



NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Marquette, Michigan

ngls@nglsynod.org

E-Notes for December 15, 2015

The Season of Advent



QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;*

*From our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.*

*Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,*

*Dear desire of every nation, joy of
every longing heart."*

-Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Hymn 254

IN MEMORY OF BISHOP EMERITUS HARRY S. ANDERSEN 1922 – 2015

The Memorial Service for Bishop Emeritus Harry S. Andersen will be held on Saturday, January 2, 2016 at Ascension Lutheran Church in Minocqua, Wisconsin. The family will welcome you at 1:00 p.m. with the worship service at 2:00 p.m. Central Time. Memorials may be directed to the American Friends Service Committee, Lutheran World Relief or Ascension Lutheran Church of Minocqua. You may

World Council of Reconciliation Lutheran Church of Pineau, you may communicate with Mrs. Andersen and her family at 12875 Rocky Point Lane, Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538.

We praise God for the life of Rev. Harry S. Andersen. In Christ shall all be made alive!

CLERGY SPOUSE CONFERENCE FEB 5-7, 2015



The Annual Clergy Spouse Conference is scheduled for February 5-7 at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton, Wisconsin. Rachel Kurtz and Pastor Tracy Polzin will lead the program. More information is available online at nglsynod.org.

BETHANY, ISABELLA TO CLOSE December 27, 2015

Since 1895 Lutheran Christians have gathered at Bethany Church in Isabella, Michigan.

The last regular worship service will be held at Bethany on December 27, 2015

We thank God for their witness of 120 years. A spring celebration of this ministry and God's faithfulness to Bethany Isabella is being planned for the Spring.





SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT.....

A youth trip (16+ years old) is being planned to visit Tanzania in the summer of 2017. More information will be available on January 1, 2016. This could be a very exciting experience!

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM ELCA SECRETARY Rev. Chris Boerger

CHURCH MUTUAL INSURANCE CO. THE ELCA ENDORSED INSURANCE PROGRAM:

“Church Mutual is proud to be selected as your ELCA-endorsed insurance provider. As a reflection of our commitment to helping you achieve your goals under an umbrella of protection, security and partnership, we are excited to offer all ELCA congregations and synods a 5% discount when they select us as their insurance provider, effective January 1, 2016. As the largest single insurer of the ELCA church-wide offices, regional offices, synod offices and congregations, we look forward to our continued partnership. Learn more about Church Mutual by downloading our brochure. If you’d like us to provide a quote, simply go to churchmutual.com/ELCA and click on “Request a Quote,” or call (800) 554-2642, selection Option 1.

Thank you again for your trust in Church Mutual."



Workshop Opportunity!

Dreams: God's Forgotten Language

A workshop for Pastors, Priests, and Faith Based Leaders

- Review the latest research on sleep and dreaming.
- Trace the footprint of 250 dreams in the Old and New Testaments.
- Explore the power of the unconscious, depth psychology, and the contributions of Carl Jung in understanding the transforming nature of dreams.
- Learn to appreciate the emphasis that traditional spirituality of Native American peoples in the Upper Peninsula hold for the power of the dream.
- Identify ways to integrate dream work in pastoral care and in one's own prayer and spiritual life.

Wednesday, December 16th & Friday, December 18th

at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at Zion Lutheran Church
201 E. Ridge Street, Marquette 999 S. State St., St. Ignace, MI

9:30 a.m. Registration
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Workshop

Suggested Donation: \$45, includes lunch and materials

To Register: online at www.cedartreeinstitute.org
or call 906-228-5494

Facilitators: Pastor Jon Magnuson
with Barb Ojibway and Ray Hasenauer

TANZANIA PRESENTATION FOR OUR CONGREGATIONS

Luanne Skrenes is willing to visit your congregation or conference/cluster area in 2016 to do 45-90 minute programs on the Companion Synod work of our synod in Tanzania. Her presentation can be tailored to your specific needs. She is available to speak on the Dental Clinic, Mkuza Girls School, Kisarawe School and the whole companion relationship that has enriched our synod work for nearly the past 25 years. Our congregations need to hear of the good ministries that are being done by the people of our congregations and the people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. The only honorarium needed is an offering for our work together in Tanzania and some mileage.

Please contact Luanne at **906.485.5121 or 906.869.6796.**



Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp

**To register, visit fortunelake.org or phone
906-875-3697**

Dec. 4-5 – Grief Retreat: “A Long December”



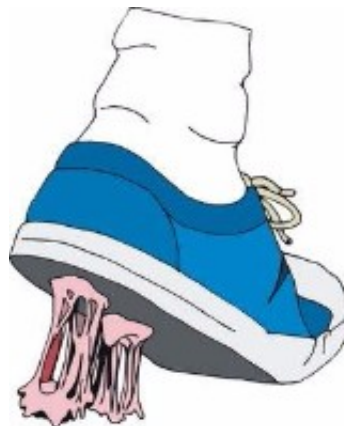
Would you like to be in a commercial?

The Worship, Witness, Welcome Task Force is in the process of developing an advertising campaign that celebrates the blessings of the community of faith, and more specifically, ELCA Lutheran congregations. We are looking for “actors” of every age group who are willing to speak to a camera and say one line (that is scripted J).



If you are interested, please contact Pastor Katherine Finegan at kfinegan@nglsynod.org.

Also, if you would like to financially support this new and ground breaking effort, your gifts would be appreciated. So far, Tremont, Mesquite, and



Nurturing Faith that Sticks

Two are scheduled so far:

**~Saturday, January 16
at Bethany, Escanaba
8:30 a.m. - Noon**

**~Saturday, February 13
at Bethel, Ishpeming
8:30 a.m. - Noon**

- A workshop event to equip Adult Volunteers and Staff who work with Youth, Parents, Pastors, Grandparents, Sunday School Teachers, Confirmation, Small Group Leaders, and more.
- We all want to pass on the faith to the next generation.
- Come learn some skills, attitudes, and practices to help that happen more effectively.

Please register by sending \$5.00 along with your name, church, email and phone to the Synod Office

Far Immanuel, Wegaunee and First, Gladstone have dedicated a portion of their 2016 Endowment disbursements to this effort. Gifts from congregations and individuals are welcome!

Office.

If you would like this event to come to your conference, please contact Pastor Katherine Finegan at kfinegan@nglsynod.org.

Sponsored by the Synod Youth Task Force



Luther Land Tour **Coming September 19-28, 2016!!!**

Pastor Katherine Finegan and her husband, Dave, will be leading a Ten Day Fall Tour in the steps of Martin Luther.

Sponsored through "Faith Journeys", hotel, breakfasts and dinners, program and guide, bus and airfare will all be included in the cost.

**Save the dates in your calendar today!
The itinerary and more details are available
online at www.nglsynod.org. Your congregation
also received material in the last Synod mailing.
Contact Rev. Katherine Finegan at kfinegan@nglsynod.org with
any questions.**

Join the Tour! Walk in the steps of Martin Luther.

Registrations received until May of 2016.

Check out www.prayfaithfully.org
for weekly **"Breath Prayer"**
and **Daily Devotions**.
The synod website is www.nglsynod.org



Thinking ahead to

MARKED!

4:00 – 7:00pm local time.

Includes worship, learning, fun and food!!

Feb. 28: Holy Trinity, Chassell

March 6: Prince of Peace, Eagle River

March 13: Immanuel, Escanaba

Marked! is a Synod sponsored event to gather in NGLS Confirmation students. This year, we are collecting school supplies for LWR School Kits and local schools. Many of the below items are on sale NOW. If your congregation is collecting for the fall, please keep MARKED in mind, and buy extra.

Items needed for LWR School Kits:

70-sheet notebooks of wide or College ruled X 4

30 centimeter ruler X 1

Pencil sharpener X 1

Blunt scissor X 1

#2 unsharpened pencils X 5

Black/blue ball point pens (no gel pens) X 5

Box of 16 or 24 crayons X 1

2 inch Pencil eraser X 1

Drawstring school bag. Pattern available
at www.lwr.org/schoolkits

Items suggested for local schools:

Hand sanitizer

Boxes of tissues

Clorox wipes

Folders

Pens/pencils

Erasers

Stickers

Granola bars

Your congregation received a letter with all the details. If you cannot find that letter, call the Synod Office and we'll send you another one, or find it on our website at www.nglsynod.org.

Thank you for your support of this embodiment of walking together as a Synod!

Sneaky Visitor Initiative

**Similar to a Mystery Shopper or an Undercover Boss,
you are invited to visit another congregation,
preferably where no one knows you
(including the distant cousin and the aunt four times removed),
and evaluate that congregation on their welcome,
their worship, their witness, and their building.**

**Evaluation forms are available at www.nglsynod.org.
Simply go to anyNGLS congregation, and after your visit
(*please do not fill out the form during the visit*),
send the completed forms in to the Synod Office
(*either electronically or through the mail*).**

**The form with your feedback
will be sent on to the congregation,
and the fact that you sent it (that is, your identity)
will remain in confidence at the Synod Office.**

Sponsored by the Evangelism Committee



 Northern Great Lakes Synod, ELCA

 Northern Great Lakes Synod, ELCA

LIFTING UP TO GOD IN PRAYER

+The family and friends of Bishop Emeritus Harry S. Andersen. Bishop Andersen served as the first bishop of our synod from 1987-1991. He had a long career of service to the congregations and witnessed to our faith in Jesus. May his memory be blessed!

+For peace in Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Nigeria and in all other lands.

+All of our congregations in this season of hope and expectancy! Come Lord Jesus anew in our worship life.

+ + +

E-Notes is a twice monthly electronic newsletter
from the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

- Thomas A. Skrenes
Bishop

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E-notes from Northern Great Lakes Synod

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