

Bridge

A Monthly E-Newsletter of the Asian and Pacific Islander Community  Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Winter 2018

asianlutherans.net

FROM THE DIRECTOR



We are in transition: the future issues of the Bridge will be published by the leadership of the Association of Asians and Pacific Islanders-

ELCA. I am grateful for their help that will strengthen our teamwork.

The 14th Assembly of the Asians and Pacific Islanders is scheduled for April 11-14, 2019. This will be the first time that we hold a joint assembly with the European Descent Lutheran Association for Racial Justice. The joint assembly will take place at Lao Evangelical Lutheran Church, Robbinsdale, MN. The theme of the Asian Assembly will be *Come and See: Responding Faithfully in a Changing Context*. We will have a productive joint assembly.

Rev. Pongsak Limthongviratn, Ph.D.
Program Director for Asian and Pacific Islander Ministries, Domestic Mission Unit, ELCA

SHARING ON ASIAN LEADERS IN MINISTRIES SERIES

Kitahata, Stacy D. (1961-) was the only Asian American woman and youngest executive staff member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) when it was formed in 1988.

She subsequently coordinated evangelism and multicultural ministry with ELCA Region 1. Beginning in September 2008 she also served as professor and chair of intercultural studies at Trinity Lutheran College, Everett, WA, and in July 2010 she became director of Trinity's Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning while continuing to teach intercultural studies. As of March 2011, Kitahata has been working with the Krista Foundation for Global Citizenship.

By Andrew Yee

Kleiber, Margrethe Shizuko Chinen

(1958-) was a South Asia program director and Asia Pacific desk director for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Prior to serving the ELCA, she was a caseworker in Hawaii and then a Peace Corps volunteer in Ecuador. After receiving her M.Div. degree she served as parish pastor in California. After leaving the ELCA position, Kleiber joined her husband overseas, who is with the US Department of State, and served a parish in Britain. While in Britain she also earned a Master of Science degree in Gender at the London School of Economics. Presently she has returned to parish ministry in the US.

By Lily R. Wu

AROUND THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY

Rev. Franklin Ishida (DMin) was awarded with Doctor of Divinity Honoris Causa by the Academy of Ecumenical Indian Theology and Church Administration in India. He will be conferred on March 24, 2018 in Chennai.

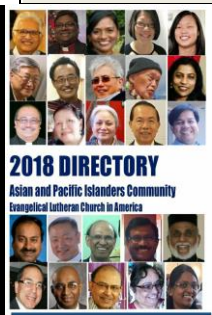
Satugarn Peter Limthongviratn was selected as the Rising Star Award recipient by National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA). The award will be presented in Minneapolis on March 6.

Rev. Hitoshi Adachi has received a new call as an ELCA missionary to Japan. He will be working in Japan. His new call will begin March 2018.

Asian Lutheran International Conference (ALIC) Steering Committee met in

December 2017 in Bangkok. The committee confirmed the plan to hold its 10th ALIC gathering in Udon Thani, Thailand. The date of the gathering is January 23-30, 2019. The ALIC Young Adult Work Camp/Gathering will take place on January 19-22.

Condolences to Trudy Wei for the loss of her husband. William Wei passed away on Sunday, February 4. The funeral service will be held in San Diego on February 24.



The 2018 Asian Directory was sent to all pastors, seminarians/TEEM Candidates and Lay Leaders in the ELCA. Any updates can be sent to pongsak.limthongviratn@elca.org

14th ASSEMBLY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF ASIANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS-ELCA



Come & See
Responding Faithfully in a Changing World

April 11-14, 2018
Minneapolis, MN

REGISTRATION FORM

Name.....

Congregation.....

Address.....

E-mail

Tel (.....) Fax (.....)

Female Male Youth

Lay Pastor Staff

Ethnic Representative

TRANSPORTATION

Participants will take care of their own flight and transportation to the hotel.

REGISTRATION FEES - \$80.

Registration fee \$80. It covers three night room, meals and banquet.

PAYMENT ENCLOSED

Please make check payable to AAPI and send this registration form and payment to:

Pongsak Limthongviratn
Director for Asian and Pacific Islander Ministries
Domestic Mission Unit, ELCA
8765 W. Higgins Rd., Chicago, IL 60631

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
MARCH 27, 2018**

Eiichii Matsushita Scholarship

Pongsak & Monta Limthongviratn Scholarship

The 2018 Scholarships for Asian Lutheran seminarians / TEEM candidates are available through 1) Eiichii Matsushita Scholarship, 2) Pongsak & Monta Limthongviratn Scholarship. Please email pongsak.limthongviratn@elca.org for information and an application form.

Luther's Small Catechism in Asian Perspective

Under the leadership of Prof. Paul Rajashekar, a working committee on *Luther's Small Catechism in Asian Perspective* has met in Bangkok last December to begin the work on this new resource. This volume will be a resource for

teaching Luther's catechism in contemporary Asian contexts, addressing the issue of poverty, pluralism, justice, corruption, women, local wisdom, ecology in Asia, etc. It will be a free resource to Asian congregations, leaders and the wider church. We hope to publish this resource in January 2019. We are grateful to the office of the Presiding Bishop for a grant that supports this project. The working committee consists of Prof. Paul Rajashekar (chair), Dr. Manhei Yip (Boston), Prof. Arata Miyamoto (Japan), Prof. Songram Basumatary (India), Prof. Victor Tinambunan (Indonesia) and Pongsak Limthongviratn (Chicago).

YOU'RE INVITED!

10TH ASIAN LUTHERAN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE (ALIC)



SINGING THE LORD'S SONG: MIGRATION AND MISSION

January 23-30, 2019

To watch the highlight of 2017 ALIC in Medan visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=phcomr178JsGt=229s>

Young Adult Work Camp

January 19-22, 2019

Conference

January 23-30, 2019

SAVE THE DATE!



Health of Asianers: Kiku akamura, Prof. Immond Yee, Dr. James Moy, Prof. Ijo Kang; 2) Preparation for the 14th Assembly of the Asians and Pacific Islanders-ELCA; 3) people affected by disasters in Asia and elsewhere.

Bridge is a quarterly-newsletter jointly published by Association of Asians and Pacific Islanders, ELCA, and Asian and Pacific Islander Ministries Desk, Domestic Mission unit, ELCA. To share your story, please send it to pongsak.limthongviratn@elca.org. Editor: Pongsak Limthongviratn. Editorial Committee: Gigie Sijera-Grant, Lily R. Wu, and Andrew Yee.