CONCORDIA COLLEGE
BRONXVILLE, NY

About our Keynote Speaker

Rev. Greg Finke

Rev. Greg Finke is the founder and Executive Director of Dwelling 1:14 and author of the books, “Joining Jesus on His Mission,” and, “Joining Jesus – Show Me How.” Dwelling 1:14 is a non-profit ministry which helps leaders disciple their people to join Jesus on His mission in the places they already live, work and go to school (www.dwelling114.org). The name Dwelling 1:14 references John 1:14 and the incarnational, missional nature both of Jesus and those who would follow him into the world.

Greg offers consulting and training experiences for congregations and their leaders in discipling, living missionally, and multiplying missional community environments.

Before founding Dwelling 1:14, Greg had been the senior pastor of Messiah Lutheran in Midland, Michigan for 18 years and Gloria Dei Lutheran in Houston, Texas for three years. Greg and his wife, Susan, have three daughters and enjoy life as neighborhood missionaries in League City, Texas.

As the leader of Dwelling 1:14, Greg brings experience in discipling and missional living and a practitioner’s insights to all he does. He has worked with pastors and leaders all across the U.S. and Canada. He continues to learn with his family and friends in their own missional communities in League City.

Greg is a graduate of Concordia University Chicago (1985) and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1989).

Greg is a frequent presenter at conferences such as FiveTwo, Best Practices, Pastoral Leadership Institute, and other Synodical, District and regional gatherings.

Greg Finke’s workshops are designed to work together to give a complete one day of training.

THANK YOU

to our many workshop presenters for their time and expertise and to Concordia College–New York for the use of their campus.



SCHEDULE.....

8:30AM	Check In, Registration and Fellowship
9:30AM	Opening remarks by President Derek G. Lecakes Keynote Speaker Rev. Greg Finke
10:30AM - 11:40AM	Workshop Session 1
11:45AM - 12:30PM	Lunch
12:40PM - 1:50PM	Workshop Session 2
2:00PM - 3:10PM	Workshop Session 3
3:15PM - 3:30PM	Closing, Sending and Blessing

- Registration is \$30 per person, this includes lunch and check-in hospitality, if registration form and payment are received by February 28, 2017.
- Late registration is \$35 per person.
- Check-in will be in the Sommer Center Lobby
- Directions to Concordia 171 White Plains Road, Bronxville NY 10708 can be found at www.concordia-ny.edu; Click on "Discover Concordia", then "Campus and Location" and finally "Directions to Campus".

KEY FOR SPECIFIC INTEREST TRACKS.....

This year we are adding a special interest key so that you easily may identify workshops that might correspond to your particular area of interest. We have attempted to have a selection from each area in each of the time slots so that you may follow your own track throughout the day or you can make up a track of your own choosing from any area.

Teen Track = **T**

Youth leaders = **YL**

Children, Education and Schools = **CES**

Evangelism/Outreach/Marketing/Communication = **EOMC**

Music and Worship = **MW**

Buildings and Rentals = BR Caregiving and Health = **CH**

Administration and Leadership = AL Spiritual Growth = **SG**

Stewardship and Finance = **SF**

WORKSHOP SESSION OVERVIEW.....

SESSION ONE: 10:30 AM

- What's Missing in Your Mission Strategy? - **EOMC**
- 10 Steps Every Church Can Take to Prepare for Outreach - **EOMC**
- Simply Sharing the Gospel - **EOMC**
- Creating an Online Presence for Your Church - **EOMC, CES**
- Boundaries for Workers in the Church - **CH**
- What's next for Sunday School? A Discussion with Concordia Publishing - **CES**
- Moving Forward: Building Effective Feedback Systems - **AL, CES**
- Faith + Science = Truth? - **T**
- You Want Me to Lead a Bible Study!? - **YL**
- Simple Contemporary - Top 10 enhancements for the small church - **MW**
- Arts, Liturgy and Outreach - **MW, EOMC**
- Church Property and Maintenance - **BR**

• • • LUNCH 11:45 AM to 12:30 PM • • •

Lunch will be served to all registrants in Schoenfeld Hall and Sommer Center

SESSION TWO: 12:40 PM

- 5 Daily Practices for Neighborhood Missionaries - **EOMC**
- Simply Sharing the Gospel, Part 2 - **EOMC**
- Redundancy, Redundancy, Redundancy - **EOMC**
- Let's Have a Conversation - **CH**
- Fear Not! (Isaiah 41:10) – **CH, SG**
- What's next for Sunday School? A Discussion with Concordia Publishing - **CES**
- Clarity of Mission: Ingredient for Decision-Making Success - **AL, CES**
- ElimiDATE or Love Connection - **T**
- Let's Talk About Sex, Baby? - **YL**
- The Alpha Course: Equipping the Local Church for Evangelism - **CES, EOMC**
- Worship the Lord with Gladness - **MW**
- Insurance and Risk Management for Churches 101 - **BR**
- Can't Afford an Audit? Try an Internal Financial Review! - **SF**

SESSION THREE: 2 PM

- Mission with a Little Help from My Friends - **EOMC**
- 7 Missional Activities for Congregations - **EOMC**
- Connecting a Community to Christ and His Church - **EOMC**
- It's OK to Ask for Help! - **CH**
- Male Call: Meeting Men's Needs through Your Church's Ministry - **CES, AL, CH**
- Read the Bible in 2 Years: A Practical Program for Your Church - **CES, SG**
- Guiding Youth through Crises - **YL**
- Free to Fail - **T**
- Joining Jesus in Missions of Care and Service - **AL, CES, CH**
- Altar Care 101 - **MW**
- Celebrating the Saints: A Mosaic of Christ - **MW, CES, SG**
- Fostering a Culture of Generosity - **SF, SG, CES, AL**
- Contemporary Worship Music in a Liturgical Setting - **MW**

“What’s Missing in Your Mission Strategy?” - EOMC

What makes you a missionary? It’s not your mission passion or your mission strategy. It’s your friendship with people who are living without the grace and truth of Jesus. In this session, we shall craft a simple plan for getting to know and starting to enjoy the pre-Christian people God has already placed nearby.

Rev. Greg Finke, Dwelling 1:14

10 Steps Every Church Can Take to Prepare for Outreach - EOMC

There are many small churches that may not be ready for systematic outreach to their community. These are churches that may have 15-50 people present for worship and they may not have the financial, leadership, or people resources to begin to reach out to their communities. We believe that in 12 months, any church can complete these 10 steps and be in good condition to begin its own outreach efforts or begin “Seasons of Discovery.”

Rev. Timothy Anderson, St. Peter Lutheran Church, Warwick

Rev. Victor Nelson, Resurrection Lutheran Church, Cairo

Simply Sharing the Gospel - EOMC

Take the fear and complexity out of sharing the Good News of Jesus with your family and friends—or even strangers! In this session, we shall give you some simple yet effective tools that anyone can use to share the gospel clearly, connecting another person to Jesus and His Church.

Rev. Dr. Terry Tieman, Transforming Churches Network

Creating an Online Presence for Your Church - EOMC, CES Website, Social Media, Email Blasts

We shall discuss best practices for building a website from scratch or updating an older website using WordPress as the content management system (CMS). Also, we shall address how to maintain that site and who is best to handle the day to day work for the website (staff, volunteer or contractor). The website will be the main focus of the workshop with some discussion on what social media the attendees are currently using: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or Snapchat. We shall see how using Constant Contact or MailChimp for email newsletters may be beneficial for saving on printing and postage costs.

Jeanine Davis, Graphic Designer for Non-Profits and member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Hicksville

Boundaries for Workers in the Church - CH

Do you ever find yourself helping those around you until your emotional stores are empty? Do you find that you can’t let an email or text go for more than a day? Do you want to find out why you are so tired after a long day reaching out to others? The “Boundaries for Workers in the Church” workshop can start answering these questions for you. Based on the “Boundaries” series by Dr. John Townsend, this workshop offers a glimpse into where you stop and the people in your life begin.

Amy Lecakes and Katherine Gonzalez, Atlantic District Task Force on Health and Human Care

“What’s Next for Sunday School?”

A Discussion with Concordia Publishing House - CES

With the ever-present mission in mind of bringing the message of Christ to the families of our congregation and on into the community, many of us are caught between “I remember when…” and “How can we make this work?” Concordia Publishing House will bring their expertise to lead a discussion on all the particulars. They will share their current curricula available for small (and large) Sunday School programs and look for input on developing new ones. Bring your ideas, questions and success stories to share. Who knows—the next big idea might be yours!

Concordia Publishing House Representative.

Moving Forward:

Building Effective Feedback Systems - AL, CES

In congregations and schools, there’s no shortage of feedback in the loop. From congregant to leader, educator to student, parent to administrator, council president to pastor, the feedback is there, and it’s endless. How do we ensure that our feedback systems are in order? How do we facilitate the collection and provision of effective feedback, the kind that can be acted on? This workshop will center on the components of effective feedback, providing an opportunity for participants to consider the effectiveness of their individual feedback practices as well as how they fit in the larger feedback loop in their ministry. Leave with a sense of what you might do to improve the ways in which you share feedback as well as how your ministry might consider its overall approach to feedback.

Jessica Raba, Lutheran Schools Association

Faith + Science = Truth? - T

In our current culture and context, faith and science are perceived to be incompatible – too many people claim that they do not fit or work together. Is this true? This session will address this question, along with many others about how our faith operates within science, philosophy, and sociology – in other words, EVERYDAY LIFE, especially for the young people in our church.

Rev. Matthew Ryan Gonzalez, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, The Bronx

You Want Me to Lead a Bible Study!? - YL

Not everyone who leads a Bible Study for youth is a professional church worker. Volunteers are often regularly called upon to serve in this capacity. Are you a volunteer youth leader? Don't know where to start when it comes to a Bible study? Are you worried you won't be able to connect to today's youth? Do you want to feel more confident teaching God's Word to them? If so, this session is for you!

Rev. Jake Allstaedt, St John's Lutheran Church, Williston Park

Simple Contemporary -

Top 10 enhancements for the small church - MW

Join singer/songwriter and worship leader Wendysue Fluegge for an insightful look at specific additions to enhance the beauty of the worship service. Based out of Wisconsin, Wendysue comes with 20 years experience partnering with Lutheran pastors all over the country, leading congregational singing and engaging people

through music and drama. You'll hear practical tips, see demonstrations, and participate in collective dialogue about maximizing your small church resources!

Wendysue Fluegge, Singer/Songwriter/Educator/Worship leader

Arts, Liturgy and Outreach - MW, EOMC

The richness of the liturgical calendar provides a framework of substance, symbols and images that point us to the heart of the Gospel. Join Rev. Justin Vetrano, founding Pastor of The Life Lutheran Church in Old Westbury, NY for an engaging discussion on innovative ways in which congregations can connect the liturgical calendar to creative, thematic and artistic events and activities that engage both the internal and external community of the congregation. The liturgical calendar exists to point us to God's story of salvation through Jesus Christ. Join us as we consider fresh ideas to experience the liturgical year with passion and purpose while at the same time teaching and engaging the community.

Rev. Justin Vetrano, The Life Lutheran Church, Old Westbury

Church Property and Maintenance - BR

A checklist about what you "must" do to preserve your church facilities. We will discuss topics from water infiltration to energy savings to security issues and more. Bring pictures of your property (if possible) and a list of when the church last updated the roof, heating, electric and plumbing.

Mike Jakob, Carriage Trade Insurance

SESSION TWO

12:40 PM - 1:50 PM

"5 Daily Practices for Neighborhood Missionaries" - EOMC

Experience has taught that there are 5 simple practices we can put into play every day which get us into position to join Jesus on His mission. These practices are particularly effective and easy to include as part of your busy day.

Rev. Greg Finke, Dwelling 1:14

Simply Sharing the Gospel, Part 2 - EOMC

More simple, effective tools that anyone can use to connect others to Jesus.

Rev. Dr. Terry Tieman, Transforming Churches Network

Redundancy, Redundancy, Redundancy - EOMC

An honest conversation on how to stop trying to reinvent the wheel

and instead pull from successful evangelism examples in the wider church. In this session you will get a huge chunk of information about available resources for your mission and ministry needs.

Rev. Dr. Johnson Rethinasamy, Atlantic District Mission Executive, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Whitestone

Let's Have A Conversation - CH

This two-part workshop is designed to help individuals and their families be proactive in decisions about health care and end-of-life choices. Know which important basic documents you should have readily available (Power of Attorney, Health Care Directive, MOLST Forms, DNR, etc.) as well as the conversations that should accompany these decisions. Understand housing options ranging from aging in place safely to long-term care, and the financial

impact. Learn about the advantages of downsizing along the way. Additionally, hear how some congregations are finding ways to serve seniors in their congregations and communities.

Antoinette Wallace, Executive Director of Coburg Village and Janet George, Church and Community Relations, The Lutheran Care Network.

Fear Not! (Isaiah 41:10) - CH, SG

Everyone has something which brings fear into their lives. We cannot escape it; it is a human emotion. The list covers all the bases, from the personal to the peripheral. These fears, at times, can overwhelm us and shut us down. Even if we can control the flood of emotions, we often hear a constant nagging from within, difficult to ignore in our daily lives. If you are looking for rest, for comfort, for what can help you see past your fear, come spend some time with fellow Christians, looking into Scripture. It is here that we are reminded that God has “not given us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, of love, and of self-discipline.” (II Timothy 1:7)

Ms. Kathy Witto, Educator at Martin Luther High School, serving on Atlantic District Schools Task Force and Board of Directors.

“What’s Next for Sunday School?”

A Discussion with Concordia Publishing House - CES

With the ever-present mission in mind of bringing the message of Christ to the families of our congregation and on into the community, many of us are caught between “I remember when...” and “how can we make this work?” Concordia Publishing House will bring their expertise to lead a discussion on all the particulars. They will share their current curricula available for small (and large) Sunday School programs and look for input on developing new ones. Bring your ideas, questions and success stories to share. Who knows—the next big idea might be yours!

Concordia Publishing House Representative.

Clarity of Mission:

Ingredient for Decision-Making Success - AL, CES

Is it a challenge? Or a possibility? No matter how you see it, as a leader, you are responsible for making decisions that impact the ministry of your congregation or school. So, how do you know if you’re headed in the right direction? While this session can’t predict future success, clarity of mission is critical. In this session, we explore tools and practices to support the decision-making of entities such as congregation councils and school boards, using mission as a guide. Come with your mission statements and current practices in mind, and work through several exercises to

support you in the moment. Then, try them out in your ministry leadership teams.

Jessica Raba, Director of Lutheran Schools Association

ElimiDATE or Love Connection - T

What’s the point of dating? My soul mate? I can’t live without them? I love you? Sex? This is an active discussion for youth on how to manage dating as a Christian or help friends who are dating. We will discuss what the goals of dating are, how to re-take control of why we date, and what God says about dating.

Chris Abatelli, LMHC for Lutheran Counseling Center and Director of Youth for St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sayville.

Let’s Talk About Sex Baby? - YL

As the church, it is increasingly important that we are comfortable discussing human sexuality. Whether leading our youth or having conversations with those outside the faith, this is a topic about which we are accused of being “uninformed and uneducated.” Too often, however, we are simply uncomfortable with the conversation, so we treat it as “taboo” instead of speaking the truth about the gifts that we receive from God. Come and have a serious conversation about how we can be better equipped to tackle a topic that often challenges us.

Rev. Matthew Ryan Gonzalez, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, The Bronx

The Alpha Course: Equipping the Local Church for Effective Evangelism in the 21st Century. - CES, EOMC

Over 29 million people have tried Alpha globally. We believe that everyone should have an opportunity to explore the Christian faith, ask questions and share a point of view. Newly filmed and presented in 2016, Alpha is a powerful, effective, economical, community building tool for this culture. Find out how your church or ministry can use the Alpha Course to reach this generation for Christ.

Rev. Jerry O’Sullivan, Pastor of Shelter Rock Church, Syosset, NY and Alpha Hub Director.

Worship the Lord with Gladness - MW

Planning worship can be a joy as we participate in Christ’s mission. This workshop will provide an opportunity to discuss the Church’s song and how it shapes our lives and our life together. Special attention will be given to short range and long term planning for worship.

Rev. Dien Ashley Taylor, Ph.D., Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, The Bronx

Insurance and Risk Management for Churches 101 - BR

Now more than ever, church leaders must recognize the importance of risk management as an inherent part of organizational oversight.

Topics will include understanding insurance, what risks to pay attention to and what is board member responsibility.

Mike Jakob, Carriage Trade Insurance

Can't Afford an Audit?

Try an Internal Financial Review! - SF

This is an easy step-by-step walkthrough on how to conduct a

financial review for your congregation. It includes sample documents, forms, procedures and suggestions on splitting duties to simplify the process. This is designed for congregational presidents, treasurers, financial secretaries, or anyone assigned the task. Being a CPA is not required. ;-)

John Litke, President SPBS; Robin Richer, Manager Paychex; and Peter Labenberg, Atlantic District Executive for Finance & Stewardship, LCEF Vice President

SESSION THREE

2:00 PM - 3:10 PM

Mission with a Little Help from My Friends - EOMC

Experience has taught that if we want to move from mission-passion to mission-lifestyle we will need a little help from our friends. Without it, our mission-passion fades and we go back to normal very quickly. In this session, we will talk about how "Missional Community" can help you stay on track for mission. We will also talk about the various ways you can participate in "Missional Community" as a family, with a current church group, or with a group of friends.

Rev. Greg Finke, Dwelling 1:14

7 Missional Activities for Congregations - EOMC

Jesus has called all of us to be fishers of people. And everyone knows that you can catch more fish with a net than a pole. Find out how your church can mobilize its members to work together in 7 net-fishing activities that are guaranteed to catch fish!

Rev. Dr. Terry Tieman, Transforming Churches Network

Connecting a Community to Christ and His Church - EOMC

This will be the story of one church and its efforts to reach out to its community with the words and deeds of Christ. Although every context differs, the local church must strive to connect with people who may never come to Christ and His church unless the church first comes to them. We will see the plan, implementation and the present results of one such effort.

Rev. Steven Williamson-Link, Resurrection Lutheran Church, Cairo

It's OK to ask for Help! - CH

Are you a caregiver? Will you be a caregiver someday? Do you need a caregiver? Will you need a caregiver someday? Do you know anyone who is a caregiver? Are there caregivers in your congregation?

If you answered, "Yes," to one or more of these questions, then this workshop is for you! Beginning with the story of Elizabeth and Zechariah and then Mary's visit to her pregnant older kinswoman, we shall talk about the blessings and burdens of caregiving. Whether it's a child with special needs or an older relative, spouse or friend who needs help, we may find ourselves providing much needed care for someone else. But caregivers need help, too! Caregiving is a sacred responsibility and it can be a privilege. But it can also cause tremendous stress and challenges for us. How can we faithfully care for ourselves? How can our faith communities help?

Rev. Carol Fryer, Pastor at Wartburg and United Lutheran Church of Mount Vernon; Director of Spiritual Care and Church Relations at Wartburg

Male Call: Meeting Men's Needs through Your Church's Ministry - CES, AL, CH

"Where have all the men gone?!" If your church is asking that, then come share in this workshop. Men have unique challenges and issues in the quest for holistic health and growth of body, mind and spirit, and their own ways of addressing them. Learn about a 're-set' of attitudes and approaches in ministering with men and leave with specific suggestions for ways of reaching and engaging them with "the upward call of Jesus Christ."

Rev. David Elseroad, D.Min., LMFT., Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, Hawthorne; Pastoral Psychotherapist, Lutheran Counseling Center

Read the Bible in Two Years:

A Practical Program for Your Congregation - CES, SG

Although many in our congregations have read or studied various books of the Bible, many more have never read through the entire

Bible in an organized fashion. Even fewer people have done so with the support of supplementary material or a coordinated group Bible study opportunity. Based on Resurrection Lutheran Church's current RB-500 experience which began Oct. 31, 2016, this workshop presents a new opportunity for congregations to offer this model that could begin Oct. 31, 2017. For congregations who are already onboard since last Fall, new resources and possibilities will be presented & explored. The workshop will consist of 3 parts:

- 1) Benefits and blessings of reading the entire Bible through, for individuals and for congregations.
- 2) The process of planning and promotion within your congregation, for maximum participation in reading and Bible studies.
- 3) Resources for daily Bible reading and for weekly small group Bible studies, encouraging multiple groups within each congregation.

Deacon Shirley Algozzine, Resurrection Lutheran Church, Cairo, NY

Guiding Youth through Crises - YL

How can you help? The answer is never easy when helping youth in trouble or in crisis. Things can get very confusing or make us feel easily overwhelmed. This is a discussion for youth leaders and others working with youth on how to help youth who are in crises or just in trouble. We shall discuss practical ways you can help, when to notify parents and others, ways to support and guide them, when to seek professional help, and what Scripture has to say.

Chris Abatelli, LMHC for Lutheran Counseling Center and Director of Youth for St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sayville.

Free to Fail - T

Every day, we are bombarded with expectations. We have to act a certain way, get the best grades, satisfy others, do the thing we were always meant to do, be the most attractive person, matter the most, always be right...and the list goes on. Failure scares us way too much. We desperately want to believe that we're something that we're not. But here's some good news: I don't have to be something because Jesus is everything. If you are burdened with expectations and the need to be something, come listen to some freeing news.

Rev. Jake Allstaedt, St. John's Lutheran Church, Williston Park

Joining Jesus in Missions of Care and Service - AL, CES, CH

We join Jesus on His mission towards others through varied ministries of care and service, both within the congregation and in outreach. These include the Atlantic District Lay Deacon Program, Stephen Ministries program and Parish Nursing program. This seminar will offer overviews of these service ministries, presented by active participants from throughout the Atlantic District.

Rev Henry Albrechtsen, Pastor, Love Lutheran Church, East

Greenbush and Registrar/Coordinator of the Atlantic District Lay Deacon Program; Deacon Ellen Farber, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Garden City, NY

Altar Care 101 - MW

Caring for our Lord's house and the vessels used in public worship is a privilege and responsibility. Learn some helpful information about preparing the altar and vessels for worship as we participate in Christ's mission.

Deaconess Raquel A. Rojas and Rev. Dien Ashley Taylor, Ph.D., Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church - The Bronx

Celebrating the Saints: A Mosaic of Christ - MW, CES, SG

In a mosaic, a myriad of unique pieces combine to create a single work of art. Throughout the centuries, the Spirit has called saints who, like pieces of tile or stone, have "joined Jesus on his mission" in striking and unique ways. Yet, when we look at them as a whole, we see a single, compelling picture of Christ. In this workshop, we shall explore how your parish might create its own calendar of saints to be celebrated throughout the year. We shall identify specific saints from among that "great cloud of witnesses" who will portray a picture of Jesus which is the one people in your community need to see. By being intentional in this way about who we look to as our spiritual mentors, we can reinforce important aspects of our congregational mission and ministry.

Rev. Robert Boehler, St. Mark's Lutheran Church and School, Yonkers

Fostering a Culture of Generosity: How to Encourage Excelling in the Grace of Giving - SF, SG, CES, AL

All biblical stewardship of time, talents, and treasure is motivated by free will giving. What are biblical and practical ways that pastors and leaders can encourage liberality in giving? This workshop will examine the ways to encourage excellence in giving.

Rev. Victor Nelson, Resurrection Lutheran Church, Cairo

Contemporary Worship Music in a Liturgical Setting (It can be done.) - MW

With churches utilizing more modern styles of music in worship, it can appear that we lose elements of our heritage, substance in proclamation and our rich traditions as Lutheran Christians. Liturgical worship is rich, passionate and truly transcendent as it provides an experiential framework for our proclamation of the Good News of Jesus and points us to the means of God's grace. Join Rev. Justin Vetrano, founding Pastor of The Life Lutheran Church in Old Westbury, NY for a discussion on ways in which we can utilize modern styles of music in the church, engage musicians with a variety of gifts and honor our call to be people who gather around Word and Sacrament.

Rev. Justin Vetrano, The Life Lutheran Church, Old Westbury