

SPEAKER LIST

For Southwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization of ELCA

Spring 2022 edition



Please use these contacts for your future Spring Gatherings, special events or any other speaker needs. We have vetted all speakers, and they agree to be on the list.

SW MN SWO Board

DANIEL BOWMAN, Pastor of Hawk Creek and Rock Valley churches

Main Phone: 320-765-2547 Cell Phone: 402-699-4972 E-mail: dbowman@hcinet.net

Multiple Programs Available

1. LEFSE CATECHISM: LESSONS FROM LEFSE: A review of the Lefse Catechism that ties together a presentation of the Gospel as seen through lefse.

2. LEFSE DAYS: Instructions on how to make lefse (beginner and advanced classes available). Get the church people together for a fun afternoon of making lefse and selling it for some charity determined by the church.

3. LEFSE LITURGY: A complete worship service that utilized parts of the Lefse Catechism to share the Good News. Option: May celebrate communion using lefse.

4. PROGRAM UTILIZING THE SOUNDS OF THE MUSICAL SAW incorporating hymns and classical tunes. Lent and Advent are two favorite times for a program. I will often tie in my experiences on the mission field sharing the remarkable story of how God called my father and mother to missionary service in Japan and used them to bring the hope of Christ to the people there. (Can use the Lefse Catechism as a part of this program).

5. STORY OF HAWK CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH: In 2016, tragedy struck the congregation of Hawk Creek resulting in a total loss of their church. They have gone through the stages of loss and grief together and have worked to rebuild.

COST: Mileage, plus optional donation. Musical program option

KARI BERAN Pro Kinship for Kids 1400 S. State Street, New Ulm MN 56073

Phone: 507-359-2445 www.prokinship.org

KINSHIP MENTORING

Pro Kinship for Kids is a non-profit organization established in 1988. The main goal of Pro Kinship is to help a young person who has lost a parent, needs help improving self esteem or help improving their socialization skills. Learn more about Pro Kinship for Kids mission and values and how you can find ways to help the young people in your life.

LENAE BULTHUIS 8400 – 210th Ave., SW, Renville MN 56284 Phone: 320-894-4975

E-mail: lenaesbulthuis@gmail.com or lenaeb@gemsgc.org

MULTIPLE TOPICS AVAILABLE

Lenae writes The Back Porch, musings about faith, family and farming from the back porch of her corn, bean and sugar beet farm in west central Minnesota. In addition to writing her column, Lenae is the curriculum writer and training manager for GEMS Girls' Clubs. *She was the guest speaker for the 2016 SW MN WELCA Convention where she spoke on the theme "Gathered in Grace".*

COST: Negotiable

CAROL CHRISTIANSON

685 Verona Avenue, Windom MN 56101

Phone: 507-831-4549 E-mail: christil@windomnet.com

CREATING A LITURGICAL ENVIRONMENT WITH BANNERS

American Lutheran Church of Windom has a strong banner ministry. Usually 5 different banners are displayed for each season of the church year. In addition, banners are hung for many of the festival Sundays. Through a powerpoint presentation and showing several of the church's banners, Carol will explain the banner ministry at ALC. Carol has led the banner ministry for 35 years and is a former teacher at Windom Schools ECFE.

TERA ELNESS

Windom, MN 56101 Phone: 507-822-3377 Email: ktelness@windomnet.com

www.teraelness.com

ONE GIRL'S FAITH JOURNEY

What Tera will bring to your event: *Hope & Encouragement for today's woman * Teachings and truths that transform hearts & lives *Humor & excitement for the journey *God's grace and love abundant

TERA's TOPICS: *The Value of a Story *A Woman, a Well, and a Wealth of Worth *Rest, Refresh and Renew *What are You Hungry For? *God, Grace and Girlfriends *Mary, Martha and My Time with Jesus *Facing Forgiveness *Facebook, Twitter and the Approval Trap *Purposeful Pouring-Filling up to Pour Out *Customized talk for your event!

COST: Varies – depending on length of talk, number of sessions & duration of event, plus mileage

SCOTT D. GOTTSCHALK 73078 CSAH 19, Kimball MN 55353 Phone: 320-894-5900

Email: gottschalkscoyy@yahoo.com www.ScottDGottschalk.com

www.amazon.com – search Scott Gottschalk Books

MANY TOPICS Has spoken to numerous women events. “*Angels Among Us*” for Crow River Conference 2022.

COST: Varies (\$200 for Crow River)

DEB HADLEY KT Inspirations, Alexandria MN Phone: 507-227-4220

Email: kthumblehearts@gmail.com www.debhadley.com

FAITH, HOPE AND ENCOURAGEMENT My Amazing Life is Deb’s most sought after keynote. Everyone has or will have adversity in their life at one time or another. It is how we handle our adversity that defines who we are. Deb will share with you her journey of losing two children, and how she is able to handle these tragedies with grace and humility and bring good from her hardships. Deb believes that despite your circumstances you can still have an amazing life. She will make you cry, laugh, and give you hope for an amazing future.

COST: \$500, but can be negotiated

HEIDI HAAGENSON Email: heidahaagenson@gmail.com Phone: 320-894-7073

lessonslearnedinjamaica@gmail.com

TOPIC TITLE: A presentation based on Lessons Learned in Jamaica, a book about short-term mission experiences in children’s homes in Jamaica.

DESCRIPTION: Heidi, a member of Peace Lutheran Church, New London, MN, has written a book of stories based on her short-term mission experiences in the children’s homes of Jamaica, focusing on Sunbeam Children’s Home. The presentation focuses on the telling of these stories. The book is an engaging collection of stories about the Jamaican children and others she has encountered along the way, and can serve as an excellent resource for individuals, churches, or other organizations considering getting involved in short-term missions. Haagenson describes how her experiences in Jamaica have taught or reinforced important life lessons. Each chapter in the book focuses on a lesson learned.

COST: A stipend for speaking is requested if the organization is able to do so, but not a condition for acceptance of the event. An amount in the \$100 range is preferred with no separate mileage charged

VENUE REQUIREMENTS: Hosting facility will provide the technology to handle the projection of digital photos from a thumb drive which she will bring. LENGTH OF PRESENTATION: 45 min plus 15 min for Q&A.

TRUDY HARTMAN

HALLELUJAH HOOLIGANS 25353 - 475th Ave., Baltic SD 57003

Phone: 605-261-2360 Email: olebuster@alliancecom.net

MULTIPLE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

BEAUTY IN PIECES: Our own unique gifts all put together in a beautiful tapestry showing Christ's love.

BE A DUCK: Discover unique Christian kindness

MUSICAL PROGRAM: We are a praise band made up of members from a variety of area churches. We love to sing our praises to our Lord. Instrumentally, we have several guitars, base, mandolin, banjo, variety of percussion. And a lot of voices! We play some original, old time gospel, contemporary. We are so blessed to be able to do what we do. Also do some ministry and some pulpit supply as called upon.

Why Hallelujah? It's obvious – we love to sing praise and make a joyful noise for our Lord!

Why Hooligans? Like the disciples, we come from a variety of un-assuming backgrounds. We get carried away, once in a while! If you ever saw us practice!

COST: Free-will donation or offering

Musical program option

GLENN HENRIKSEN

Spirit Lake, IA/Armstrong, IA Phone: 712-898-2413

www.pianoglenn.com

MUSICAL PROGRAM

Glenn is an accomplished, versatile pianist and organist. At age thirteen he became the organist at his hometown church. Glenn has played at a wide variety of events including church services and other social activities. Included in Glenn's repertoire are gospel and sacred music. Glenn's lifetime experience in many musical genres has enabled him to develop a unique musical style, resulting in one-of-a-kind improvised arrangements.

COST: Fee negotiable

Musical program option

SANDY JERSTAD Sioux Falls, SD Phone: 605-261-1004 Email: sjj@sio.midco.net

LETTERS OF LOVE: SERMONS & REFLECTIONS BY SANDY JERSTAD

Sandy is a former lawmaker and college softball coach who lost the love of her life 20 years ago. But Pastor Mark Jerstad left behind quite a legacy of words. Words that his wife has now penned into a book. While Pastor Mark served as a campus pastor at Augustana, his sermons were so popular he intended to compile them into a book. However, in 1997 he lost his battle with colon cancer. In 2011, Sandy went through each of Mark's sermons and transcribed them. During the process, she says an amazing thing happened. She felt Mark close to her, as if he was in the room. And then Sandy's editor asked her to add her own voice to the book and write a reflection about each of the sermons. *In 2013, Sandy spoke at the spring gathering of Shetek Conference.*

COST: Donation

NOT AVAILABLE TO SPEAK in January and February

BRYANT KADEN Pastor of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

301 N. Lincoln St., Redwood Falls MN 56283 Phone: 507-637-2592

Email: gloriadei@gloriadelutheran.org

INTERGENERATIONAL FAITH BUILDING

Using personal stories as a pastor kid and his own pastor kids, Pastor Bryant Kaden shares the powerful influence adults in the church can be in the lives of children. Though parents are important, an adult taking a sincere interest in the life of a child can build meaningful, spirit-led relationships.

PATTY KARK 507-475-1635 pattykark@gmail.com

HOLIDAY SONG AND SCRIPTURE

Christmas Story – using each letter of Christmas and a song to go with each; The Easter Story; Hope for the Holidays; “My Life Issues” for women's retreat time. *She may be moving from Northfield to Brainerd in May 2022. Has presented in Hutchinson at several churches.*

COST: piano player is \$175 and honorarium for her ministry

LINDA LAGERGREN

New London, MN www.patchworkblessings.com

Phone: 320-212-7823 Email: llagergr@tds.net

MULTIPLE PROGRAMS ON QUILTS AND FAITH

1. **PATCHWORK JOURNEY OF FAITH:** This is a mostly my journey of faith depicted in my favorite quilts and quilt blocks, but this may also be a part of your journey of faith as well.

2. **THE UNDERGROUND RAIROAD JOURNEY:** A sampler quilt tells the story of those who helped slaves escape on the Underground Railroad.

3. **JOURNEY TO CHRISTMAS:** This presentation is about the Christmas story, the symbols and colors that tell the story shown to you in quilts and story.

4. **DESIGN YOUR OWN:** I have been doing presentations, Bible studies and retreats for many years; if you have a topic you would like me to talk about, I am open to the opportunity.

GAYE LINDFORS

St. Paul, MN Phone: 651-490-9550 Email: gaye@gayelindfors.com

Gaye's presentations and books blend messages from God's word, life stories, and encouragement with a big dash of humor! Each one is created specifically for the event theme and group.

TITLES INCLUDE:

God, Girlfriends, and Chocolate: Sharing life's journey to our divine destination is more faith filled and fun filled when we share it with God (who brings HOPE), our Girlfriends (they bring Encouragement) and Chocolate (all the Blessings in front of us).

Getting my Ducks in a Row....or Not: If you are worried about trying to get your ducks in a row because you can't even find your ducks, there is hope! This message will encourage your heart, relax your shoulders, and refresh your faith.

COST: Negotiable, plus mileage

CINDY McKITTRICK HOPE HARBOR, Marshall MN Phone: 507-537-4525

Email: office@hopeharbormn.org www.hopeharbormn.org

HOPE HARBOR This home was established over 10 years ago in response to troubled girls. They have helped more than 50 girls who were hurting. The girls live in the home and get all their needs met there while their parents visit weekly and participate in therapy and parenting classes.

DAVID PEDERSEN/LINDA PEDERSEN 10806 South Sunset Drive, Brownton MN 55312

Phone: 763-807-0993 Email: dipeders@msn.com

Grace Lutheran, Brownton - River of Hope, Hutchinson

David is the Communications Director for the Minnesota Valley Conference mission partnership ministry with South Africa since 2008. David is the synod's mission companionship ministry with South Africa. Each synod conference is paired with a circuit in the SA Diocese. David speaks on building relationships which is his key ministry. Both sides of the ministry have something to offer the other.

Linda is associated with the marriage enrichment ministry where couples attend a week end to learn valuable tools regarding how to better communicate and share feelings. So many couples pull away from attention to their relationship when they are growing careers or a family. These tools are especially handy when families are pulled together under one roof for extended period during a pandemic.

COST: Any honorarium received will be donated to the ministry being addressed.

RENEÉ RONGEN

The Reneé Rongen Experience www.reneerongen.com

10601 – 390th St. SE., Fertile MN 56540 Phone: 888-333-2802

Cell Phone: 275-574-2655 Email: renee@reneerongen.com

INSPIRATIONAL MOTIVATOR

Reneé Rongen is a wise and witty mom, award winning entrepreneur, author and friend to many. Media has dubbed her “the mother of motivation” and a combination of “Oprah, Lilli Tomlin and Mother Teresa”. From board rooms to 5th grade classrooms, to packing convention centers, she is the International Speaker who has inspired thousands of individuals to ‘Live Life from the Inside Out.’ Since 1990, Reneé has delivered humorous, powerful, life-changing messages, encouraging her audiences to identify and use their unique gifts to make positive differences in their work, families and communities. She has many different presentations. Check out her website.

SHALOM HILL FARM 42194 County Road 3, Windom MN 56101

Phone: 507-831-2232 Email: info@shalomhillfarm.org

Website: www.shalomhillfarm.org

Justin & Kathleen Tigerman, Directors

MULTIPLE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

1. **PLACE AS TEACHER** Providing Stories, updates, insights, and possibilities on life through the lens of Shalom Hill Farm.
2. **VOCATION, VOCATION, VOCATION** An expanded understanding vocation derived primarily from Martin Luther's Sermons around Christmastime. How we might expand the ways we regard vocation to focus on relationships in addition to roles.
3. **THE WORLD BEHIND THE TEXT** How the geography, culture, and language of Israel and Jesus' time contributed to the meaning and message of Jesus' proclamation.

Length of presentations – varies up to an hour

Cost: to be negotiated

Media equipment needed: projection equipment

JOHN STERNER Cell phone: 612-345-2008 Email: melauha@gmail.com

JohnSterner@lakeview2167.com

MULTIPLE TOPICS AVAILABLE

Topics for discussion include:

Native American Spirituality and Heritage - Sports Psychology - Becoming Lutheran
Connecting with God through Art and Nature - Being a Person of Color in Southwest Minnesota

JEANNIE THOMPSON

Heartland Girls' Ranch 185 Hwy 9 NE, Benson MN 56215

Phone: 320-843-4815 Email: office@heartlandgirlsranh.org

www.heartlandgirlsranh.org/request-a-speaker/

THE HEARTLAND GIRLS' RANCH

The Heartland Girls' Ranch is a non-profit founded in June 1992 to provide a service to at-risk-female juveniles. It was developed with the commitment to provide a unique and effective approach to working with girls to build healthy lives through experiencing success. Heartland provides a supportive, structured environment in which girls ages 12-21 learn to make responsible choice and become mature young women. Heartland is a working ranch which utilizes horsres to bring about the healing in girls' lives. We work with girls who are struggling with emotional, behavioral and mental health issues.

HOOFPRIENTS OF HOPE: Will utilize Equine Assisted Learning Therapy to address social, emotional, behavioral and mental health issues of children in the community. These issues would include, but not be limited to family crises, running away, abuse (emotional, physical, sexual), self injurious behaviors, attachment disorders, Fetal Alcohol Effect and Mood Disorders.

COST: Free will donation to the Heartland Girls' Ranch

TIME: 45 minutes to one hour

ORVILLE TRETTIN

401 Martha St., Stewart MN 55385 Phone: 320-212-6186

Email: tretoe@gmail.com

VISION HONDURAS

During a humanitarian trip by local people to Honduras, they realized that few Hondurans wore eyeglasses. So began the process of acquiring eyeglasses & planning for another trip to Honduras. Since its beginning, Vision Honduras has fitted 17,000 pairs of prescription eyeglasses, reading glasses & sunglasses. I would love to tell our story as to how you too can help these people who live without & what a strong faith they have in our Lord and Savior. Everyone who receives prescription eyeglasses also received a New Testament Scripture, Spanish copy.

JAN TURNER

71977 Scotch Pine Road, Finlayson MN 55737 Phone: 320-220-2214

Email: jtsetter@willmar.com

FOCUS ON FAITH: Jan is a quadruple amputee who speaks on faith issues. She is a teacher & author of an article for Guideposts, "Don't Let Them Hate Me." It tells of her family's struggle during the illness that caused her to lose her limbs.

FEE: Mileage, cost of handouts and meal TIME: 1 – 2 hours

JANICE ZIMMERMAN

503 E. Lincoln St., Hendricks, MN 56136 Phone: 507-223-7722

Cell phone: 507-401-2029 Email: jgailzimmerman2@gmail.com

MULTIPLE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE [April through October]

1. TAILS, TALES, AND MORE TALES: I share my family aprons and others I have collected. They all have a story to tell. I share a little history of aprons and how the use of aprons has changed over the years.

2. GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD: This program is adopted from a program put out by the churchwide women. We look at the 4th petition and the feeding of the 5,000 and 4,000. We may even bake bread. Can we learn about our faith baking bread? Let's see.

3. THE STORY OF NAOMI: I relate to the biblical character, Naomi and compare our lives to hers using the book of Ruth.

4. FRIENDSHIP: I talk about being a friend and having friends. We are reminded that even Jesus has friends.

5. GOOD GRIEF: I tell about different ways we can deal with grief. Life is full of good and bad changes in our lives, and we can use help dealing with change. I have conducted Good Grief sessions.

COST: Mileage

TIME: 30-45 minutes