

# Epistle



South Carolina  
Lutheran Men in Mission

www.sclmm.org

December 2015

## SOUTH CAROLINA Lutheran Men in Mission



### Random Acts of Kindness

Frank Bouknight Vice President SCLMM

I recently read an article where a young waitress, working the morning shift at a local diner, overheard two very tired and smut faced firemen talking about the 12 hour fire they had worked that night. The waitress was touched by their work and dedication, so when she delivered the check it merely read Your breakfast is on me today. Thank you for all that you do; for serving others & for running into the places everyone else runs away from Fueled by fire and driven by courage what an example you are. Get some rest. The firemen were very appreciative of her kind words and the free meal. A while later the two firemen learned that the waitress was caring for her father, who was confined to a wheel chair. They also discovered that she was \$17,000 short of raising enough money to buy a wheelchair accessible van to transport him to his various doctor appointments. The two firemen set up a fund raising website and were able to raise not \$17,000 but \$70,000 for the van. This just goes to show you that when God is involved in the smallest things, they can multiple into tremendous things. When Christ fed the 5,000, he began with only five loaves of bread and two fish. God destroys our small expectations because little is much when God is in our lives. No matter how insignificant we think our gifts and talents are, God uses them in ways we dont expect or even know at times. **Psalm 23:5 NIV You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

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### Committee of 100 Update

Through the end of November **504** people have donated **\$52,000** to the Committee of 100 New Mission Start Program and **\$7,275** to the Loan Fund. Our commitments to our New Mission Start Churches is \$70,000 this year. So, we need a real Lutheran end-of-year rush to make our goal and meet our commitment for 2015. Remember, all of our churches were once New Mission Start congregations. So, let's ramp up during this Advent Season and get this done.

## Letter from your Executive Director—Heber Rast

To the men of the South Carolina Synod,

I am sure that most of you have heard that I announced at last year's SCLMM Convention that this would be my last year as your Executive Director. I cannot begin to tell you what it has meant to me to serve you in this capacity the receive the support that I have felt from everyone. This has certainly been a wonderful journey and one that I will never forget. I thank you for this privilege from the bottom of my heart!

We are so fortunate in our synod to have an organization such as South Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission along with the resources provided us through the churchwide Lutheran Men in Mission! What a team this is as we combine our thrust of helping mission congregations and ministries in our synod along with that of Building Men for Christ. We share in the vision of helping every man become a bold and daring follower of Jesus Christ!

As I leave as your Executive Director, I encourage you to not forget our "roots" and what has brought us to the level where we are. At the same time we must admit that we are living in vastly different and challenging times from twenty five years ago! Organized religion and men's ministry in particular are facing many challenges. We must change and be willing to adapt to these challenges while maintaining our focus on our vision and mission. I am confident in our leadership going forward and SCLMM is in good hands! Continue to support your leaders and work to develop stronger LMM units on the congregational level.

When we think of the challenges that face us all, it is easy to get discouraged. Just keep the faith and remember Paul's words to us from Ephesians 3: 20-21, "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

And as we say, Amen for Lutheran Men!

Heber Rast



**Veterans Day Program by Music Department in cooperation with Lutheran Men in Mission, George Kaye, president, Bob Alexander, speaker. Certain still photos by Gracie Bellah. Music under the direction of Kimberly Holt, including John Phillip Sousa's 'The Stars and Stripes Forever' On Sunday, Nov. 15, 2015, Bob Alexander of Lutheran Men in Mission gives Veteran's Day, 2015 message for Shepherd of the Sea Lutheran Church in Garden City, SC Veterans A. J. Perez, Jeff Lohmeyer, Chuck Green and Bill Storm Receive Quilts of Valor.**

Minute YouTube, <https://youtu.be/4LgvtPYky8g>

**Lloyd Mackall** [lmackall@sc.rr.com](mailto:lmackall@sc.rr.com) Has several hundred for SOS in the last 6 years and many for LMM events. Video shot on Nikon SLR D600 and posted at [www.YouTube.com/i3DStereo](http://www.YouTube.com/i3DStereo) Edited on Apple MacBook Pro using iMovie software.

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### Changes to the SCLMM Website [SCLMM.org](http://SCLMM.org)

#### SCLMM Church Officers updated on web site

To verify updates go to [www.sclmm.org](http://www.sclmm.org)  
Select Conferences (left side home page) Select your conference

Note: **Added a link to the ELCA Interactive Map - South Carolina Congregations**

The conference page shows the conference officers and a link "Click here for Church Officers"

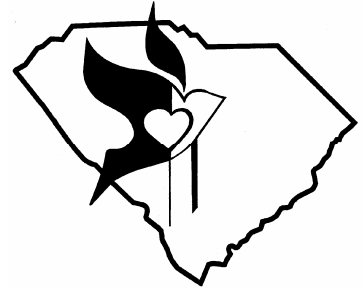
This is where the officers for the churches in this conference will be found

Note: there is a link to the ELCA web page for each Church

You may want to verify the information on the ELCA web page for your church.

**Email Corrections/Changes to [RWessinger@aol.com](mailto:RWessinger@aol.com)**

**SCLMM Committee of 100**  
**Supporting Mission Churches in S.C. Since 1976**



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Loan Fund**

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**New Mission Start Program**

**\*undesignated gifts go to the NMSP**

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Congregation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Memory/Honor of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Conference:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: Kevin Wicker**

**e-mail (print clearly):** \_\_\_\_\_

**977 Quail Drive**

**Walterboro, SC 29488**



At the June meeting of the SCLMM executive board the men of our Synod took this to heart. We voted unanimously to designate Sunday November 1, 2015 as Pee Dee Indian Tribe Sunday in the South Carolina Synod. November is also Native American month throughout our great country. Now is an opportunity to help a group of our own brothers and sisters in Christ right here in our own back yard.

The Pee Dee Indians are a proud people. They have a great heritage and unfortunately many of them live at or below the poverty level. They have operated their tribal affairs on three

acres of land for many years. Recently due to the generosity of Dr. and Mrs. C.W. Love the Pee Dee Tribe received a donation of 15 acres of land. The tribe has a great dream for this land.

It is their desire to construct a multipurpose building on this property. They would like to have a building to be used as free medical clinic, a shelter for the homeless, a place for children to play in a safe environment, and a building to use for gatherings with a small area set aside as a museum of their heritage. They have plans for two different sizes of buildings. One is about 1200 square feet and the other is about 3000 square feet. Estimates on the smaller are about \$98,000.00. On the larger \$180,000.00. They can of course build the smaller one and expand when possible.

With the blessings of Bishop Herman Yoos and the South Carolina Synod Council, SCLMM has designated November 1st as Pee Dee Indian Project Sunday. We are asking a special offering for this cause. The SCLMM goal is to raise \$50,000.00 to help the Pee Dee Tribe with this project. If November 1st does not suit your calendar please feel free to designate another Sunday. If possible, please send one check from your church's total collection for this. Individual checks will of course be welcomed.

Checks should be made out to ELCA South Carolina Synod  
with the designation PEE DEE INDIAN PROJECT.

Please mail checks to: ELCA SOUTH CAROLINA SYNOD, 1003 Richland St. Columbia, SC 29201

By Johnny Merck, Director Special Events, South Carolina Lutheran Men In Mission



Hundreds of men have already experienced One Year To Live. Here's what they're saying...

"Like most men I used to have only passing conversations with other men at church. Now I have brothers in Christ."  
- Hundreds of men

"Now I had no idea how powerful the OYTL retreat was, and still it is in my life. I found a wealth of brothers and developed friendships that are just grown richer over time."  
- Hundreds of men

"What I thought were my biggest liabilities are my greatest assets. I can share them with others to give them hope."  
- Hundreds of men

"The OYTL retreat allowed me to not only realize how much pain I buried, but also how to accept healing through the word of God and communion with other holy men."  
- Hundreds of men

"You will come out of the weekend a better man. I totally recommend this weekend if you are serious about re-energizing your life."  
- Hundreds of men



#### DRIVING DIRECTIONS

**Tracy's Camp**  
2024 Crooked Pine Trail  
Pinewood, SC 29125  
(803) 452-3266

#### From Columbia, SC:

- Travel Garners Ferry Rd ( Hwy 78/76 ) - 25 mi.
- VEER RIGHT onto S Kings Hwy (SC266) and continue 12.5 miles to VEER RIGHT on Camp Mac Bookin Rd.
- Continue 7.3 miles to make LEFT on Gov. Richardson Rd. After 1.7 miles make sharp LEFT onto Cheving Rd.
- After 1.1 miles make sharp LEFT and follow to camp.

#### From Greenville, SC:

- Travel I-26 E to I-77 N towards Charlotte.
- Take exit 9A to Garners Ferry Rd.
- Follow directions above from Columbia.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Jimmy Smith  
803-730-6071  
jasmith527@vmltrcmn.net  
[www.lutheranmen.org](http://www.lutheranmen.org)  
Watch participant testimonial videos at



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## LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION

presents



March 11-13, 2016  
Tracy's Camp  
Pinewood, SC

**As iron sharpens iron...**



**so one man sharpens another.**  
Proverbs 27:17

#### ABOUT ONE YEAR TO LIVE

Men of ALL AGES yearn for real friendships and a closer relationship with Christ.

- Join us and be...
- Adventurous and courageous
- Genuine and spiritual

Look forward to...

- Banding together and being challenged
- Examining your life and making decisions
- Being prepared for a spiritual boot camp.

This 44-hour event is not for the faint of heart!

#### WHAT TO BRING

- Casual clothes for 2 days
- + 1 set of clothes to leave behind
- Comfortable walking shoes. Shower shoes
- Swimsuit
- Sleeping bag, pillow, and towel
- Light jacket or hoodie
- Personal items
- Bible, notepad/journal & pen
- No alcoholic beverages
- No electronic devices or weapons

#### SCHEDULE

- **Please arrive promptly** at 5:30-6:00 pm on Friday
- Depart at 3:00 pm on Sunday
- Plan to stay for entire retreat--no exceptions

#### COST

Registration: \$125 through February 2016  
\$150 in March



Registration is non-refundable, but is transferable. Includes 2 nights lodging, 6 meals & retreat materials.

#### REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Church: \_\_\_\_\_  
Food Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **SCLMM or South Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission**. Detach and mail completed registration form AND check for \$125 (\$150 for registrations received in March) to:

Joe Stohsel  
One Year to Live Retreat  
240 Harbor Heights Ct.  
Lexington, SC 29072

## Distinguished Service Award

The objective of the **South Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission Distinguished Service Awards** is to encourage every Lutheran man in his commitment to our Lord, his family, his congregation, his community, his study of God's word, and his support of the mission of our Lord and his church through Lutheran Men in Mission.

### 2014 Award Recipients

Rev. R. E. (Dick) Webber

Daniel F. Camp



## The 30th Annual Cliff Bourguignon Golf Tournament

Monday April 25th

Make plans to play and sponsor

Forms will available  
on the web site

[www.sclmm.org](http://www.sclmm.org)



# South Carolina Lutheran Men In Mission

## 73<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION

**Pilgrim Lutheran Church** 1430 NORTH LAKE DRIVE, LEXINGTON SC

**Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> 2016 7 pm**

**\*Sweetheart and Past Officer Recognition Dinner in the Fellowship Hall  
Everyone is encouraged to attend and honor your Sweethearts as well as  
past SCLMM leaders Guest Speaker Brian Snyder**

Steak or Chicken , baked potato, Salad and dessert \$20 each or \$35 per couple

Presentation by Mr. Brian Snyder Christian Musician And Bold Daring Follower of Jesus Christ



**Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> 2016**

**Convention, Worship Service and Banquet\***

**Key Note Speaker Mr. Clay Dyer a professional angler  
born with no arms or legs Will discuss "If I Can You Can"**

**Workshops conducted by Clay Dyer and Pastor Jackie Utley on  
Diversification in the Church**

**Registration begins at 11:00 in the Narthex, Convention starts at 12:00 pm,  
Clay Dyer 1pm, Worship at 5:00pm, \*Banquet 6:30pm German Cuisine by  
Wurst Wagen Columbia, \$20.00 each or \$35.00 per couple**

**Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> 2016**

**8:00 Matins, 9:00 Traditional & 11:00 Contemporary Worship at Pilgrim**

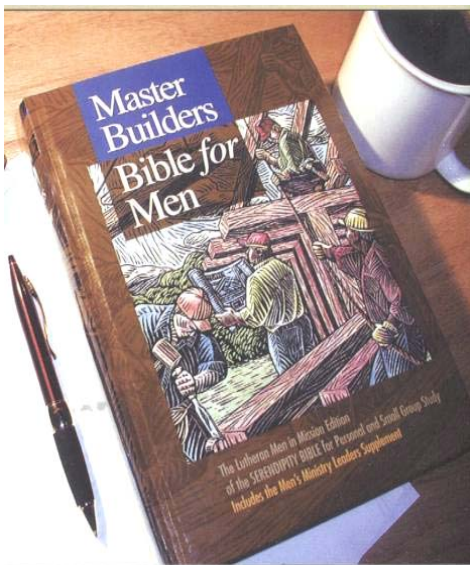
**\*Pre-registration required for Convention dinner and Past President's banquet contact Frank Bouknight at  
onnanoko@windstream.net , 300 Foxhall Drive, Lexington, SC 29072**



DECEMBER 2015

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### Changes to the Epistle Mailing Policy

The Epistle has several publications a year, and is available to current Committee of 100 members. Non current members can continue to receive the Epistle from our Web site, [www.sclmm.org](http://www.sclmm.org).

If you are a current member, and wish to review the Epistle on the Web site, please send your mailing address (as it appears on the Epistle) to [rwessinger](mailto:rwessinger), or to Ralph Wessinger, 709 Otis Blvd., Spartanburg, SC 29302, so we can remove you from our mailing list.

Increasing printing and postage fee's are making this publication more expensive to print. Help save money allocated to the Promotional Fund.

### SCLMM DATE LOG

<b>2016</b>	
Saturday Jan 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	SCLMM Executive Meeting Synod Office, Columbia
Friday Feb 12 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm Past Presidents Dinner Pilgrim, Lexington
Saturday Feb 13 <sup>st</sup>	1:00pm 71 <sup>st</sup> Convention
Saturday Feb 13 <sup>st</sup>	4:30pm Communion Service
Saturday Feb 13 <sup>st</sup>	6:30pm SCLMM & Guest Banquet Pilgrim, Lexington
March 11-13	OYTL, Tracy's Camp, Pinewood, SC
April 25	30th Annual Cliff Bourguigon Golf Tournament

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**Registration/Brochures**  
 Got to Web Site  
**[WWW.SCLMM.org](http://WWW.SCLMM.org)**