

JOURNEY WITH JESUS

2014 Synod Assembly

June 13-15, 2014 Gustavus Adolphus College St. Peter

³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" Luke 24

We are excited that you will be joining us for a unique synod assembly in St. Peter at Gustavus Adolphus this year. We will share our "Journey with Jesus" with people from across the synod and around the world.

For many years people have attended regional events called *Glocal Mission Events*. Their purpose was to lift up the work being done in the name of Jesus in the global mission fields. They also were events that sought to help people see that God had placed them in their local mission fields of their families, communities, congregations, regions and country. Local mission and ministry is as important in God's eyes as what happens in other communities in our country and around the globe.

We will learn some key principles from our global missionaries which will help us in our work of sharing our lives in Christ Jesus inside our congregations and in our community. These include:

- Accompaniment
- Understanding Differences
- Immigration and migration

We will have Pr. David Vasquez, from Luther College, presenting our Bible Study and helping us see how we are all migrants and immigrants like many people we know in the scriptures. Pr. Sunitha Mortha from our churchwide Global Mission unit will bring the churchwide report. A band of global musicians will come and lead us in music and worship familiar and new. There will be time to worship, learn, discern, make decisions and enjoy the gift of learning more about God's work in and around our synod in conversations and presentations.

I hope you are getting excited. It is time to gather and celebrate. God is at work in Christ Jesus saving us and forming us to serve.

Bishop Jon V. Anderson

Greetings from the Synod Staff!

We welcome you, the people of Southwestern Minnesota Synod to our offices in Redwood Falls. As the administrative office for the 248 congregations and other ministries of the synod, many activities take place here such as synod meetings, interviews and private discussions. Other days are quieter in the office as the bishop and synod ministers meet with pastors, church councils and lay leadership in their various churches.



Left to right:

Caitlin Kodet, Support Staff; Carla Klawitter,
Financial Administrator; Rev Andrea DeGrootNesdahl, Synod Minister; Kristin Bakeberg,
Communications; Tammy Sather, Administrative
Assistant to Bishop; Rev Linda Pedersen, Synod
Minister; Sarah Hausken, Youth Ministry
Coordinator; Rev Jon V Anderson, Bishop; Rev
Larry Strenge, DEM; Rev Joyce Piper, Synod
Minister



2014 Synod Assembly Team:

Synod Assembly Planning Committee

Crow River: **Pr. Maggie Cumings**, Cosmos Glacial Ridge: **Pr. Seth Novak**, Benson Great River: **Jason Parker**, St Cloud Lakeland: **Chair - Emily Peterson**, Willmar Lac qui Parle: **Diane Schulte**, Montevideo Minnesota Valley: **Pr. Charlie Stewart**, Hector

Prairie: Karen Lichtsinn, Lake Benton

Scenic Valley: vacant

Shetek: Pr. Josh Enderson, Luverne

Watonwan River: Cindy Torkelson, Hanska

Synod Assembly Personnel:

Synod Vice President: **Gwen Arneson**, Cottonwood

Synod Secretary: **Pr. Charlie Stewart**, Hector

Synod Treasurer: Bill Fenske, Willmar

Assembly Coordinator: **Tammy Sather**, Franklin Clerk & Note Taker: **Carla Klawitter**, Morgan

Assembly Synod Staff: Kristin Bakeberg, Redwood Falls

Caitlin Kodet, Redwood Falls

Parliamentarian: Pr. Stephen Cook, St Cloud

