



Five Smooth Stones

Biblical Themes for Life & Ministry

July 22-27, 2007

Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, Iowa

Purpose



Synod School is a learning and personal enrichment experience for people of all ages. The week is designed for laity and clergy, individuals and families. Classes and activities are available for adults, youth, and children.

Five Smooth Stones: Biblical Themes for Life and Ministry is the theme of Synod School 2007. Come...

- to participate in a unique experience of Christian community as we worship, study, play, and live together;
- to grow in faith through action, relationships, and a centering of the spirit;
- for continuing education, for a special family experience, or for individual growth;
- take it all in, then return home to share and serve.

For additional information contact

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Convocation speaker

We welcome **Carol Bechtel** as convocation speaker in 2007. Carol is Professor of Old Testament at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, MI and author of the 2007-2008 PW Bible Study *Above and Beyond: Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth*.



Before joining Western's faculty in 1994, Carol Bechtel taught at the Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, Virginia. She has also served as a teaching fellow at Yale Divinity School and as interim pastor of Turn of River Presbyterian Church in Stamford, Connecticut. She has written several books, including *Esther: A Commentary for Teaching and Preaching* in the Interpretation series, a new book in the Great Themes of the Bible series, and two devotional collections, *Glimpses of Glory* and *Life After Grace*. Her love for music is evident in two of her Bible study curricula: *Hallelujah! The Bible and Handel's Messiah* and *Sowing Tears, Reaping Joy: The Bible and Brahms' Requiem*. She also wrote a regular bible study column in *Presbyterians Today* for several years.

Says Carol, "*The Bible is more than just a collection of ancient stories about strange people in faraway lands. It is, in a very real sense, our story. Watching students come to that realization is one of the most exciting things about teaching the Bible.*"

About Convocation. David faced Goliath with five smooth stones, a slingshot, and a lot of help from God. As Christians in today's world, we also face challenges of gigantic proportions. We may wonder if we — and the world — will survive them. Yet, God does not send us up against these challenges unprepared. Convocation will highlight five biblical themes — creation, call, health, heaven, and steadfast love — that God gives us to face the days ahead.

Worship leaders

Steve Mathison-Bowie, co-pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Newton, Iowa, will lead Evening Worship, incorporating the theme of the School, “Five Smooth Stones.” Expect to hear many voices leading in worship: men and women, younger and older, polished and rugged.



Steve has led numerous delegations to Nicaragua, Guatemala, and El Salvador to accompany the people of Central America and expose North American Christians to the realities of life there. He’s been in youth ministry for 25 years and chairs the Youth and Camping Task Force of Des Moines Presbytery.

Steve plays guitar, composes, and sings belle canto music and at one time aspired to be the “Best Campfire Guitarist” in the world! Steve led morning worship at the 2006 Synod School.

David and Desirée Stipp-Bethune will lead us in Morning Worship. David is a lifelong Presbyterian who graduated from Union-PSCE in Richmond, Virginia. He has served churches in Nebraska, Arkansas, and is now at Park Avenue Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, Iowa. His wife, Desirée Stipp-Bethune, a lifelong Catholic, has been a research specialist and manager in limnology laboratories, focusing on both floods and water quality. She has also been a pastoral minister for St. Josaphat’s Catholic Church in Loup City, Nebraska. The two met as members of the Sherman County Ministerial Association, and now have two sons, J.R. and Simeon.



Artist in Residence

Simon Levin makes his living as a studio potter. He holds an M.F.A. and M.A. from the University of Iowa and now resides in Wisconsin where he lives, works and plays with his wife Susan and daughters Livya and Ruby. Simon has been wood firing for fifteen years. His work explores function and clay treatment in dialogue with firing technique and surface.

Simon has taught throwing, firing and kiln building workshops for the Archie Bray Foundation, the Dallas Craft Guild, the Northern Clay Center and at several universities. He shows his work nationally in juried and invitational exhibitions and was an invited artist at Arrowmont's Utilitarian Clay conference in 2000 and the Archie Bray's 2001 A Clay Odyssey. His work has been featured in the national juried exhibition Strictly Functional Pottery National consecutively for the past 5 years. Simon's work is held in several public collections. Images of his work have been published in *Contemporary American Ceramics* by Kevin Hluch, *Shawano County at the Dawn of the 21st Century* By Kurt Knoke, *American Craft*, *Ceramics Monthly Studio Potter*, and *Clay Times*.

The Synod School Community Covenant

Synod School is a weeklong experience of intentional community. We gather from across the Synod of Lakes and Prairies and beyond to be together for this week. At the heart of successful community is agreement about how we will live together. The Synod School Committee asks that you join in a covenant for the well being and safety of the whole community. That covenant includes:

- being responsible for and to your family members during the week;
- welcoming other Synod School attendees as part of your extended family for the week — parent, child, grandparent, aunt, uncle... and treating them accordingly;
- exercising courtesy toward everyone, Synod School attendee and Buena Vista staff alike;
- respecting quiet time in the dorms to honor everyone's need for rest;
- leaving at home skateboards, inline skates, and other recreational equipment that would compete with pedestrian use of the sidewalks;
- obeying all laws and all campus and Synod School rules.



Worship and spiritual formation



Whether you're a first timer or longtime attendee, Synod School is an exceptional experience, especially because of the many opportunities it offers for enriching worship and nurturing spiritual practices. Every class or activity offered during the week enriches our faith lives. Some classes and experiences are included especially because they invite us to worship and engage God in ways that may be new to us. All worship experiences are planned to be intergenerational.

Morning worship

Morning Worship is a time when the whole community is invited to gather for prayer, stories, and song as we greet the day and our Creator together. Drawing from the Liturgy of the Hours originating in the fourth century, Morning Worship will utilize the monastic tradition of choral psalmic response, while also listening to voices of missionaries from around the world.

Evening worship

The community gathers for worship each evening after dinner. Other activities are not scheduled during this time so that everyone may participate. Children and youth are encouraged to attend worship and everyone will be invited to participate in a variety of ways. Communion is traditionally celebrated on Thursday evening. A special offering for the Synod School Scholarship Fund is also received in that service.

Spiritual direction

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to meet with a spiritual director? Would you enjoy taking a "long, loving look at the real" with an attentive companion? Would you like some help in weaving together your Synod School experience so that you can discern what the Spirit might be trying to communicate to you during this week?

Experienced Spiritual Directors will be offering free spiritual direction to Synod School participants. Spiritual directors meet with you, in an atmosphere of prayer, to pay attention to the undercurrents of the Spirit in your life. The goal is to become more aware of and responsive to the presence of God in our lives, and to live our lives from that standpoint. Participants can sign up for individual spiritual direction sessions throughout the week or participate in group sessions each evening.

Spirituality center and labyrinth

The small chapel in the basement of the Schaller Memorial Chapel will be set up to accommodate a number of personal spiritual disciplines such as prayer, meditation, reading, etc. We invite anyone looking for a few minutes of quiet “time away” to take advantage of the opportunities the center will provide. Participants from First Presbyterian Church, Grand Forks, ND, will again provide a labyrinth for your personal reflection. A meditative walk through a labyrinth combines the physical and the spiritual.



Schedule of classes

All-day classes

- 01 Newly Ordained Clergy Newcomers Seminar

All-morning classes (9:30-11:45)

- 02 Newly Ordained Clergy Reunion Seminar
- 03 Stained Glass
- 04 Forgiveness: Theological Themes and Psychological Process
- 05 Give Us This Day
- 06 The Red Tent: Literature, History, and Movement

Morning session 1 (9:30-10:30)

- 07 Spiritual Transformation 101
- 08 Obscure but Crucial Characters in the Bible
- 09 Coiled Baskets
- 10 Origami for Fun, Peace and Prosperity
- 11 Finding Meaning from Change: Opening New Windows
- 12 Back Through Time: Genealogy Workshop
- 13 Beyond Beginning Handbells
- 14 Lincoln and King: Prophetic Leadership in American History
- 15 Overcoming Barriers to Grace
- 16 Recurrent Themes in Our Christian Story
- 17 God's Family around the Table
- 18 More than Just Games: A Theology of Play

Morning session 2 (10:45-11:45)

- 19 Spiritual Transformation 201
- 20 Above and Beyond: Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth
- 21 Home Improvement
- 22 Beginning Knitting
- 23 Braiding Wool Rugs – Good for Sole and Soul
- 24 Organized Religion and the Law
- 25 Writing Your Spiritual Autobiography
- 26 Set My Soul Afire IV
- 27 Conversing with Theologians in a World Coming of Age
- 28 Decently and in Order
- 29 Forum on Ethics and Public Policy
- 30 PowerPoint for Beginners
- 31 Generational Thinking and Its Impact on Congregational Life

All-afternoon (2:30-4:45)

- 32 Your Church Family's Emotional System: How to Play Well with Others
- 33 Basic Crochet in a Spiritual Setting
- 34 A Journey in Clay
- 35 God at the Box Office
- 36 Living the Questions
- 37 Presbytery Transformation Network Training

Afternoon session 1 (2:30-3:30)

- 38 Ultimate Sports I
- 39 Bad Girls of the Bible
- 40 Kite Making 101
- 41 Coiled Baskets
- 42 Scrapbooking Your Church's History
- 43 Visual Spirituality – Exploring the Intersections of Image, Imagination, and Inspiration
- 44 Understanding Reformed Theology
- 45 Acoustic Sounds
- 46 CSI: Fact and Fiction
- 47 Advanced PowerPoint
- 48 Mental Illness: What Is the Church's Response?
- 49 Being Community in an Individualistic World: The Rituals of Simplicity, Hospitality, and Forgiveness

Afternoon session 2 (3:45-4:45)

- 50 Yoga and Pilates: Vacation Style
- 51 Ultimate Sports II
- 52 "An Orderly Account": Reading Luke's Gospel Together
- 53 Beginning Baskets
- 54 Tie-Dyeing: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know!
- 55 Advanced Handbells
- 56 If I'm Getting a Good Night's Sleep, Why Do I Need Sabbath Rest?
- 57 Distinctly Presbyterian
- 58 Meltdown in *The Crucible*: Issues of Power, Faith and Authority from Salem Village to the Global Village
- 59 Understanding the Mass Media
- 60 Hello, Hola, Bienvenido, Bon Dia! Welcome to International Presbytery to Presbytery Partnerships
- 61 "All You Need Is Love!" and Other Clichés about Marriage (or All You Need Is Love!!)
- 62 To Bind Up the Brokenhearted: Starting a Grief Support Ministry

Course descriptions

All-day classes

01 Newly Ordained Clergy Newcomers Seminar

Clergy ordained since January 2004, who have not previously attended, are invited to begin their Newly Ordained Clergy Seminars experience with this seminar.

Val Putnam

Pastor, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Sioux Falls, SD

Steve Shive

Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Fargo, ND

All-morning classes

02 Newly Ordained Clergy Reunion Seminar

Clergy who participated in the 2006 newcomer's seminar are invited to renew connections and build skills.

Steve Plank

Pastor, Central Presbyterian Church, Omaha, NE

Deborah Boucher-Payne

Chaplain, Nebraska Medical Center and Parish Associate,

Central Presbyterian Church, Omaha, NE

03 Stained Glass

This course will be a brief introduction to stained glass crafting using the copper foil technique. You will learn to use glass cutters, grinders, soldering irons and other glass crafting tools. You will attach hanging hardware so the pieces you make this week will be ready for use. We will talk about shop safety and how to set up a home space for glass crafting. Each student will receive a good glass cutter and a pamphlet of tips, hints, recipes and sources. Most glass, use of all tools, and other materials are also covered in the materials fee of \$25. Additional special glass will be available for purchase. Enrollment limited to 15 students.

Mary Bird Lowry

Stained Glass Artist, Huntingburg, IN

04 Forgiveness: Theological Themes and Psychological Process

This course will provide clergy and lay people the opportunity to reflect on the concept of forgiveness. Forgiveness is both a theological concept and a psychological process. Participants will learn about new research into the psychology of forgiveness and explore the process of forgiveness. We will look at a variety of conceptions of forgiveness, obstacles to forgiveness, and how the process of coming to forgiveness occurs for many people. The format will include brief presentations, reflective exercises, and discussion of case presentations. By the end of the course, participants will have learned a dynamic process for understanding forgiveness in their lives.

*John Henrich
Licensed Staff Psychologist, North Central Ministry
Development Center, New Brighton, MN*

05 Give Us This Day

A fresh look at loving and living the Lord's Prayer. This class will examine the traditional ways Christians have prayed and explore how the Lord's prayer has been used (dare we say domesticated) throughout our history. Through a careful re-reading of the original intention of the Jesus prayer (found in Matthew and Luke), we'll test out a new way of embodying this prayer. You can count on some bread making, some bible work, some role playing, some time to reflect, some fun and some ideas that will stretch your imagination.

*Chris Levan
Pastor, Wilmot United Church, Fredericton, New Brunswick*

06 The Red Tent: Literature, History, and Movement

A course for women, the class will center around, and draw inspiration from, the novel, *The Red Tent*, by Anita Diamont, and the story in Genesis it is based on. Through discussion, participatory tribal dance, and, possibly, food, we will look at both the women of Dinah's time, and the 21st century women of the Middle East.

We will learn some Middle Eastern movement (tribal belly dance) that women have come together for over 4000 years to dance, in celebration, worship, and friendship. Class members are expected to have read *The Red Tent*. Each person should bring a hip scarf or fringed shawl, and one skein of yarn (any color or colors). We will make tassels from the yarn for a tribal hip garment.

Della Bynum

Della has taught dance for 33 years, has traveled for study across the United States and Middle East and lives in Omaha, NE

Becky Swartz-Brown

Former English and literature teacher turned chef, Omaha, NE

Morning session 1 classes

07 Spiritual Transformation 101: "In the heart of God we really are." (John Calvin)

Calvin's Piety: God's love that changes our living daily. We will read Calvin anew as we learn our best way of receiving God's heart of love, grace, compassion, daily. A little theology, learning old/new spiritual practices that fit us, now. How to do this at work, in family, at church.

John Ackerman

Author, teacher, spiritual director, and former pastor of Bryn Mawr and Westminster Presbyterian churches, Minneapolis, MN

David Butler

*Pastor, United Presbyterian Church of Rice Lake, WI
Editorial cartoonist, "R.L. Chronotype"*

08 Obscure but Crucial Characters in the Bible

A few years ago, millions of people became acquainted with "Jabez" in Bruce Wilkinson's *The Prayer of Jabez*. Regardless of whether you liked or disliked the book, it drew attention to the value of studying important contributions made by little-known and sometimes unnamed biblical figures. Who are some of these people, and what do they have to offer us as we contemplate our present-day faith journeys? Come and find out!

Scott Nesbitt

Pastor, Ainsworth Community Church, Ainsworth, IA

09 Coiled Baskets

Coiling is a basketmaking technique different from plaiting. A bundle of fibers is spiraled around itself and then stitched together. We will be using plant materials gathered from the Midwest environment (catalpa pods, iris and daylily leaves, prairie grasses, etc.). A materials fee of about \$10.00 will be collected in class. Registration is limited to 12 students.

*Sandy Maxa
Basketmaker and dental assistant, Lenox, IA*

10 Origami for Fun, Peace and Prophecy

Origami, the ancient art of paper folding (and unfolding!), can be a handy, cost effect way to engage small hands in fun creations; large hands in meditative exercise, or busy hands in teaching and proclaiming a message. A little Kirigami (paper cutting) will add spice to the whole!

*Cindy Wray and Diane Wray Williams
Multi-talented artists, Moorhead, MN*

11 Finding Meaning from Change: Opening New Windows

The only constant in our lives is change and how it transforms us. Transitions alter our roles, relationships, routines, and assumptions. Changes we may experience are births, illness, marriage, job change, divorce, moving, loss of loved ones, caregiving, or aging parents. Reactions, grief cycle, support systems, coping skills, and new meanings will be discussed. Life is 10% what happens and 90% how we react to it. The ways in which we respond and support our family, friends and faith communities during change will also be addressed.

*Roger and Marian Michael
Retired educators and elders at Valley Community Presbyterian Church,
Golden Valley, MN*

12 Back Through Time: Genealogy Workshop

This workshop is designed for us amateur genealogists to collaboratively share our successes, frustrations, and tips with each other. The workshop is “hands-on,” using the internet and Buena Vista’s Computer Labs to go on-line. Familiarity with personal computers and searching the internet is important. Bring some family records and let’s have fun! Registration limited to 20 students.

Jim Carter

IT consultant and amateur genealogist, Savage, MN

13 Beyond Beginning Handbells

Join in “ringing praise” with handbell music selected for use in worship services throughout the church year. The class is designed for those wanting to sharpen and expand their handbell ringing skills. (If you have only played at Synod School, that is experience enough!) Participants will play in one position (same bells) during the week. Music will include levels 1, 2, and some level 3 with emphasis on playing musically and with sensitivity as to how the pieces can be used in a worship setting. Registration limited to 14 ringers.

Nancy Carter

*Director of Handbell Choirs, Westminster Presbyterian Church,
Minneapolis, MN*

14 Lincoln and King: Prophetic Leadership in American History

Roughly a century apart, Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King, Jr. both assumed the burdens of leadership during violently divisive national crises: the Civil War and the civil rights movement. In this course, we will look at some of the ways faith and theology informed the conscience of each man and influenced what he said and did as leader at a critical moment in our history.

Burns Stanfield

Pastor, Fourth Presbyterian Church, Boston, MA

Scott Stanfield

Professor, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, NE

15 Overcoming Barriers to Grace

What does it take to get to the block party God is throwing in front of your house when you may be groping in your dark basement, or unable to climb the stairs, or too burdened to even want to go, or not knowing what to bring, or just afraid to go and mix? Using skits, scripture, and personal experience and observation, we will grapple with grace in the law, judgment, belief, and issues of conformity.

Mel Roblee

"Retired" pastor having served five churches as interim in the Des Moines Presbytery where he also teaches and is chaplain at a retirement community

16 Recurrent Themes in Our Christian Story

As our Christian story unfolds from earliest times, certain themes are repeated in each age. The themes are the sharing, preserving, and refining of our faith. In this class we will explore how these themes present themselves in the early church, the medieval church, the reformation church and the contemporary church. Being in touch with these themes reminds us that our faith is a living faith, vibrant in every age. We are part of a community of faith that spans the centuries, and it is exciting and inspiring to hear stories about the church's vitality for survival and renewal. As we share these stories, we will appreciate again how our faith has been handed on from generation to generation until, at least, it has become our faith.

Ronald L. Bump

Pastor Emeritus, Southern Heights Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, NE

17 God's Family Around the Table

Parents, lay leaders, educators and pastors know that the sacraments are central to our understanding of Jesus Christ in the Word enacted and sealed. But how do we teach our children and youth how the early church, following Jesus, took three primary material elements of life — water, bread and wine — to become basis symbols of offering life to God as Jesus had offered his life? Participants will explore the sacraments through a child's

eyes, grasp at the ordinary to extraordinary, celebrate being God's family around the table, and return home with a dynamic hands-on teaching resource for families preparing to participate in the Sacraments with their children. A \$2.50 materials fee will be collected in class.

*Ann Sukraw-Lutz
Church educator for 25 years, Grand Island, NE
She has taught the "God's Family Around the Table"
class each Lenten Season*

18 More than Just Games: A Theology of Play

If "the chief end of humanity is to glorify God and enjoy God forever," why is it sometimes hard for church folks to have fun together? This "theology of play" course will ground theology into good recreation and make the case for having fun together as a bridge into the possibilities of new friendships, new community, new ways to explore one's faith, and to experience the joy of being a part of the body of Christ. You'll end the week with a gob of ideas and confidence leading recreation. Come prepared to play!

*Graham Giles
Educator, Clive, IA
Martie Larsen
Campus Minister, Collegiate Presbyterian Church, Ames, IA*

Morning session 2 classes

19 Spiritual Transformation 201: "...to glorify God and enjoy God forever" (Westminster Shorter Catechism)

"Christians should *look* more redeemed." We'll put together a little Reformed Theology, daily spiritual practice for leaders, and suggestions for helping your congregation be open to God's personal, congregational and society transforming love.

*John Ackerman
Author, teacher, spiritual director, and former pastor of
Bryn Mawr and Westminster Presbyterian churches, Minneapolis, MN
David Butler
Pastor, United Presbyterian Church of Rice Lake, WI
Editorial cartoonist, "R.L. Chronotype"*

20 Above and Beyond: Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth

The Horizon's Bible Study for 2007-2008 was written by convocation speaker Carol Bechtel. This class will hit the highlights of that study and suggest strategies for leading it effectively in congregations. The workshop is appropriate for all who are interested in these two beloved books of the Bible. Come read Jonah and Ruth for all they're worth!

Carol Bechtel

Professor of Old Testament, Western Theological Seminary, Holland, MI

21 Home Improvement

Where do I start? What materials do I need? Where should I go for my supplies and materials? What tools do I need? Is it hard to install Crown molding? Is it easy to tile a shower? *How do I know if I am over my head?!* From basic projects to new construction, bring your questions and we will do our best to answer them as we discuss home repair, building, remodeling, tools, and techniques. Whether you're a novice with a hammer or have a life time of experience in the trades, come and join us as we all learn the basics of home improvement together.

Scott Valentine

In the trades for over 20 years, Des Moines, IA

22 Beginning Knitting

The new knitters will learn basic knitting techniques using the Continental style of knitting: cast on, knit and purl stitches, decreases and bind off. The projects will be a hat or scarf suitable for charity or gift giving. No previous knitting knowledge is necessary. Knitters are asked to bring a pair of size 7 (4.5 mm) straight or 24" circular needles. Instructor will provide yarn and handouts. Registration limited to 8 students.

Lynn Miller

A knitter almost non-stop for the past 20 years, St. Cloud, MN

23 Braiding Wool Rugs – Good for Sole and Soul

Come put your hands to work creating something great under foot! You'll learn how to braid and assemble a wool rug using recycled wool garments. You can choose wool from your own old clothes or select from what the instructor brings to share. A list of equipment you should bring and how to prepare your wool fabric will be sent to those registering for the class. A \$10 materials fee will be collected in class. Registration limited to 15 students.

Nelva Dykema

Fourth generation of braided rug crafters, Altoona, WI

24 Organized Religion and the Law

Separation of church and state is an established principal of American Constitutional Law that protects religious belief, but the organizational structures created to administer those beliefs operate within state and federal legal systems. What are the critical legal issues facing churches and denominations today and how do courts adjudicate over religious institutions? In this course, we will examine specific areas of the law that significantly impact the life of religious organizations, such as tax exempt status, real property, employment, and intellectual property and consider the statutes, regulations, and judicial decisions that shape the law. We hope participants will take advantage of this opportunity to engage in a lively discussion of legal issues and also learn to spot potential legal issues before winding up in court. And it will be more fun than having to go to law school!

Mac Stanfield

Attorney, Des Moines, IA

Darca Boom

Attorney, Des Moines, IA

25 Writing Your Spiritual Autobiography

Together we will walk through the process of creating a timeline, charting significant events and people, and beginning to fill in important, critical incidents in our spiritual journey. Great for those who are trying to see where God has brought them so as to get a sense of where God may want to take them. Also great for those who desire to pass along the great things God has done in their life. Long or short, detailed or outlined — remembering our stories can be a spiritual discipline.

Jim Daniels

Pastor, First Reformed Church, Orange City, IA

26 Set My Soul Afire IV

The *African American Heritage Hymnal* is a diverse collection of hymns. It is a compilation of some of the very best hymns in American Protestantism. This “singing” class will concentrate on traditional and gospel hymns. Scripture passages and Max Lucado’s inspirational metaphors, relevant to the hymns, will be shared. We will sing, sing, sing and set our souls afire!

Sue Barnes

Church musician, Omaha, NE

Jean Herold

Church musician, Omaha, NE

27 Conversing with Theologians in a World Coming of Age

Have you ever wanted to know a theologian over a cup of coffee or a beer and ask if their theology makes or made a difference in the world we live? Then this class has been designed with you in mind. The class will explore the making of the modern movement in theology. How does each theologian deal with their context in a world coming of age? The theologians that we will be conversing with over a broad range of issues will be Paul Tillich, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a feminist theologian yet to be named, and Cornel West.

Brent O. Johnston

Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, NE

28 Decently and In Order

To some, the Presbyterian Book of Order is a helpful resource in the work of the church while to others it seems nothing more than a hindrance to be ignored whenever possible. Why are we sometimes so uncomfortable with what seems to be an endless set of rules and regulations? Through case studies and personal experiences, we will work our way through this book seeking a new understanding of its purpose and organization. This primarily interactive course attempts to guide participants to a joyful appreciation of this important resource for members of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

*Karen Houtman
CLP and former stated clerk, Canby, MN*

29 Forum on Ethics and Public Policy

Using Walter Brueggemann's presentation to the Wisconsin Council of Churches, we will explore our current problematic context (churches in society, US in the world) and how much need we have for space between the Gospel and our sense of American exceptionalism. Additionally, we will explore biblical resources for God's wisdom, restoration and good news to address our culture. How does God's reign speak to empire? What does Eucharist say about torture? How do we square our sense of being exceptions to the rule with our understanding of the body of Christ?

*Susan Phillips
Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Shawano, WI*

30 PowerPoint for Beginners

This course is designed for the individual who has little or no experience using the Microsoft Office PowerPoint 2003 software program. The course will help you develop skills to create, edit, format, and manage basic presentations. It will include hands-on computer time to fine tune the skills learned in class. Optional: Bring a presentation to work on or bring a few digital photos on a disk to insert into a presentation. Registration limited to 20 students.

*Kim Coulter
Director of Communications, Presbytery of Des Moines*

31 Generational Thinking and Its Impact on Congregational Life

What might it mean if “young families” that most churches seek to attract actually started to come? What conflict might emerge? How do the differences in generations impact the life of the congregation in terms of stewardship, worship, meetings, membership and more? In this course we will seek an understanding of generational theory, begin to see its applications in our own congregation and explore the implications for leadership.

*Deb DeMeester
Associate Executive Presbyter, Twin Cities Area Presbytery,
Minneapolis, MN*

All-afternoon classes (2:30-4:45)

32 Your Church Family's Emotional System: How to Play Well with Others

This course will examine congregational life from the perspective of family systems thinking and explore the impact of anxiety in the life of a congregation. How does anxiety in a system affect collegiality among staff and parishioners? What dynamics operate to produce conflict and secrets in a church system? How does a church (and church members) handle bullies, antagonists, troublemakers, and “alligators” in a system? The format will include presentations on family systems theory as applied to church life, and a discussion of case studies and group discussion of collegiality in church life. By the end of the course, participants will come away with a theoretical and practical framework for understanding conflict and collegiality in their congregation.

*John Henrich
Licensed Staff Psychologist, North Central Ministry Development Center,
New Brighton, MN*

33 Basic Crochet in a Spiritual Setting

Have you wanted to learn to crochet but thought you couldn't learn or didn't have the time. Do you need some time of spiritual renewal. Both of these elements will be combined in this class of basic crochet. This is a class for those who don't know any crochet

but would like to learn. In the class you will learn the simple basic stitches of crochet and will practice them by making some simple items. You will learn how to read simple patterns. All of this will be done with contemplative music playing, and candles glowing. We will also learn how prayer and crochet can go hand in hand. Both women and men will enjoy learning basic crochet in a spiritual setting. Registration is limited to 15 students.

*Susan Tomlinson
Pastor, New London Presbyterian Church, New London, IA*

34 A Journey In Clay

Clay is elemental, it speaks about time and processes that precede and will out last people's presence here on earth. Clay is the stuff of creation. Come and join our class as we glimpse and partake in the processes of clay. We will dig our own clay, mold it, shape it and fire it, focusing on the journey of earth to vessel. This class will not focus on the end product. A willingness to take risks is essential and sometimes creation can be difficult. The work for this class will be physical but not strenuous. Bring a spirit of curiosity. Registration limited to 15 students.

*Simon Levin
Studio potter and Synod School Artist-in-Residence, Gresham, WI*

35 God at the Box Office

We learn, nurture, communicate and celebrate our faith in a variety of ways, including through movies. This daily two-hour course welcomes everyone for viewing and in-class discussion of how a movie a day portrays God and our relationship to matters of faith. For grades 9 to 99.

*Bill Humphreys
Chaplain, Carroll College, Waukesha, Wisc.*

36 Living the Questions

Do you have questions about faith? If so, you are not alone. How can the Christian faith be lively and speak to people in the 21st century? We will explore questions and share insights as part of reforming our faith for a new age. We will use a video resource,

Living the Questions, which features comments by Marcus Borg, John Shelby Spong, Minerva Carcaño, Emilie Townes, and many other progressive thinkers. Some of the topics for conversation are Creativity and stories of creation; Evil, suffering, and a God of love; Social justice; and Compassion: the heart of Jesus' ministry. If you are open to new ways of thinking about the faith, this discussion may be for you.

Dick and Evelyn Headen
Dick is a retired pastor and Evelyn an elder and educator.
They live in Plymouth, MN

37 Presbytery Transformation Network Training

Those who have been designated by their presbyteries to be part of the Network Disciples initiative are invited to participate in this training which will include an introduction to the purpose of this network and skills necessary for facilitating the organization of a presbytery-wide network of congregational leaders involved in transformation.

Steve Boots
Consultant for Congregational Development, Madison Lake, MN
Diana Barber
Associate Synod Executive for Leadership Development,
Synod of Lakes and Prairies, Eagan, MN

Afternoon session 1 classes (2:30-3:30)

38 Ultimate Sports

This class is for those who like to have fun and get exercise by participating in competitive sports. Friendly competition will be waged in Ultimate Frisbee, soccer, volleyball and basketball — each day will feature a different sport. It doesn't matter how talented you are, but be prepared to get a workout! Teens and adults welcome!

Tim Maxa
Pastor, United Presbyterian Church, Lenox, IA
and Sharpsburg Presbyterian Church, Sharpsburg, IA

39 **Bad Girls of the Bible**

Ever wondered about those Bad Girls of the Bible? Join Heidi to explore interesting women in the Old and New Testaments, from Eve chatting with the serpent to the prostitute Rahab rescuing Joshua from the Canaanites, from Rachel outwitting her dad by claiming she had her period to the promiscuous woman at the well and the apostle Mary Magdalene, we will examine these so-called “bad girls.” Their pluck, courage and independence earned them society’s disapproval — but are they really so bad? Or can their courage and creativity inspire us to greater risk, greater faithfulness ourselves?

Heidi Vardeman

Pastor, Macalester-Plymouth Church, St. Paul, MN

40 **Kite Making 101**

In this class we will make two and perhaps three kites. One will be an indoor kite and one will be an outdoor high flyer. No experience is necessary. All materials will be furnished. We will use tape, glue, markers and paints. Registration is limited to 15 students.

Ed Gryz

*Active member of American Kite Flyers Association
and the Wisconsin Kites, Shawano, WI*

41 **Coiled Baskets**

Coiling is a basketmaking technique different from plaiting. A bundle of fibers is spiraled around itself and then stitched together. We will be using plant materials gathered from the Midwest environment (catalpa pods, iris and daylily leaves, prairie grasses, etc.). A materials fee of about \$10.00 will be collected in class. Registration is limited to 12 students. Everyone is welcome!

Sandy Maxa

Basketmaker and dental assistant, Lenox, IA

42 Scrapbooking Your Church's History

Do your church a favor! Capture its rich history with an accurate record of important events. Preserve this safely in a beautiful scrapbook. Some research, photo gathering, and organization will be necessary before arriving at Synod School. The class is open to beginners and experienced scrapbookers. A list of basic supplies that you should bring from home will be sent prior to class. A starter kit of paper will be included in the materials fee of \$15. Registration is limited to 15 students.

*Lori Amlee
Avid scrapbooker, Omaha, NE*

43 Visual Spirituality – Exploring the Intersections of Image, Imagination, and Inspiration

How does what we see influence prayer and worship? How can we learn to see with new eyes signs of God's activity in our lives? We will look at traditional uses of images such as illuminated manuscripts, icons, prayer scrolls, and stained glass; engage in creative responses to nature and the visual arts; and consider visual possibilities for a worship environment. The course will include exercises in various forms of prayer and creativity. Access to a digital camera during the week is encouraged but not required.

*Cathy Chisolm
Writer, photographer, and minister
member-at-large of Winnebago Presbytery*

44 Understanding Reformed Theology

If you took a confirmation class, but it was so long ago that you've forgotten some of the details... or if you aren't sure you really know what "Reformed Theology" is... or if you feel you just need a refresher course — this class may be for you. Come, learn the basics of Reformed Theology and ponder its significance for Presbyterians in the 21st century.

*Scott Nesbitt
Pastor, Ainsworth Community Church, Ainsworth, IA*

45 Acoustic Sounds

Acoustic Sounds offers music lovers and musicians an opportunity to join in an acoustic “Song Circle.” Share folk songs, pop music, blues, spiritual music — whatever you like! Whether you’re an accomplished performer or a beginner, all are welcome to join in. Bring along your guitar, banjo, mandolin or whatever instrument you play to add to the fun. Singers are also welcome!

Jerome Brich

Veteran of numerous bands and host of the FolkHouse Concert Series in Omaha, NE

46 CSI: Fact and Fiction

Crime scene investigation has captured the public by storm mostly as a result of the extraordinary success of the popular TV series CSI. One sees amazing technology portrayed on TV. How much of this technology actually exists? What is real and what is Hollywood will be one of the major themes discussed in this course. The basics of DNA and the forensic autopsy will be some of the topics presented that should provide educational examples of forensic science technique. There also will be a discussion of the “safe guards” in place in the scientific community and the courts that are intended to keep the forensic scientist honest. At the end of the course students will participate in a mini mock scene to try out their forensic skills.

Dennis Klein

Deputy State Medical Examiner, Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner, Des Moines, IA

47 Advanced PowerPoint

Come learn *more* about PowerPoint — part instruction, part discussion. Topics covered: master slides, movies and sounds, linking files, hiding slides, and pack and go. Bring movies, sound clips or photos you’d like to include in your presentation. Come prepared to share your resource tips. This class is for those who have taken Intro. to PowerPoint or have a good understanding of the basics. Registration is limited to 20 students.

Shauna Seaman

Part-time computer trainer/web designer and full-time mom, Omaha, NE

48 Mental Illness: What is the Church's Response?

Group members will use the study guide, *Serious Mental Illness: Seeking a Comprehensive Christian Response*, as we explore these issues: 1) What is serious mental illness? 2) What attitudes about mental illness prevail in the church and in society? 3) What are some Biblical and theological perspectives on mental illness? 4) What is the church's ministry with persons who have mental illness and their families?

Bebe Baldwin

Retired pastor and moderator of the Task Force on Disabilities of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area and member of the leadership team for Presbyterians for Disability Concerns of PHEWA, Minneapolis, MN

49 Being Community in an Individualistic World: The Rituals of Simplicity, Hospitality, and Forgiveness

Come explore the meaning of community for congregations in their particular contexts. We will discuss the difficulties of building community in our churches with our understanding of humans as isolated individuals and explore the biblical image of humans as relational creatures created for community. Group discussions, video presentations, and readings will focus on the particular questions of class, race, and gender in community building. The Christian rituals of simplicity, hospitality, and forgiveness will be highlighted shaping our sense of community as congregations and part of a larger public.

Alex Thornburg

Pastor, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Madison, WI

Afternoon session 2 classes (3:45-4:45)

50 Yoga and Pilates: Vacation Style

Let's take the time to reconnect with our bodies with a gentle approach to stretching and strength training. Students will need to bring a yoga mat to class and dress for easy movement. Registration is limited to 15 students.

Jodi Stanfield

Yoga enthusiast and certified Pilates instructor, Des Moines, IA

51 Ultimate Sports

This class is for those who like to have fun and get exercise by participating in competitive sports. Friendly competition will be waged in Ultimate Frisbee, Soccer, Volleyball and basketball — each day will feature a different sport. It doesn't matter how talented you are, but be prepared to get a workout! Teens and adults welcome!

*Tim Maxa
Pastor, United Presbyterian Church, Lenox and Sharpsburg
Presbyterian Church, Sharpsburg, IA*

52 “An Orderly Account”: Reading Luke’s Gospel Together

How does Luke’s ideal of an “orderly narration” (Luke 1:1-4) help us more clearly understand his gospel of God’s faithfulness? We will look at major episodes from the gospel with an eye out for patterns, character development, and major themes. We will turn to some artistic representations of Luke’s stories that offer us additional interpretations. Our big question will be, How does Luke’s gospel shape Christian lives?

*Sarah Henrich
Professor of New Testament, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN*

53 Beginning Baskets

This year we will be making a woven tray basket. Use it to hold letters, serve dinner rolls, or endless other possibilities. When your guests compliment it, you can proudly say, “I made it.” All skill levels are welcome. A materials fee of \$5 will be collected in class. Registration is limited to 15 students.

*Carol Ferrell and Jennifer Giles
Basketmakers and students of Sandy Maxa, Clive, IA*

54 Tie-Dyeing: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know!

Have you been wondering how to bring the fun of Tie-Dye to your church group or activity? This class will give you all the information you need to do this fun art process — whether for yourself or as an event for all ages. We'll cover it all — from what supplies you need, where to get them, techniques for creating particular designs, easy set-up and clean-up, washing, safety, and more! The secrets of intensely colorful, non-fading tie dye effects will be revealed! We'll try out some "advanced" techniques such as stitching, resists, and dye painting. There will be an emphasis on how to efficiently do group events, and some hands-on practice as helpers for the annual Synod School Tie-Dye extravaganza during the evening mini-course time. There aren't many art projects that have such a satisfying end product and so many thrilled participants! A materials fee of \$7 will be collected in class. Registration limited to 20 students.

Sue Rutford

Elder, mom, and research analyst, White Bear Lake, MN

Sue has been creating and teaching tie-dye and other surface design techniques around the Twin Cities (and at Synod School) for years.

55 Advanced Handbells

Join in making more than a "joyful noise" on 5 octaves of handbells and 5 octaves of choir chimes. The class is designed for ringers who are able to play level 3 music. Emphasis will be on playing musically a wide variety of handbell pieces suitable for use in worship. The opportunity to shelly ring, four-in-hand ring and to try playing different bell assignments will also be offered. Players are encouraged (not required!) to bring a favorite piece to be used during a time of sight reading bell music. Registration limited to 14 ringers.

Nancy Carter

*Director of Handbell Choirs, Westminster Presbyterian Church,
Minneapolis, MN*

56 If I'm Getting a Good Night's Sleep, Why Do I Need Sabbath Rest?

Do you ever stop and ask yourself (your friend, partner, pastor) how you're doing at keeping the fourth commandment? This commandment tends to fall off our faith radar screen in this hectic, fast-paced world. In a similar way, we can also feel pushed not to include Sabbath rest in our routine simply because we do live in a hectic, fast-paced world and we can't afford to waste the time on such frivolity. And yet, it is something we are called to incorporate into our faith journey. What exactly is Sabbath? How do we observe it in our weekly routine? Why should we? This course will look at the Jewish and Christian perspectives on Sabbath, including voices of theologians and laity, and also at practical ways to think about incorporating the gift of Sabbath rest into your life.

Jennifer Walker-Noyes

Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Ackley, IA

57 Distinctly Presbyterian

"So what" in a time when loyalties to a particular denomination are greatly diminished, or non-existent? Our purpose will be to explore the foundational principles of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to determine whether or not they offer value to our faith communities. Could it be worthwhile for ministers, elders, deacons and members to be able to articulate and celebrate those matters distinctly Presbyterian? Or, is it simply a matter of liking your pastor, or the community of folks who gather with you for worship? Are we missing out on something that can make a real difference to us as Presbyterians in ministry and mission, even help us to grow as churches? We will consider the possibility that too quickly we may have abandoned the entire denominational field, forgetting that somewhere within was a buried treasure. We will draw on the knowledge and experience we bring to the class, as well as some written resources, such as our Constitution.

Phil Brown

Synod Executive, Synod of Lakes and Prairies, Eagan, MN

58 **Meltdown in *The Crucible*: Issues of Power, Faith and Authority from Salem Village to the Global Village**

Witches and bothersome issues that “go bump in the night” have served as lightening rods for the dissolution of covenantal society, or as a platform for passionate politics or unreasonable grabs at power. The class will read aloud most of the play, *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller, explore a bit of Puritan Culture, McCarthyism and the red scare...and other relevant contemporary issues. Come prepared “to bump into” some new ideas as we challenge life through literature.

Laura Loving

A UCC pastor, Laura's current calling is the vocation of teaching. She teaches English to 9th and 11th graders in Milwaukee, WI

59 **Understanding the Mass Media**

A five-day look at the mass media — why we may dislike it so, but why it works the way it does. The course provides an overview of mass communications from Gutenberg to Google. It will concentrate on the mass media in the United States and will include the hands-on publication of a Synod School summary. Similar to a newspaper editor's challenge, we will attempt to condense a week's worth of worship, fellowship, learning and most importantly fun into a few sheets of paper. Registration is limited to 20 students.

Duane Sweep

Associate for Communications, Synod of Lakes and Prairies, Eagan, MN

60 **Hello, Hola, Bienvenido, Bon Dia – Welcome to International Presbytery to Presbytery Partnerships**

A presbytery to presbytery partnership is reaching beyond our comfort zone, reaching out in God's love to dedicated Christians around the world. Sharon and Lucy will share their experience in creating and maintaining international partnerships between presbyteries. This class will be a dialogue and not a lecture; so please bring items or ideas to share or come ready to learn. All experiences are open for discussion. This class is for those who are experienced in international partnerships, those who want to learn

more, and for those who are beginning to think about establishing a partnership and need to know where to start. Registration is limited to 15 students.

Sharon Johnson

*Executive Presbyter, Northern Waters Presbytery, Superior, WI
Northern Waters has a partnership with the Reformed Church in Portugal*

Lucy Rupe

*Executive Presbyter, Winnebago Presbytery, Appleton, WI
Winnebago has a partnership with Uraba Presbytery in northwest Colombia*

61 “All You Need Is Love!” and Other Clichés about Marriage (or All You Need Is Love!!)

This course is not meant to be an “I’ve got a secret concerning creating a vital marriage and now I’m willing to share it” event. Rather an arena in which participants will be able to share insights, and concerns about preparing for, maintaining, and enjoying a rich marital relationship. You may discover resources previously overlooked. Newly wed, empty nester, or mastering the sandwich years, join in. You just may “Live happily ever after.”

Richard (Dick) Massaro

Retired pastor who has served churches in Elmhurst, IL, Milwaukee, WI, and Grand Rapids, MN and as Executive Presbyter in Prospect Hill Presbytery

62 To Bind Up the Brokenhearted: Starting a Grief Support Ministry

At the heart of Christian theology is the Resurrection, the message of new life conquering death and hope rising from despair. This is the same journey that people who are grieving find themselves on as they learn to live with the reality that their loved one has died. The church community may be a powerful source of support and healing for those who are grieving. This course will provide knowledge about grief and some basic skills for those who are interested in making grief support an intentional ministry in their congregation. Ways to begin such a ministry so that the participants may choose the “right fit” for their church will be offered.

Traci Houts

Hospital chaplain, grief support group facilitator, Milwaukee, WI

Art Share

During the afternoon break, Art Share offers everyone the opportunity to create a special Synod School memory. Diane Wray Williams and Cindy Wray coordinate the activities which include silk screening a t-shirt or tote bag. Other Synod School artists take turns during the week offering rubber stamping, needle arts, tie-dyeing, beading, and other mini-projects led by the arts and crafts teaching staff. You can bring something you already have to embellish or purchase a kit, t-shirt or tote bag for a project.

Evening activities

After evening worship, the following learning and fellowship opportunities are available. Pick and choose at your own pace.

Hymn sing

As a prelude to worship and orientation on Sunday evening everyone is invited to join in a hymn sing. Led by our worship leaders, we'll have a chance to sing the old favorites and some new ones, too, to warm up our vocal chords for the week ahead.

Mini-courses

On Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings, you can spend an hour in a one time only session addressing a wide range of topics. These require no advance registration. One of these will be a time to continue discussion begun each morning with convocation speaker Carol Bechtel. Each evening's additional offerings will be posted daily before lunch. On Wednesday, an all school dance will feature *Stan Galli and Stuff* from Omaha.

Coffee House

Visit over refreshments at the Coffee House every evening after mini-courses. Live music will be provided each evening. Watch the announcements during the week for the schedule.

Saints-a-Marchin' Sing-along

Join the saints in a marchin', singin', whole-body musical end to each day of Synod School. Families with young children will especially enjoy Saints-a-Marchin' which starts right after evening worship. This 30-45 minute time of singing, clapping, and movement for all ages includes old favorites, camp songs, and new music.

Tie Dyeing, Games and More

On Monday and Tuesday evening, join the Synod School tie-dye craze. Bring a 100% cotton article of clothing or other item to dye or plan to purchase a t-shirt or tote bag at the School.

Games and other activities are also always welcome on any night. If you'd like to organize an event for an evening, contact a committee member. Expect to be able to experience "Norwegian Softball" one evening. Watch the announcements during the week!



Children and youth programming



Programming for children and youth is based on the grades they will **enter** in August or September. All young people, including those entering grade 12, must have a parent or an adult sponsor at the school. Those who have completed grade 12 should register as adults. Because the Synod of Lakes and Prairies values and encourages family participation, the synod subsidizes part of the cost for all children from birth through those entering grade 6.

Age group coordinators plan the programs and a dedicated faculty is recruited to lead the children and youth programs at Synod School.

- Infant/toddler Program Coordinator: Carol Sanderhoff
- Pre-school Program Coordinator: Carol Rudesill
- Elementary Program Coordinators: Laura Wondra
- Junior High Youth Program Coordinator: Nancy Ross-Hullinger
- Senior High Program Coordinator: Mark Davis

Children's Program

Children (infants through 6th grade) participate in carefully planned programs appropriate for each age group during convocation and the four scheduled class periods. Parents are responsible for their children during free time and evening sessions or must arrange for childcare.

Junior High Youth Program

Junior High youth, grades 7-8, will have planned programming in the morning and afternoon.

Senior High Youth Program

Senior high youth, grades 9-12, have planned programming in the morning. All senior highs must select and register for regular afternoon classes. Ninth graders may also choose to participate in the Junior High activities in the afternoons. Senior highs are welcome in all afternoon classes.

Parent Responsibility

Parents or adult sponsors are responsible for their children and youth at all times other than during supervised, scheduled events. There will be an orientation for parents on Sunday evening to review the schedule and clarify expectations. This will include an opportunity to visit your child's classroom and meet their teachers for the week.

Guidelines for Safety of Our Children and Youth

The safety of the children and youth at Synod School is a paramount concern of the Synod School Committee. Please remember that Buena Vista is a college campus and not designed with young children in mind. While we believe that Storm Lake is a safe community, vigilance is always wise. We have never had a serious mishap, but children and young people should be appropriately supervised at all times. We offer these guidelines:

- Elementary and younger children should be under adult supervision at all times.
- Junior high youth should be in groups when outdoors or visiting restrooms, and after dark should walk outdoors only with adult supervision.
- High school youth should stay in groups or pairs when walking outdoors or visiting restrooms and after dark should only walk outdoors in groups.

Synod School schedule

Sunday

2:30–5:30 p.m.	Registration
4:00 p.m.	Faculty Orientation
5:00 p.m.	Newcomers Orientation
4:45–6:30 p.m.	Dinner
6:30–6:45 p.m.	Hymn Sing
6:45–7:15 p.m.	Worship
7:15–7:45 p.m.	Welcome and Orientation (entire family) Children, Youth and Parent Orientation
7:45 p.m.	Fellowship and Hospitality

Monday-Thursday

6:30–8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
7:50 a.m.	Gathering Time
8:00 a.m.	Morning Worship
8:20 a.m.	Announcements and dismissal of children
8:30–9:15 a.m.	Convocation
9:30–10:30 a.m.	Morning session 1
10:45–11:45 a.m.	Morning session 2
11:45–1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00–2:15 p.m.	Free Time/Art Share/Quiet Time
2:30–3:30 p.m.	Afternoon session 1
3:45–4:45 p.m.	Afternoon session 2
4:45–6:30 p.m.	Dinner
6:40 p.m.	Announcements
6:45–7:30 p.m.	Evening Worship
7:45 p.m.	Evening activities
10:00 p.m.	Quiet time

Friday

6:30–8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
7:50 a.m.	Gathering time
8:00 a.m.	Morning Worship
8:10 a.m.	Announcements and dismissal of children
8:15–8:50 a.m.	Convocation
9:00–9:45 a.m.	Morning session 1
9:55–10:40 a.m.	Morning session 2
10:50–11:35 a.m.	Afternoon session 1
11:45–12:30 p.m.	Afternoon session 2
12:15–1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:45–2:30 p.m.	Closing Worship Celebration

Additional information

Housing

All resident registrants will be housed in campus dormitories and eat in the cafeteria. **All** rooms are air conditioned and have two twin beds. The regular “dorm” buildings have rooms with two single beds, bathroom facilities “down the hall,” and group lounges. The “suite” buildings have multiple suites of 3 bedrooms (2 single beds in each room) that share a communal living room; each suite bedroom has a private bath. If you are requesting a roommate, **both** registrations must be received before a room assignment will be made.

Single Rooms: Requests for single rooms will be accommodated, as available, on a first-come, first-served basis. Because a limited number of suite rooms are available, single rooms are offered only in the dorms unless there is a medical or handicap-related need.

Housing Options for Children

Children through 6th grade are provided with two housing options:

- **Resident:** Children can sleep in a bed for the higher fees and the university will provide linens. (Age 3 and under: \$50; Age 4 through 6th grade: \$100 for regular dorm and \$125 for the suites)
- **“Camper”:** Children can also sleep in a sleeping bag on the floor, or on a cot or air mattress *brought from home* in a room with at least one adult or older youth who is acceptable to parents. (Age 3 and under: \$50; Age 4 through 6th grade: \$75 in any room). Up to two children can be a “camper” but no more than 4 people will be assigned to any room. Families choosing this option should also bring towels and other linens needed for the “camper” child. Bedding packets are available from the college for an additional \$6.50 if requested. Indicate on your registration form if you want a linen packet for your camper.

If a family requires more than one room for housing, adjacent rooms will be assigned.

Accessibility

The university has limited dormitory accommodations for people with physical disabilities. Elevators are available in two of the dorms, but not in the suite buildings. Limited first-floor housing is available. If you need accessible or first floor housing, please indicate that on your registration form and include the specific limitation which must be addressed. If you have special needs and requests associated with your housing, please register as early as possible and make your specific needs known on your registration form. Early registration is very important for persons needing handicapped-accessible rooms. We will work with the college to meet needs to the best of our ability, using the college's available resources. All Buena Vista classrooms are handicapped accessible.

Meals

All meals are served in the college cafeteria. A variety of items are available at every meal which should accommodate all special needs. If you have particular food allergies or other concerns, please indicate that on your registration and we will communicate that to the college food service. If they are unable to meet your special needs, we will inform you, but there may be limits on what can be provided.

Scholarships

There are several kinds of scholarships available to help make Synod School affordable. In addition to those listed here, check with your church or presbytery.

The Salee Stanfield Scholarship Fund will provide up to 10 scholarships for the 2007 Synod School. This fund will match local church scholarships up to half the cost of tuition, room and board. Applications should be made on forms obtained from the Salee Stanfield Scholarship Fund, PO Box 6126, Des Moines, IA 50309. Phone: 515-255-3494.

The Mike Carruthers Scholarship Fund will also provide up to 10 scholarships for the 2007 Synod School. This fund will match local church scholarships up to half the cost of tuition, room and board. Applications should be made on forms obtained from the Mike Carruthers Scholarship Fund, PO Box 384, Boys Town, NE 68010-0384. Phone: 402-333-1062.

First Timer Scholarships Because of the generosity of previous Synod School participants we are able to offer a \$50 scholarship to the first 50 *first-time* registrants.

Synod School Scholarships Other Synod School Scholarships are also available from the annual Synod School offering given by participants. These are ordinarily matching grants and are given on a first-come, first-served basis. Application forms are available from the Synod office.

Commuters

Commuters are welcome at Synod School and are encouraged to participate in all aspects of the school. Registration should be completed in advance of Synod School to ensure that the desired courses are available. A la carte meals may be purchased by making arrangements at the Synod School office or upon arrival at registration.

Information about Buena Vista and Storm Lake

The Buena Vista campus is in the city of Storm Lake, Iowa. For maps, pictures, and other information about the college, city and region, go to www.bvu.edu/visitorinformation/. Storm Lake is also the location of the office of the Presbytery of Prospect Hill, one of 16 presbyteries in the Synod of Lakes and Prairies.

Registration

Tuition (includes insurance)

One person	\$ 80
Two in family	\$145
Three or more in family	\$175

Room and board (per person)

Adult

Single dorm room	\$240
Single suite room	\$280
Double dorm room	\$195
Double suite room	\$235

Children (see page 38 for explanation of options)

Birth to 3 years	\$50
Age 4 to grade 6	\$75/\$100/\$125

Registration deadline

Registrations must be received by July 1 to ensure availability of requested courses. Please note that several classes have very limited enrollments. If an enrollment limit is reached before a registration is received, the person will be given their second choice. Due to the college's requirements, registrations for housing cannot be accepted after Monday, July 16. No tuition refunds will be made for cancellations after July 1.

All tuition fees must accompany the registration form. Make check payable to Synod of Lakes and Prairies and send to 2115 Cliff Drive, Eagan, MN 51225-3327. Registration forms may also be downloaded from www.lakesandprairies.org and emailed to the synod office.

Room and board may be paid in advance or on arrival at the school. **Early registration is encouraged, especially for those with special needs.**

Registration for adults

(one person per form; photocopy as needed)

- Commuter Dorm resident Single room
 Suite resident Double room

Special needs _____

Name _____

Name to appear on nametag _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

- Check age range: 18-25 26-40
 41-55 56-70 Over 70

Congregation _____

If under 18, name of parent or adult _____

Name of preferred roommate _____

Have you attended Synod School before? Yes No

Indicate 1st and 2nd choices for each period:

All-day	All-morning	Morning 1	All-afternoon	Afternoon 1
01 _____	02 _____	07 _____	32 _____	38 _____
	03 _____	08 _____	33 _____	39 _____
	04 _____	09 _____	34 _____	40 _____
	05 _____	10 _____	35 _____	41 _____
	06 _____	11 _____	36 _____	42 _____
		12 _____	37 _____	43 _____
		13 _____		44 _____
		14 _____		45 _____
		15 _____		46 _____
		16 _____		47 _____
		17 _____		48 _____
		18 _____		49 _____
		Morning 2		Afternoon 2
		19 _____		50 _____
		20 _____		51 _____
		21 _____		52 _____
		22 _____		53 _____
		23 _____		54 _____
		24 _____		55 _____
		25 _____		56 _____
		26 _____		57 _____
		27 _____		58 _____
		28 _____		59 _____
		29 _____		60 _____
		30 _____		61 _____
		31 _____		62 _____



Make checks payable to:
Synod of Lakes and Prairies

Mail with completed form to:
Synod School
2115 Cliff Drive
Eagan, MN 55122-3327

Registration for children and youth

Use this form to register infants, children, and youth through 12th grade. Be sure to include first and last names. See page 38 for housing details. If you want linens to be provided for your camper, please indicate that on the form. An additional \$6.50 will be added to your fees.

1. Name of child or youth _____
Name to appear on nametag _____
 Boy Girl Age ____ Entering grade ____ or pre-school ____
 Dorm resident Dorm camper Suite resident Suite camper
2. Name of child or youth _____
Name to appear on nametag _____
 Boy Girl Age ____ Entering grade ____ or pre-school ____
 Dorm resident Dorm camper Suite resident Suite camper
3. Name of child or youth _____
Name to appear on nametag _____
 Boy Girl Age ____ Entering grade ____ or pre-school ____
 Dorm resident Dorm camper Suite resident Suite camper
4. Name of child or youth _____
Name to appear on nametag _____
 Boy Girl Age ____ Entering grade ____ or pre-school ____
 Dorm resident Dorm camper Suite resident Suite camper
5. Name of child or youth _____
Name to appear on nametag _____
 Boy Girl Age ____ Entering grade ____ or pre-school ____
 Dorm resident Dorm camper Suite resident Suite camper

Senior Highs select afternoon classes

Senior Highs (grades 9-12) must register for classes in the afternoon from among those listed in the catalog. Ninth graders may also register for the Junior High Activities program in the afternoon by indicating that choice below.

Classes:

- All-afternoon ____
- OR Junior High Activities ____ (9th graders only)
- OR Afternoon 1 ____ AND Afternoon 2 ____

Administrative staff

Dean: Jude Carlin

Associate Dean: Mary Pol

Housing Coordinator: Sue Nedderman

Synod Staff: Diana Barber

Synod School Committee

Jude Carlin

Mark Davis

Karen Houtman

David Koehler

Mary Pol

Tammy Rider

Betty Weidert

Monica Yeazel

Contact information while at Synod School

Buena Vista University

Attn: Forum Office/Synod School

610 W 4th St

Storm Lake, IA 50588

Synod School Office at BVU 712-749-1447

Campus Information (8 a.m. – 11 p.m.) 712-749-2400

Campus Security (11 p.m. – 8 a.m.)712-749-2500



Synod School 2007



Five Smooth Stones
Biblical Themes for Life & Ministry



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Synod School 2007 is an educational ministry of:

The Synod of Lakes and Prairies
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

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