

# TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Pacifica Synod – ELCA  
Riverside Convention Center



## WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2009

Hospitality Training Sessions  
9:00 a.m. Executive Committee  
12:30 p.m. Synod Council Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Staff Dinner

Aviators  
University  
Arlington

## THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2009

8:30 a.m. Registration Opens  
10:00 a.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Session of Hearings  
Proposed Social Statement Hearing  
Budget Hearing  
Resolutions Hearing  
11:00 a.m. Concession stands open – lunch on your own  
11:15 a.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of Hearings

Foyer

La Sierra  
Aviators  
Arlington

12:30 p.m. Gathering Music

Ben Lewis Hall

### **BUSINESS MEETING 1**

1:00 p.m. Bible Study with Susan Briebl, Tom Witt & Mary Preus  
1:30 p.m. Opening of the Assembly (Page 2 - 3)  
Credentials Report  
Nominating Committee Report, Open Floor Nominations  
Treasurer's Report  
Anniversary recognition  
Introductions  
2:15 p.m. Report of the Bishop—the Rev. Murray D. Finck  
3:00 p.m. Keynote Speaker—the Rev. Dr. Frederick Niedner  
4:00 p.m. Synod Business  
Constitution Changes, Resolutions Process

Dinner on your own

7:30 p.m. Eucharist Worship—the Rev. Susan Briebl, preaching

**FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2009**

- 6:30 a.m. Stretch & Pray—Bishop Murray Finck Regency (Marriott)
- 7:30 a.m. Gathering Music Ben Lewis Hall
- BUSINESS MEETING 2**
- 8:00 a.m. Bible Study with Susan Briehl, Tom Witt & Mary Preus
- 8:30 a.m. Credentials Report  
**Synod Council Elections**  
Synod Business  
Resolutions
- 10:45 a.m. Keynote Speaker—the Rev. Dr. Frederick Niedner
- 11:45 a.m. Break
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Conversation/Peace Without Walls
- 1:00 p.m. Budget  
Resolutions  
Election Results
- 2:30 p.m. ELCA Report—the Rev. Neil Harrison
- 3:15 p.m. Workshops (locations listed on page 7 – 3)
- 4:15 p.m. Workshops
- 6:30 p.m. Reception Foyer
- 7:00 p.m. Banquet— *Sing a New Song* Ben Lewis Hall  
Recognition of Outstanding Lay Ministry

**SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2009**

- 6:30 a.m. Stretch and Pray—Bishop Murray Finck Regency (Marriott)
- 7:30 a.m. Gathering Music Ben Lewis Hall
- BUSINESS MEETING 3**
- 8:00 a.m. Bible Study with Susan Briehl, Tom Witt & Mary Preus
- 8:30 a.m. Credentials Report
- 9:30 a.m. Conference Discussions  
Synod Business
- 11:15 a.m. Keynote Speaker—the Rev. Dr. Frederick Niedner
- 12:00 p.m. Closing Worship—Bishop Murray Finck, preaching  
Close of Assembly (Page 2 – 4)

## OPENING DIALOGUE

L: The words of Holy Scripture are a light to our feet and a lamp to the pathway we now take.

*(We pause to reflect on the walk together that we now undertake)*

Saint Paul wrote: "As there are many members in one body,

**C: So we, though many, are one body in Christ."** (Romans 12:4-5)

L: Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name,

**C: There am I in the midst of them."** (Matthew 18:20)

L: Again Saint Paul encouraged: "I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received, being humble and gentle, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." (Ephesians 4:1-3)

**C: Let us pursue justice and peace, for mutual upbuilding.** (Romans 14:19)

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray,  
Abundant and abiding God, you taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending them the light and power of your Holy Spirit. Send us your Holy Spirit that we may have a right judgment and a discerning heart in all things we now do, say and deliberate. Through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray.

**C: Amen! Thank you, God, for your love! Amen!**

L: I declare this twenty-second assembly of the Pacifica Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to be in session in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## CLOSING DIALOGUE

L: Jesus said, "You be my witnesses,

**C: To the ends of the earth. (Acts 1 :8)**

L: We return to our homes and ministries, our vocations and callings with Jesus' promises echoing in our hearts: "I chose you and appoint you,

**C: To bear fruit, which abides." (John 15:16)**

L: "Lo, I will be with you always,

**C: To the end of time." (Matthew 28:20)**

L: The Lord be with you,

**C: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray. Abundant and abiding God, you kept Abraham and Sarah in safety through the days of their pilgrimage, you led the children of Israel through the midst of the sea, and by a star you led the magi to the infant Jesus. Protect and guide us now in this time as we set out to travel. Make our ways safe, and our homecomings joyful, and bring us at last to our heavenly home where you dwell in glory with your Son and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

L: I now declare this assembly closed in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## ASSEMBLY PARTICIPANTS

CHAIR.....	Bishop Murray D. Finck
PARLIAMENTARIAN .....	Mr. Al Andrews, Ph.D., PRP
SECRETARY .....	Ms. Rachel Line

## SYNOD ASSEMBLY PLANNING

ASSEMBLY PLANNING TEAM.....	The Rev. Patricia Hoenshell, Co-Chair Ms. Helen Riggs, Co-Chair The Rev. Augie Aviles Ms. Helga Bergthold The Rev. Mark Cansino The Rev. Tim Drom Ms. Vicki Higgins Ms. Shirley Lee Ms. Terri Robertson The Rev. Ken Tuohino
CREDENTIALS .....	Ms. Pam Reynolds
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR.....	Ms. Susan Downer
DISPLAY GUIDE .....	Mr. Bill Aanestad
ELECTIONS.....	Mr. Bob Frey
AUDIO/VISUAL ASSISTANT .....	Mr. Dale Feine
NOMINATING COMMITTEE.....	The Rev. Paul Black, Chair The Rev. Rich Ajer Ms. Helga Bergthold The Rev. Andy Taylor The Rev. Dan Erlenbusch Ms. Sheila Wenzel
RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE.....	The Rev. Gloria Espeseth, Chair Ms. Betty Dean Anderson Mr. Pete Moenter The Rev. Karen Perkins The Rev. Brian Taylor
WORSHIP .....	The Rev. Heidi Hester The Rev. Paul Finley Ms. Pam Reynolds Ms. Mary Shaima Ms. Bekkah Weinberger
HOSPITALITY .....	California Lutheran Homes and Community Services

The Assembly planning team thanks Dorothy Aanestad and Lori Seargeant of the synod staff for their behind-the-scenes efforts and the countless volunteers who make this event possible.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

### The Rev. Dr. Frederick Niedner



Frederick Niedner teaches biblical studies and Hebrew language in Valparaiso University's Department of Theology. He was recently named winner of the 2008-2009 Distinguished Teaching Award, presented annually by the Valparaiso University Alumni Association. Niedner, a member of the faculty since 1973, has studied biblical themes of reconciliation and forgiveness and is currently researching antagonism and division in the biblical world and the ways in which some biblical passages are used to promote prejudice in contemporary society.

Niedner has published numerous articles, sermons, and reviews, and co-authored the Fortress Press volume, *Keeping the Faith: A Guide to the Christian Message*. He regularly contributes to the *Christian Century* and Augsburg Fortress resources such as *Sundays and Seasons* and the *New Proclamation Commentary* series. He serves in the preaching rotation of Valparaiso's Chapel of the Resurrection, offers workshops annually as part of Valparaiso's Institute of Liturgical Studies, and writes a fortnightly column on contemporary religious issues in the NW Indiana *Post-Tribune*.

## ELCA REPRESENTATIVE

### The Rev. Neil P. Harrison

Neil Harrison is the ELCA Director for Renewed Evangelizing Congregations. Before joining the ELCA Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission unit at the churchwide offices in Chicago, Harrison served as the Executive Director of Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania (LAMPa).

Harrison has extensive advocacy and government experience, including as an elected official. After two terms on the Davenport, Iowa, City Council, Harrison served in the Iowa legislature from 1995-97. He also served on the Advisory Council to the United States Civil Rights Commission.



Harrison graduated from Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio, with a Master of Divinity degree on June 9, 2001. The seminary faculty honored him with the Bertha Trost Award in recognition for "outstanding potential for church leadership." Before his call as the director of the LAMPa, Harrison served two pastorates in Colorado.

## BIBLE STUDY/WORSHIP LEADERS

### The Rev. Susan Briehl

Susan Briehl, a Lutheran pastor for 25 years, has served in parish, campus and retreat center settings. She is an associate with the Valparaiso Project on Education and Formation of People in Faith. Her writings include *Come, Lord Jesus*, devotions for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, *Prayer Around the Cross: A Guide to the Liturgy* (with Tom Witt), *Turn My Heart: A Sacred Journey from Brokenness to Healing* (with Marty Haugen), and several liturgical and hymn texts.



### Ms. Mary Preus

Mary Preus is a singer, songleader and choir director, currently directing music at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. She presents and leads workshops on enlivening Christian worship, focusing on the role of the songleader. Mary is a co-founder of the group, *Bread for the Journey*. She is the worship coordinator for the ecumenical Community of St. Martin in Minneapolis.



### Mr. Tom Witt

Tom Witt has been keyboardist, worship leader and songleader for a wide variety of Lutheran and ecumenical church events. He has a depth of resources in worship planning and leads workshops on music, liturgy and contemporary society. Tom serves as a worship and music consultant for the ELCA's Division for Global Mission. He is a co-founder and currently serves as staff for *Bread for the Journey*, a musical and worship-leading ensemble. He has released a recording of his own instrumental improvisations on hymns in the *Lutheran Book of Worship*, entitled *Dusting Off the Green Book*.



**ASSEMBLY RULES AND PROCEDURES  
FOR THE PACIFICA SYNOD  
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

#### LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

This Synod shall have a Synod Assembly, which shall be its highest legislative authority. (S7.01)

#### MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Synod Assembly shall be held annually, as scheduled by the Synod Council, generally in the months of April, May, or June. (S7.11.01)

#### QUORUM

One-half of members of the Synod Assembly shall constitute a quorum. (S7.14)

#### AGENDA

The Chair shall have the authority, within the adopted agenda, to call items before the Assembly in such an order as to insure the orderly flow of business.

Any resolutions received after the 90-day deadline are to be submitted to the Secretary who will immediately refer them to the Resolutions Committee. These resolutions can be introduced at the Assembly if permitted by a two-thirds vote of the members.

All resolutions not voted on at the Assembly will be placed on the next Synod Council meeting agenda for action.

All motions to come before the Assembly are to be in writing and submitted to the Secretary.

A two-thirds vote of the Assembly shall be required to add new business to the Agenda.

#### VOTING MEMBERS

The membership of the Synod Assembly, of which at least 60% of the voting membership shall be composed of laypersons, shall be constituted as follows:

- a. All ordained ministers, under call, on the roster of this synod in attendance at the Synod Assembly shall be voting members.
- b. All associates in ministry, deaconesses of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and diaconal ministers, under call, on the official lay roster of this synod shall have both voice and vote as lay voting members in the Synod Assembly, in addition to the voting membership of lay members of congregations provided in item \*S7.21.c.

- c. A minimum of one lay member elected by each congregation with fewer than 175 baptized members and a minimum of two lay members elected by each congregation with 175 or more baptized members related to this synod, normally one of whom shall be male and one of whom shall be female, shall be voting members. The Synod Council shall establish a formula to provide additional lay representation from congregations on the basis of number of baptized members in the congregation. Authorized worshipping communities of the Pacifica Synod shall be permitted to have one lay representative (S7.26). Licensed lay ministers in recognized ethnic ministries of the synod are granted voice and vote at the assembly, plus one additional layperson from the community may be elected as a voting member. The Synod Council will review a list of the eligible ministries/persons annually. (SC99.04.05) The Synod Council shall seek to ensure that, as nearly as possible, 50 percent of the lay members of the assembly shall be female and 50 percent shall be male.
- d. Voting membership shall include the officers of this synod. (S7.21)
- e. Ten percent (10%) of all retired ordained ministers, retired associates in ministry, retired deaconesses, and retired diaconal ministers on the roster of this synod shall have the right to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly. The selection of these retired ordained ministers to serve as voting members shall be done in a process established by the Synod Council. (S7.22.b,c)
- f. Duly elected voting members of the Synod Council who are not otherwise voting members of the Synod Assembly under S7.21. shall be granted the privilege of both voice and vote as members of the Synod Assembly. (S7.27)

#### VOICE ONLY

The Pacifica Synod of the ELCA grants seat and voice to the President of the Pacifica Synodical Women's Organization at Synod assemblies. (S7.21.A94)

All retired ordained ministers, all ordained ministers on leave from call and all associates in ministry on leave from call or retired, all of whose names appear on the rosters of this synod, shall have the privilege of voice but not vote at all meetings of the Synod Assembly. The bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and such other official representatives of this church as may be designated from time to time by the Church Council shall also have voice but not vote in the meetings of the Synod Assembly. Like privileges shall be accorded to those additional persons whom the Synod Assembly or the Synod Council shall from time to time designate. (S7.23)

#### VOTING

Proxy and absentee voting shall not be permitted in the transaction of any business of this synod. (S7.31)

## NOMINATIONS

Nominations for all positions, whether offered by the Nominating Committee, or from the floor, shall be valid only if prior to the nominations being closed, the Nominee has, either directly or indirectly, indicated his/her willingness to serve if elected.

All nominations from the floor must be accompanied by a written nomination containing the signatures of no less than 10 persons qualified to vote for the Nominee indicating their support for the nomination and needs to be in compliance with gender, clergy/lay representation requirements.

Nominations for all offices must be submitted to the Nominations Table located outside the Pacifica Synod Office no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, *May 21*. Those desiring to make nominations are asked to get a Nominations Form from the Nominations Table, and, after completing it, return it to the Nominations Table.

During the Assembly, if a resignation or withdrawal occurs, immediate reference shall be made to the Nominating Committee, which will convene and suggest one or more candidates for another election.

## VOICE

No member may speak from the floor more than two minutes or more than twice on one issue without consent of the Assembly.

## ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall govern parliamentary procedure of the Synod Assembly. (S7.32)

## APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

Any proposal to appropriate funds, whether by amendment to the budget or otherwise, which is presented to a meeting of the Synod Assembly without the prior approval of the Synod Council, shall be immediately referred to the Synod Council for an opinion and report prior to any debate or action by the Synod Assembly. (S10.04)

## DISPLAYS AND EXHIBITS

Authorization for setting up displays and exhibits and for placing posters, announcements, etc., at Assemblies of the Pacifica Synod shall be limited to those agencies or groups who are approved by the Executive Committee. The selling of goods or services is not allowed unless approved in advance by the Executive Committee.

## DISPLAYS BY AFFILIATED AND NON-AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

The Executive Committee of the Pacifica Synod has approved the following list of organizations as ones that may display at the *2009* Synod Assembly.

Permission to display by non-affiliated organizations is granted by the Executive Committee of the Synod Council and does not constitute any type of endorsement of these groups. Under no circumstances may non-affiliated organizations be involved in direct solicitation of funds at the assembly. Permission to display is granted on a year-by-year basis.

African Team Ministries	Lutheran CORE
Alnor Liturgeia Designs	Lutheran Credit Union
Book of Faith	Lutheran Cursillo
California Lutheran Homes	Lutheran Office of Public Policy
California Lutheran University	Lutheran Retreats Camps & Conferences
Cherish Our Children	Lutheran Schools of So. Calif. & Hawaii
Concordia University	Lutheran Social Services
ELCA Board of Pensions	Lutherans Concerned/North America
ELCA Chaplains	Mission Investment Fund
ELCA Planned Giving	Nancy Bond Insurance Services
Global Mission Ministry Team	Pacifica WELCA
Hunger and Housing Ministry Team	Olan Mills
I-LERT	PALLMM
Immigration/Border Concerns Min. Team	Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Lutheran Assoc. of Christian Educators	Southern Cross Property Consultants
Lemstone Bookstore	Third Avenue Charitable Organization
Lutheran Campus Center	Third World Handarts

## DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS

All materials for distribution to voting members at the Synod Assembly shall be in the synod office no later than five working days prior to the opening of the assembly. After the assembly is in session, permission to distribute materials must be secured from the on-site synod office.

**CHANGES TO SYNOD ROSTER SINCE LAST ASSEMBLY**

**PASTORS RECEIVED FROM OTHER SYNODS BY CALL TO:**

Kathy Waltz	Dec-08	St. Mary's Medical Center, Apple Valley
David Lindberg	Oct-08	Retired
Kevin Kline	Aug-08	St. John, Kailua
Laura Ziehl	July-08	Bethlehem, Encinitas
Daren Erisman	Mar-09	Interim, Our Savior's, San Diego
Roland Haas	Mar-09	Retired
Kent Tuohino	Mar-09	Interim, Trinity, Riverside

**RECEIVED BY ORDINATION AND CALL: TO:**

Shane Freiberg	07/26/2008	Lord of Life, Moreno Valley
Derek Fossey	08/16/2008	Hope, Palm Desert
Lara Janssen	10/19/2008	Lutheran Church of the Cross, Rialto
Richard Braun	10/25/2008	Good Shepherd, Buena Park
Brian Weinberger	11/29/2008	Hope, Temecula
Jay Egenes	02/15/2009	Highland Avenue, San Bernardino

**NEW CALLS WITHIN SYNOD: TO:**

H.G. "Skip" McComas	08/01/2008	St. Andrew, Whittier
Dan Roschke	09/01/2008	Shepherd of the Valley, La Mesa
Brad Stienstra	11/24/2008	Newport Harbor, Newport Beach
Karla Seyb-Stockton	12/01/2008	Lutheran Church of the Incarnation, Poway
Karin Boye	12/06/2008	Interim, Christ, Orange
Kim Eifert Krogstad	01/12/2009	Christ, San Clemente
Heidi Hester	02/01/2009	Pacifica Synod Staff
Paul Finley	02/22/2009	Westminster, Westminster

**PASTORS WHO RETIRED**

William Norman	9/1/2008	Steven Perry	4/1/2009
Judith Stone	10/01/2008		

**PASTORS CURRENTLY ON LEAVE FROM CALL**

Dawn Anderson Booth	Kenneth Johnson	Dan Raaen
B. Robert Dew	Yutaka Kishino	James Reeb
John Embree	Margrethe Kleiber	Bob Warren
Stephen Fiechter	Molly Knutson-Keller	Continuing Disability:
Debra Hippen	Jim McCammon	Dianne Eller
David Housholder	Connie Morrow	Tom Evens

**PASTORS TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER SYNOD**

Richard Hites	01/01/2008	North Carolina Synod
Cara Tanis	05/08/2008	North Carolina Synod
Melissa Lundquist	07/02/2008	Sierra Pacific Synod
J. Andrew Riggs	08/28/2008	Northeastern Ohio Synod
Margie Olson	08/28/2008	Minneapolis Area Synod
Patrick Hahn	09/15/2008	South Dakota Synod
James Shimota	09/25/2008	New England Synod
Truls Person	12/23/2008	Southwest California Synod
Mark K. Johnson	02/03/2009	Southwestern Washington Synod



Robert O. Collick	1953	M. Laurel Gray	1956
Gilbert C. Moore	1953	Eugene E. Hannemann	1956
Lawrence H. Roller	1953	Donald Nelson	1956
George Carlson	1954	Paul C. Oas	1956
Edward Eskildsen	1954	Edward J. Volkmann	1956
Kenneth A. Krueger	1954	Everett P. Wuebbens	1956
William Schumacher	1954	Donald P. Bankston	1957
Charles W. Strausser	1954	Carl R. Schneider	1957
Stanley N. Califf	1955	Hillard J. Weiss	1957
Howell S. Foster	1955	Daniel Hansen	1958
Raymond Hartzell	1955	John Knudson	1958
Leroy Miller	1955	Paul Larson	1958
Frank L. Starkey	1955	Douglas Olson	1958
Melius E. Bollesen	1956		

#### 50 YEARS-1959

David Babcock  
Larry Gardner  
Harvey Peters Jr.

#### 45 YEARS-1964

David Chen  
Charles Malloch  
George Miner  
John Sieber

#### 40 YEARS-1969

Thomas Dudley  
Noel Estergren  
John Lundblad

#### 35 YEARS-1974

John Embree  
Joseph Matoush  
Charles Riggs  
James Roessler

#### 30 YEARS-1979

Cathleen Bohman  
Paul Kirchner  
Yutaka Kishino  
Steven Perry  
Paul Scheitlin  
John Steward  
Sherry Sweetman

#### 25 YEARS-1984

Thomas Chen  
Dianne Eller  
Gloria Espeseth  
David Kieffer  
Kim Eifert Krogstad  
Randall Mundt  
Kay Reeb

#### 20 YEARS-1989

Steven Goodwin  
Kenneth Johnson

#### 15 YEARS-1994

Mark Dahle  
Jonathan Doolittle  
Ronald Hovick

#### 10 YEARS-1999

Mark Allert  
Agapito Aviles Jr.  
George Ekeren-Moening  
Sheryl Faulk  
H.G. Skip McComas  
Minh-Hanh Nguyen  
Victoria Rufsvold

**ANNIVERSARIES OF CONGREGATIONS – 2009**

128 YEARS

Lihue, Lihue

121 YEARS

Eden, Riverside  
First, San Diego

115 YEARS

Trinity, Riverside

109 YEARS

Lutheran Church of Honolulu

108 YEARS

First, Redlands

103 YEARS

Emanuel Danish, Yorba Linda

95 YEARS

Trinity, Hemet  
St. Peter, Santa Ana

70 YEARS

First, Fullerton

60 YEARS

Faith, Yucaipa  
Lemon Grove, Lemon Grove

55 YEARS

Clairemont, San Diego  
St. Mark, Chula Vista  
St. John, Kailua  
Our Saviour, Orange

50 YEARS

House of Prayer, Escondido  
Carlton Hills, Santee  
Prince of Peace, Honolulu  
Westminster, Westminster

45 YEARS

Peace, Corona  
All Saints, San Diego  
Resurrection, Huntington Beach  
Maluhia, Waianae

30 YEARS

Hope, Temecula  
Community, Rancho Santa Margarita

***CELEBRATING FIFTY YEARS OF ORDINATION – 2009***

**THE REV. DAVID BABCOCK**

was ordained February 8, 1959, by the Ohio Synod of the American Lutheran Church by Pastor Walter P. Schmidt and Dr. Herbert C. Leupold. Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Warren, Ohio, where he was ordained, was also the church where he was baptized and confirmed.

The first parish Babcock served was St. John's Lutheran Church, Corwith, Iowa. After other calls to congregations in Los Angeles, Reno and Inglewood, he came to St. John's, Palm Desert, in 1988, serving there until his retirement in 2000.

Babcock received special training in inner city missions at the Urban Training Center for Christian Mission. He was instrumental in the development of Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church in Big Bear. He ministers to two R.V. resorts in Indio from November through Easter.

The major emphasis of Babcock's ministry has been to "assist the congregations served, to be a light, the light of Christ, in a darkened world." He can be described as, "One who at least tried to do his best to serve the Lord Jesus and His people."

**THE REV. LARRY GARDNER**

was ordained June 21, 1959, in the Ohio District of the American Lutheran Church by Dr. Ronald Hals, Professor of Old Testament, Evangelical Lutheran Theological Seminary (ELTS). The ordination took place at St. Peter Lutheran Church, Trenton, Ohio.

After ordination Gardner joined the faculty of ELTS, Capital University, as an instructor in Practical Theology. He remained at Capital University until his retirement in 1985, serving in many capacities including Chair of the Department of Religion.

Gardner received the Capital University Praestantia Award for Distinguished Teaching, was twice dean of the Regional Council for International Education Summer Seminar in Japan, and was the Faculty Marshal of Capital University. He also served on the Board of Publication, Augsburg Publishing House.

In his retirement Gardner has been officiate of over 14,000 Japanese language weddings in Hawaii. He has been a mentor, resource and friend of young people.

**THE REV. HARVEY PETERS JR.**

was ordained on May 20, 1959, in the Ohio Synod of the United Lutheran Church in America. President Herbert Veler ordained Peters and eight others that year at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Akron, Ohio.

During his active ministry Peters served congregations in Michigan, New Jersey, New Mexico and Wisconsin. He was also Mission Developer of Northern New Jersey Regional Parish and served 16 years as the Director of Urban Ministry for the Lutheran Church in America.

Peters has served his church in a number of capacities including the Board of Directors of Wittenberg University, synod convention chaplain and several interim pastorates.

Biblically rooted preaching, emphasizing contemporary realities have been major accents of Peters' ministry. He believes in the importance of the Church knowing itself as a means to an end, rather than an end to itself and learning that justice is that for which humans have been created. Described as a baptized child of God, a devoted husband of RuthAnn since 1955, a grateful father and a very fortunate servant of Christ's church, Peters truly knows the weight of the stole.

***CELEBRATING TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF ORDINATION – 2009*****THE REV. THOMAS CHEN**

was ordained March 25, 1984, by Seven-star Presbytery, Taiwan Presbyterian Church in Taipei, Taiwan.

He served in Taipei as Executive Director of the Christian Audio Visual Association before a call to serve Li Hsin Presbyterian Church. Chen and his family immigrated to the United States in 1989. In 1993 he transferred to the roster of the ELCA and received a call to Bethlehem Lutheran Church Chinese Ministry, Temple City. He is now serving as pastor of Grace (Taiwanese) Lutheran Church in Anaheim.

Chen emphasizes special care for seniors, children and co-workers in his ministry. As Jesus' servant he loves to serve the Taiwanese congregation and Chinese co-workers in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

### **THE REV. DIANNE ELLER**

was ordained June 3, 1984, at the Lutheran Church in America's North East Synod convention held at Midland College, Fremont, Nebraska. The officiant was Bishop Dennis Anderson.

After serving two calls to congregations in Nebraska and South Dakota, Eller was executive director of Eller Counseling Services. She then served three years as a military chaplain for Marine Corps Base Hawaii at Kaneohe Bay. In California Eller served as an interim pastor and as site director of El Camino Pines Conference and Retreat Center. On continuing disability, she currently resides in Texas.

### **THE REV. GLORIA ESPESETH**

was ordained September 23, 1984, by the South Pacific District of the American Lutheran Church. The ordination took place at Trinity Lutheran in Ventura, presided by the Rev. Howard Wennes, Assistant to the Bishop. Espeseth attended Fuller Seminary, received her M.Div. from Wartburg and completed a one-year of further study at Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.

The Pacifica congregations that Espeseth has served include St. Andrew, San Diego; Good Shepherd of the Hills, Alpine; Clairemont, San Diego; St. Luke, La Mesa; St. Peter's by the Sea, San Diego; and Gethsemane, San Diego, where Espeseth continues to serve.

Espeseth is currently chair of Pacifica Synod's Resolutions Committee. She has previously served in a variety of capacities including voting member for the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, dean of the West San Diego Conference and as a speaker, teacher and preacher at various congregational events.

An advocate for small, strong congregations, Espeseth emphasizes the Gospel and the quality and integrity of community life in congregations. She is a Lutheran feminist, Trinitarian and missional theologian of the cross.

### **THE REV. DAVID KIEFFER**

was ordained at Christ Lutheran Church, Monterey Park, on August 4, 1984. The Rev. Paul Evenson presided at the ordination. The preacher of the day, the Rev. Luther Tolo, proclaimed that it was the official ordination of the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

Kieffer's first call was to Salem Lutheran in Glendale. Three congregations in the Pacifica Synod followed his four years there: Hope, Palm Desert; Gloria Dei, Fontana; and Ascension, San Diego. In 1993 Kieffer accepted a call to Christ, Mililani, where he continues to serve.

Many groups have benefited from his participation and leadership, including Lutheran Camping of Southern Calif. Board of Directors, the Pacifica Synod Council, Hands and Cans Across San Diego and the 2007 Assembly Planning Team. Kieffer currently serves as president of Oahu Youth Education and Activities (OYEA) and as dean of the Hukilau Conference.

The major emphases in Kieffer's ministry have been youth, developing a vibrant worship experience, evangelism and serving the greater community. He is easy going and easy to talk to, dedicated to the ministry of the whole church, a pastor who cares about the Body of Christ, is

able to discern a way through problems in a non-anxious manner and a great husband and father.

### **THE REV. KIM EIFERT KROGSTAD**

was ordained by the South Pacific District of the American Lutheran Church on August 12, 1984. The Rev. Jay Spoonheim officiated at the service at Christ Lutheran Church, Long Beach.

After her first call to Newport Harbor Lutheran Church in Newport Beach, Krogstad moved up north to Holy Trinity in San Carlos before returning in 2003 to Pacifica Synod and a call to Our Saviour's, Orange. She currently serves at Christ Lutheran Church in San Clemente.

Of major significance in Krogstad's ministry has been the supervision of seven Teaching Parish Students and three interns.

Krogstad's ideal description of herself can only be told in her own words: "When I told my daughter I was going to answer the question 'How would you LIKE to be described?' by saying, 'Kim is a hottie!' Katie's eyes rolled so far back in her head I was afraid we'd have to seek medical attention. So as to save you a similar fate, I'd LIKE to be described as a child of God who seeks to be faithful while standing neck-deep in grace."

### **THE REV. RANDALL MUNDT**

was ordained June 23, 1984, at Grace Lutheran Church (LC-MS), Columbus, Indiana, his home congregation. Bishop Kempfski officiated at the service on behalf of the Central Canada Synod of the Lutheran Church in America. He attended the seminary in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, as it was the only seminary in North America to have representation of all three major Lutheran bodies: LCA, ALC and LC-MS.

King of Kings Lutheran Church, Pueblo, Colorado, called Mundt to his first pastorate, where he served nine years. After another 12 years at Glory of God Lutheran Church, Wheat Ridge, Colorado, he was called to the Pacifica Synod by Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity in Kailua-Kona. Mundt is now a Global Mission A pastor in Vienna, Austria.

The various capacities he has served include: Soup Kitchen Board, Project Glean in southern Colorado, various boards and committees for Lutheran Family Services of Colorado, and volunteer leader for Habitat for Humanity in Denver and West Hawaii.

Mundt says, "I would LIKE to be described as young and handsome, but after 25 years of ministry, it would be quite a lie. Let's just say I am still upright and taking nourishment – which in Vienna means beer and bratwurst." He looks forward to many more years of ministry "by the grace of God." His motto is, "When we take ourselves too seriously, we cannot take God's love serious enough."

### **THE REV. KAY REEB**

was ordained March 4, 1984, at Peever Lutheran Church, South Dakota, by the Rev. Dr. James Boyce, NT Professor, Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary. In the midst of a huge blizzard half the guests and participants, including the organist, had to turn back, and the plans for the perfect ordination service turned into an impromptu celebration of God's Word, sharing his meal, prayer and promises.

After serving two parishes in North and South Dakota, Reeb was commissioned a naval chaplain in 1992. She is currently stationed at Camp Pendleton with deployments to Iraq in 2004 and 2007.

She has served in South Dakota on the Synod Church & Society Committee and the District Youth Gathering Planning Committee. Reeb was also a Northern Plains Conference voting member to Churchwide Assembly. She was awarded the Military Chaplains' Association Distinguished Chaplain of the Year 1998 and four Navy Commendation Medals.

Reeb appreciates the opportunity to touch people's lives with the grace and love of God at those "holy moments" when people are open to hear. "This is an awesome and humbling experience." She experiences the added joy of living with her parishioners 24/7 in some very interesting and faith-challenging places. She can be described as a fool for Christ, frequently forgiven, grace-filled and a joy bringer.

## **NECROLOGY**

### ***DONALD JAMES FISHER***

**October 3, 1928 – May 7, 2008**

Following military service, Pastor Don Fisher received the call to ministry while working at a Lutheran youth program in Palo Alto. He was ordained by the American Lutheran Church in 1961. After retirement he joined Mission Lutheran Church in Dana Point, serving in a part-time capacity as a Stephen Ministry leader. Don was predeceased by his son, Paul, and survived by his wife, Margaret, three daughters and eight grandchildren.

### ***BETTY A. KLEITER***

**February 13, 1918 – August 24, 2008**

Certified an Associate in Ministry in 1962 by the American Lutheran Church, Betty Kleiter served as a parish secretary at two Lutheran churches: St. Paul's in Lynwood, Calif. and Messiah, Yorba Linda. After her retirement in 1989 she became active at Our Redeemer, Garden Grove. Her husband Willard survives Betty.

### ***A.R. HERBERT JOHNSON***

**June 13, 1915 – October 15, 2008**

In his 65 years of ordained ministry Pastor Herbert Johnson served four congregations. His strong stewardship emphasis became a model in the Southern Minnesota District of the ELC. Herbert was pastor of Lemon Grove Lutheran Church, Lemon Grove, from 1968 to 1981. His wife, lone, three daughters, eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren survive Herbert.

### ***RUDOLF C. ANDERSEN***

**April 9, 1919 – October 24, 2008**

Pastor Rudolf Andersen was ordained in the American Lutheran Church in 1944. He served four congregations emphasizing Bible camps, youth and evangelism. A member of First Lutheran, Ontario, he served in worship and music and on the church council. Rudolf's wife, Clara, died in 1997.

### ***T. ROBERT BERGMAN***

**July 16, 1927 – December 29, 2008**

Pastor Robert Bergman was ordained in 1953, at his home congregation, Augsburg Lutheran Church, Toledo, Ohio (United Lutheran Church). He served five congregations and, after

retirement in 1977, served as chaplain for California Lutheran Homes. A member of Hope Lutheran Church, Temecula, Robert is survived by his wife Esther.

***ADOLPH B.L. KLOTH***

**December 31, 1914 – January 3, 2009**

After he was ordained Pastor Adolph Kloth served 18 congregations and ministries from 1942 until 2003 when he was a visitation pastor for St. Peter, Santa Ana. A long-time member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Irvine, he moved to Chula Vista in 2004. Adolph is survived by his wife Lucille.

***SAMUEL RICHARD BAGLIEN***

**March 25, 1925 – January 22, 2009**

After serving in World War II, where he was wounded and received the Purple Heart, Richard Baglien was ordained a pastor in 1951. After serving five parishes he became head of pastoral care at California Lutheran Medical Center in Los Angeles until his retirement in 1989. He continued to care for the sick and the dying in hospice ministry after retiring. His wife, Mavis, four children, 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren survive him.

***PAUL R. JORSTAD***

**July 25, 1930 – March 13, 2009**

Pastor Paul Jorstad served four Lutheran congregations in California: Grace, Palo Alto; Good Shepherd, Salinas; Faith, Yucaipa; and Faith, Sun City. He was active in the life of the Pacifica Synod serving as Conference Dean, chair of the Homosexuality Ministry Team and as a member of the Synod Education and Gay/Lesbian committees. He devoted 15 years to gay and lesbian issues. Preceded in death by his first wife, Monita, Paul is survived by his wife, Jo, son, Pastor David Jorstad, and his daughter, Karen.