



# The Annual ELDERBERRY Retreat

Hosted & Sponsored by the Southwestern Minnesota Synod, ELCA

THE ELDERBERRY RETREAT is a special opportunity for retired ELCA Pastors, Deacons\* and Spouses in the synods of MN and SD to gather in a community of renewal, learning, fellowship, and fun. We will share together in worship, music, food, laughter, and relaxing. Spouses of deceased pastors and deacons are invited and encouraged to attend.

In addition to fellowship in the beautiful camp setting at Green Lake, this retreat offers us an opportunity to engage in observing the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

*\*Deacons is the new ELCA inclusive term for those formerly called associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers.*

## THE 2017 RETREAT THEME:

**“Reformation 500: Luther and  
The Reforming of Our Prayer Life”**

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**Dr. Mary Jane Haemig,**  
*Luther Seminary Professor  
and Specialist in  
Reformation Studies.*

Dr. Mary Jane Haemig (Dr. of Theology, Harvard 1996) has taught church history at Luther Seminary for 18 years. Prior to that she taught for 5 years at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington. She specializes in Reformation studies and Luther, with particular interests in preaching, catechesis, and prayer in the Reformation era. She will make three Presentations under the overall them of **“Bold and Brazen: What Luther Teaches Us About Prayer.”**

## 2017 RETREAT

THURSDAY & FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5 - 6  
GREEN LAKE BIBLE CAMP, SPICER MN

### The Schedule:

#### Thursday, October 5th

- 9:30am.....Registration, Coffee & Refreshments
- 10:00 ..... Welcome, Gathering Devotions & Prayer
- 10:20 ..... Keynote Presentation:  
*“Prayer: A Major Theme in  
Luther’s Theology and Life”*
- 11:20 .....Response discussion in small groups
- 11:40 .....Transition to Lunch
- Noon ..... Lunch & Meal Time Prayer
- 12:45pm..... Free Time Options
- 2:00 ..... Keynote Presentation:  
*“Talking Back to God: Luther Uses  
Stories of Genesis to Teach Prayer”*
- 2:50 .....Response discussion in small groups
- 3:10 .....Coffee & Refreshments Break
- 3:30 ..... Presentation by Portico Representatives
- 4:30 ..... Free Time Options
- 5:30 ..... Supper & Meal Time Prayer
- 6:30 ..... Presentation by SW MN Synod  
Bishop Jon Anderson: *“Life in our ELCA”*
- 7:30 .....Close of Day Devotions & Prayer
- 8:30 ..... Evening Fellowship Time & Refreshments

#### Friday, October 6th

- 7:45am..... Beginning of Day Devotions & Prayer
- 8:15 ..... Breakfast & Meal Time Prayer
- 9:00 ..... Keynote Presentation:  
*“Prayer Amidst Life’s Perils:  
What Jonah & Jesus Teach About Prayer”*
- 10:15 .....Coffee & Refreshments Break
- 10:30 ..... Communion Worship in the GLBC Chapel
- 11:30 .....Short Business Meeting
- Noon ..... Lunch and Meal Time Prayer
- 12:30 .....Closing Announcements & Prayer

## ADDITIONAL PRESENTERS

**Bishop Jon Anderson,**  
Bishop of the SW MN  
Synod, a position to which  
he was first elected in  
2003. He is a graduate of  
St. Olaf College and Luther  
Northwestern Seminary.



He served as a student pastor intern at Dickenson, TX,  
and served parish calls in Houston, TX, St. Cloud, MN  
and New Ulm, MN before his election as Bishop.

## PORTICO

Two Portico Benefit Services representatives will be with us this year. Brooks Rankin and Kristin Lear will share information and updates on our pension benefits and also instruct us in the area of financial planning in our retirement years. They will also be available for individual questions and conversations.

## LUTHER AND THE REFORMING OF OUR PRAYER LIFE

As we observe the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and remember Luther's role in that historic 16th century era, we may not be aware of the reformation he pioneered in our prayer life. Augsburg has just published and released (July 2015) a new book of 2 of Luther's writing on prayer: ***Little Prayer Book, 1522*** and ***A Simple Way to Pray, 1535***. Our Keynote speaker Mary Jane Haemig authored the introduction to the ***Little Prayer Book*** and writes, "Luther sought to reform both the theology and practice of prayer. He realized that unless his insights were conveyed on a popular, understandable level, they would not succeed in changing longstanding, strongly rooted ideas and practice...Luther sought to encourage simple direct prayer to God, who had promised to hear the one praying, rather than to the Virgin Mary and the saints." Our retreat focus will help deepen our appreciation for our Gospel centered prayer heritage.

**Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the retreat at a quantity purchase rate of \$7.50 per copy. (Regular purchase cost is \$14.99)**

## SHARE YOUR PRAYER TREASURES

We invite all retreat participants to bring items that are deeply cherished symbols or expressions of your prayer life such as art work, paintings, drawings, or sculpture. Or bring your favorite book of prayers, or books about praying, or your own prayer stories, written or verbal. We will provide space for you to display your items, and if you desire, an opportunity to tell us about your prayer treasure.



*Green Lake Bible Camp Chapel*

### **Elderberry Ambassadors:**

Kathy Wimer & Tammy Segil-Crilly ..... NE MN Synod  
John Bell..... NW MN Synod  
Rev. Paul Baker..... SE MN Synod  
Rev. Bob & Linda Toso..... Mps Synod  
Rev. Glenn Taibl..... St Paul Synod  
Marge Neugebauer..... SD Synod

### **Retreat Planning Committee:**

Deacon Signe Gray..... St. Cloud  
Ph: 320-217-2142  
Email: tomsigne@sytekcom.com  
Pr. Jim & Marsha Gronewold ..... Glenwood  
Pho: 320-634-4401  
Email: lakeshorehouse@wisper-wireless.com  
Pr. Ron & Connie Hanson ..... Willmar  
Ph: 320-222-7999  
Email: roncon@en-tel.net  
Pr. Harvey Nelson..... Willmar  
Ph: 320-295-8854  
Email: harvey.marie.nelson@gmail.com



# ELDERBERRY REGISTRATION

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Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Synod: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registering for:** *Please check one*

\_\_\_\_\_ **Entire Event: \$90 per person, \$180 per couple**  
*(Includes all meals, snacks, and overnight housing with linens)*

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$5 per person less if you are willing to share a room as a**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **single male, or a \_\_\_\_\_ single female, with a common male or female bathroom.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Commuter: \$48 per person** *(Includes snacks, meals and a portion of the program costs.)*

\_\_\_\_\_ **Thursday Only: \$40 per person** *(Includes snacks, meals and a portion of the program costs.)*

\_\_\_\_\_ **Friday Only: \$35 per person** *(Includes snacks, meals and a portion of the program costs.)*

If you require special accommodations, please indicate below:

\_\_\_\_\_

There is an elevator for those who may need one. One ground floor lodging room is equipped to accommodate wheelchairs at Green Lake Bible Camp. The new Hamton Inn in nearby Spicer is equipped to handle all types of accessibility needs. Their phone # is 320-796-3000

If you are a single person with a roommate preference, please indicate below:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- A minimum of \$30.00 is required with your registration.
  - Refunds for cancellations are available up until Sept. 30, 2017.
  - A free-will offering will be received during worship for the SWMN Synod Pension Equity Endowment Fund.

**Mail registration and payment to: Registrar Jim Gronewold.**

Jim Gronewold  
18572 S. Lakeshore Drive  
Glenwood, MN 56334

Green Lake Bible Camp's Phone # (320)-796-2181

Deposit fee enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ *(Make checks payable to SW MN Synod, ELCA)*

***Registration Deadline: September 26th! Register Early!***