

# Coloring Outside the Lines

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## Convocation Speaker

Scott Nesbitt

Scott is pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Clinton, IA and a popular bible study and theology teacher at Synod School and recently received his PhD in Historical Theology.

How often are we too timid to try new things in the Church because we'll offend someone, we'll break tradition or--God forbid--we might fail? Scott will challenge us to become like little children who can paint a picture with bold colors and call it beautiful even though almost every boundary has been completely disregarded.

## Worship Leaders

Howard Chapman

First Presbyterian Church  
Marion, IA

Betty Weidert

Lake City Union Presbyterian Church, Lake City, IA

Nancy Ross-Hullinger

Avoca Presbyterian Church, Avoca, IA

## What is Synod School?

Synod School is a special learning and personal enrichment experience for all ages. The week is designed for laity and clergy, individuals and families. Classes and activities are available for adults, youth and children – some separately, some are intergenerational – to stretch the mind and nurture the soul.

Come...and grow in faith through action, relationships, and a centering of the spirit.

Come...for continuing education, for a special family experience, or for individual growth.

Come...to participate in a unique experience of Christian community, as we worship, study, play, and live together.

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## Synod School 2008

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Watch for Course Catalogs and registration information coming to congregations in early March.

## Synod School 2008

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July 27- August 1, 2008  
Buena Vista University  
Storm Lake, Iowa

An Educational Ministry  
of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies

## People Say...

*"...an unexpected spiritual awakening - wow!"*

*"...the 'connectedness' and warmth of Christian community – truly a reflection of God."*

*"...so many people having so much fun while examining issues related to faith."*

*"We felt welcomed and among friends."*

*"...the gift of time to be with our kids and on our own."*

*"..gives me the incentive to try new things in my church."*

*"It was like an elder hostel in a loving, Christian environment."*

*"...thoughtful, energetic, fun-loving teachers, staff and leaders."*

*"I didn't know Presbyterians could gather together and have fun!"*

**"Why go to Synod School?  
Because I need it!"**

*"I am going back renewed."*

## What is Synod School?

Daily morning and evening worship for all ages with spirited music and singing.

Daily convocation focusing on the theme of the School.

Morning and afternoon programs for children and younger youth.

Special morning programs and afternoon classes for older youth.

Opportunity for adults to participate in from 1 to 4 classes on a wide range of topics – something for everyone.

Bookstore and Global Gift Shop.

Live music nightly at the Coffeehouse and intergenerational Saints-a-Marchin'

Plus Art Share, lots of fun, fellowship, mini-courses, movies, and as much relaxation as you want.

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Synod School 2008**

## Some Course Topics

A Year in Your Garden  
Art that Shapes the Gospel  
Basketweaving  
Beginning Spanish  
Church's Response to Serious Mental Illness  
Circle Songs, Handbells & Song Lyrics  
Creative Writing  
Faith, Money and Relationships  
Family Life and Parenting  
Finding Meaning from Change  
Fiscal Fitness Workshop  
Fly Fishing and Stream Conservation  
Forgiveness  
Harry Potter  
Hispanic Ministry and Immigration Issues  
Intro to Excel  
Introduction to Islam  
Leadership, Program & Ministry Skills Training  
Marilynne Robinson's *Gilead*  
Ministry of Hospitality  
Old and New Testament Bible Studies  
Praying in Color  
Puppetry  
Theological Study & Reflection  
The Religion of Baseball  
Spirituality & Spiritual Formation  
Sports, Recreation and Hobbies  
Stained Glass, Braided Rugs and other Crafts  
Understandings of the Crucifixion  
and more...

## Professional Development

Newly Ordained Clergy Newcomer Seminar  
Newly Ordained Clergy Reunion Seminar  
Clergy Renewal Seminar  
Biblical Interpretation  
Commissioned Lay Pastor Gathering

## Synod School

*An Educational Ministry of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies*

For more information contact Diana Barber at the synod office, 1-800-328-1880, ext. 207, or visit the synod Web site at [www.lakesandprairies.org](http://www.lakesandprairies.org).

Course catalogs will be mailed to congregations in early March.

**July 27-August 1, 2008**

**Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, Iowa**