

# S.A.G.E.S.

*Saints Alive, Growing, Ever Serving*

*Since 1986*

GATHERING XXXIV Special Edition

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## Welcome!

The S.A.G.E.S. Board is thankful that we are now once again back for another GATHERING, and excited to announce:

**GATHERING XXXIV ...**

**FINISHING STRONG**

in Mankato at the Country Inn and Suites, beginning at 1 p.m. Monday, May 6, and concluding at 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 7.

The featured speaker is Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy, past president of MN South District and a published author. Rev. Nadasdy will have three presentations during the two-day event.

This mailing includes daily agendas, descriptions of workshop sessions, short biographies of presenters, the GATHERING registration form, and motel information.

The Tuesday morning business meeting will include the election of officers. The Articles of Governance call for the Vice President and Treasurer to be elected in even numbered years. The nominations are open and can be forwarded to Rev. Don Taylor, S.A.G.E.S. Vice President, chair of nominating committee, or made from the floor. Permission must be given by candidates to be nominated.

## **MEAL INFORMATION**

**NOTE:** Be aware that **there is NO restaurant on site** at Country Inn and Suites; however, there are several eating establishments close by in the area.

- ♦ Monday night banquet meal is: 'Champagne Chicken' ~Herb crusted chicken breast topped with a champagne sauce, wild rice pilaf and green beans.
- ♦ Tuesday morning the hotel serves a complimentary breakfast for hotel guests from 6 – 9:30 a.m.
- ♦ Tuesday boxed lunch is a croissant with choice of turkey, ham or roast beef with lettuce, tomato, onion and mayo; served with pasta salad, chips and a cookie.
- ♦ Dietary restrictions should be noted on the registration form.

Questions? Send inquiry to [minnesotasouthsages@gmail.com](mailto:minnesotasouthsages@gmail.com) or contact Registrar Joyce Swedean, address on Registration form.



# S.A.G.E.S.



(S.A.G.E.S. = Saints Alive, Growing, Ever Serving)

## PROGRAM FOR GATHERING XXXIV MAY 6 & 7, 2024

### MONDAY, MAY 6

- 12:00 – 1:15 p.m. Registration
- 1:00 – 1:20 p.m. Vocal Exercise
- 1:20 – 1:30 p.m. Welcome and  
Opening Prayer  
Rev. James Vehling,  
S.A.G.E.S. President
- 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. **“Finishing Strong”**  
Rev. Dean Nadasdy
- 2:30 – 2:40 P.M. Physical Exercise
- 2:40 - 3:15 p.m. Break  
Visit Displays
- 3:20 – 4:20 p.m. S.A.G.E.S. WORKSHOP I
- 4:30 – 5:45 p.m. Reception – LCEF
- 5:15 – 5:45 Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. SAGES Evening Banquet

Entertainment:



Closing devotion –  
Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford  
MNS District President

### TUESDAY, MAY 7

- 6:30 – 8:00 a.m. Breakfast –  
complimentary for Hotel Guests only
- 7:30 – 8:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal
- 8:00 – 8:15 a.m. Vocal Exercise
- 8:15 – 8:30 a.m. Business meeting
- 8:30 – 9:15 a.m. **“Finishing Strong”**  
Rev. Dean Nadasdy
- 9:15 – 9:25 a.m. Physical exercise
- 9:25 – 9:50 a.m. Break  
Visit Displays
- 9:55 – 10:55 a.m. S.A.G.E.S. WORKSHOP II
- 11:00 – Noon S.A.G.E.S. WORKSHOP III
- 12:00 – 12:55 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. **“Finishing Strong”**  
Rev. Dean Nadasdy
- 2:00 – 2:30 p.m. Installation of officers  
Rev. David Preuss,  
Chaplain

Closing Devotion

Rev. Adam Matheny,  
Our Savior’s Lutheran, Mankato

**THE MISSION:** S.A.G.E.S. is organized to enhance the Older Adult Ministry of the MNS District LC-MS, by providing experiences in Christian fellowship, service, and life enrichment.

**THE MOTTO:** “They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green.”

Psalm 92:14 NIV

# **S. A. G. E. S. WORKSHOPS**

May 6 & 7, 2024-- Country Inn & Suites – Mankato MN

## **Monday, May 6, S.A.G.E.S. WORKSHOP I, 3:20-4:20 p.m.**

- A. **“TALKING ABOUT JESUS WITHOUT TALKING ABOUT SIN.”**  
This workshop explores and encourages talking about Jesus in ways that may fit local cultures and people. Stories of the presenter’s mistakes in mission, and small group discussion of ways to talk about Jesus, will be included, along with a list of fourteen different ways the Bible talks about Jesus. Dr. Richard Carter, presenter
- B. **“MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR DOCTORS VISIT”**  
Dr. Chris Fallert will share practical tips to help you get the most from your visit to the doctor’s office. These suggestions should help you to partner with your doctor to optimize your care. The presentation will also give you greater insight into how physicians think and work.
- C. **“EMBRACING LIFE'S CHAPTERS-LIVING WELL, DYING WELL”**  
By taking time to process and prepare for life's final chapter, we can live more abundantly and honor God in both life and death. Whether seeking personal guidance or ways to support others, this workshop offers a compassionate approach to navigating life's end. We'll explore a comprehensive approach to navigating this important life transition, as we consider questions and engage in conversation about emotional care, faith perspectives, and practical preparations. Terri Albrecht, presenter
- D. **"THE LIGHTER SIDE OF BEING LUTHERAN: OUR GOD BRINGS JOY"**  
There are plenty of things in today's world to get us down and concerned, but we have a God who is bigger than all of our worries and concerns. In our time together we will look at a God who brings JOY. Sometimes we need to take a lighthearted look at what it means to be Lutheran. I hope you will be encouraged, challenged, and even a little more joyful having spent the time in this workshop. Rev. Craig McCourt, presenter

## **Tuesday, May 7, S.A.G.E.S. WORKSHOP II, 9:55 -10:55 a.m.**

- E. **"HISTORY IN SONGS"**  
Some songs from our past are based on historical events or people. We will analyze some of them and use them to learn some history. Singing along is permitted. Examples are "The Battle of New Orleans" and "The Sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald." Tom Kuseske, presenter
- F. **“TRENDS IN FRAUD & IDENTITY THEFT: A NEW AGE OF SCAMS”**  
Presentation description: Fraud losses are at an all-time high and are increasing year-over-year at an unprecedented rate despite anyone's prevention attempts. Conditions such as widespread social isolation, rapid advances in technology, adoption of new payment methods and insufficient consumer protections are all contributing factors. New scams emerge almost daily, however, often using the same proven psychological tactics. Knowing about these makes people far less likely to be victimized and lose money. With fraud losses skyrocketing in our country, now is the time to shift your mindset about the vulnerabilities in the people you serve, the risks for yourself and your family, and how to defend against these crimes. Jay Haapala, presenter.

G. "FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE"

Mission Opportunities Short Term (MOST Ministries) is a Christian non-profit organization that connects, trains, and sends short-term mission teams throughout the world, in response to requests from missionaries and church bodies. MOST Ministries provides for the physical and spiritual needs of more than 10,000 people each year by connecting Goers, Senders and Receivers. It is a commitment to the Great Commission that has compelled MOST Ministries to go far and near for the sake of the Gospel since 1989. Marty More, presenter.

**Tuesday, May 7, S.A.G.E.S. WORKSHOP III, 11:00 - 11:55 a.m.**

E1. "HISTORY IN SONGS"

F1. "TRENDS IN FRAUD & IDENTITY THEFT: A NEW AGE OF SCAMS"

G1. "FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE"



**Donation Opportunity:** Bring used eye glasses to the GATHERING. The collection will be contributed to MOST Ministries for distribution through their missionaries.

**MOTEL RESERVATIONS**

**COUNTRY INN AND SUITES**

The hotel is located at the intersection of Highways 14 and 22 in Mankato MN.

- ▶ **RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE DIRECTLY WITH THE HOTEL BY INDIVIDUALS BY SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024:**



Contact the Country Inn & Suites, 1900 Premier Drive, Mankato by calling 507-388-8555. The block of rooms is under the name S.A.G.E.S.

The room rates are:

\$119.00 (non-smoking 2 Queen beds) plus 15% tax

\$119.00 (non-smoking King size bed and sofa) plus 15% tax.

**Check in time is 3:00 P.M.**

Your room may not be ready to move into until that time!

**NO ONE HAS DONE HIS BEST UNTIL HE HAS TRAINED SOMEONE ELSE TO TAKE HIS PLACE. Prayerfully consider these opportunities:**

- The Publicity Committee is seeking a volunteer who has an interest in the ministry of communication to join in the production of SAGACITY, the quarterly newsletter.
- We continue to have an opening for Circuit Representative(s) on the S.A.G.E.S. Board from Circuit 21 (Blue Earth) and Circuit 22 (Sherburn).

# S.A.G.E.S. GATHERING XXXIV REGISTRATION

(Saints Alive! Growing, Ever Serving)

May 6 and 7, 2024

Country Inn & Suites, 1900 Premier Drive, Mankato, MN

## REGISTRATION DEADLINE - APRIL 15, 2024

PRINT NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CONGREGATION \_\_\_\_\_ LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_

>Registration choices	Individual	Couple
Full Registration (Monday and Tuesday with meals)	\$75.00 _____	\$150.00 _____
Registration Monday <b>only</b> (includes Banquet)	\$43.00 _____	\$ 86.00 _____
Registration Tuesday <b>only</b> (includes Lunch)	\$35.00 _____	\$ 70.00 _____
Registration Monday ( <b>no</b> Banquet)	\$16.00 _____	\$ 32.00 _____
Registration Tuesday ( <b>no</b> Lunch)	\$16.00 _____	\$ 32.00 _____
Annual Membership	\$ 5.00 _____	\$ 10.00 _____
Voluntary Contribution	\$ _____	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL REMITTED</b>	\$ _____	\$ _____



Identify dietary restrictions/requests here: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to S.A.G.E.S. and send to Joyce Swedan**

**1535A Clemson Drive, Eagan, MN 55122**

### Pre-Registration for Workshops

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop I Monday May 6  
Circle A B C D

Workshop II Tuesday May 7  
Circle E F G

Workshop III Tuesday May 7  
Circle E1 F1 G1

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop I Monday May 6  
Circle A B C D

Workshop II Tuesday May 7  
Circle E F G

Workshop III Tuesday May 7  
Circle E1 F1 G1

(NOTE: Print/Copy this page and keep for your record.)