

LUTHERAN LAY FELLOWSHIP OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, INC.

Thursday, June 2,, 2011—12:00 noon

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

***“Current Trends in Congregational Life and What the
Metropolitan Washington DC Synod Is Doing
to Meet the Challenges of the Church in our Day.”***



The Rev. Dr. Philip C. Hirsch

**Assistant to the Bishop and
Director of Evangelical Mission, Metro DC Synod**

Mainline Christian Churches are declining in worship attendance and active participation of members. Fewer people are searching out congregations as a central part of their lives. The ELCA and the Metro DC Synod have created a new position called Director of Evangelical Mission to help address these issues in our time. Pastor Hirsch has visited nearly all of the 80 congregations and mission starts in the Synod and is working to develop strategies to refocus our efforts for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our world today. Pastor Hirsch will share some of what he has been learning and what new things we may be trying together.

The Rev. Philip C. Hirsch began service as Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Evangelical Mission for the Metro D.C. Synod on June 1, 2009. This is a position created and funded by the ELCA to strengthen, revitalize and establish local congregations. Pr. Hirsch's focus is on evangelism and stewardship.

Pr. Hirsch went to Susquehanna University and then received a Master of Divinity degree from the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago in 1990. He earned a Doctor of Ministry from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio in 1997 in preaching with a focus on alleviating violence in the inner city. He was awarded a Leadership Grant from the Lily Foundation to continue his work and study in South Africa in 1998.

Pr. Hirsch served as pastor in Camden, New Jersey and, most recently at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fairfax, Virginia.

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 Saint 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 sending their RSVP to luncheon@lutheranlayfellowship.org by contacting **Vicki Porter at 301-229-9884** or no later than 5:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, May 31**. The cost of the meal is \$9.00, payable at the door.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

July 7	Pending
August 4	Pending
September 1	President Jon Diefenthaler, Southeastern District, LCMS
October 6	Deborah Rutt, Vice President for Fund Development, LC-MS

MEETING MINUTES

LUTHERAN LAY FELLOWSHIP OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, INC.

Thursday, May 5, 2011—12:00 noon
Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road at Dale Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20910

The Rev. Pedro L. Lopez LCMS
Hispanic Mission Developer for Northern Virginia
"Minorities and the Hispanic Challenge in Lutheranism"

Announcements:

The speaker was the only first time attendee.

Pastor Schmidt led a short devotional by relating the first time Jesus appeared to the group of disciples after his resurrection and afterwards how they sang that Jesus Lives



Again and Tell the World.. Then Pastor Lopez spoke about the Great Commission from Matthew 28 and its meaning for ethnic ministry to include sharing the Gospel with them in a winsome way for their varying cultures. Matthew 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in 1 the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Like Isaiah when the Lord asks who should I send to reply “Send Me, Lord”.

Linda Evert presented flowers to the Bells in appreciation of their meal service to the group.

Sarge made the following announcements: he reviewed the revised bylaws which were reviewed by the board prior to the meeting which included changes to the board structure, required procedures for dissolution, two thirds approval of those present for any amendments or dissolution and extended term limits to all board members. The changes will be provided with the minutes of this meeting for review prior to the June meeting and then will be offered for approval to the members present at the June meeting. There will not be a slate of officers offered for approval at the June meeting but will be looking for volunteers for the offices. They particularly need a new treasurer.

Larry Schmidt presented six additional members for election to the board of Fellowship Square which were unanimously elected.: Marcia Baumgarten, St. Paul's, Falls Church; John Denninger, Prince of Peace, Springfield; Barbara Fielding, Christ the Servant, Reston; Bonnie Priebe, Holy Trinity, Washington, DC; Muriel Rodgers, Largo Landing Resident, Baptist; Don Web, Lake Ridge Resident, Methodist.

Dan Bella recommended that all members be encouraged to attend the June meeting to vote on the bylaws. He asked again that members ensure that their churches have publicized the availability of scholarships from LLF, further information is available from the website.

Ellie Wegener emphasized the need to get new members for LLF and also the availability of the Capitol Hill Employment Group.

Presentation:

Hispanics, a gift of God, Our Challenge: Hispanic Mission Development in Northern Virginia in partnership with circuit congregations and the Southeastern District H

Pastor Lopez was born in Mexico and has served in various congregations in the U.S.

In June 2008, Grace Lutheran Church (Woodbridge, Va.), Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (Springfield, Va.) and St. John's Lutheran Church (Alexandria, Va.) signed a covenant for intentional ministry with Hispanics in our communities to establish and support a Word and Sacrament ministry. The Rev. Pedro Lopez was called by St. John's Lutheran Church and installed in October 2009, as Hispanic Mission Developer for Northern Virginia, where the Latino population is expected to exceed 1 million in 2011. St. John's Lutheran Church (St. John's) and the two covenant congregations have begun to implement the Hispanic Mission Development Board's (HMDB) strategic plan, which includes support of social ministries that meet human needs and provide relationship-building opportunities for planting Gospel seeds with grace and humility that will lead to exponentially multiplying faith-sharing moments. These churches will continue to develop and carry out a deliberate ministry to Hispanic people in our community to establish and support a dedicated Word and Sacrament ministry with this increasingly large segment of the area's population. The Mission Developer, Hispanic Mission Development Board (HMDB), servant leaders, implementers, intercessors, and many men and women of God are working to make this vision to share the saving Gospel of Jesus with the 700,000 Hispanic sisters and brothers, more than a million by 2011 in Northern Virginia a reality.

Pastor Lopez covered the history of Hispanics in this country beginning with the Conquistadors arrival from Spain including the Mexican American War.

The US Hispanic population today is estimated to be between 40 and 50 million with 15% of the population making them the largest and fastest growing minority group in the nation.

Hispanics are people of varying cultures sharing a common language. In 14 million US households, English is not the primary language with Spanish the most frequent. The projected Hispanic population increase in Northern Virginia from 2006 to 2011 is 38% making it the second highest in the Southeastern District of the Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod. Compelling mission opportunities include the youth factor where the median age is below the non Hispanic at 24 with over half being adolescents. The women play a highly influential role in Hispanic culture, transmitting cultural and religious values.

The first Hispanic church was established in 1937 in Texas where that pastor had to learn German to become a Lutheran pastor. 37 million Hispanic voters helped elect the last president. By 2050 the Hispanic community will be the majority in the U.S. based on current demographics and population growth.

We want to reach these minorities for Christ because they are underserved yet growing and can be a gift to the church. 16 million young people who are bicultural Hispanics who need to be reached.

Revelation 7:9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

Most Hispanics are nominal Catholics who know little about God. There are less than 50,000 Hispanic Lutherans in the U.S.

Acts 17:26 And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, 27 that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us,

We reach the “others” by respecting other cultures, traditions, languages and history. “The respect to others rights, among the nations and the individuals is the peace”.

Hispanics are very respectful of others normally but learning any language is very difficult especially for those coming from poor backgrounds without education who are working several jobs.

The challenge in this area is that the minorities are from the whole world, even the Hispanic communities are very diverse.

He covered the Hispanic Mission History in NV from the first task force in 1999 until present.



We have the beauty of the Gospel to share with them.

The support required for the Hispanic Mission Developer is continual prayer for guidance, long term congregational support, annual funding commitment, being prepared to give and receive and finally look for the blessings.

In conclusion pray to the Lord of the Harvest for workers (Luke 10:2 And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.) ; listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to the churches (Revelation 2:7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God);' discuss and discern; and finally attend the one year anniversary celebration on October 24th.



Mrs. Rosario Hernandez-Cruz, director of La Sagrada Familia Lutheran Ministry, was introduced and spoke about her local agency which is an ELCA affiliate .
Respectfully submitted,

Rodney Smith

Election of Corporate Members of Fellowship Square

2014 Corporate Membership (submitted by LLF 5-05-2011)

Louise Anderson	Augstana Luth, DC	
+Marcia Baumgartner	St. Paul's Luth, Falls Church, Va	(+ new member)
Marva Benn	Bethlehem Luth, Fairfax, Va	
+Rev John Bradford	Christ the King Luth, Great Falls, Va	(+new member)
+Rev John Denninger	Prince of Peace Luth, Springfield, Va	(+new member)
Elsie Draughn	Peace Luth, Waldorf, Md	
+Lillian Durodola	2 nd Baptist Church, Southwest, DC	(+new member)
+Barbara Fielding	Christ the Servant, Reston, Va	(+new member)
C. David Hartmann	Bethlehem Luth, Fairfax, Va	
Sidney Louise Johnson	St. Anne's Episcopal, Reston, Va	
+John Kelly	St. Mark's RC, Vienna, Va	(+new member)
Judy Koucky	St. Paul's Luth, Falls Church, Va	
+Joan Loesch	Grace Luth, Woodbridge, Va	(+new member)
Shirley Metzger	Lord of Life Luth, Fairfax, Va	
John Priebe	First Trinity Luth, DC	
+Bonnie Priebe	First Trinity Luth, DC	(+new member)
Rev. Richard Reichard	Emmanuel Luth, Bethesda, Md	
Rev. Gary Rhinesmith	All Saints Luth, Bowie, Md	
+Muriel Rodgers	Riverdale Baptist Church	(+new member)
Rev. Suzanne Rudiselle	Presbyterian minister	
Judy Rudolf	Peace Luth, Waldorf, Md	
Mary Schmidt	Bethlehem Luth, Fairfax, Va	
John Thillmann	St. John Newman RC, Reston, Va	
+Don Webb	Methodist	(+new member)
Bob Wilcox	St. Matthew Luth, Lake Ridge, Va	
Allen Wild	Christ the King, Great Falls, Va	
Charles Wortman	Reston Bible Church	
Larry Zimmerman	LC of St. Andrew, Silver Spring, Md	

Hispanics, a gift of God Our Challenge

Hispanic Mission Development of Northern Virginia

*in Partnership with
Circuit Congregations and the
Southeastern District*

Population Characteristics

- > Today, the USA Hispanic population is estimated to be between 40 and 50 million (mid-decade estimates).
- > 14% -15% of the United States population is Hispanic, making them now the largest and fastest growing minority group in the nation.
- > People of varying cultures sharing a common language.
- > LCEF statistics project Hispanic population increase in Circuit 9

Languages of the World with some interesting U.S language statistics.

Here they are:

- Number of languages spoken in the U.S.: 311.
- Those languages indigenous to the U.S: 162
- Those that are immigrant languages: 149
- There are 14 million households in the United States where English is not the primary language.

• Total population: 304.1 million

Race and Hispanic or Latino origin Percentage Number

White alone
: 65.4% or 198.9 million)
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, of any race
15.4% or 46.9 million
Black or African American alone
12.4% or 37.6 million
Some other race alone
4.9% or 15.0 million
Asian alone
4.4% or 13.4 million
Two or more races
2.3% or 7.0 million
American Indian or Alaska Native alone
0.8% or 2.4 million
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander alone
0.14% or 0.43 million

• Total population: 304.1 million Race and Hispanic or Latino origin	Percentage	Number
White alone (Not including the 29.2 million White Hispanic and Latino Americans: 65.4% or 198.9 million)	75.0%	228.2 million
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, of any race	15.4%	46.9 million
Black or African American alone	12.4%	37.6 million
Some other race alone	4.9%	15.0 million
Asian alone	4.4%	13.4 million
Two or more races	2.3%	7.0 million
American Indian or Alaska Native alone	0.8%	2.4 million
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander alone	0.14%	0.43 million

**Why do we want to reach
Spanish-speaking people
and other minorities
living in the USA?**

**A grand total minority of
100.7 Million!**

Matthew 28:19-20

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations (*ta ethne*), baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Revelation 7:9

"After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands."

Acts 17:26-27

"From one man He made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth: and He determined the times (*kairos*- God's ordained time) set for them and the exact places where they should live. God did this so that men would seek Him and perhaps reach out for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us."

**How do we reach out to the "others"?
Respecting others
culture,
traditions, language
and history**

**"The respect to others rights,
among the nations and the
individuals
Is the peace"**

Compelling Mission Opportunities...

- The "others" Population is Overwhelmingly Young
 - Median age below the US non-Hispanic
 - Median age=24 for Mexican-Americans
 - Over Half are Adolescents
- Role of Women among The Immigrants
 - Play highly influential role in Hispanic culture, transmitting cultural and religious values

Hispanic Mission History in N.V.

- 1999 - Multicultural Task Force
- 2000 - ESL classes begin
- 2002 - Spanish worship/Bible study begin
- 2003 - SSL classes begin
- 2004 and 2006 - LCMS Mission Visits
- 2005 - Estudio Biblico with Rachel Evans
- 2006 - First Hispanic team with Harvesters for Christ at St. John's
- 2007 - LINC workshop
- 2008 - Joined Spanish Language Ministry Covenant

District & Circuit

- 2006 - SED Task Force on Hispanic Ministry Established
- St. John's, Prince of Peace and Grace-Woodbridge involved in ESL/Human Care Ministries
- 3 Congregations ID'd Need to Form a Circuit partnership
 - Move forward in Spanish Language Mission – We Can Do More Together!

Covenant for Hispanic Mission Development

- Agreement between Grace, Prince of Peace and St. John's
- Covenant Identifies:
 - Intercessors and Implementers
 - Requirements for Funding, Space and Service
 - St John's as Calling Congregation
 - Pastor Meehan as Ecclesiastical Supervisor
 - Establishes Spanish Language Mission Development Board (SLMDB)

Focus Expanded from Spanish Language to Hispanic Mission

- November 2009 Mission Developer Pastor Lopez proposed including non Spanish speaking family members in mission and changing from Spanish Language to Hispanic.
- Spanish Language Mission Development Board majority votes approval and changes name to reflect it.
- Covenant congregations were notified of mission change by Chairman, Hispanic Mission Development Board

Support for a Hispanic Mission Developer

- What's Required:
 - Continual Prayer for Guidance
 - Long-term Congregational Support
 - Annual Funding Commitment
 - Calling (or contracting) a Mission Developer
- Be Prepared to Give and Receive
- Look for the Blessings

Conclusion

- Pray to the Lord of the Harvest (Luke 10:2)
- Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Churches (Revelation 2:7)
- Discuss and Discern
- Attend October 24th. One year anniversary of Hispanic Mission



**Proposed
July 7, 2011 BYLAWS**

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this organization shall be Lutheran Lay Fellowship of Metropolitan Washington, DC; which hereafter may be too referred to as "Lutheran Lay Fellowship".

ARTICLE II

Objectives

1. To serve the membership through inspirational, constructive, and Christ-centered activities.
2. To encourage and develop understanding and fellowship among all Lutherans.
3. To promote good public relations for the Lutheran Church by initiating and supporting worthy projects of a religious, charitable, and/or educational nature.
4. To create an atmosphere favorable to Lutheran solidarity.
5. To elect Corporate Members of Fellowship Square Foundation, Inc.

ARTICLE III

Members

There shall be two categories of Members, Regular Members and Associate Members.

Regular Members - Those who are communicant members of a Lutheran Church, subscribe to the Objectives in Article II, and have their Lutheran Lay Fellowship Dues current. Regular Members when present at Member Meetings are entitled to vote on all Lutheran Lay Fellowship issues presented.

Associate Members - Those who subscribe to the Objectives in Article II and have their Lutheran Lay Fellowship dues current. Associate Members have a voice in but are not entitled to vote on any Lutheran Lay Fellowship issue.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Officers shall be Lutheran Lay Fellowship Regular Members. The Officers shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Officers shall be elected to one year terms by the Regular Members at the June Member Meeting and will be installed by the Chaplain and assume their duties at the July Member Meeting. Individuals shall not serve as Officers for more than four consecutive terms without a least a one year break. Vacancies shall be filled by the Executive Committee with the appointees serving until the next election.

ARTICLE V

Duties of the Officers

In addition to the specific duties stated below and those stated elsewhere in these Bylaws, the Officers shall perform the usual duties commensurate with their respective offices.

The President shall preside over all Lutheran Lay Fellowship meetings; serve as the Chair of the Executive Committee; and appoint, from among the Regular Members, the Chaplain and all committee chairs.

The Vice President shall assume the duties of President when the President is unable to perform said duties. Vice President is also responsible to oversee the audit of fiscal records.

The Secretary shall be responsible for the maintenance of records of Meeting minutes and By Law amendments.

The Treasurer shall have custody of all Lutheran Lay Fellowship funds and deposit them in the name of Lutheran Lay Fellowship in such bank or depository as approved by the Executive Committee, disburse said funds only by check in the name of Lutheran Lay Fellowship, sign said checks, keep a detailed account of all receipts and disbursements, and report same at each meeting of the Executive Committee and at such other times as required.

ARTICLE VI

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee, hereafter may be referred to as the "Committee", shall consist of the Officers and Regular Members selected by the Officers and to serve at the pleasure of the Officers. When appointing these Committee members, the Officers shall strive to have the Committee be representative of Lutheran Lay Fellowship's Regular Members (church body affiliation, clergy/lay, ethnicity, gender, etc). The immediate Past President shall be an ex officio member provided his/her membership Dues are current. The Committee shall have the power and authority to act in the name of Lutheran Lay Fellowship. The Committee shall meet at least 4 times each year and at such other time as determined by the President. One-third of the Committee members present at said meetings shall constitute a quorum. Meetings shall be conducted following Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

ARTICLE VII

Member Meetings

Regular Member Meetings shall be held on the first Thursday of each month unless otherwise determined by the Committee and announced in advance by the President. When the first Thursday of the month falls on a National holiday, the meeting shall be held on the 2nd Thursday. There must be a quorum (one-half of the Regular Members attending a Member Meeting) for any Member Meeting requiring a vote on a Lutheran Lay Fellowship issue (Bylaws Amendments change of Dues, Dissolution, Officer elections, etc), and the President must give a minimum 30 days advanced notification to the Regular Members of such meeting. Meetings shall be conducted following Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

ARTICLE VIII

Dues

The Membership year shall begin 1 January and end 31 December. Prevailing, annual Dues are payable on or before 1 January. Dues for those becoming a Lutheran Lay Fellowship Member after 1 July shall be one half of the annual Dues. Any recommendation for changes shall come from the Committee.

ARTICLE IX

Dissolution

Should the Committee conclude that Lutheran Lay Fellowship is no longer able to function as a viable organization; its recommendation for Dissolution shall be presented at two Regular Member Meetings for a vote by the Regular Members. Should the recommendation be approved by two-thirds of the Regular Members present, the Committee will take, without delay, all necessary action for its accomplishment to include liquidating of all Lutheran Lay Fellowship's assets and disbursing them to Fellowship Square Foundation, Inc.

ARTICLE X

Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended at any Lutheran Lay Fellowship Member Meeting provided they are approved by a two thirds vote of the Regular Members present.

DRAFT to be amended by majority vote of the Regular Members at the June 2, 2011 meeting.