



## "Build UP the Walls!" Gathering

Based upon the Book of Nehemiah

Sponsored by the Association of Downtown Lutheran Churches

Friday 12 October – Sunday 14 October 2012

Historic Grace Lutheran

714 East Capitol Avenue, Springfield, IL 62701

Host Pastor: The Reverend Thomas Christell

### FRIDAY 12 OCTOBER 2012

3 – 6 pm – Registration at Historic Grace Lutheran. Campus tours. Light snacks provided.

6:30 pm – Hosted Opening Dinner at Obed and Isaacs Microbrewery and Eatery. Cash Bar Available.

8:00 p.m. – Opening Devotion by Reverend Christine E. Erdmann, Gathering Chaplain.

### SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER 2012

8:00 a.m. – Continental Breakfast at Historic Grace Lutheran.

8:30 a.m. – Bible Study by Reverend Christine Erdmann.

9:00 a.m. – Participant Sharing Time.

10:00 a.m. – Presentation by Reverend Dr. Stephen Bouman & Reverend Carlos Hernández.

11:30 a.m. – Questions & Answers for Dr. Bouman & Rev. Hernández.

12:00 p.m. – Lunch at Historic Grace Lutheran.

1:00 p.m. – Tour of Lincoln Home National Historic Site.

3:00 p.m. – Presentation by Reverend Dr. Stephen Bouman & Reverend Carlos Hernández.

4:30 p.m. – Questions & Answers for Dr. Bouman & Rev. Hernández.

5:00 p.m. – Saturday evening worship at Historic Grace Lutheran (optional).

Preacher: Reverend Tom Christell.

6:00 p.m. – Dinner at home of Reverend Tom and Patti Christell.

8:00 p.m. – Bible Study by Reverend Christine Erdmann.

### SUNDAY 14 OCTOBER 2012 – TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00 a.m. – Continental Breakfast at Historic Grace Lutheran.

8:00 a.m. – Eucharist Celebration at Historic Grace Lutheran (optional).

Preacher: Reverend Tom Christell.

8:30 a.m. – "Downtown Challenges & Solutions" Discussion Session.

10:30 a.m. – Eucharist Celebration at Historic Grace Lutheran.

Preacher: Reverend Tom Christell.

12:00 p.m. – Lunch at Historic Grace Lutheran.

1:00 p.m. – Gathering Evaluation.

1:30 p.m. – Closing Devotion by Reverend Christine Erdmann.

2:00 p.m. – Optional add-on event – Group Tour of Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum. Adult Admission \$12.00. Each participant will pay own way the day of the event. Advance intention appreciated on registration form.

# "Build UP the Walls!" Gathering

## General Information



### Registration Fee includes:

All workshop sessions, Friday Evening Banquet, Breakfasts, Lunches and Dinners on Saturday and Sunday.

Additional cost of \$12.00 per person for Sunday afternoon's optional tour of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum.

### Hotel Reservations

Hilton Springfield. 700 East Adams St., Springfield, IL 62701

(About 2 blocks – .18 miles – from the Hilton to Historic Grace)

Blocked Rooms at \$97.00 per night (up to 4 in a room) plus 12% taxes under "Assn of Downtown Lutheran Churches," group code DLC  
(MUST mention group name for discounted rate)

800.445.8667 or 217.789.1530

[http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/S/SPFHHF-DLC-20121012/index.html?WT.mc\\_id=POG](http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/S/SPFHHF-DLC-20121012/index.html?WT.mc_id=POG)

Block Expires 21 September 2012 so book early!



**"Build UP the Walls!" Gathering**  
Registration Form  
(Please use this form to register ALL people from your church)  
(Make additional copies of this form, as necessary)



Church Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State: \_\_\_\_\_

**Regular Registration** (first participant @ \$125.00 each)

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone & Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Discounted Registration** (second or more participants @ \$100.00 each)

2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone & Email: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone & Email: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone & Email: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone & Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Continued on Back)*

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum Registration (\$12.00, to be paid individually)

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Name: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

SUMMARY

Regular Registrant	_____ @ \$125.00 each	\$ _____
Discounted Registrants	_____ @ \$100.00 each	\$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED		\$ _____

REGISTRATION POSTMARK DEADLINE: 1 October 2012

Make Checks Payable to "Historic First Lutheran Church" and mail to Historic First Lutheran, 808 N. Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91104-4317

## Presenters

**BISHOP STEPHEN BOUMAN** is Executive Director of Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission (EOCM) for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, based in Chicago. He formerly was Bishop of the Synod of Metropolitan New York. EOCM is a program unit of the ELCA. Its 149-member staff facilitates "the efforts of congregations, synods, and related institutions and agencies in reaching out in witness to the Gospel to people in all contexts and cultures" across the United States and the Caribbean. It works to develop new congregations and ministries and to renew and equip existing ELCA ministries in evangelical outreach.

Born in Melrose Park, Ill., Bouman is a graduate of Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne, Ind., and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He earned a Master of Sacred Theology degree and a Doctorate in Ministry from New York Theological Seminary. General Theological Seminary, New York, awarded him an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in 2001.

Ordained in 1973 by The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, Bouman served as pastor of Christ and St. Jacobus Lutheran Church, Woodside, Queens, N.Y., and Atonement Lutheran Church, Jackson Heights, Queens, N.Y. His pastoral call was transferred to the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches (AELC) in 1977, and he served as pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Bogota, N.J., from 1982 to 1992. In 1992 Bouman became an Assistant to the Bishop of the Metropolitan New York Synod and in 1996 was elected to succeed the Rev. James E. Sudbrock as Bishop. The Synod elected Bouman to a second six-year term as bishop in 2002.

Bouman is the author of several articles, curricula, devotionals and books, including From the Parish for the Life of the World, published in 2000 by Augsburg Fortress, and Grace All Around Us, published in 2007 by Augsburg Books.

Bouman and his wife Janet are the parents of three adult children.

**REVEREND CHRISTINE E. ERDMANN** (gathering chaplain) was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and graduated from Milwaukee Lutheran High and University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. She received her MDiv from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago in 1984. She has served as the solo pastor of Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church in Anna (1984–1994); as administrative pastor of St. John's Lutheran in Bloomington (1994–1998); and again as solo pastor of Trinity Lutheran in Fairbury (1998–2000); and Zion Evangelical Lutheran in Gillespie (2000–present) – all in Illinois.

Reverend Erdmann is a student of history, primarily the Lincoln family and the Old West, and is a published essayist. She also has a strong interest in church growth and evangelism.

**REVEREND CARLOS HERNÁNDEZ** is Director of Church and Community Development, LCMS Office of National Mission (1998– present).

Reverend Hernández is a “product” of the LCMS Lutheran School System, attending San Pedro, Houston, TX, Immanuel, Houston, TX, St. John, Montebello, CA, LA Lutheran High, Concordia, Portland, Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne, IN and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO. He earned a Master of Sacred Theology from New York Theological Seminary.

His parish ministry experience includes Trinity and Zion Lutheran Churches, Wheatland and Douglas, Wyoming (1969–1973), Trinity Lutheran, Watsonville, CA (1974–1995) and Trinity Lutheran, Glen Cove, Long Island, New York (1995–1998). He also served as Second Vice-President of the California–Nevada–Hawaii District of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod and as Pastoral Assistant to the Atlantic District President.

Hernández and his wife, Maureen, have 5 children and 8 grandchildren.

His hobbies include reading political and civil rights biographies, walking through urban areas and historical preservation sites, gardening, and going to the farmers market with Maureen.

## Presentation Summaries

### *“The Downtown Church: From the Kitchen Table to the Altar to the Tables of the World”*

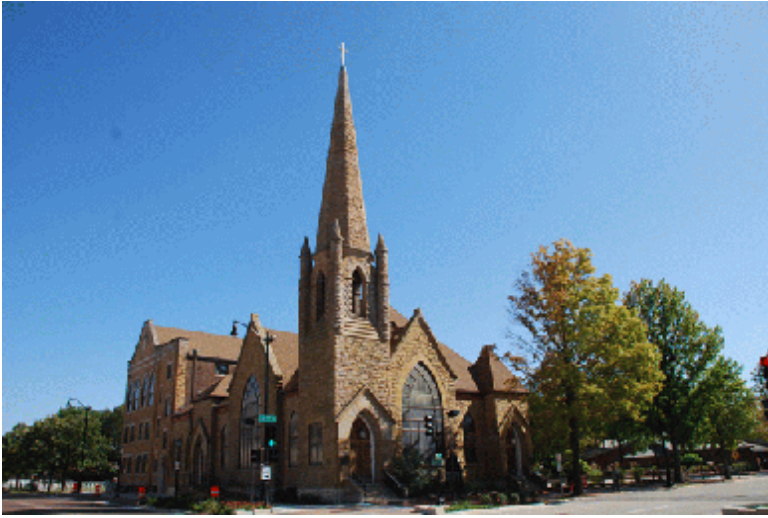
The Gospel of Luke, especially the story of the Presentation of Jesus and the “sending” narratives of Luke 6–10, gives us a missional framework for the vocation of downtown churches. Special attention will be paid to the immigration context of many of our cities and downtown churches.

### *“The Downtown Church on Mars Hill”*

Paul’s encounter in Athens in the Book of Acts gives us a context for the multi-cultural, interfaith mission of downtown churches.

### *“Planting Gospel Seeds While Serving Human Needs”*

(to be integrated by Rev. Hernández into Dr. Bouman’s presentations)



## Your Host Congregation

Historic Grace Lutheran has been a symbol of God's presence since 1841. It has played an important place in Springfield's rich history.

Historic Grace Lutheran is surrounded by the Lincoln Home National Historic Site. It is believed to be the only Lutheran church in the United States to be located within a national park. Despite the direction of the national park that only structures in existence at the time of Lincoln shall be permitted within the current boundaries of the national park, the church today exists because of a specific act of the United States Congress that exempts the lot and building from that stipulation as long as there is a functioning place of worship at that site.

Historic Grace was first organized in the home of the Reverend Dr. Francis Springer, a neighbor to Abraham Lincoln and his family. In 1855, Mr. Lincoln pledged \$20 to help finance the construction of the present church sanctuary. On 13 April 1863, President Abraham Lincoln wrote "Francis Springer is one of my best friends, & than whom there is no more reliable man."

The century-old limestone building (constructed about 1880) is highlighted by its beautiful and unique steeple made of interlocking stone. It is one of only two completely stone steeples in the country. The building also features remarkable stained glass windows and an amazing tapestry-like hanging that is rich in symbolism.

Historic Grace honors its historic role in Springfield by being extremely active in social causes and being a "team player" in downtown Springfield, including playing a key role in the community-wide 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration of Abraham Lincoln in 2009.

Pastor Tom Christell has served Historic Grace Lutheran since 1990.