

The logo features a yellow spotlight beam shining down on the text. The text reads "Northern Great Lakes Synod Youth Ministry Spotlight" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Northern Great Lakes Synod Youth Ministry Spotlight

More Than Just a Game – a story about Lukas

Making connections and solving problems is something that Lukas Barron, a high school sophomore from Negaunee, enjoys about the Northern Great Lakes Synod’s Dungeons and Dragons (D&D) Club. Lukas was familiar with D&D prior to the launch of the Synod’s club in February 2025, but since joining the Synod’s campaign, he has made new friends and further developed his skills and knowledge of one of the most popular table-top games in the world.

Lukas likes that not every D&D campaign is the same and appreciates how faith can connect to a game that many associate only with fantasy, magic, and defeating monsters. Pastor Jack Busche serves as the Dungeon Master and provides guidance and leadership. He begins each session with a devotion and wraps up game time by giving participants a chance to share their highs, lows, and shout-outs with each other. Pastor Jack encourages the players to work together to figure out challenges, while developing their communication, story-telling, and problem-solving skills. Lukas recalls a recent devotion which highlighted that the connections we make with each other

help us build stronger connections to our faith in Christ.

Growing up at Bethel Lutheran Church in Ishpeming, Lukas remembers regularly attending worship with his family. After his mom was diagnosed with cancer last year, Lukas’s faith was shaken. “Faith has come up a lot over the past year,” he said. Not only did his family rely on faith to get them through a challenging time, but they also grew in their faith together.



Challenges abound in games and in life. The skills we learn and practice the most will help us get through the tough times. Lukas is thankful for the connections and relationships he continues to build by playing D&D and invites anyone who thinks they might want to try it, to give it a chance! Lukas describes the group as “just a bunch of fun people” who are very supportive of each other. Doesn’t that sound like a worthwhile game to play?