

# LIBERATED BY GOD'S GRACE

Creation Not for Sale,
Human Beings Not for Sale,
Salvation Not for Sale

Coast Canmore Hotel and Conference Centre (formerly the Radisson) 511 Bow Valley Trail, Canmore (403) 678-3625

### Keynote Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen



Anna Madsen is a "freelance theologian" in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. After graduating from Trinity Lutheran Seminary, she served a small South Dakota parish for three years before earning a Ph.D. in systematic theology in Regensburg, Germany. Immediately prior to her return to begin teaching at Augustana College, an accident killed her husband and severely injured her young son Karl. Daughter Else was eight months old at the time. This event shaped her theology and her life profoundly, not least of all by being a springboard to create OMG: Center for Theological Conversation. Here, individuals and groups, laity and clergy, come for questions, conversation, and study. She also speaks, blogs and writes at <a href="http://omgcenter.com/">http://omgcenter.com/</a>

#### Session 1 – You Can't Sell What's Free

Perhaps "prolepsis" isn't a word that one flings out of the pulpit on an average Sunday. It means, quite literally, a "taking-before". Christians are, in fact, called to take life before death: to live a life of proleptic grace by receiving and offering freedom from death, and freedom for living, in the name of the Risen One. Proleptic living is a tough sell, precisely because it is freely offered, and freely given.

# Session 2 – You Can't Commodify What Isn't to Sell

Land, air, water, time, space, relationships: all in their own way become victims of and vehicles for objectification and marketing opportunities. Into this mix comes a theological perspective that recalibrates the very notion of ownership, and simultaneously transforms it into the perspective and language of stewardship. Come and taste, come and see, come and experience, come and live, come and share in this place that is and is not ours.

### **Guest Bishop**



We are pleased that Bishop Elaine Sauer from the Manitoba/Northern Ontario Synod will be with us for the conference. Formerly a junior high school teacher, Bishop Elaine studied at Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon, graduating with a Masters of Divinity in 1998. She was originally called to serve the MNO Synod in youth and campus ministry, continued to serve the ELCIC as Assistant to the Bishop for Synodical Relations in 2003, and subsequently was called to serve the MNO as bishop in April 2006. Bishop Elaine is married to Rev. Rick Sauer, mother to Stephen (Erin), David and William (Natalie), and Grandmother to Corbin, Ella and Gabrielle.

### **Thursday Speaker**

Sharon Smith of Sanctuary Mental Health Ministries in Vancouver - "The Lived Experience of Mental Health Recovery and the Gifts of a Christian Community".

Sanctuary Mental Health Ministries is a not-for-profit, charitable organization committed to journeying with churches and parishes to facilitate belonging and inclusion. The Sanctuary Community is a mosaic of people contributing to a purpose we care deeply about: to prepare people of faith to support mental health recovery within their community. (http://www.sanctuary-ministries.com/)

**Fees** (Please note: registration fee does NOT cover your accommodations)

Fees include

Tuesday – breakfast and lunch; Wednesday – breakfast and lunch; Thursday – brunch; speaker's honorarium and expenses; sound and audio equipment; worship supplies; northern subsidy; hotel assembly room costs and committee expenses.

- \$270 adult participants, including rostered, spouses, lay leaders and retired
- \$ 20 per child's meal (children under the age of 10 are free)
- \$150 students registered with the Committee for Theological Education & Leadership
- \$100 daily rate (includes lunch and some conference costs)

#### Accommodations

Payment for your accommodations is NOT covered by the conference registration fee. The Conference will again be held at the Coast Canmore Hotel and Conference Centre, and that hotel has offered the following special rates:

\$84.00/night advance purchase with a three-night minimum stay; this is a non-refundable, no changes/cancellations or refunds rate

\$102.00/night which includes a cancellation option (cancellation must be made the day before expected arrival)

To make a reservation please call their toll free number: 1800.706.6199 quoting the group code **'CCM-GFC979'** or group name **'Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada'**. Alternatively, you can make online reservations using this web link <a href="http://coa.st/wgs1">http://coa.st/wgs1</a>

### Registration

Please register online by going to <a href="www.albertasynod.ca/leadership/study-conference/">www.albertasynod.ca/leadership/study-conference/</a> All registration fees must be received at the Synod Office by **January 6.** We cannot reimburse any cancellations after January 10.

The conference registration desk opens at 4:00 p.m., Monday afternoon.

An opening night reception will provide opportunity to introduce yourself to all those who are new to the Synod or to this event after the opening worship service, which will be held at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 1201 – 1 Ave., Canmore. Directions from Coast Canmore Hotel (1.4 km): walk/drive NW on Bow Valley Trail/Hwy. 1A West. Turn right on to 13 St.; turn right on to 1 Ave. Church is on the right.

#### Meals

Your registration fee includes five meals; breakfast and lunch on Tuesday and Wednesday, and brunch on Thursday. **Supper is on your own on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday**. If you have allergies of which we need to be aware, please indicate them on the registration form; the Coast will make every effort to accommodate your needs, however *there will be no reduction in the registration fee if you choose to eat elsewhere*.

If you are interested in joining others for dinner on Monday after you register, please e-mail Pastor Faith Brace (<a href="mailto:fbrace@telusplanet.net">fbrace@telusplanet.net</a>) so she can make a group reservation; plan to meet in the Coast lobby at 5:00 p.m.

Children under the age of ten may join you for breakfast or lunch at no extra cost. There is a charge of \$15 per meal for children over the age of ten years, which must be included in your registration payment.

#### Travel

Subsidy is available for those flying from the Yukon or the Northwest Territories; please send an email copy of your flight confirmation to the Synod office (info@albertasynod.ca). If your flight arrives in Edmonton or Calgary enroute to Canmore, please make your own travel arrangements to Canmore with one of the other participants.

## **Funding**

Three funding sources may be considered:

- Congregation or employing agency, as per letter of call;
- Continuing Education Plan; Personal

### Worship

Revs. Craig Wentland and Margaret Propp will be Study Conference Chaplains. Opening worship on Monday evening will be Holden Evening Prayer, held at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in in Canmore (1205 – 1 Avenue), with a reception to follow. Offering will be collected on Wednesday night during Eucharist, and is designated towards the building of Lord of Glory, Lac La Biche.

## **Outdoor Opportunities**

Local hotels have a great deal of information about local events and activities, so please refer to the pamphlets available in their lobbies. Please remember to bring warm outdoor clothing; swim suits, exercise clothing. There is an extra park fee if you plan to enter Banff National Park.

### **Afternoon Options**

Opportunities for exercise, study, conversation and fun have been scheduled for those who wish to participate. The following options are being offered, some for an additional fee:

- Walking tour of Canmore This will be a leisurely stroll of about 2 km including time for a coffee break. It will take approximately 2 hours. The guide will draw attention to some of the historical buildings that mark the development of the town Canmore Hotel, CPR Trestle Bridge, St. Michael's Anglican Church, NW Mounted Police Barracks, Ralph Connor United Church, Mine Shareholder's Cabin and the Civic Centre.
- Hike the Heart Creek Interpretive Trail This is an easy and interesting 3-km hike with a popular place for rock climbing on the cliffs that surround the stream. After a brief climb, you will arrive at the interpretive trail and the seven log bridges.
- Banff Upper Hot Springs The hot springs is one of Banff's most famous attractions. It was discovered in 1884 and became the first national park in Canada. The pools are fed by 100% natural mineral waters to a temperature of 37 40 degrees C. There is a cost of \$7.30 for adults (youth and seniors are \$6.30).
- Cross Country Skiing The Nordic Centre offers 65 km of groomed trails all accessible from the Centre and 6.5 km of illuminated trails for night skiing. A beautiful meadow located in the middle of the trail system offers spectacular views of Canmore, Bow Valley and the surrounding Rocky Mountains.
- Dog Sled Rides Snowy Owl Sled Dog Tours have provided this unique experience for tourists for the last 28 years. Their custom sleds carry 2 adults. A two-hour ride is offered at a cost of \$159 per person. You must book individually, 3 weeks ahead and must pay at the time of booking, with a credit card. Please arrive 45 minutes ahead of the departure time at 109, 829 10th St. Canmore. Contact info: <a href="mailto:leaddog@snowyowltours.com">leaddog@snowyowltours.com</a> or 403-678-4369. Warm clothing is recommended although blankets are provided.

- \*\* Conversation De-Briefing: Keynote Presentation Luncheon tables will be identified as 'reserved' for those who wish to have a conversation about the morning's presentation.
- \*\* Conversations: "Participating, Discovering, Experimenting" with Pastor Julianne Barlow

### Announcements and Use of Space

Groups choosing to acquire separate meeting space must make reservations directly with the hotel, arranging for payment before leaving. We encourage the use of posters and handouts for sharing announcements.

### Sincere Thanks to -

- The Conference Planning Committee: Rev. Faith Brace, Cathy Kochendorfer, Rev. Dr. Tim Wray;
- All of the conference presenters!
- Our Refreshment Break Sponsors
- The Welcome Reception Hosts

Your evaluation forms were carefully considered in developing the plans for this year's Conference and implemented to the best of our abilities. We hope that the arrangements reflect that input.

This annual gathering provides time to offer your support to ministry colleagues; to give yourself a necessary break in routine; to experience worship from a different perspective and the privilege of considering the insights of the respected keynote presenters.

### STUDY CONFERENCE SCHEDULE 2015

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Morning		8:00 am: Breakfast Buffet	8:00 am: Breakfast	
			Buffet	
		9:00 am: Worship	9:00 am: Worship	
		9:15 am: Announcements	9:15 am: Announcements	9:15 am: Opening Prayer and Brunch
		9:30 am: Key note Speaker	9:30 am: Key note	
		10:30 am: Break	Speaker	9:45 am Speaker: Sharon Smith "The
		10.50 am. Cuast Bishan	10:30 am: Break	Lived Experience of Mental Health Recovery
		10:50 am: Guest Bishop, Rev. Elaine Sauer	10:50 am: Bishop Larry	and the Gifts of a Christian Community"
		11:20 pm: Key note	11:20 pm: Key note	
		continued, with Q & A	continued, with Q & A	
		12:30 pm	12:30 pm	11:30 am
Noon		Lunch (provided)	Lunch (provided)	Godspeed and
Ň				Departure; check-out
Afternoon	4:00 pm Registration	Free Time	Free Time	
	5:00 pm Dinner	(see "Options")	(see "Options") or	
	(Georgetown Inn)		"Conversations:	
	Coffee is available		Participating,	
			Experimenting,	
			<b>Discovering"</b> with Pastor	
			Julianne Barlow 1:30 - 2:30	
	7:30 pm: Welcome	8:00 pm	pm (main hall). 7:30 pm: Eucharist	
Evening	Holden Evening	Healing Service (Rev. Dr.	Service (Bishop Elaine	
	Prayer at Shepherd of	Anna Madsen will be	will be preaching)	
	the Valley Lutheran	preaching)	, 5,	
Ev	Church			
	Welcome Reception			