

**BISHOP'S RETREAT NOVEMBER 28 - 30, 2012**

# *Leading Christian Communities in the Post-Christendom Era*



**Rolf Jacobson** joined the Luther Seminary faculty as assistant professor of Old Testament in July 2003. Jacobson earned his bachelor's degree from the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minn. in 1987. He holds a master of divinity degree from Luther Seminary (1991) and a doctor of philosophy degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, N.J. (2000).

His teaching interests include the Psalms, Old Testament prophets, biblical poetry, biblical theology, and biblical narrative. He emphasizes that the purpose of a biblical text is not just for preaching or teaching, although these are crucial functions. He says the Scriptures must also be used in pastoral care, personal spiritual growth, and for the shaping of Christian mission and theology. In addition, it can also function as a catalyst for change and growth within a congregation.

Jacobson is a in-demand speaker and author, who produces theological and biblical scholarship for both the church and the academic guild. He recently served as editor of *Crazy Talk: A Not-So-Stuffy Dictionary of Theological Terms*. With Kelly Fryer, he wrote the *No Experience Necessary* Bible studies. He has been a contributor to Augsburg Fortress's Handbook series (*The Lutheran Handbook*, *The Christian Handbook*, etc.), *Workingpreacher.org*, *Lectionary Homiletics*, and the like. His credits also include appearances in many video curricula, including *The Lutheran Course*.

## WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER **ROLF JACOBSON**

Seminaries, like all professional schools, are houses of "best practices." Best practices are developed and then passed on to the next generation of professionals. But most of the best practices taught in seminary were developed for a world that no longer exists. Professor Rolf Jacobson, Professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary, will invite us to think about how the world around the church has changed and to wonder together what a faithful response from Lutheran communities might include, all of this from his perspective as a biblical theologian.

*In addition to two keynote addresses, there will workshops led by some of our own pastors on best practices they have discovered for mission and ministry in the 21st Century. Our time together will also be rooted in the means of grace with several opportunities for worship, fellowship and shared meals in the context of the Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center. The retreat center offers:*

*an outdoor labyrinth    yoga and massage (by appt)  
48 wooded acres        an on-site chef  
complimentary wi-fi    walking trails & gardens*

*Online registration and further details will be available at [www.mnys.org/events/bishops\\_retreat1](http://www.mnys.org/events/bishops_retreat1). Or scan the code to the right to register now.*



**Metropolitan New York Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.