



Friday, May 28, 3 p.m. + Experience the Word 2010 Rocky Mountain Synod Assembly

Voting Members and Visitors will select ONE workshop or excursion as they register online. Those from the same congregation are each to select a different opportunity. About half will participate in **EXCURSIONS** away from the hotel, and about half participate in **WORKSHOPS** at the hotel. Therefore, before you register, please be in conversation with others from your group, selecting a range of workshops and excursions.

Advocacy Capitol Tour

(requires extensive walking)

Participate in a Legislative Tour of Colorado's Capitol where decisions are made that can have huge impacts on Colorado's poor and vulnerable. Hear stories of faith in action including how legislation is made and how justice can compliment charity in dealing with the hungry. Learn how your voice can have an impact in the legislative process. Guides from Lutheran Advocacy Ministry – Colorado.

Denver Art Museum: Image and God

(requires extensive walking)

The Denver Art Museum's collection includes art that depicts Christian stories of faith. View these works in the permanent collection, but also ponder questions about what makes art "spiritual" in a variety of times and cultures. How do images of art reflect the image of God?

Biblical Story Telling

Learning and telling biblical stories by heart just might be the deepest engagement one can have with the Bible. In this workshop you will experience the power of biblical storytelling; consider the oral origins of biblical story; reflect on the spirituality of having the stories by heart; learn techniques for internalizing and telling biblical story; and obtain tools for spiritual growth and ministries in education, liturgy, leadership, preaching and pastoral care... plus, we'll have some fun! Leader is Pam Faro.

Book of Faith 101: Getting Started

Book of Faith is not a program, not a set of resources, but is a call to deep and rich engagement with the Word in a way that works best for your congregation, campus ministry, outdoor ministry, or other ministry setting. Come and hear examples of other congregations' best practices and join in discussion about how to get started in your place of ministry. Leader is Pastor Annemarie Burke.

Cathedral Windows:

God's Story in Light and Color

(requires significant walking)

Stained glass windows were used early on by artists and clergy to teach Biblical stories to the mostly illiterate masses and to inspire awe and faith. Today we still say "a picture is worth a thousand words." It was the same with religious art throughout centuries. Join Pastor Liliana Stahlberg for a tour of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Denver with 75 significant windows depicting stories of faith.

Colfax Urban Servant Corps Walk

(requires extensive walking)

Walk along a portion of the 26-mile long street called Colfax known for "salvation and sin, depression and revival, past and present." This walk will highlight agencies including Denver Urban Ministries (DenUM), Empowerment, The Gathering Place, and Wyman Elementary School, to name a few. Hear stories about the impact that homelessness and low income has on family systems and structures as well as issues of incarceration and the challenges that are faced upon being released.

Emerging Church:

House for All Sinners and Saints

House for All Sinners and Saints is an emerging church ministry in central Denver. Described as an "ancient-future church with a progressive but deeply rooted theological imagination," the mission congregation is led by Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber. Visit one of the sites where they gather, and hear stories of how "House" is experimenting with new ways to do church which make sense to urban, postmodern young adults.

Every Home is a Home School!

Every child is “homeschooled” when it comes to learning the first language of faith! Research and scripture tell us that faith formation happens in the home and that parents and care-givers are the primary teachers of the faith and the Biblical stories. So what does this mean for congregations? Pastors? Grandparents? Caring, unrelated adults? Learn the importance of your role and the resources you and your congregation have to offer in a living, dynamic partnership with the home. Fun, interactive, applicable, practical! Leaders are Kristen Baltrum and Linda Staats.

Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey: The Word Alive!

Visit Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey in West Denver and be welcomed by Pastor Armando Rangel. Learn about the congregation’s After School Program, English as a Second Language Classes, and Food Bank Ministry. In addition, consider questions about immigration.

Lower Downtown (LoDo) Urban Servant Corps Walk

(requires extensive walking)

This tour includes stops at the Samaritan House (the largest shelter in the Rocky Mountain Region), Denver Rescue Mission, St. Francis Center, Urban Peak, Hotels and Lofts, El Centro Humanitario, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, among others. Issues of gentrification, immigration, and the dichotomy between consumerism and raw human needs will be addressed during this tour.

Lutheran Refugee Services: Welcoming the Stranger

Participants will visit the offices of Lutheran Family Services of Colorado’s Refugee & Asylee Programs - the largest resettlement program in the Rocky Mountain Region. LFS staff will give an overview of our approach to “welcoming the stranger” (Matt. 25-35) and a panel of refugees from around the world will share first-hand experiences of their journeys to resettlement in the Denver area. A question and answer session will follow.

Lutheran Study Bible: Wait! Wonder Why? So What?!

The Lutheran Study Bible is the foundational resource in the Book of Faith initiative. An interactive Bible Study will introduce features of the Lutheran Study Bible. Workshop leader is the Rev. Dr. Dena Williams, who contributed the Introduction and Study Notes for Titus and Jude to the Lutheran Study Bible.

Proclaiming the Word: Reading the Lessons in Worship

The scriptures are filled with stories of faith. At worship, the lector is a channel through which the congregation brings the stories to life. This workshop will offer practical skills for proclaiming the stories of faith in the worshipping community.

St Paul Lutheran Church: “In the City for Good”

(requires significant walking)

Saint Paul Lutheran Church, a reconciling in Christ parish celebrating 125 years of ministry, is “in the city for good.” This is an opportunity to learn more about life at Saint Paul through interaction with the pastor, cantor, and partners in ministry who seek to provide a faithful witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the midst of a unique community of faith. Hear stories of the congregation’s outreach, ecumenism, music, and liturgy.

Tackling the Violence of God in Scripture

One of the major impediments to reading the Bible for many folks both in and out of the church is the violence of God found in both the Old and New Testaments. In this workshop, through centering on a problematic text in Joshua, we make use of the four methods of bringing questions to the Bible—which is being encouraged in the Book of Faith Initiative—to face this challenging issue head on. Presented by Dr. Diane Jacobson.

Taize: Singing the Word

From March to November each year, the Taize community in France hosts thousands of visitors from around the world for weekly experiences of prayer, study, conversation and retreat. This workshop will explore the worship style developed by the Brothers of Taize in outreach and response to young adults and youth around the globe. Our time together includes an experience of worship, as well as an in-depth look at the music that has become known world-wide. The “Taize experience” focuses on life in Christ, simplicity of heart, the study of scripture, sung prayer and silence.

West Denver Urban Servant Corps Drive

A drive around neighborhoods on the west side of Denver will spark thoughts and conversation regarding how the Church responds to the needs of the community. This driving tour will include visits to Cristo Rey Lutheran Church, Girls Inc. of Metro Denver, The Delores Project, the Drop-In Center and others. Come hear stories of hope.