



Power Through Scripture: **FUELING OUR FAITH**



JULY 9 – 11, 2009 • ROANOKE COLLEGE – SALEM, VIRGINIA

Sponsored by the Virginia Synod/ELCA in partnership with Roanoke College
Office of Church Relations, Center for Religion and Society

Schedule

THURSDAY, JULY 9

- 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Registration**, Colket Center
Noon – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch**, Sutton Commons
1:30 p.m. **Opening Worship**, Olin Theater
2:30 p.m. **Orientation, Introductions**
3:00 p.m. **Keynote Speaker**
3:45 p.m. **Break**
4:15 p.m. **Bible Study**
5:30 p.m. **Dinner**, Sutton Commons
7:00 p.m. **Evening Worship, Eucharist Service of Holy Communion**
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FRIDAY, JULY 10

- 7:15 a.m. **Breakfast**, Sutton Commons
8:20 a.m. **Gathering Hymns**, Olin Theater
8:30 a.m. **Morning Worship**
9:00 a.m. **Bible Study**
10:00 a.m. **Break**
10:30 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions A**
Noon – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch**, Sutton Commons
1:30 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions B**
2:45 p.m. **Break**
3:30 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions C**
5:00 p.m. **ACTS Reunion Meal**
5:30 p.m. **Dinner**, Sutton Commons
7:00 p.m. **Special Program**, Olin Theater
8:00 p.m. **Reception**, Olin Gallery
9:00 p.m. **Prayer at the Close of Day** (Compline)
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SATURDAY, JULY 11

- 7:15 a.m. **Service of the Word**
7:15 a.m. **Breakfast**, Sutton Commons
8:30 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions D**
10:15 a.m. **Keynote Speaker**
11:30 a.m. **Service of Holy Communion**



Power Through Scripture: **FUELING OUR FAITH**

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It's back to the bible for ELCA Lutherans! The Book of Faith Initiative has been established by the ELCA to invite the whole church to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered, and sent by the Word. This session of Power in the Spirit will be devoted to the bible — the written Word of God — its content, meaning, interpretation, and role in the Church and the lives of individual Christians.

To this end, we have made a special invitation to Mark Allan Powell to be our keynote speaker and our bible study leader. This unusual arrangement happened because Dr. Powell is one of the leading Lutheran bible scholars and has been deeply involved in the Book of Faith Initiative. We look forward to his help in mediating God's power through Scripture so that our faith might be fueled.

Bring Your Bibles! With this year's emphasis on Scripture, and the Book of Faith Initiative, we ask all participants to bring a bible to this year's Power in the Spirit.



Special Guests

Keynote Speaker & Bible Leader

REV. DR. MARK ALLAN POWELL is an internationally known theologian and bible scholar, professor of New Testament at Trinity Lutheran Seminary (Columbus, Ohio), and the author of more than 25 books and one hundred published articles on theology and the bible. He has served as chair of The Historical Jesus Section and The Matthew Group for the Society of Biblical Literature, general editor of the Harper Collins Bible Dictionary, editor of *Academia Biblica* (the Society of Biblical Literature's Dissertation Series), founding editor of *The Journal for the Study of the Historical Jesus*, and associate editor of *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*.

Dr. Powell is an ordained ELCA minister and also is known ecumenically. Until recently, he was the only Protestant member of the executive committee of the Catholic Biblical Association. He has held invited lectureships at schools in Estonia, Tanzania, and Russia, as well as American universities such as Vanderbilt, Berkeley, and the University of Chicago. Dr. Powell has produced volumes of materials, including biblical commentaries, preaching guides, Sunday School curricula, and devotional materials, for churches.

Music Presenter

REV. DR. J. BERT CARLSON is a graduate of the American Conservatory and the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, Duquesne University, and holds a doctorate in liturgy from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. A published composer since 1960, he has written for congregation, piano, choir, and organ. He holds the associateship certificate in the American Guild of Organists, is a member of ASCAP, and a past member of the ALCM. He is distinct in his passion of the church's worship. "We live in an age of a marvelous explosion of new songs for worship ... and the global explosion we are experiencing has given us music and poetry from other nations, encapsulated with other cultures and helping us to experience the riches and depth of God's people."

Special Presenter

LESLIE HUNTER is an author, illustrator, and youth director and assistant minister at Holy Family Lutheran Church in Chicago. His tools of ministry are sermons, raps, short stories, and spoken-word poetry. He is the author of *Poetic Remedies of Healing* and has recorded a CD of his spoken-word poetry entitled, *Overflow*. He has been featured on the radio program "Grace Matters" and has appeared on the Hallmark Channel's "New Morning." Leslie's Friday evening program for Power in the Spirit is called, "Entertaining While Engaging the Poetic Word!"

Two Keynote Talks!

Law and Gospel: The Power of God's Word

We will explore how the bible functions as the living Word of God, a dynamic force that shapes and transforms human lives. The bible does not just report on ancient history; it affects us as no other book ever could — and Lutherans say that it does this especially in two distinct ways: law and gospel.

Sola Scriptura: The Authority of God's Word

We will consider what it means to say that the bible is the only or final authority for knowing God's truth. The bible does not just offer suggestions or advice; it reveals truth about God that could never be known through human reason or experience — and Lutherans say that it does this especially with regard to one great truth: grace.

Two Bible Studies!

A Rip in the Sky: Amazing Grace in the Kingdom of God

The gospel of Mark relates God's kingdom coming into this world and changing lives. The accounts of the baptism and death of Jesus illustrate what this means for our lives today. Based on Mark 1:9-11 and Mark 15:37-39.

Touching Lepers: Amazing Grace in a Broken World

The gospel of Mark reports numerous accounts of the difference that God's grace makes in our world. The story of Jesus and the leper provides an example of what Jesus means when he says the kingdom of God has come near. Based on Mark 1:40-45.

ACTS Reunion Meal!

Hey, ACTS Community! There will an ACTS Reunion meal on Friday, July 10, in the back section of Sutton Commons. Please indicate on the registration form if you plan to attend.

Workshops!

Workshops will be held during four concurrent sessions on Friday and Saturday. Please choose one workshop from each period on the following pages and mark it on the second page of your registration form.

WORKSHOPS • SESSION A CHOOSE ONE.

A1 Meditation Chapel

Take time for prayer, reflection, and quiet. Experience the “centers” in the meditation chapel as you move through self-directed worship.

Rev. Ray Blanset (All Saints, Bowie, Md.)

Vickie DeVilbiss (Celebration Art, Annapolis, Md.)

A2 ELCA World Hunger Appeal: Hungry for Help!

Come to learn and share your experiences. Who is in need of daily bread? We are called to play a role in God’s answer to the prayer, “Give us today our daily bread.” Which part will you play as the Hunger Drama opens each day in every corner of our Lord’s creation?

Rev. Harvey Atkinson (Walker Mountain Parish)

A3 Knowing the Scriptures by Heart

A look at a simple method of memorization that can allow the Word to plant a seed and grow in your heart. It will be memorable.

Rev. Jim Mauney (Bishop, Virginia Synod)

A4 The Book of Faith: Join the Conversation

Overview of the ELCA Book of Faith Initiative. Resources and ideas for implementing the Book of Faith in your congregations and personal lives.

Lisa Geiger (Virginia Book of Faith Advocate, Emmanuel, Virginia Beach)

A5 Children’s Bibles and Home Devotions

Children form concrete ideas about their identity at an early age. Through brain science developments, we are learning that it is crucial to approach faith development for children at the earliest of ages. This workshop will discuss the place of children’s bibles and nightly devotions toward this goal.

Rev. Philip A. Bouknight (Trinity, Moneta)

A6 Designing Contemporary Worship Services

We will discuss communication, setup, music, target audience, publicity, etc. This workshop will enable a person to plan and implement a contemporary worship service through learning to communicate differently. It’s more than playing different music or adding a guitar: it’s a new way of talking.

Clay Arthur (St. Peter, Tom’s Brook)

Gloria Goeres (St. Paul, Strasburg)

A7 How To Start “Financial Peace University” Classes in Your Church

Stewardship One of the greatest problems in our culture is that many cannot manage their finances. The result is lives in bondage to debt. Financial Peace University provides a method for breaking free of financial bondage. The Virginia Synod is in the process of training one person per conference to assist the churches in each conference in offering Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University. A wonderful way for churches to extend themselves to the community and a place where faith and life intersect in real and meaningful ways. You will receive a synopsis of the study and learn to implement the program in your church.

Tony Mardian (St. John, Roanoke)

A8 Stained Glass Cross Pendants

Learn to assemble, fire, and finish glass crosses for pendants. As we wait for the kiln to work its magic, we will discuss the whys and hows of working with stained glass. **Materials cost: \$5.**

Marilynn Peacock (Ebenezer, Marion)

WORKSHOPS • SESSION B CHOOSE ONE.

B1 Meditation Chapel

Repeat session.

B2 Journeys with Paul: Pilgrims' Reflections

A look at the sights and people encountered on the ACTS Journey with Paul cruise/tour in November 2008, particularly a summary and discussion of the reflections of the pilgrims on the journey and how the trip has affected their lives.

David Raecke (Our Saviour, Warrenton)

B3 Caring Conversations

To help families listen for faith moments in their everyday lives and share the stories of the bible by having intentional caring conversations. The story of Jesus and our life stories are woven together as one fabric that brings forth endless varieties of caring conversations.

Diane Bayer (Muhlenberg, Harrisonburg)

Janet Gomez (Apostles, Gloucester)

B4 Lutheran Worship: Scripture Shapes the Assembly, Part I

The Book of Faith Initiative sets the stage to explore the biblical foundations of worship and reflect on how the public proclamation of Scripture brings the Book of Faith alive. This formation workshop invites any member of the worshiping assembly who seeks to more fully engage the Word of God in worship and to reflect on the use of Scripture in a variety of worship practices.

Virginia Synod Worship Committee

B5 Stories To Tell, Gifts To Share

Stewardship One of the greatest challenges for Christians today is feeling comfortable sharing your faith. This workshop presents an annual response method, developed by the ELCA, to do just that. The method is presented in three formats: children, youth, and adult. The entire family will be studying the same material, leading to opportunities for wonderful discussions at home.

Cary Mangus (St. John, Roanoke)

B6 Circles of Conversation for Sermon Formation

The sermon (preaching conversation) is shaped by information conversations that precede it in such contexts as bible studies, committee meetings, hospital rooms, and members' homes. However, a congregation and preacher may be intentional in providing opportunities for small group conversations through the use of sermon formation groups centered around the sermon/biblical text. The sermon is the impetus for subsequent information conversations: daily faith-sharing at home, school, work, and neighborhood. This workshop is intended for rostered leaders and open to lay participants as we explore and equip proclaimers in pulpit and pew to be more intentional in conversation circles centered in Christ.

Rev. Chip Gunsten (Assistant to the Bishop, Virginia Synod)

B7 Luther and the Audacity of Hope: The Power of God's Word in Uncertain Times

We will explore the concepts of hope and joy in Luther's approach to the bible. Context will be provided from an historical view examining his life and hermeneutical approach to Scripture.

Rev. William Wiecher (College, Salem)

B8 Seniors and Scripture

Psalm 71:16 states, "Now that I am old and my hair is gray, do not abandon me, O God! Be with me while I proclaim your power and might to all generations to come." Come and see how God's Word reaches out to mature adults and gives hope to aging disciples. You'll take home a free *Senior Adult Bible Study*, which can be used in your congregation.

Rev. Bradley Hales (Reformation, Culpeper)

WORKSHOPS • SESSION C CHOOSE ONE.**c1 Meditation Chapel**

Repeat session.

c2 What Do These Stones Mean to You? Joshua 4:6

Throughout Scripture, God reminds the people to create rituals to remember God's presence in their daily lives. This workshop will explore how you can create meaningful rituals and traditions for your home as you continue to give your children, grandchildren, and all children — including the child in you — both roots and wings.

Rev. Jean Bozeman (Assistant to the Bishop, Virginia Synod)

c3 Lutheran Worship: Scripture Shapes the Assembly, Part II

It is recommended, but not required, that participants attend Parts I and II.

c4 Shut Up and Sing!

Let's look at hymns! Peel back the layers of meaning. As we sing together, we'll address the problems of the ventriloquists and the timid singers in our congregations — and find ways to encourage them to recognize what hymn singing is all about. There will also be stuff for organists and other church musicians. Let's learn together!

Rev. J. Bert Carlson

c5 Reading the Words of the Word of God

Daily engagement with the bible is one of the essential disciplines of faith. Through Scripture, we know Christ and Christ's will for us. But many of us stumble. The bible is long and complex and can be confusing. How then are we to read Scripture? How can we get the most from it? This workshop will offer a guide to the bible as the historic apostolic church has taught us. We will pay attention to the ways Martin Luther and the early church fathers meant for us to read Scripture.

Rev. Mark Graham (St. John, Roanoke)

c6 Wisdom, Love, Song

What is often called nature is really the Creator God's wisdom at work to make the physical world a reality. What is often called passion is God's love infiltrating our lives. What is often called praise is simply the eruption of song from our souls, that mysterious part of us that receives inspiration. This course is a basic poetry reading regarding the *Wisdom, Love, Song* of our lives, the title of the most recent book from the 70 years of events and people that have touched the soul of the presenter.

Rev. Richard Bansemer (Bishop Emeritus, Virginia Synod)

c7 Transforming the Local Church

Romans 12:2 states: "Do not conform yourselves to the standards of the world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God" Scripture gives us clear direction on how the church can be transformed and changed for mission-sharing the good news of Jesus in our communities. Are you ready for the challenge and rewards?

Rev. Bradley Hales (Reformation, Culpeper)

c8 Prayer Bead Workshop

This workshop will provide instruction and materials to make a tangible prayer bead piece to be used as we center ourselves in prayer and communication with God. **Materials cost: \$15.**

Peggy Bizjak (Peace, Charlottesville)

WORKSHOPS • SESSION D CHOOSE ONE.

D1 Meditation Chapel

Repeat session.

D2 Beginning a Prayer Shawl Ministry

Participants will learn to begin a prayer shawl ministry in their congregation. This program enriches the lives of shawl creators as well as the recipients. This workshop will include how to get started, sample brochure, special patterns used in the ministry, and prayers for various occasions. Instructions in knitting and crocheting will not be included, however should you wish to get started, you'll need three skeins of homespun yarn and (for knitting) a knitting needle size 11 or 13 or (for crocheting) a crochet hook size M, N, or P.

Rita Foringer (Gloria Dei, Hampton)

D3 Called to Care: Parish Nursing

This interactive workshop will explore how health ministry can bridge the gap that exists between faith and health.

Jill Propst, BSN, PCN, RN (Muhlenberg, Harrisonburg)

D4 How To Start "Financial Peace University" Classes in Your Church

 Repeat session.

D5 Successful Aging

The "age wave" is coming ashore. Our country and church are aging rapidly. Within two years, 10,000 people will turn 65 years old each day. As we get older, God's Word provides us with wisdom and examples on how to age successfully. Are you ready for the journey?

Rev. Bradley Hales (Reformation, Culpeper)

D6 Reading the Bible as Lutherans

We will look at both principles and examples as we review how Lutherans have worked to practice a way of reading Scripture that is both faithful in the historical tradition and attentive to changes in our lives, language, and culture.

Dave Delaney (Director for Youth & Young Adult Ministries, Virginia Synod)

D7 Building Effective Worship Music Leaders

Targeted for those who lead or would like to lead music in worship. We will teach participants to effectively lead music in worship and equip them with a toolbox of five methods to help them do so.

Clay Arthur (St. Peter, Tom's Brook)

Gloria Gueres (St. Paul, Strasburg)

D8 By Request

A small group discussion about forgiveness. Why are we forgiven? How can we in turn forgive others? Why should I forgive? What do we do once we do forgive? What do we do when we are not forgiven by others? How can I forgive myself?

Rev. Don Chudd (Our Saviour, Norge)

Other Information

Bookstore

Due to a major restructuring, Augsburg Fortress will not provide our Power in the Spirit bookstore this year. However, every effort is being made to have materials and resources available for purchase.

Contact

For questions, contact Elizabeth Smythe at (276) 783-5804 or esmythe24354@yahoo.com. Or contact Debbie Worley at the Virginia Synod Office at (540) 389-1000 or at worley@vasynod.org. More information is available at www.vasynod.org.


Meditation Center

Power in the Spirit is offering a meditation area dedicated to prayer and contemplation. This offering is coordinated by Vickie DeVilbiss and is located in the Smoyer Gallery of Olin Hall.

Worship Planning

Thanks to the Power in the Spirit worship planners: Rev. Terri Sternberg (chair), George Arthur, Rev. Ray Blanset, Rev. J. Bert Carlson, Vickie DeVilbiss, Terri Larsen, Shelly Slemph, and Judy Smith.

Stewardship Scholarships

The Stewardship of Life Committee is offering scholarships of \$150. Registrants who pay in-full and attend two or more sessions offered by the stewardship committee (identified with  in the session descriptions) will be given reimbursement checks after completing an evaluation of the classes and scholarship process. Indicate interest in a scholarship on the registration form. Limited to 10 scholarships.

Don't Forget Your Bible!

With our emphasis on The Book of Faith Initiative this year, we ask that you bring your bible with you to Power in the Spirit. Hearing the Word will be enhanced as we see the Word.

Accommodations

For participants who choose to stay off-campus rather than in the Roanoke College dormitories, we provide the following information on providers of local accommodations:

La Quinta Inn (I-81, exit 141): (540) 562-2717

Quality Inn (I-81, exit 141): (800) 459-4949

Quality Inn, West Salem (I-81, exit 137): (540) 387-1600

Howard Johnson's (I-81, exit 137): (540) 389-7061

Days Inn (I-81, Exit 141): (540) 986-1000

Fairfield Inn (I-81, exit 146): (540) 362-4200

RECYCLE YOUR TOTES!

To save money and resources, we ask that you recycle your Power in the Spirit tote bags from previous years. Please bring one with you.





Registration

REGISTRANT CLERGY LAY FEMALE MALE

NAME _____ CONGREGATION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

- I request a Stewardship of Life Committee scholarship (see page 10).
- I will attend the ACTS Reunion meal on Friday, July 10.

DORMITORY ACCOMMODATIONS SINGLE DOUBLE WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY

NAME OF ROOMMATE (FOR DOUBLE ROOM) _____

Power in the Spirit Resident Package: \$230 \$ _____
 Registration, two nights lodging, two breakfasts, two lunches, two dinners

Power in the Spirit Commuter Package: \$175 \$ _____
 Registration, two lunches, two dinners

Power in the Spirit Long-Sleeved Embroidered Denim Shirt \$ _____
 Circle size: S / M / L / XL \$20 • XXL \$22

Number of Music Packets _____ x \$10 \$ _____

Stained Glass Pendant Workshop Materials: \$5 \$ _____

Prayer Bead Workshop Materials: \$15 \$ _____

Late Registration Fee (after June 15): \$25 \$ _____

TOTAL FEES _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT CHECK PAYABLE TO THE VIRGINIA SYNOD CREDIT CARD

CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD _____ CARDHOLDER'S SIGNATURE _____

I require the following special assistance:

Complete both sides of this form.

Send with payment to Virginia Synod; Power in the Spirit; P.O. Drawer 70; Salem, VA 24153.

Registration

REGISTRANT NAME _____

CONCURRENT SESSIONS A (Select one.)

- A1** *Meditation Chapel*
- A2** *ELCA World Hunger Appeal: Hungry for Help!*
- A3** *Knowing the Scriptures by Heart*
- A4** *The Book of Faith: Join the Conversation*
- A5** *Children's Bibles and Home Devotions*
- A6** *Designing Contemporary Worship Services*
- A7** *How To Start "Financial Peace University" Classes in Your Church*
- A8** *Stained Glass Cross Pendants*

CONCURRENT SESSIONS B (Select one.)

- B1** *Meditation Chapel (repeat)*
- B2** *Journeys with Paul: Pilgrims' Reflections*
- B3** *Caring Conversations*
- B4** *Lutheran Worship: Scripture Shapes the Assembly, Part I*
- B5** *Stories To Tell, Gifts To Share*
- B6** *Circles of Conversation for Sermon Formation*
- B7** *Luther and the Audacity of Hope: The Power of God's Word in Uncertain Times*
- B8** *Seniors and Scripture*

CONCURRENT SESSIONS C (Select one.)

- C1** *Meditation Chapel (repeat)*
- C2** *What Do These Stones Mean to You? Joshua 4:6*
- C3** *Lutheran Worship: Scripture Shapes the Assembly, Part II*
- C4** *Shut Up and Sing!*
- C5** *Reading the Words of the Word of God*
- C6** *Wisdom, Love, Song*
- C7** *Transforming the Local Church*
- C8** *Prayer Bead Workshop*

CONCURRENT SESSIONS D (Select one.)

- D1** *Meditation Chapel (repeat)*
- D2** *Beginning a Prayer Shawl Ministry*
- D3** *Called to Care: Parish Nursing*
- D4** *How To Start "Financial Peace University" Classes in Your Church*
- D5** *Successful Aging*
- D6** *Reading the Bible as Lutherans*
- D7** *Building Effective Worship Music Leaders*
- D8** *By Request*