

Community Outreach & Evangelism in Rural Congregations

Have you ever wondered, "*Why would someone want to join this congregation?*" Are there some intentional things we, as an "outreach team" (or "evangelism committee" or "evangelizing task force") could be doing to respond to the Holy Spirit's leading so that we are more effective in reaching out with the love of Jesus and inviting people from our rural area or community? Besides, what is a "Lutheran" form of evangelizing anyway? Questions like these are good ones to ask. They are important questions to ask!

As we prepare for Easter, spring, or summer opportunities for outreach, this 2-3 hour Faith Builder's workshop will give some insight into these and other questions for "rural evangelizing." The workshop will go into a Biblical understanding of "why" we are called to evangelize. It will also offer a practical look at how one might address questions like these through "Doorway Evangelizing 101."

In this workshop Pastor Larry Strenge, Director for Evangelical Mission in the SW MN Synod, will offer "a framework for evangelizing." He will look with your team--at least 2-5 from a congregation should attend--at some of the important Biblical passages that call us to be an "Evangelizing Church." Added to this Biblical understanding will be some practical tools to carry out this framework.

Much of this workshop is "experiential learning." It comes from Pr Larry's experience as a mission developer where the congregation formed around, and lived out, many of the Biblical and practical ideas that are shared in this workshop.

Date: May 8

Time: 9 a.m. - noon

Place: St Paul's, Gaylord MN

Cost: \$20 a person (\$50 max per congregation)

**Register: contact Tammy Sather (tammy.sather@swmnelca.org/
507.637.3904**

Audience: Persons from your congregation whose spiritual gifts would be described as--but not limited to-- "friendly, inviting and welcoming."

Registration Deadline is May 5