



**Illowa Lutheran
Coalition
of the
Quad Cities Area**

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NEWS AND NOTES FROM ILLOWA, JANUARY 2007

From the Director

How time flies! I know that you are experiencing it too. It seems like yesterday that I was preparing for the 2006 Illowa annual assembly and it's here once again. That's how it was in the parish as well. With an annual meeting completed, another seemed just around the corner!

Well, one cannot hold back time, so it's annual meeting time once again in our congregations and for the Illowa Lutheran Coalition. This year, our annual assembly will be at Messiah Lutheran Church in Port Byron, IL. on Sunday, February 18th. Registration is at 2:30 p.m. with the meeting at 3:00 p.m. LaVonne will be sending directions to Messiah along with other info regarding the assembly.

Of course we have some business items to attend to, such as a budget, reports, and election of board members. How can you have an assembly without these? But, we'll also have a time for nurture as well. This year, we are excited that Mr. Kai Swanson, Assistant to the President of Augustana College, will be the keynote speaker at our assembly. Kai is well known in our community and a member of one of our Illowa congregations. He will be sharing his insights on faith and daily life. I hope that you and members of your congregation can come and share in what will be a good afternoon of fellowship with Lutherans from across the greater Quad Cities.

Be watching for further information coming to you by way of email.

Hope to see you there as we attend to some important work and learning.

Blessings this Epiphany season!

Pastor Kurt Nordby

Annual Illowa Assembly Features Kai Swanson

This year's annual assembly will take place at Messiah Lutheran Church, 302 11th Street North, Port Byron, Illinois, on Sunday, the 18th of February, 2007. Registration begins at 2:30 p.m. with the meeting following at 3 p.m. Each congregation of Illowa may send as many voting members as are permitted for the Annual Synod Assembly, but all are welcome to attend.

This Google link will take you to a map that shows the location of the church:

<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=d&hl=en&saddr=302+11th+St.+N,+Port+Byron,+IL+61275&addr=&ie=UTF8&om=0&z=14&ll=41.584056,-90.343151&spn=0.027799,0.086002&iwloc=addr>

For those who prefer written directions:

Exit Interstate 80 at Exit 1 on the Illinois side of the river. Turn north (a right turn) onto Illinois 84 in the direction of Rapids City, Port Byron, and Savannah. Travel on Highway 84 past Rapids City into Port Byron. Turn right (east) at 11th Street. There is a Dollar General Store at that corner. Continue on 11th Street to the church.

Our special guest speaker for the day is Mr. Kai Swanson, a member of one of our Illowa congregations and Assistant to the President of Augustana College. He will share his insights concerning faith and its impact on daily life. In addition, there will be reports of each of the ministry team activities, a review of the budget, and election of two new members to the Illowa Lutheran Coalition Board. Following the meeting, there will be a time of fellowship, enhanced by free light refreshments.

Please join us for an afternoon of inspiration and fellowship!

Befriender Training

The pastoral care staff at Trinity Medical Center is offer a ten-week series of classes preparing people to do pastoral care visitation. Training is free of charge for those who agree to volunteer at the Trinity campus weekly for a year. It can also be taken for \$50 per person or \$175 for a group of four persons from a single church for those who do not plan to volunteer at Trinity.

Befriender training includes extensive work on listening orientations and skills, and sessions on prayer and scripture in caregiving, grief, issues in aging, mental health and addictions and acute and chronic illness. Besides didactic presentations, participants will visit patients and then reflect upon those visits.

Consider whether you or others in your congregation might have the potential to be an effective pastoral caregiver. Such people are usually good listeners, naturally caring, dependable and able to respect confidentiality. With ten weeks of training, Befrienders can supplement any congregation's caregiving ministry and perhaps offer outreach care to hospitalized members as well.

The training series will be offered for 10 weeks on Tuesdays from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., beginning March 6 and ending May 8. Classes prepare individuals to be empathetic listeners with a focus on the spiritual needs of others. Classes will be held at First Lutheran Church, 1230 5th Avenue, Moline, and will be taught by Trinity chaplains. All Trinity volunteers must have an interview with

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a chaplain before being admitted to the program. Call Chaplain Lynn Batchner at 779-2991 to arrange an interview.

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY

- 6 Illowa Luncheon at Augustana College Campus Center Loft, beginning at 12:00 noon. Special speaker is Pastor Ginger Anderson Larson.
- 15 9 a.m. to noon. Illowa Continuing Education Forum, Wallenberg Hall, Augustana College. Presentation by Rev Roy Nilsen and Mary Ylvisaker Nilsen: "Spiritual Direction: What is it? Who needs it?"
- 18 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., Illowa Lutheran Coalition Annual Assembly, Messiah Lutheran Church, Port Byron, IL. (See map online for directions.) Special guest speaker is Kai Swanson, Assistant to the President of Augustana College.
- 21 Ash Wednesday

MARCH

- 6 Illowa Luncheon at Augustana College Campus Center Board Room, beginning at 12:00 noon.
- 15 9 a.m. to noon. Illowa Continuing Education Forum, Wallenberg Hall, Augustana College. Presentation by Dr. Craig Satterlee of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago: "Preaching Easter."

APRIL

- 8 Easter Day
- 10 Illowa Luncheon at Augustana College Campus Center Board Room, beginning at 12:00 noon
- 19 9 a.m. to noon. Illowa Continuing Education Forum, Wallenberg Hall, Augustana College. Presentation by Dr. James D. Tabor, Chair, Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte: "The Jesus Dynasty."
- 24 Administrative Assistants' Luncheon, Augustana College Campus Center, beginning at noon.

Please remember our Partner Ministries in prayer

Sunday, February 4	St. John's, Rock Island	Pr. Stacie Fidler
Sunday, February 11	Hope, Dixon	Pr. Shelly Nelson
Sunday, February 18	First, Sherrard	Pr. Jane McChesney and Dr. Robert Haak, Interims
Sunday, February 25	Gloria Dei, Durant	Pr. Rodney Underwood, Interim
Sunday, March 4	Bethany, Woodhull	Pr. Nancy Jaster
Sunday, March 11	Faith, Eldridge	Prs. Dan Mixdorf and Jodi Hinrichs
Sunday, March 18	Illowa Lutheran Coalition	Pr. Kurt Nordby
Sunday, March 25	Messiah, Aledo	Pr. David Schweppe
Sunday, April 1	Trinity, Pleasant Valley	Pr. Julie Higgs
Sunday, April 8	Augustana, Andover	Pr. Lynn Bergren
Sunday, April 15	Zion, Princeton	Pr. Peter Sickels
Sunday, April 22	Cambridge, Cambridge	Pr. Kristine Dietzen
Sunday, April 29	Redeemer, Bettendorf	Pr. Richard Pokora