



*"Therefore, since we
are justified by faith,
we have peace with
God through our Lord
Jesus Christ."
Romans 5:1*

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Dear Friends,

I am excited to invite your congregational leadership to an important presentation that can help your congregation grow and become a more vital and vibrant community of faith. The Rev. Bill Miller has twenty years of experience leading and helping build congregations of various sizes in a diversity of cultural contexts. He has relevant insights to clergy of all denominations, in particular on navigating the "pastoral" to "program" size transition, a challenge for so many mainline churches. He has served as senior pastor of three different congregations that have been able to make this transition and have grown in the process!

I have been to many workshops over the years on congregational development. Many of them make assumptions that are beyond the scope of the capacity of small churches. Father Bill's practical suggestions are applicable to all congregations, regardless of resources, attendance, or facilities. He will help your leadership become more aware of their strengths while recommending proactive ways to better equip your congregation. He'll help you become more mindful of your context and the ways your community of faith can minister to the broader community. Also, many workshops are presented by folks who have not actually experienced these transitions, failures and successes in real ministerial situations. Bill will share a broad range of experience from his own life of ministry, from real congregations that have learned to make a difference.

Father Bill has extensive experience leading congregations, lecturing church and Diocesan/Synod/Presbytery leaders, and is presently writing a book on the topic of congregational development. He has pastored churches of all kinds, from a small multicultural congregation in Austin, TX, to an urban downtown historic parish in Houston, TX to the transitional resort community of St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church on the island of Kauai, HI. He has also collaborated with musicians to create inspiring worship opportunities and has founded three church-centered jazz festivals. He is the author of two popular books: *The Gospel According to Sam: Animal Stories for the Soul*, and *The Beer Drinker's Guide to God: The Whole and Holy Truth About Lager, Loving and Living*.

We hope you'll bring a group of leaders for this fun, inspiring day of reflecting on ways your church can grow and minister more effectively. It's an opportunity not to be missed!

Faithfully,

The Rev. M. David Kiel

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