



# Spirit Led INNOVATION

## Equipping Congregations Day

### ALL ARE WELCOME!

- Congregation Members
- Council Officers
- Christian Educators
- Worship & Youth Leaders
- Pastors... Everyone!

### NEW THIS YEAR!

- Childcare
- Kids Day Camp

Saturday, February 23, 2019

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Vinje Lutheran & Bethel Lutheran  
Willmar, MN

We will be using the buildings of both Vinje and Bethel Lutheran Churches in Willmar, to accommodate up to 1000 registrants. Both locations will have the same program elements, the schedules will just be in a different order. The keynote speaker and workshop leaders will move between the two church buildings. Your congregation's event location will be confirmed after registering online.

### Gather your congregation members & register Nov. 27!

Register at:

[www.swmnelca.org/event/ecd-2019](http://www.swmnelca.org/event/ecd-2019)

Registration fee includes all materials, refreshments and lunch.

- \$80 on or before Feb. 1, \$100 After Feb. 1  
Congregations or Parishes with total average worship attendance of 100 or less
- \$155 on or before Feb. 1, \$175 After Feb. 1  
Congregations or Parishes with total average worship attendance of 101 or more
- \$30/Person on or before Feb. 1, \$40 After Feb. 1

Registration will close if we reach maximum capacity -OR- on February 15 at 5:00 p.m.

Complete the online registration and pay online or mail payment to:

SW MN Synod PO Box 499  
Redwood Falls, MN 56283.  
Make checks payable to: SW MN Synod



Southwestern Minnesota Synod  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

### Keynote Speakers:



Beth Lewis

Beth Lewis

#### Grow. Hold. Fold

One of the perils of any organization is that there is no shortage of good ideas. There are, however, good ideas that outlast their usefulness! It is often very difficult to stop doing things because they get imbedded into our organizations' traditions and cultures.



Benjamin Winchester

Benjamin S. Winchester

#### Rewriting the Rural Narrative

It seems the rural story has already been told. Small towns keep getting smaller. Churches, schools, clinics, businesses, and now post offices, have closed their doors as the lucky few migrate out to the big cities. This deficit framework dominates how we discuss and envision our rural communities. However, the story of rural America since 1970 is rich and diverse, with positive trends occurring under the radar. Learn how these important positive changes have been occurring across the rural landscape that require us to rewrite the narrative of rural community change.

### WORKSHOPS

- Some workshop titles may change. Finalized workshops will be available online soon!
- The synod's e-newsletter will be highlighting workshop descriptions!
- Attend your choice of 3 of the following workshops:

- Tax law changes and congregational giving
- Understanding adverse childhood experiences
- Working cooperatively in ministry for the sake of mission
- Living with your best intentions in the 3rd third of life
- Top 10 conversations every 21st century church must have
- Consider the lilies; caring for God's water on the prairie
- Love Thy Neighbor and explore Muslim culture
- Millennials and Generation Z's "Take" on Jesus
- Equipping / empowering lay worship leaders
- It's a google world
- Faith issues
- Suicide in rural ministry
- Respectful Conversations
- Congregational generosity
- Camp in the 21st Century - It's a new day!
- Safety and security for congregations
- Engaging leaders across your ministry
- LSS educational programming
- Mental health with teens
- 2021 Mpls Youth Gathering
- Time with our bishop

