

Thursday, August 6, 2009—12:00 noon

**Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road at Dale Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20910**

**The Rev. Amy Thompson Sevimli
Assistant to the Bishop, Metro DC Synod, ELCA**

“Challenge and Opportunity: Our Ministry with Young Adults”

The Rev. Amy Thompson Sevimli took office as assistant to the bishop of the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod of the ELCA on January 1, 2008.

Pr. Sevimli came to the position from serving as Associate Pastor at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Arlington, Virginia. Among the synod activities in which Pr. Sevimli has participated are the Singles and Young Adults Team of the Division for Congregational Life, Church Vocations Committee of the Division for Ministry, Reference and Council Committee and Lutheran-Episcopal Coordinating Committee. She has participated in Lutheran-Jewish Dialogue and continues to serve as a Discernment Advocate with Project Connect, an initiative of the Eastern Cluster of Seminaries.

She received her Master of Divinity degree from Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina, in 2003. Included in her studies were a year at Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg (LTSG) and a year at the University of Bonn (Germany). She did her undergraduate work at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio, an ELCA institution of higher education. After graduating, Pr. Sevimli was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship and taught in Germany. In 2008, Pr. Sevimli completed a Master of Sacred Theology (STM) in New Testament at LTSG.

We are pleased to have Pastor Sevimli serve as our speaker for our August 6 luncheon.

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We invite all Lutherans and their friends to join us for this luncheon meeting of **Lutheran Lay Fellowship**, scheduled for the first Thursday of each month from 12:00 noon till 2:00 p.m. at St. Luke Lutheran Church, 9100 Colesville Road at Dale Drive in Silver Spring, one mile south of the Capitol Beltway at Exit 30. Ample off-street parking is available. Interested persons can make reservations for a delicious lunch by calling **Harlan Oelke at 301-545-1910** no later than 5:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, August 4**. The cost of the luncheon is \$9.00, payable at the door.

UPCOMING SPEAKER

September 4: The Rev. Dr. Arthur Scherer, Past President, Southeastern District, LC-MS on *“The Church in the 21st Century: Emerging Trends.”*

**LUTHERAN LAY FELLOWSHIP
LUNCHEON MEETING
July 2, 2009**

Our meeting began with a prayer led by Rev. Bill Wegener.

Announcements

July Birthday greetings were sung to Bob Droege, David Hartmann, Louise Anderson and Tom O'Brien. Also, president **Robert (Sarge) Sargeant** asked if anyone knew about a LLF banner and, if so, to let him know.

Speaker Notes

**Molly Shane, CFRE, Director of Advancement
Overview of Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg**

Molly Anderson Shane, mshane@Ltsg.edu 717-338-3009, joined the Advancement staff for the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg in March 2007 as Director of Advancement with a role focusing on major gifts and planned giving. A native of York, Pennsylvania and a graduate of St. Olaf College, Molly is thrilled to be back in Central Pennsylvania with the opportunity to help raise awareness and build support for the mission of Gettysburg Seminary.

As a resource development professional, Molly has nine years of full-time development experience, covering everything from annual funds, capital campaigns, grant writing, planned giving, corporate giving, and special events, raising over \$7 million for a variety of not-for-profit institutions in Indianapolis, Indiana and Central Pennsylvania. In 2006 she earned the development profession's distinguished Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) credential. She also holds a master's degree in arts administration from the University of Cincinnati. In her position with Gettysburg Seminary, Molly is excited to focus on individual giving. "It is building relationships with donors at a personal level and helping them to fulfill their individual philanthropic goals that I find most rewarding."

Gettysburg Seminary (<http://www.ltsg.edu/about/index.htm>), the oldest and most historic of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's seminaries, is located in the small but dynamic town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania and prepares its students for leadership and various ministries in the church and society.

Vision : "Bearing witness at the crossroads of history and hope, the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg proclaims Jesus Christ to a restless world by preparing students for faithful discipleship. As we listen to God's Word in community, the Holy Spirit empowers us to lead in church and world through worship, education, service and encouragement."

A pioneer in Lutheran theological education, the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg carries out its teaching mission both rooted in the biblical and theological tradition and grounded in the context where ministries take place. Gettysburg Seminary is the oldest of the eight seminaries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), tracing its start to 1826. Students come to Gettysburg from 30 states and another half dozen countries to study theology. Even though most students are members of the ELCA, we have a growing number of students from other Christian traditions. About half of the seminarians are from Region 8 (area around Gettysburg), the rest are U.S. and worldwide.

Currently, the Gettysburg Seminary learning community includes 270 full and part time students, and a teaching faculty of 18, plus another 10 part time, adjunct, and distinguished visiting teachers. Add to this a highly committed staff and family members of students and you have an idea of the dynamic experience of seminary life here on 52 acres on Seminary Ridge. Gettysburg Seminary offers programs of study toward

the Masters of Divinity degree (M.Div.), the Master of Arts in Ministerial Studies (M.A.M.S.) the Master of Arts in Religion (M.A.R.) and the Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.). One can receive the Doctor of Ministry degree through the Eastern Cluster of Lutheran Seminaries, of which Gettysburg is a part, including classes at Philadelphia Seminary.

Curriculum includes Biblical Studies; History and Theology; Practice of Ministry. Integrated theory and practice through contextual experience. The student body is becoming younger due to Project Connect, Theological Education with Youth (TEY) and more contact with ELCA colleges, Lutheran Campus Ministries and Outdoor Ministries. A new certificate in Theological Studies is attracting a different kind of student to Lutheran Theological Seminary Gettysburg (LTSG) allowing for more flexibility such as weekend and focused studies along with classes for lay people in the summer. Financial coaching assists seminarians with budget planning, money management and loan reduction. LTSG is also focusing on increasing scholarships for seminarians with several recent classes adding significant amounts to the Jubilee Challenge Scholarship and enhancing the curriculum with more endowed chairs. Friends of Gettysburg Seminarians (FrOGS) works with congregations in their area to facilitate contributions.

For more than 30 years, Gettysburg has anchored part of its program in Washington D.C., through its Center for Theology and Public Life (including the House of Studies), as a founding member of the Washington Theological Consortium and for the past couple of years the Luther Institute. The Seminary also offers a concentration in Town and Country Ministry through its resources in the Town and Country Church Institute. In partnership with its sister seminaries, especially the Eastern Cluster of Lutheran Seminaries, (Lutheran Theological Seminary of the South and Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia) Gettysburg is growing in order to serve the increasingly critical pastoral vacancy rate within the Church and expanding demand for lifelong learning. Together, with your prayers and support, we will continue to put theological education where it belongs: at the crossroads of history and hope, forming the Church's spiritual leaders for the 21st Century.

LTSG is physically located on Seminary Ridge and works to preserve and share the historical significance of its campus. The staff will arrange for tours and meeting the students and highly encourage folks to visit. August 19 is a scheduled open house this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Rodney Smith

LLF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

The Executive Committee of Lutheran Lay Fellowship announces the following schedule of meetings for its 2009 – 2010 year: October 1; December 3; March 4; May 6; and July 1. All meetings are schedule at Saint Luke.

HELP US SAVE \$\$ AND THE ENVIRONMENT!

In our attempt to be eco-friendly and save on postage, we'd like to send this newsletter electronically as much as possible. If you're willing to receive our Newsletter by email, please contact the editor, Rev. David Berg at this address: dberg@erols.com. Put "LLF" in the subject line. Thank you for your cooperation.

WHAT IS THE LUTHERAN LAY FELLOWSHIP?

"As early as 1936, feeling there was a definite need for closer cooperation between Lutheran laity and clergy, a group of laymen in the Washington, DC. Metropolitan area, organized to hold meetings that would bring pastors and laity closer together. Due to jurisdictional differences as well as ministerial difficulties, very little success was achieved until the fall of 1941. Then the group met and decided to hold

a luncheon once a month, invite their friends and bring visitors. The first luncheon was a success, and within three months every Lutheran judicatory was represented...” [From a **Lutheran Directory of Metropolitan Washington, DC**, published in 1999.]

Today, more than 70 years later, the Lutheran Lay Fellowship of Metropolitan Washington takes pride in knowing that every night, 365 nights each year, more than 700 low income seniors and disabled persons live in safety and friendship in four high rises owned and managed by Fellowship Square Foundation, Inc. By means of annual scholarships and grants, LLF also supports various college and seminary students; it also provides ushering services for major inter-Lutheran events. But most of all, LLF is known far and wide as a place to hear stimulating speakers on timely topics and to make friends from other Lutheran congregations—friendships that last for decades!

Won't you join us?