

BRIDGE

Monthly E-Newsletter of Asian and Pacific Islander Community
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
July 2009

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Hmong caucus will gather at Luther's Memorial Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, MN, August 8-9. The gathering will draw more than one hundred Hmong Lutherans to the

Twin Cities for fellowship, Bible study workshops and strategic planning. Thanks to the Rev. Songchai Hang, chair of Hmong caucus who works constantly with Hmong community in the ELCA. Also, special thanks to Hmong pastors and lay leaders in the Twin Cities for hosting this gathering. They will be greeted by the Rev. Dr. Sherman Hicks, executive director of Multicultural Ministries, ELCA. For a list of all caucus's gathering this year, please see the announcement appears on the other side of this newsletter.

Rev. Pongsak Limthongviratn, Ph.D.
Director for Asian and Pacific Islander Ministries,
Multicultural Ministries, ELCA

ASIAN LUTHERAN WOMEN NETWORK

When 15 Asian women met at the Women of Color Gathering in April, they did more than share their hopes and dreams. As each one spoke about her challenges both personally and in ministry, it was clear that they all needed to continue talking to one another and invite other Asian women to the conversation even after the conference was over. On their last day together, they grappled with several questions: How will they communicate what they have learned and

experienced? With whom will they share this story?



The list they put together was ambitious, but they embody the dreams of these Asian women. They dream of having Asian women invited to come to the table and be part of decision-making bodies involved in mission and evangelism. They hope that the church would address injustices that spring from the exploitation of women (i.e., human trafficking, immigration, and HIV/AIDS). They want Asian women to be represented in synod and churchwide assemblies. They want their stories heard. They need to be recognized and taken seriously for the gifts they bring to the church. If you are an Asian woman or know someone who would like to be involved in making this dream a reality, please join the Asian Women's Network by contacting Pr. Gigie Sijera-Grant at ggrant@firstlutheranec.org. or gigiesgranct@comcast.net

AROUND ASIAN COMMUNITY

1. Rev. Yutaka Kishino, the Vice President of Association of Asians and Pacific Islander-ELCA began his contract work with Lutheran Church of

DID YOU KNOW? ALL Asian and Asian descent Lutherans in ALL ELCA congregations and ministries are members of the Association of Asians and Pacific Islanders-ELCA. To receive this E-Newsletter, please send your email address to pongsak.limthongviratn@elca.org

the Resurrection to minister to Japanese community in Orange County, CA.

2. Some Asians will be present at the ELCA 2009 Churchwide Assembly as Church Council members or voting members. Also, the Rev. Lit-Inn Wu of True Light Lutheran Church, Streamwood, IL, will preside at one of the communion services at the assembly.

3. Rev. Dr. Wi Jo Kang participated in a missiological symposium held in England in July.

4. Rev. Peter Wang and Rev. Marian Wang led a short term mission group from Truth Lutheran Church to preach the gospel to Chinese community in Guatemala in June-July.

CAUCUS'S GATHERING THIS YEAR

Laotian
June 25-27, Des Moines, IA

Hmong
August 8-9, Minneapolis, MN

Korean
September 14-16, Anaheim, CA

Chinese
September 16-19, Monterey Park, CA

South Asian
September 28-29, Philadelphia, PA

Asian English
October 5-7, Los Angeles, CA

Indonesian
October 15-17, New York, NY

LIVING THE WORD

**THE 10TH ASSEMBLY OF
ASSOCIATION OF ASIANS AND
PACIFIC ISLANDERS-ELCA
APRIL 7-10, 2010
NEW LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH
PALATINE, IL
MORE INFO WILL BE AVAILABLE
IN SEPTEMBER**



PRAYER CORNER: Please pray for: 1) Hmong caucus gathering, August 8-9, Minneapolis, MN; 2) Asian Women network; 3) the ELCA Churchwide Assembly that will meet in August, Minneapolis, MN.

BRIDGE is a monthly E-news jointly published by Association of Asians and Pacific Islanders-ELCA and Asian and Pacific Islander Ministries desk, Multicultural Ministries, ELCA. To share your story, please send it to pongsak.limthongviratn@elca.org.
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To share your brief news or story, send it pongsak.limthongviratn@elca.org

