

Bridge

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



We congratulate and welcome two new ordained Asian pastors into our ELCA Asian and Pacific Islander family -- Emily Kung (Irvine, CA) and Hang Mo Son (Federal Way, WA). We anticipate another 6-8 Asians will be ordained by the end of this year. We thank God for constantly proving us leaders for God's ministry in ELCA Asian and Pacific Islander community. God's Work, Our Hands, indeed.

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT – Sharing on Asian Leaders in Ministry Series:



Bathineni, Subbamma Veeravenkata, PhD, (1925–2009), a native of India, was one of the pioneer South Indian Lutheran Christian women theologians. Born into a traditional Hindu family,

she embraced Christianity at the urging of her high school teacher. She had a dilemma about baptism that presupposed rejection of Hindu culture and traditions. She was not convinced that she should give up her cultural heritage. As she grappled with this issue, she found an alternative. She started a separate church for Kamma/Shudra converts and promoted the idea that one did not have to denounce her/his cultural ethos or traditions to embrace Christian faith.

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

AROUND ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY

Esther Prabhakar has resigned as the Vice President of the Association of Asians and Pacific Islanders-ELCA. And at its May conference call, the executive committee of the AAPI-ELCA has appointed Ms. Lily Wu to serve as Vice President with a term to be co-terminus with the President. Lily is a well known leader in the Asian community, her synod and the wider church. She was a staff member of the Metropolitan New York Synod for Asian ministry and support.

Emily Kung was ordained on April 3rd by Bishop Murray Finck of Pacifica Synod. She is assisting her husband, the Rev. Stephen Kung at Grace Lutheran Church, Pacifica Synod.



Emily Kung was ordained by Bishop Murray Finck of Pacifica Synod, ELCA

Hang Mo Son was ordained by Bishop Robert Hobstad of the Southwest Washington Synod, May 13, Rev. Hang Mo Son is the pastor of Light of Grace Korean Church, Federal Way, WA.

STORIES OF ASIAN LUTHERANS

*Editors:
 Paul Rajashekar
 Edmond Yee*

UPDATE ON ALIC BOOK PROJECT: STORIES OF ASIAN LUTHERANS

The book on the stories of Asian Lutherans is coming along very well. As of today we have received 9 of the 16 essays and 77 of the 100 biographies. We expect

to receive the rest soon. The editors have been busy editing as well. We plan to publish the book by the end of the year or early next spring at the latest. We would like to thank the Resource Management Team (RMT) in Multicultural Ministries, Congregational and Synodical Unit of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the AAPI-ELCA for supporting this project and all the writers as well.

The editors

WE AND THE BIBLE: THE ASIAN LUTHERAN WAY

THE 11TH ASSEMBLY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF ASIANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS-ELCA

**APRIL 11-14, 2012
 CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
 MONTEREY PARK, CA**

REGISTRATION WILL BEGIN IN AUGUST

The Stewardship of All Believers



A Lifestyle and Ministry for These Times

Jerry L. Schmalenberger

STEWARDSHIP BOOK IS AVAILABLE IN CHINESE

The Stewardship of All Believers: A Lifestyle and Ministry for These Times by Jerry Schmalenberger is now available in Chinese. Woven throughout the contents

are many poignant stories ending with 35 additional stewardship stories and illustrations. The book is written in simple, understandable language for both laity and clergy. To order, send a \$20 contribution to

Friends of LTS/USA and Canada
 c/o Dr. Jerry L. Schmalenberger
 162 Pelican Loop, Pittsburg, CA 94565

Dr. Jerry L. Schmalenberger was a retired president of PLTS. Currently, he is an ELCA Global Mission Volunteer, serving as affiliated faculty of several seminaries in Asia, such as Lutheran Theological Seminary, Hong Kong; Huria Kristen Batak Protestan Seminary, Indonesia.

ETHNIC CAUCUS'S GATHERINGS

Korean Caucus

June 6-8, Baltimore, DE

Laotian Caucus

August 26 - 27, Dakota City, NE

Chinese Caucus

September 21-24, Monterey Park, CA



2012 MULTICULTURAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP EVENT (MYLE)

July 16-18, 2012

Hurry! The deadline for applying for financial assistance is July 31.

For more information, please contact Kristen Glass, Director for Youth & Young Adult Ministry, CSM unit, ELCA via Tel: 773-380-2295 or E-mail: kristen.glassperez@elca.org.



1) Pray for new ordained pastors: Rev. Emily Kung, Rev. Hang Mo Song; 2) Pray for the Korean Caucus that will meet on June 6-8, in Baltimore, DE.

Bridge is a monthly E-Newsletter jointly published by Association of Asians and Pacific Islanders, ELCA, and Asian and Pacific Islander Ministries Desk, Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, 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.