



# Eastern North Dakota Synod Northwestern Minnesota Synod

December 14, 2009

*Dear Servants of Christ,*

More than 50 percent of the 500-plus congregations in the Eastern North Dakota and Northwestern Minnesota Synod are in multiple point parish alignments. The vitality of multiple point parishes is critical to the missional well-being of both synods.

Multiple point parishes provide powerful ways for congregations to engage God's mission together. Congregations yoked together for the sake of the Gospel often accomplish more than a single congregation could do on its own. Multiple point parishes offer more than a means to survive.

We invite you to attend the *Cultivating Vitality for Multiple Point Parishes* event scheduled for **Saturday, January 16, at Climax Lutheran Church in Climax, Minn.** Enclosed is a registration form and schedule for the day.

Encouraging multiple point parishes in evangelical mission is a priority for our two synods! *Cultivating Vitality for Multiple Point Parishes* will affirm the importance of multiple point parishes and equip congregations in such relationships to cultivate health and growth in God's mission.

**Please join us!** Drawing upon the best practices of exemplary multiple point parishes, you'll be informed and inspired in down-to-earth ways that you can take home and use.

**Monday, January 11 is the pre-registration deadline.** Observing this deadline will help us prepare food and resource materials for everyone. We encourage each parish to send **a team** of pastors, other staff and lay leaders—the more, the merrier! Attending the event as a team will help you assimilate and utilize what you learn from *Cultivating Vitality for Multiple Point Parishes*.

We are excited about the day together and what will result in the weeks and months to follow. May the weather be fair and our travel safe.

Your Servants in Christ,

Bishop Bill Rindy

Bishop Larry Wohlrabe



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

# Cultivating Vitality



## in Multiple Point Parishes

Another great *Hearts on Fire* event sponsored by the  
EaND and Northwestern Minnesota Synods' **Mission Imagination Table\***

**Saturday, January 16, 2010**

**10:00 am – 4:30 pm**

**Climax Lutheran Church, Climax, MN**

<b>Agenda</b>			
<b>10:00 am</b>	Registration & Refreshments	<b>1:30 pm</b>	Panel Presentation and Participant Reflection
<b>10:30 am</b>	Welcome and Introductions	<b>2:45 pm</b>	Break
<b>10:45 am</b>	Grounded in the Word	<b>3:00 pm</b>	Table Talks (small groups) for Reflection and Action
<b>11:15 am</b>	Discovering Hope for Multiple Point Parishes	<b>3:30 pm</b>	Table Talk Summaries (large group) and Wrap Up
<b>11:45 am</b>	Lunch	<b>3:45 pm</b>	Closing Worship
<b>12:30 pm</b>	Missional Qualities for STaR Congregations	<b>4:30 pm</b>	Homeward Bound for Mission!

If you have any questions, contact Rev. Keith Zeh, Director for Evangelical Mission, EaND & NW MN Synods, at 701.232.3381.

- The Mission Imagination Table represents a unique and exciting partnership between the Eastern North Dakota and Northwestern Minnesota Synods. Leaders from both synods serving from this table will provide oversight for how the synods think creatively about our theology of mission and how we stir up a “culture for mission” in each synod. This table will also articulate the synods’ missional purpose, guiding principles and ways whereby congregations are invited into deeper partnerships with the synods and the churchwide organization. The table will also address unifying strategies and capacity-building for mission.
- Bishop Bill Rindy, Ms Shar Gumke, Pastor Beth Peterson, Mr. Larry Thiele, and Pastor Kari Bahe from EaND Synod and Bishop Larry Wohlrabe, Mr. Jon Everett, Pastor Gretchen Anderson, Pastor Tessa Moon Leiseth, and Pastor Steve Peterson from NW MN Synod and Pastor Keith Zeh, Director for Evangelical Mission for EaND & NW MN Synods are currently serving from this Table.

**Registration information on page 2**



*Catch on fire with enthusiasm and people will come for miles to watch you burn.*

~ John Wesley

## Pre-Registration Form

### *Cultivating Vitality* in Multiple Point Parishes

Saturday, January 16, 2010

10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Climax Lutheran Church – Climax, MN

Name of Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(street) (city) (Zip)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person \_\_\_\_\_  
(Phone # if different from above)

Names of participants:

Name of participant's congregation:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

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5) \_\_\_\_\_

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6) \_\_\_\_\_

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7) \_\_\_\_\_

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8) \_\_\_\_\_

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9) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10) \_\_\_\_\_

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Please return pre-registration form to:  
Pastor Keith Zeh, Director for Evangelical Mission  
Concordia College – 901 8<sup>th</sup> St. S., Moorhead, MN 56562

**Pre-Registration Deadline:  
January 11, 2010**

**Please note: Registration fee will be due at the door. The registration fee per person is \$15 and \$10 per person when five or more persons from the parish attend. A special gift will be presented to each parish that has more than five people from the parish attend. Please make checks payable to the Northwestern Minnesota Synod.**