



About the Writers

Timothy Barr

Son of Sherry and Bill, brother to Erica and Rachel, life-partner with Kathleen, and father of Ariana and Natalya, Tim Barr was born in San Antonio, Texas, and grew up in the rural farming community of Orchard-Wallis, approximately one hour southwest of Houston. Tim is a 1999 Texas Lutheran University graduate with experience in urban and suburban youth ministry, social work, long-term disaster response coordination, and racial justice philanthropy. Following his time at TLU, he served for one year as an AmeriCorps tutor in a middle/high school in Pittsburgh, PA. He has also worked or volunteered for Mennonite Central Committee, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Boys and Girls Club, the Houston Mayor's Office for Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, Crossroads, Lutheran World Federation, and Covenant House Texas. Currently, he and his family live in Seguin, Texas, where he rides his bike to work, where neighbors (and even complete strangers) are friendly and outgoing, and where their family can buy all of their vegetables, fruits, and meat from local farmers. Tim is the Director of the Center for Servant Leadership at TLU.

Renee Splichal Larson

Renee is originally from Garrison, ND, and attended college at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN. After college Renee spent two years volunteering full-time with Urban Servant Corps in Denver, CO, and Border Servant Corps in Las Cruces, NM. Renee is currently finishing her Master of Divinity in her final year of seminary at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, IA. Renee helped plan and implement the "Ecumenical Hunger Banquet" while she was a pastoral intern at the Lutheran Center on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's campus.

Lindsay Mack

Lindsay Mack served for two and a half years of service as an ELCA missionary in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. She is currently studying for her Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary. Lindsay previously worked in St. Paul, MN, as an Americorps Volunteer in a community center serving immigrants and refugees. Graduated from St. Olaf College in 2002, Lindsay has been a life long member of the Lutheran church and has served the church in various capacities including two summers as a camp counselor, delegate to the 2003 LWF Assembly, a participant in the LWF youth network, and intern with the ELCA Commission for Women.

Vivian Norbraten

Vivian and her husband, Gerry are charter members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Regina, Saskatchewan. Vivian has been involved with women's ministry through Evangelical Lutheran Women (ELW) over the years, has served on the National ELW Board, and presently is Co-President of her ELW. At church she is involved in music, both choir and solos; Bible study in the Disciple course and other opportunities; and encourages Our



Savior's support of the LWF and ELW project in Chamanculo, Maputo, Mozambique. Other interests and involvements include volunteering at the Mackenzie Art Gallery, book club, bird watching, gardening, writing letters, and she loves to be with family and friends. Vivian and Gerry have three adult children: Garth, a Toronto architect; Erik, a Regina graphic artist; and Corinne in Vancouver, the western regional manager of Warneco Apparel.

Rev. Rodger Prois

Pastor Rodger Prois was called to be Director for Evangelical Mission beginning September 2009. This position represents the Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission unit in the Western Iowa Synod. Pastor Prois has two main areas of focus: evangelical mission and stewardship ministry and education. In addition, Pastor Prois provides staff support to the Board for Mission. He previously served as Director of Mission Advancement ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

Rev. John Rollefson

John Rollefson retired in the summer of 2009 from 35 years of pastoral ministry serving urban and campus congregations in San Francisco, Milwaukee, Ann Arbor and Los Angeles. He and his wife Ruth, a former public school music teacher, live in San Luis Obispo, California. He was an ELCA delegate to the LWF Ninth Assembly in Hong Kong.

Margaret Sadler

Margaret and her husband Marcus Busch treasure their two yearlong placements in LWF Department for World Service country programs. A year of living and working with LWF staff in Mauritania and—seven years later—in Cambodia has greatly enriched their lives. They happily travel the province of Alberta telling stories of LWF at work around the world. At home in Edmonton, Margaret and Marcus are active members of Hosanna Lutheran Church, including being the world mission representatives for the congregation. While both were volunteers at the LWF Assembly in Winnipeg, Margaret is honoured to be one of the ELCIC's delegates to the 2010 Assembly in Stuttgart.

Rev. Sue Schneider

Susan Schneider is an ordained Lutheran pastor and freelance writer who has also taught English in U.S. and international schools and worked in theater. She is the middle daughter of LCMS missionaries, and spent her childhood in the Philippines. She was granted an M.Div. from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, CA, and an M.Ed. from Georgia Southern University. Her B.A. in English is from Mississippi University for Women. She is passionate about art, language, and her nieces Gabriella and Katarina.

Rev. Jana Schofield and Michael Isensee

Rev. Jana Schofield is the Pastor of Campus and Parish Ministry at Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church in San Luis Obispo, California. Her husband, Michael Isensee, is the Agricultural Resource Specialist for San Luis Obispo County and a former organic farmer. They love to cook and eat good meals from their Community Supported Agriculture and garden, and are the blessed parents of Tae, their son adopted from South Korea in July 2009.