



### ■ ROCKY MOUNTAIN SYNOD FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

For the six-month period February - July, 2010:

**budgeted income** \$1,499, 931    **actual income** \$1,454,807 (97%)  
**budgeted expense** \$1,499,931    **actual expense** \$1,490,710 (\$9221 under budget)  
Current income shortfall of \$35,903 as compared with actual expenses.

During these challenging economic times, the Rocky Mountain Synod is grateful for the continued strong support by so many congregations! Having received 97% of budgeted income at the six month mark is an excellent symbol of our ministry together. Thank you!

### ■ SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GATHERING: NOVEMBER 19-21

"Whatever?!" is the theme of the gathering that will take place at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park. Aaron Tidwell, a respected speaker, workshop, seminar, and retreat leader for a variety of audiences, will be the featured speaker. Information is posted on the Rocky Mountain Synod website at [rmselca.org/shyg](http://rmselca.org/shyg).

### ■ RMS WOMEN'S CONVENTION: SEPTEMBER 24-26

You are invited to participate in the 2010 Convention of the Rocky Mountain Synod Women of the ELCA September 24-26, 2010, at Bethany Lutheran Church in Metro Denver. All ELCA women and guests are welcome to attend the convention to participate in worship, Bible study, and fellowship among all the Bold Women of the ELCA. Info at [rmselca.org/women](http://rmselca.org/women).

### ■ ASSEMBLY BIBLE STUDY VIDEOS ONLINE

Dr. Jacobson, Professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota, presented four Bible Student presentations at the Rocky Mountain Synod assembly in May. She challenged us to deepen and broaden our engagement with the Bible through four lenses: devotional, historical, literary, and Lutheran theological. The videos may be viewed online at [rmselca.org/jacobson](http://rmselca.org/jacobson).



## Resolution: to keep everyone safe

**A**t the Rocky Mountain Synod assembly in May, voting members adopted a resolution to "provide synod-wide training to church leaders in *Safeguarding God's Children*, an established and recognized training program in sexual abuse awareness, providing tools for clergy, Christian educators, youth ministers, nursery workers, council members and all who work with minors in our churches, to keep everyone safe."

**Safeguarding  
God's Children**

*Safeguarding God's Children* provides participants with a basic understanding of the dynamics of child sexual abuse. The 3-hour course includes information on how to respond, prevent and protect the children and youth in one's congregation and ministry.

The initial training opportunity will be offered prior to and following the 2011 Theological Conference. Those attending the conference are encouraged to select one of the two opportunities. Others not attending the conference may also register.

The instructor is Nancy Bond O'Neal, a licensed insurance broker and certified risk manager who has been serving synods and congregations in Region 2 of the ELCA since 1995. She is also on the Board of Directors of the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association (ELEA). Nancy is a certified trainer for *Safeguarding God's Children*, having presented this workshop to more than 4,000 pastors, lay employees and volunteers throughout the country. The program was designed by the Episcopal

Church Pension Group and is used extensively throughout the ELCA.

### Safeguarding God's Children Training

*prior to or at the conclusion of the 2011  
Theological Conference*

**Harvest Millennium Hotel  
1345 Twenty-Eighth Street  
Boulder, CO  
Cost \$10**

**Monday, January 24, 2011  
1:30 to 4:45 p.m.**

*or*

**Thursday, January 27, 2011  
10:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.**

(with lunch break on your own from 12:15 to  
1:15 at nearby restaurants)

Registration links at  
**[rmselca.org](http://rmselca.org)**



**Rocky Mountain Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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# Journey from Ash Wednesday to Easter

2011 Theological Conference is opportunity to experience the liturgies

**E**vangelical Lutheran Worship invites us to keep Ash Wednesday through Easter in a new – old way. At the 2011 Rocky Mountain Synod Theological Conference, January 24-27 in Boulder, Colorado, we will worship using the liturgies for Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter, and join in reflection, study, and discussion of the cross and empty tomb, baptism and Bible – the meaning of this journey for ourselves and the world.

Rostered leaders, worship planners, liturgical artists, worship leaders, musicians, media teams, and anyone interested in enriching their congregation's worship life by exploring these renewed, yet ancient, liturgies are invited to attend. The conference is designed both for those who know these liturgies deeply as well as those who may be experiencing these services for the first time.

All participants can retreat from their usual leadership roles, worshipping at the four liturgies. Each service will be preceded by a time of communal preparation and followed by small group reflection, large group learning, and an opportunity to select from one of three tracks for in-depth study and reflection:

- pastoral/theological
- musical
- artistic/practical

All sessions will help participants imagine ways to make these liturgies come alive in their own unique context.



## 2011 Theological Conference

January 24-27, 2011  
Harvest Milenium Hotel and  
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church  
Boulder, Colorado

### PRESENTERS:



#### Liv Larson Andrews

She lives in Spokane, Washington where she is pastor of Salem Lutheran Church and All Saints Lutheran Church. Curious about the intersection of art, spirituality and justice, she has experience building labyrinths, directing plays in church, and making art with fabric, mosaics, print blocks and watercolors.



#### Mark Mummert

He is organist at Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church, Houston, Texas, and Organist for the Bach Society of Houston, an affiliate ministry of Christ the King. Mark is a composer of Setting One of Holy Communion in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.



#### Gail Ramshaw

A lay Lutheran, she is professor of religion at La Salle University and has published many books on the meaning of liturgical language. Her prayers have been included in the worship resources of several denominations.



#### Ben Stewart

He is Gordon A. Braatz Assistant Professor of Worship and Dean of Augustana Chapel at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. His forthcoming book for Augsburg Fortress explores the place of Christian worship in an age of ecological emergency.

### Preliminary Schedule

#### Monday, January 24

1 to 6 p.m. Registration  
1:30 p.m. *Optional Safeguarding God's Children Training*  
5 p.m. Welcome Reception  
6 p.m. Dinner  
7:15 p.m. Gathering of the Whole

#### Tuesday, January 25

7 a.m. Breakfast  
8:30 a.m. Worshipping Together: **Ash Wednesday**  
9:30 a.m. Reflections and Group Tracks  
noon Lunch  
2 p.m. Worshipping Together: **Maundy Thursday**  
3 p.m. Reflections and Group Tracks  
6:15 p.m. Dinner  
7:15 p.m. Gathering of the Whole

#### Wednesday, January 26

7 a.m. Breakfast  
8:30 a.m. Worshipping Together: **Good Friday**  
9:30 a.m. Reflections and Group Tracks  
noon Bishop's Luncheon  
1:30 p.m. Gathering of the Whole  
3 p.m. Preparing for Easter Vigil or time for rest / renewal / recreation followed by dinner on your own  
7 p.m. Worshipping Together: **Vigil of Easter**

#### Thursday, January 27

7 a.m. Breakfast  
8:30 a.m. Group Tracks  
9:30 a.m. Gathering of the Whole  
10:30 a.m. Conclusion of Conference  
10:45 a.m. *Optional Safeguarding God's Children Training concluding at 2:45 p.m.*

registration opens September 15 at  
[rmselfca.org/tc](http://rmselfca.org/tc) and deadline is December 23

## Roster Changes

### APRIL 2010

**John "Jack" Damien**, Reinstated to Roster, Pastor, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Casper, WY. 4/1/2010

**The Rev. Kevin Meyer**, Pastor, from Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Boulder, CO to On Leave From Call. 4/15/2010

**Valley Lutheran Church, Denver, CO**, voted to close. Last service 4/25/2010

### MAY 2010

**The Rev. J. Daniel Hays**, Pastor, from Valley Lutheran Church, Denver, CO to On Leave From Call. 5/1/2010

**The Rev. Robert Johnson**, Pastor retired, deceased 5/6/2010

### JUNE 2010

**The Rev. Susan Honn**, Pastor, from Grace Lutheran Church, Casper, WY to On Leave From Call, disability. 6/1/2010

**The Rev. Ruth Hetland**, Pastor, from First Lutheran, Colorado Springs, CO to Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod. 6/14/2010

### JULY 2010

**Cynthia Biddlecomb**, AIM, from Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Los Alamos, NM to On Leave From Call. 7/1/2010

**eConnection**  
is the weekly email newsletter  
for the Rocky Mountain Synod

sign up at [rmselfca.org/news](http://rmselfca.org/news)