

Bridge

A Monthly E-Newsletter of the Asian and Pacific Islander Community  Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
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FROM THE DIRECTOR



In this Lenten Season, we all meditate upon the most fundamental belief of our Christian faith: Christ has died for our sins. We do not make an effort to save ourselves since we all have been saved by Jesus' one and perfect sacrifice. Thus, Lent is the time for reflection of our faith, repentance for failing in loving him, staying in love for him and growing in love for him. The more we ponder about his love and mercy, the more we understand that we are not worthy of his unconditional love. This makes our faith strongly rooted in the gospel, not in our morals or behavior.

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT



"We and the Bible" is the theme for our 2012 assembly. We know it is grammatically incorrect the way the theme is stated. But we have a reason for that. Do you want to find out? Come to the next assembly then. Meanwhile here is a hint; it will be an interactive event, the like you have not seen before. The venue will be announced in June or shortly thereafter.

Beginning next month the President's Corner will begin a series on Asian Lutheran leaders, lay and clergy, who have made contributions to the church and society.

*Prof. Edmond Yee, Ph.D.
President, Association of Asians and Pacific Islanders-ELCA*

PLEASE PRAY FOR JAPAN AND THE JAPAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (JELC)



All eyes have been on Japan following the earthquake and ensuing tsunami that devastated northeastern Japan on March 11. ELCA companion Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church has two congregations in the area worst hit. Fortunately, there were no casualties among the members. The ELCA also has a number of missionaries in Japan, many of whom are in Tokyo: none were injured. While Tokyo is more than 150 miles from the epicenter, the quake "felt like jello," said Tim McKenzie, who teaches at the Lutheran seminary.

The JELC is establishing a relief plan; and the ELCA is responding to the many needs with emergency funding through ELCA Disaster Response.

Rev. Dr. Franklin Ishida, Program Director for Asia and Pacific, Global Mission, ELCA

TEEM - MONTEREY PARK EXTENSION PROGRAM

The 2010-2011 Monterey Park Extension Center of the Theological Education for Emerging Ministry program finished its third course Systematic Theology by Rev. Dr. Moses Penumaka, March 23-25. Moses is the director for the Western Mission Cluster (Luther Seminary - LS, and Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary - PLTS) TEEM Program. He is also a part time faculty member at PLTS.



WE AND THE BIBLE



THE 11TH ASSEMBLY OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF ASIANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS-ELCA
APRIL 11-14, 2010
MORE INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW



connecting
global and local
**Glocal
Mission
Gatherings**

2011 GLOCAL EVENTS

God's work in mission always propels us to encounter the neighbor, particularly in the stranger. Glocal Mission Gatherings equip us for God's

work in today's global and local realities and their "glocal" intersections. So what is mission? Who is the neighbor? Let's answer these questions together for our migrating and immigrating world. Come, join some of the most relevant mission conversations of our time. The ELCA Glocal Mission Gathering (GMG) gathers leaders for a day and a half of worship, workshops, and sharing around global and local mission.

The 2011 events are listed below.

- ✦ May 6-7 Park Ridge, IL
- ✦ Jul 22-23 Decorah, IA
- ✦ Aug 4-6 Norcross, GA
- ✦ Sep 30-Oct 1 Wichita, KS
- ✦ Nov 11-12 Columbus, OH
- ✦ Jun 10-11 Excelsior, MN
- ✦ Jul 29-30 La Crosse, WI
- ✦ Sep 23-24 San Antonio, TX
- ✦ Oct 21-22 Los Angeles, CA

For more information, workshop descriptions, or to register, visit www.elca.org/glocal or call 800-638-3522.



PRAYER CORNER: 1) Pray for Rev. Nengyia Her's health. He was readmitted into the hospital two weeks ago; 2) Give thanks for the productive ALIC gathering last month. 3) Pray for the new ELCA Congregational and Synodical unit, especially for its Executive Director, the Rev. Dr. Stephen Bouman. He will have a hip surgery on April 4th.

Bridge is a monthly E-Newsletter 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. **Editor:** Pongsak Limthongviratn. **Editorial Committee:** Kevin Cho, Gigie Sijera-Grant, Lily R. Wu, and Andrew Yee.