



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

ngls@nglsynod.org

E-Notes for July 15, 2016

The Season of Pentecost

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We are bound together by faith, not by experience...For Jesus Christ alone is our unity. He is our peace. Through him alone do we have access to one another, joy in one another, and fellowship with one another."

- *"Life Together," p. 39*

by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

A "GOOD" FUNERAL

I attended a funeral last Wednesday along with 700 people. At least 300 in the congregation were 21 years old or younger. I spent most of my morning at St. John Roman Catholic Church in Spring Green, Wisconsin, where we

gave thanks for the life of Beau Solomon.

You might have heard Beau's story in the national news. He was a 19 year old University of Wisconsin student who was murdered in Rome two weeks ago. They found his lifeless body in the Tiber River.

In addition to the 700 folks in church, I am told a thousand people went to the funeral visitation Tuesday evening.

Beau's parents and his three brothers greeted us all. They gave an received comfort as they hugged and cried. What a faithful family!

I met Beau as a volunteer serving with him on the staff of the Wisconsin American Legion youth program Badger Boys State. We had worked together this past June. He was my young friend. I mourn his death.

I tell you this because that funeral service was to me a reminder of the power of the liturgy and the Word of God to help us all in our grief. Those familiar words of the burial liturgy were life giving to me. The sermon delivered by the parish priest and echoed in remarks by the Catholic Bishop of Madison was just superb. The Gospel was clearly proclaimed. The message we all heard was that Beau lived in God's promise. That promise is ours today and forever only because Jesus died and rose again. Life today and life eternal are totally God's gifts to us. I think it was one of the best funeral sermons I have ever heard.

I thought you should know that the Gospel is being proclaimed and the funeral liturgy helps to heal the wound that is death. I know I needed to hear the Gospel. Christ has died. Christ is Risen. Christ will come again.

+Bishop Thomas A. Skrenes



**1517 - 2017
THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE LUTHERAN REFORMATION**

**"FROM CONFLICT TO COMMUNION"
Journeying Toward Shared Faith and Life**

**This event will facilitate discussion, prompt reflection,
and urge collective action that builds mutual
understanding and strengthens ties among diverse
expressions of faith.**

**Sponsored by
Finlandia University and the Northern Great Lakes Synod**

**September 25-27, 2016
at Finlandia University
Hancock, Michigan**

**This conference is for clergy and interested lay people
and will feature presentations by
Bishop Alex Malasusa of the
Eastern and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in Tanzania
and
Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota**

Historian Professor Dr. Mark Granquist.

**Worship
Panel Discussions
Key Notes
Workshops
Banquet**

Register online at
www.nglsynod.org/reformation

Ad Campaign Update!

Please send us a digital copy of the outside of your church building for the Ad Campaign. A "landing page" is being developed and we want people to see your church! Check out your congregation's information at www.churchisgood.org.

Thank you to all those congregations who have been able to give to support this effort. We have received donations from Endowment Funds, General Funds, Memorial Funds, and individuals. As of today, we have received almost \$15,000 with promises of more to come. If your congregation has not yet made a donation, please consider what you can give. We have covered the cost of production, and now need to buy air time.

You are invited to be a part of this exciting campaign to

You are invited to be a part of this exciting new way to
WITNESS!!!

LIFTING UP TO GOD IN PRAYER

+For the people of France and the people of all nations and communities who suffer from terrorism. We pray for the victims of violence.

+For understanding and love between people of all nations, races, creeds and cultures. Teach us O God to love one another.

+We pray for those on vacation, for those traveling and those enjoying the beauty of our Upper Peninsula and Northeastern Wisconsin.





Mark Your Calendars!!
The Festival is Coming! The Festival is Coming!

Friday - Saturday, October 28-29
at First, Gladstone

Come for opening Festival Worship done up righteous!
Stay for a cornucopia of ideas and information.

The following workshops have been confirmed:

Faith Out Loud
Practicing Discipleship
World Hunger
What Can Thrivent Do for You?
Funding Your Efforts through Endowment
Stewardship Today
Constitutional Review - the Latest Amendments
Lutheran Social Services
Effective Use of Social Media in the Parish
What is a Reconciled in Christ Congregation?
Human Trafficking and What Can We Do About It?
Ideas to Mark the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation
Women of the Reformation
A Sneaky Visitor Tells All

We will have displays, door prizes, new ideas, and more.
Past Festival participants remarked on the positive
energy, the joy of being together, and the great sparks of
creativity that they brought back to their own
congregations.

Don't Miss it!!

Pastors! Looking for a great Continuing Education opportunity?

Go to www.leadingwell.net
Grants funded by the Siebert Foundation

ROAD TRIP TO MINNEAPOLIS

THE BAD NEWS: While interest in going to Germany and Lutherland was high, many folks, for many reasons, were not able to go. So the Germany trip of September 2016 has been cancelled.

THE GOOD NEWS: You have the chance to see some of the history of the Reformation anyway!!

November 9-11, 2016

The NGLS is sponsoring a bus tour to Minneapolis to see an exhibit of artifacts and Luther-memorabilia sponsored by Thrivet at the Minneapolis Institute of Art.

Cost will be about \$250 per person based on double occupancy. This includes bus, hotel, most meals, and exhibit with guided tour.

Register by sending a \$100 deposit to:
Northern Great Lakes Synod
1029 N. Third Street, Suite A
Marquette, MI 49855

For a tentative schedule of events, check out our website!

The bus holds 56 people.
Once it's full, it's full!!

Always
being made
New.

The Campaign for the ELCA.

Always Being Made New Campaign

Thank you to all the congregations and individuals who contributed to the Always Being Made New Campaign for 2015! We now have almost \$5000 that is available for grants to our Northern Great Lakes Synod congregations for Barrier Free Projects. For more information on details and how to apply, go to www.nglsynod.org.

Application deadline is September 1, 2016.



STICKY FAITH
Coming this November!

**To equip adults who work with
children and teenagers!**

- Deadline for registering - November 1st

- Register by calling the Synod Office
- Only \$5.00
- Hosted at Immanuel, Negaunee
- 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. ET
- Saturday, November 5, 2016
- Pay at the door

**Give a boost to your S.S. Teachers,
Confirmation & Youth leaders, etc.!!!**

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



**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 22, 2016**

**HANDBELL CHOIR
WORKSHOP**

For both the beginner and
advanced bell ringers,

**Handbell
Choir
Workshop**

Bring Your Bells!

**Bring Your
Favorite Anthem!**

**Everyone
Welcome!**

At Bethel Lutheran Church
333 E. Ridge Street

seasoned and novice directors.
Come learn new
techniques, resources,
and more!

Featuring Lucas Wickstrom and
other local Bell Choir Directors.

Register by going to
www.nglsynod.org and use
Paypal or print the flyer from the
website, cut off and fill out the
lower portion and send along
with check to 1029 N. 3rd St.,
Marquette, MI 49855

**Make Checks to "Northern
Great Lakes Synod."**

Ishpeming, MI

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.ET
Lunch Included

Cost:
\$10 if registered by Oct. 14
\$20 if received after Oct. 14

Sponsored by the Northern
Great Lakes Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America.

www.nglsynod.org
906-228-2300

Direct questions to:
ngls@nglsynod.org



Northern Great Lakes Synod, ELCA



Northern Great Lakes Synod, ELCA

+ + +

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

Copyright © 2016 Northern Great Lakes synod, All rights reserved.
E-notes from Northern Great Lakes Synod

Our mailing address is:
Northern Great Lakes synod

