



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

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E-Notes for November 16, 2016

Christ the King Sunday

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Christ the King Sunday was first declared and celebrated in 1925, in the midst of the European political turmoil of the 1920's. It was intended to proclaim God's reign in a world that had just finished one world war and was facing movement toward another. In a world torn apart by factions, alliances, and power jockeying for more power, the world needed to hear, and the faithful needed to be reminded, that no human system is forever. Only Christ is sovereign, and totalitarianism, communism, dictatorships, imperialism, fascism, colonialism, democracy – every power of politics and system of authority is a finite and mortal construct and will not stand against the eternity of God's reign. On this day, the Church proclaims that God has ultimate authority and in Christ, love becomes the constitution that orders and shapes our actions and lives.

A big Thank You to Pastor Tom Otis and the people of First, Gladstone for hosting the third Festival of Congregational Renewal. Thank you also to the whole Delta Conference, presenters and bar bakers, participants and helpers. It was

a wonderful event and it wouldn't have happened without you!!

Soon, pictures of the Reformation Road Trip will be posted. We had a GREAT time! The exhibit of Luther artifacts was definitely worth the trip. Thank you to all who came along, and to Pastor Jim Duehring for being the official driver for the Luther Van.



BISHOP'S OFFICE TRANSITION TEAM NAMED

The Synod Council has formed a Transition Team that will work over the next year as our synod elects a new bishop. Their responsibility will be to make recommendations to the synod council on the election process for the new bishop, help the synod appropriately recognize the ministry of Bishop Skrenes, work with the Bishop-elect on the transition and to help plan the installation service for the new bishop.

Members of the Transition Team are:

Pastor Doug Johnson, Chair
Pam Long, Synod Vice President
Larry Pagel, Synod Treasurer
Rick Pink, Synod Council
Barb Maines, Synod Council
Bill Weis, Synod Council
Pastor Mike Laakko, Synod Council
Pauline Kiltinen, former Synod Vice President
Pastor Ellie Russey, Retired Pastor
Pastor Peter Vorhes, former Synod Council
Bishop Thomas Skrenes, non-voting adviser

By the end of November, more information will be sent to the congregations of the synod concerning the Task Force and their ministry. In the meantime, please pray that God's Holy Spirit will inform and encourage all of

that God's Holy Spirit will inform and encourage all of us.

Always
being made
New.

The Campaign for the ELCA.

**The Always Being Made New Campaign
in the Northern Great Lakes Synod**

As we enter the second year of this campaign,
we thank you and we thank God for the generous
contributions toward the recipients of the 2015 year;
New and Renewing congregations,
Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, and Barrier Free Projects.

**Congratulations to the following congregations who will receive
Barrier Free Grants:**

Bethany, Ishpeming for automatic doors
First, Trenary for handicapped accessible pavement
Siloa, Ontonagon for a Superglide chair and widening the staircase
Holy Trinity, Chassell for improvements to their outdoor worship
space

In 2016, the Campaign is raising funds to support both ELCA
World Hunger, and local efforts to address poverty and
hunger. ELCA World Hunger provides a wealth of resources
to educate congregations and offer opportunities to give at
www.elca.org/hunger. Many Northern Great Lakes
congregations house or support local food pantries. clothes

congregations need or support local food pantries, clothing closets, week-end backpack meals.

Please be generous! Funds raised in 2016 will be split evenly between ELCA World Hunger and grants made available to support local NGLS efforts to address hunger and poverty.

Let us join together to do God's work on a scale and scope that we could never do within our individual congregations.

TRANSITIONS

- We celebrate with Finlandia University at the installation of their new Campus Pastor, Rev. Soren Schmidt, on Tuesday, November 29, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. (ET) at the Chapel of St. Matthew in Hancock, Michigan. Clergy are invited to vest. The color of the day is red. All are welcome!



Calling all Pastor-type Musicians!!!

The Synod Worship Committee is looking for musicians to accompany the closing worship at Synod Assembly 2017.

The closing worship will be Tuesday, May 23, at NMU.

The only requirements:

- That you play an instrument
- That you will be attending Synod Assembly anyway as either a voting member or a visitor

We are looking for bass guitar, tambourine, flute, strings - whatever you've got!!!

Please contact Pastor Katherine at the Synod Office if you're interested!

MARKED!

Sunday, February 26, 2017 at Eden, Munising

Sunday, March 5, 2017 at First, Iron River

Please note the date changes!

Make plans now to attend
with your Confirmation Youth,
and to collect Health Kit and Love Bundle
supplies in your congregation.

LIFTING UP TO GOD IN PRAYER

+For our nation as we transition to new leadership, for President Barack Obama and President-elect Donald Trump.

+For our congregations, as we seek to be the presence of Christ in the world, heal divisions, and alleviate anxiety.

+For those discerning a call to ordained ministry and

pastoral leadership.

+We give thanks for our many blessings, for the gift of faith, for the work of the Spirit in and through us.

LOOKING AHEAD

Congregational Leaders Intensive

February 24-25, 2017

**at Fortune Lake Camp
Crystal Falls, MI**



**Effective leadership is important!
Be equipped, learn new skills, deepen
your understanding of what effective
congregational leadership looks like.**

**Request a Thrivent Action Grant to
help with expenses.**

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

**News for Pastors
and Congregational Leaders**

REGISTER TODAY

LSS SUNDAY | **March 5, 2017**



Register online today at
www.lsswis.org/LSS-Sunday-registration.

CELEBRATE THE MISSION THAT CHANGES PEOPLE'S LIVES!

Join with congregations all across Wisconsin and Upper Michigan to share how your congregation's ministry through LSS is changing lives each and every day.

Our work is rewarding and humbling, and in that humility we ask that you:

- Designate the first Sunday in March as LSS Sunday at your congregation (or another date of your choice).
- Request an LSS staff speaker (as available).
- Confirm your participation and let us know how many offering envelopes we should mail to you.

Thank you for being a partner in our ministry.
If you have questions, please contact Pastor
Jim Holmberg at 414.325.3069 or
james.holmberg@lsswis.org.



Lutheran Social Services
of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Inc.



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**Rev. Katherine Finegan
Assistant to the Bishop**

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E-notes from Northern Great Lakes Synod

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