



## **"What exactly is 'Building Bridges to Creating a Healthy, Caring Community'?"**

If you were at the July Voter's meeting or at worship any of the Sundays since the meeting, you've been encouraged to attend something called "*Building Bridges by Creating a Healthy, Caring Community*". It only makes sense to find out what it is that everyone at Shepherd of the Hills is invited to participate in.

### **Here's a brief description:**

We've seen in the book of Acts that the early Christian church was characterized by "consensus and full participation in the work of the church." God's people were bound together by a deep love for the Lord Jesus and loving one another deeply, from the heart. Sad to say, that is not always the way it is in the church today. It seems to be so easy to lose sight of our Lord and His purpose for the church, as the devil begins to sidetrack us and get us to focus on ourselves. Then we begin to not get along. Unhappiness, dissatisfaction, apathy, anger, and harsh criticism become prevalent and feelings are hurt and the church begins to separate and pull apart.

To help us renew our focus on Christ and the mission which He has entrusted to us and to assist us in growing in our love for Him and each other, we have invited Pastor Don Fondow, Mission and Ministry Facilitator in the Minnesota North District LCMS Office, to lead us through a three-session (90 minutes each) workshop entitled: "Building Bridges to Create a Healthy, Caring Church." The first workshop session will take place this Tuesday, July 30th at 7:30 p.m.. in our fellowship hall. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

### **The purpose of a "B.B.C.H.C.C" event is to lead all participants:**

1. to a deeper understanding of God's vision for a Christian congregation and to a stronger determination to help make their congregation more fully such a congregation;
2. to see more clearly and appreciate more fully what it means to be loved by God in Christ; to desire more eagerly to love others, fellow members and visitors to the congregation, in the same way that they are loved by God.

I'm excited about the workshop and the powerful things the Spirit can accomplish through it in our congregation, so please mark July 30, on your calendar.

Thanks for asking,  
Pastor David

**Send your questions to [pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)**