**Lutheran Men in Mission Synod Assembly Report for 2022**

Lutheran Men in Mission (LMM) has always had the goal of bringing men to Christ. Our Southeastern Minnesota Synod group is just one of many in the national organization of Lutheran Men in Mission with a web page at [www.lutheranmeninmission.org](http://www.lutheranmeninmission.org) . On their site you will find resources and opportunities nationally and help to set up your own congregational group of men.

As with most groups, COVID-19 affected our plans in 2022, but we searched for ways to persevere. We knew that our large and popular event in the spring of the year, Breakfast With the Bishop, at Cabela’s in Owatonna was not possible. We will be holding this event in person at Cabela’s in Owatonna at 9:00 AM on Saturday April 29, 2023 with Bishop Hassanally in person this time. Please join us. Information can be found on the Southeastern Minnesota website at [Synod Events Calendar | Southeastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA (semnsynod.org)](https://semnsynod.org/pages/synod-events-calendar) and click on the event for April 29th.

We held a fall men’s retreat at Good Earth Village in 2021, but not this fall choosing to support the national LMM gathering on Oct 7-9 in Ashland, Nebraska. Six men from our synod attended the national LMM Bold Gathering, open to Lutheran men from across the country. It was a wonderful gathering at a beautiful Bible Camp outside Omaha, and we were challenged in our faith by speaker Jim Troe, from Albert Lea, MN, who was a past speaker at one of our fall retreats. The men also did a variety of service projects that benefitted the facility, as well as Kids Against Hunger in downtown Omaha. Information on this and past gatherings can be found at [www.boldgathering.com](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.boldgathering.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C428ac4a68ad645668f4408db232567b8%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638142415789228231%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9vZv%2FTTX8174%2BxXowxFTobYLcofyq2xBqxjQmyYJDEs%3D&reserved=0) as well as in the “Foundations” newsletter at [lutheranmeninmission.org/resources/foundations](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.lutheranmeninmission.org%2Fresources%2Ffoundations%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C428ac4a68ad645668f4408db232567b8%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638142415789228231%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BBHEl8nKNVIq35LPrnwQZKfmzeeCZ%2FEdknnSpnbNeSA%3D&reserved=0).

I would say we experienced God’s faithfulness even in these virus pandemic times in 2022, but we hope to expand our engagement with the men in our Southeastern Minnesota Synod in 2023 with more normalcy as the pandemic hopefully allows.

Other national LMM activities are “One Year to Live Retreats.” Over 2,000 men have attended these retreats across the country since 2008.  In November 2022, men from SE MN attended one at Camp EWALU, in Strawberry Point, IA.  The next one will be on November 3-5, 2023 at the same location.  You can find more details, including testimonies, at [www.lutheranmeninmission.org](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.lutheranmeninmission.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C428ac4a68ad645668f4408db232567b8%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638142415789228231%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=d%2FX28ZJvZbpq7TmTVkaRaKyJvG5xqunWH8X06WeIl1w%3D&reserved=0)

A wide variety of resources encouraging men to be better and bold, daring followers of Jesus Christ can be found at [www.projecttwelve.net](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.projecttwelve.net%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C428ac4a68ad645668f4408db232567b8%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638142415789228231%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=2tnd2gqx4EVug7sb01souCFsXwIYhEMS3pAXNR0sVAI%3D&reserved=0). This includes new online Small Group or personal Bible Studies found in the LIFELINES section.  There is also the ***Fathering in 15*** which features 15 topics that can be covered in 15 minutes.  This resource is available via a partnership with the National Fatherhood Initiative.

We always look for support from the men across our synod to participate in our Breakfast With the Bishop and in our retreats. We would also be open to any men who would like to serve on our LMM Synod Board to offer support and input. We look for ways to encourage men in any congregation who would like to start their own group because “bringing men to Christ” is a mission for all men in their local congregations. Let us know if we can help. Our information about events and opportunities is graciously shared by Ashley Corbett on the Southeastern Minnesota Synod website.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Iverson, Secretary to LMM