

Lutheran
Building
Men in
Men for
Mission
Christ

foundations

Run the Race



Keep the Faith

Are you running the “Rat Race” or the Race that Counts?

Who am I really? How can I be a better dad, grandfather, son or friend? What is my mission in life? Am I running the “rat race” or the real race that counts? Questions deep in the hearts and souls of men

will be answered at the 2005 Lutheran Men’s Gathering: *Run the Race: Keep the Faith.*

The gathering will feature the high quality musicians and speakers that attendees have come to expect, but the

impact on the lives of those who attend will be greater than ever.

The weekend experience will zero in on the six marks of discipleship referenced in the books *Power Surge* and *Real Faith for Real Life*: Prayer, Worship, Bible Study, Service, Relationships, and Giving.

Woven throughout the weekend will be opportunities and experiences that will assist those who attend together not only to grow in their faith, but also grow in their relationships to one another.

“A guy who comes alone will have a wonderful time and will have the opportunity to make many new friends,” said LMM Director Doug Haugen. But those who come with their dad, son, grandfather or buddies will see God in newer and deeper ways as they gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of each other.

Being disciples of Jesus Christ is what the gathering is all about. The marks of discipleship are significant components of our spiritual growth. We lift up these marks of discipleship as clarifiers. They help us experience the joy and responsibilities of our faith.

When we gather in

The weekend will zero in on the six marks of discipleship: Prayer, Worship, Bible Study, Service, Relationships, and Giving.

Charleston, we will be in racing country. There are some things everyone who runs a race needs to know:

Who’s your crew chief?

Prayer is the opportunity to step into the presence of the Living God and have personal conversation. It is the opportunity to know—and be known. **Harvard Stephens**, dean of Siebert Chapel and campus pastor at Carthage College, Kenosha, Wisconsin, and contributor to *What Can Happen When We Pray* will speak on prayer. Stephens has helped develop pioneering ministries for youth and was honored by the state of Ohio

2005 Gathering

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2005 Lutheran Men’s Gathering will be held July 22–24 in Charleston, South Carolina



This newsletter is sent to all who contribute to the ministry of Lutheran Men in Mission.

Your contribution will ensure that *foundations* will continue to come to you.

It is our desire that *foundations* will be a source of personal spiritual growth, as well as a source of information for those involved in congregational men's ministries.

Please drop us a line and let us know stories of men's ministry we could use and/or issues you would like to see featured.

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Quality time with "Dear Old Dad"

I have many great memories of our Lutheran Men's Gatherings over the years. I am always blessed by the world class speakers who challenge me, by God's grace, to be more than I think I can be. The incredible musicians featuring every style of music, often from the more traditional to contemporary, give me a sense that we are practicing for heaven.

But my personal highlight has been spending time with my son Derek. When he attended his first gathering, I thought he may have come out of a sense of obligation or just to please and support "dear old Dad." When I thanked him for coming, he told me what a really great time he had, and how good it was to be there with (of all people!) me. He said an added point was not only seeing my work, but also getting to know more of my friends. Funny, I had spent the better part of two years securing some of the top speakers and musicians in the world and he thought the highlight was being with me and my friends!

In the midst of making sure that conference participants have a great experience, speakers arrive on time and musicians have what they need to lead music and worship, the stolen moments with my son and "the guys" I come with are personal, cherished moments for me.

A men's gathering is not just an event. It is a special place—a place away from the sometimes daily hectic life. When my son and I (and my friends) come to the men's gathering, we take the opportunity to talk about hopes and dreams. We say things to each other that we have been meaning to say for some time, but for whatever reason, never get around to it.

The experience of coming to a gathering with men from our family and friends allows me to experience and live out the faith and relationships we hear the speakers talk about. I hope you come, and I hope you bring family and friends with you!

*Doug Haugen, Director
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Derek Haugen has attended the last two Lutheran Men's Gatherings with his dad, Doug.





2005 Gathering

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and the National Council of Churches for giving leadership in the Young Men with a Future program. While serving in St. Thomas, he supported the mentoring program at Charlotte Amalie High School.

What's your course?

God speaks through Scripture to those who are open to hearing. How can you know how to run the race of your life and where you're going without getting into the Bible?

Mike Foss will take us into the Bible. He is the lead pastor of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Burnsville, MN. Prince of Peace is a congregation of 9,000 disciples. He is the author of many books, including *Power Surge* and *Real Faith for Real Life*.

Who's in your pit crew?

What's amazing about these events is that you have guys coming from all over the country, with all sorts of different backgrounds.

Yet in the midst of all this diversity, the one thing that brings us together is a search for a genuine faith in Jesus Christ.

So for all those people who are thinking about whether or not to go to Charleston, let me just tell you it is worth your time! Run that race down there and get together with men from all over the country who want to build faith in Jesus Christ. I will see you there!

— Brian Konkol, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota

It takes six guys to carry most of us out of this world. It takes at least six to carry us while we are here. Who are your six guys? If you have them, bring them! If you don't, come and find them! The research LMM has been doing with young men will take flesh as **Rollie Martinson** helps men of older and younger generations connect with each other and grow together. Get a preview of his

research on our Web site www.elca.org/lmm.

Who's catching your draft?

Bob Dylan said it: "You're going to serve somebody." Who is it you serve? Who are you bringing along? You'll hear the great stories of **Habitat for Humanity**, a ministry that has built affordable homes for nearly 1,000,000 people. Habitat leaders will share what it means to serve.

Oh, and you will have opportunities to serve as well!

Who's in the winner's circle?

Throughout the race—and at the end—who is it you bow to? Our pit crews will gather for powerful worship throughout the weekend, capped by our Sunday worship.

Let's get movin'!

Those who attend this gathering won't just sit and listen! Our new interactive center will be filled with relationship building, servant-oriented and physically challenging activities. The gathering will take place at the North Charleston convention center, just a 15-minute drive (or shuttle ride) from beautiful, historic downtown Charleston.

Gather your pit crew, strap yourself in, hang on and get ready for the ride of your life! Run the race that counts! Register today!

When someone asks me why I attend Lutheran Men's Gatherings, my response is quite simple: "to be a better man."

What I really mean is: "to be a better husband, father, brother, church member, mentor, co-worker, neighbor, etc."

I attended my first National Gathering at Carthage College in Kenosha, WI in 1992 and I have attended most since then. I enjoy:

- the opportunity to be with fellow Lutheran men and to reflect on what it means to be a man in today's society,
- being motivated and challenged by inspiring speakers like Tony Campolo, Dick Hardel, Rollie Martinson, and many others,
- fellowship with men from my own church and from churches around the US, and interacting with those I have known a long time and those that I just met.

Has it been worthwhile? I certainly believe so. But more importantly my wife of 34 years tells me emphatically yes! She says that she has witnessed me becoming a better husband and father since that first Gathering in 1992. What better testimonial is there?

— Rich White, South Riding, Virginia

Special musical performance by Paul Todd

A critically acclaimed prolific writer, entertainer, composer, arranger, and singer, Paul Todd has been amazing crowds since he won the prestigious National Yamaha Keyboard Contest at the young age of fourteen.

Since then Paul has experienced all facets of the music industry, and has headlined in theaters and concert halls worldwide. As a Christian artist, he has worked with some of his favorites, including; Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith, and Phil Driscoll.

Paul accompanies himself by playing six keyboards simultaneously with his fingers and feet moving at lightening fast speed. Paul has been a favorite at Lutheran Men's events since 1988.



Run the Race



Keep the Faith

Registration for 2005 Lutheran Men's Gathering

July 22-24, Charleston, South Carolina

Register before April 1st to receive early registration discount!

Register by mail: Registrar, Lutheran Men's Gathering
8765 West Higgins Road
Chicago, IL 60631-4101

Register by fax: (773) 380-2115

Register online: www.elca.org/lmm

Registration Fee:

	Before April 1:	After March 15:
1 man	\$130 each	\$180 each
2 men	\$90 each	\$135 each
3 or more men	\$75 each	\$100 each
Total Registration Fee: \$ _____		

Method of Payment:

Check (made payable to Lutheran Men in Mission)

MasterCard Visa Discover American Express

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: Month: ____ Year: ____

Amount to be Charged: \$ _____

Name as printed on card: _____

Signature: _____

Billing address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

First Man: _____

Preferred name on nametag: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: ____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

I plan to: drive fly

I wish to sing in the Gathering Men's Chorus

I would like to help with a Habitat for Humanity project Saturday afternoon

Second Man: _____

Preferred name on nametag: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

I plan to: drive fly

I wish to sing in the Gathering Men's Chorus

I would like to help with a Habitat for Humanity project Saturday afternoon

Third Man: _____

Preferred name on nametag: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

I plan to: drive fly

I wish to sing in the Gathering Men's Chorus

I would like to help with a Habitat for Humanity project Saturday afternoon

Hotel Reservations:

Single/Double	\$119
Triple	\$129
Quad	\$139

Hotel rate includes complimentary breakfast buffet and evening "hospitality hour."

Reserve hotel room by phone:

1-800-EMBASSY or 843-747-1882

Identify yourself as part of the Lutheran Men in Mission group.

Reserve hotel room online:

<http://www.airportconventioncenter.embassysuites.com>

Use LMM as the group/convention code under "Special Accounts."



Building solid family relationships

In our LMM Master Builders Program, we say we are about Building Men for Christ! That is our mission and our goal! Our vision is for every man to have a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. To build men for Christ, we start with our families, our everyday acquaintances, those whom we interface with in our day-to-day lives. Too often we take our families for granted until it is too late.

A key aspect of building men for Christ is building relationships. One of the most important relationships that we have is with our families. A personal tragedy—the death of my parents in an auto accident while in the prime of their lives—helped me understand the importance of family and the strength and comfort that can happen only in a family atmosphere. A church-wide LMM Gathering is an excellent atmosphere to build on a family relationship.

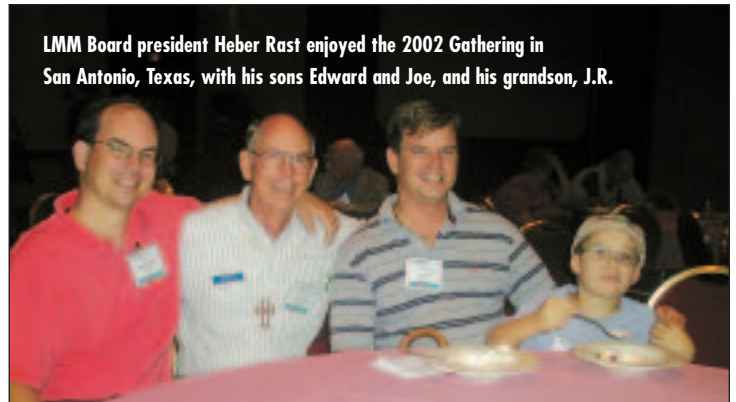
At our last gathering in San Antonio, I was truly blessed to be with my two sons and my oldest grandson. Three generations together experiencing inspiration, fellowship and the togetherness of family in a Christian gathering! I cannot express the joy I received in having my sons and my nine-year-old grandson with me at all of the sessions, and watching my grandson's interest and even "taking notes" on the speakers in the sessions. These are memories that will last forever!

I would encourage each one of you to take advantage of this opportunity at our gathering this summer. Come and bring your sons, your fathers, your grandsons and your grandfathers, as well as your friends, and join with us as we *Run the Race and Keep the Faith* in Charleston July 22–24.

From my experience, I can promise you an event that will solidify relationships and live with you forever!

*Heber E. Rast Jr., President,
Lutheran Men in Mission
herast@aol.com*

LMM Board president Heber Rast enjoyed the 2002 Gathering in San Antonio, Texas, with his sons Edward and Joe, and his grandson, J.R.



Yes!

**I want to make
a contribution
to help
Lutheran Men
in Mission build
solid family
relationships**

- Enclosed is my one-time gift to help meet the challenge: \$ _____
- I would prefer to pledge \$ _____ per month
- Send information about including Lutheran Men in Mission in my will/estate planning

Method of Payment:

- Contribute online at www.elca.org/lmm by clicking on the "ELCA Giving Basket"
- Check payable to Lutheran Men in Mission
- MasterCard Visa American Express Discover Expiration Date: _____

Card Number: _____

Amount to be charged: \$ _____ one time per month

Name (as it appears on card): _____

Billing Address: _____

City/ State/ Zip: _____

Signature: _____

Master Builders/Lutheran Men in Mission Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 West Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631-4101



**Division for Congregational Ministries
Lutheran Men in Mission**

8765 West Higgins Road
Chicago, IL 60631

The Lutheran Men in Mission board has accepted a \$500,000 gift challenge that, when realized, will ensure continued growth in men's ministry well into the future.

At the heart of accepting this challenge is the conviction that if each man has a growing relationship with Jesus Christ, everyone around him—his family, his congregation and his community—will benefit as well.

Current major LMM projects and programs include the Bible ministry, ministry with young men, and inspirational men's gatherings.

- In the first weeks of 2005, LMM has distributed thousands of *El Nuevo Testamentos* to congregations engaging in short term mission trips to Spanish-speaking cultures.
- Hundreds of congregations have developed effective men's ministries and thousands of men are now engaged in life-changing Bible study with the *Master Builders Bible for Men*.
- Lutheran Men in Mission is on the leading edge of

Master Builders Challenge

Building a foundation for men's ministry



ministry with young men, with a groundbreaking book coming out later this year.

- LMM leadership anticipates a record attendance this summer at the most

inspirational men's gathering to date, *Run the Race: Keep the Faith*, in Charleston, SC on July 22–24.

The goal of LMM leadership is to match the gift challenge

with \$500,000 in cash and \$500,000 in planned gifts from leaders and friends of LMM. Our ministries will grow with the realization of the \$500,000 gift challenge for the Lutheran Men in Mission Endowment Fund.

Forty leaders will take the first steps toward realizing the challenge as they gather together in March. The LMM plan calls for 200 leaders to be trained eventually and give others an opportunity to participate in meeting the challenge.

“Over the years we have placed more emphasis on our current fund in carrying out our ministry. We continue to thank God for the growth that we have had in our current fund and we are now looking to build our base so that we will see continued growth in the years to come,” said LMM Director Doug Haugen.

LMM Board President Heber Rast added, “We thank those who contribute faithfully to our current fund and ask you to continue to do so. At the same time, we will challenge leaders and friends of LMM to commit themselves to ‘over and above’ gifts to meet this very positive challenge.”