

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

npls@nplsynod.org

E-Notes for August 31, 2014

PENTECOST SEASON

“QUOTE OF THE DAY”

Prayer Ministry is an intentional response to the powerful gift of prayer that God has given to the Church. Where there is no vision or plan regarding prayer, a church often responds to prayer requests through a prayer chain (that may or may not be effective at the present time) and views the pastor as the one hired to pray. By establishing Prayer Ministry as one of the ministry areas of your

congregation (likened to your stewardship, evangelism, and worship ministries, etc.), it gives a team of prayerful people the opportunity to intentionally seek God's will and advance the power of prayer in your congregation. The shape that any Prayer Ministry takes is going to be specific to that prayer team, the local community needs, and the openness of that congregation.

*Adapted from
"Growing Your Congregation's Prayer Ministries: A Key to
Strengthening Evangelism and Discipleship in Your Setting,"
by Brent Dahlseng.*

+ + +

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

Start saving for your congregation's trip to the 2015 Youth Gathering

Have you started saving for your congregation's youth to attend the ELCA's Youth Gathering next summer in Detroit? Consider registration fees, transportation, lodging

and meals.

The Mission Investment Fund, the financial ministry of the ELCA, offers a special **Demand Investment Youth Ministry account**. With this account, you earn interest on your fundraising dollars—and have the flexibility and convenience of writing checks as expenses occur. Your congregation can open an MIF Demand Investment Youth Ministry account for as little as \$100, and your funds will be available to you when you need them.

The Mission Investment Fund will also host an onsite Service Center at the Gathering, July 15-19, 2015. Authorized account holders will be able to conveniently cash checks on their MIF Demand accounts at this Service Center at the youth event.

July 2015 is closer than you think. Visit <http://www.mif.elca.org/youthministry> for more information and to download a Demand Investment Youth Ministry account application. For information on MIF investments and ministry loans, contact MIF Customer Service at 877-886-3522 or your MIF Regional Manager LuAnn Ferguson, at (651-900-3575), luann.ferguson@elca.org.

FORTUNE LAKE NEWS
GOLF SCRAMBLE: Monday,
September 8th
at the Oak Crest

Golf Course

N1475 US Highway 8, Norway,
MI 49870. Registration at 9amCT. Shotgun
start at 10amCT. \$65 per person, \$240 per
foursome includes 18 holes, cart and
lunch. Silent Auction

FALL FEST: Saturday, October
4th. Viewing begins at 9:30am CT.
Quilt Auction at 11:00am. Buffet Brunch
9:30 - 11:00am. Craft & Bakery Sale. Kid's
Activities.

All Northern Great Lakes

Synod Women are invited to attend the Gathering in their Conference!

In case you didn't know, every church is in a conference, and every conference is encouraged by the Synod Women's Organization to sponsor a "Cluster Meeting", either once or twice a year. These Cluster Meetings or Gatherings are for church women, the young and young at heart, to gather in fellowship with each other. The sponsoring congregation plans the program and hosts a light luncheon. A brief worship or Bible Study and an offering are also usually a part of the afternoon. Come and partner in ministry with your sisters in Christ, not only in your own congregation, but with your neighboring churches.

We can do so much more together than we can on our own...and it's just more fun!

Conference 1: at All Saints Lutheran, Wakefield on Sunday, October 12.

Registration at 1:30pm CT.

Afternoon includes program and light supper.

Call Virginia Hezcko for more info at 906-

932-1959.

Conference 8: at Trinity Lutheran, Ishpeming on Sunday, September 28.

Registration at 2:30pm ET.

Program with light lunch. Call Trinity Lutheran for more info at 906-486-6791

Other conferences are still in the planning stages. More info coming soon. Please let the Synod Office know when your Cluster Meeting is.

Conference Meetings

The Northern Great Lakes Synod is divided into 8 Conferences. Every autumn, pastors and congregational representatives meet to have necessary elections, discuss joint ministry efforts, and address concerns unique to their geographic area.

A representative from the Synod also attends to keep each conference aware of Synod concerns, updates, and Synod-

wide ministry efforts. Each congregation makes arrangements to send their pastor and at least two congregation members. Please review the following Conference Meetings. If you are interested in attending, let your pastor know.

Conference 1 – IGO CT at St. Paul, Ironwood	October 19	3:00pm
Conference 2 – Copper Country ET at Finlandia Chapel, Hancock	October 5	2:30pm
Conference 3 – Headwaters CT at Pioneer Lake, Conover	October 26	2:00pm
Conference 4 – Four Rivers CT at First, Iron River	October 12	3:00pm
Conference 5 – Menominee Valley CT at Northland Village	October 23	5:00pm
Conference 6 – Delta ET at Calvary, Rapid River	October 12	4:00pm
Conference 7 – Three Lakes ET at St. James, Rudyard	October 5	4:00pm
Conference 8 – Superior Central ET at Immanuel, Negaunee	October 19	3:00pm

CORE Convocation at United, Crystal Falls

Saturday September 20

9:30am – 5:00pm

Featuring Keynote Speaker Rev. Steve Shipman

Cost: \$10 includes lunch

Register by September 12. Call Rev. Mike Laakko at 906-875 - 6591

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday Sept. 7, 2014



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,



[Register your congregation](#) for
"God's work. Our hands."
Sunday.

Click here for "God's work. Our
hands." Sunday [resources](#).



Custom order deadline:
August 8

Order your T-shirts
today! Deadline for custom t-
shirts is August 8.

Yellow: wear it, share it.

Thank you for considering participation in the "God's work. Our hands." Sunday, Sept. 7, 2014. Whether in urban communities, write letters to soldiers and veterans or serve meals to people and families in need, we dedicate this day to be church together – as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and around the world. It's not too late to plan your participation in this dedicated day of service! Here's how I'm planning the day. | [Watch video](#)

To help guide your congregation's planning download a toolkit, bulletin insert and flyer at www.ELCA.org. T-shirts are once again available from Old Lutheran to help increase the visual impact across the ELCA. How can you increase your congregation's service activities? The toolkit offers a special media outreach section to pitch your activities to newspaper, television and radio outlets. Advocacy is also part of our call to discipleship. Visit www.elca.org to learn how we can use "our voices" to make positive changes in the world. Sign up your congregation for service at www.elca.org/dayofservice/Register. Shortly after Sept. 7, please share stories about your participation. Send your stories and photos to LivingLutheran@elca.org, so that together we can celebrate the good things God accomplishes through you. As we serve together during "**God's work. Our hands.**" Sunday, we are reminded of the love of God who knows and loves each one of us. *In gratitude to God and in service to others, go in peace.*

Peace,

Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton Presiding Bishop Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Festival of Congregational Renewal

Coming October 10 – 11, 2014
at Messiah, Marquette

Only \$10 a person or \$50 per congregation.
Bring a team of folks and attend as many workshops as possible.

Confirmed Workshops to be offered so far:

- ~**Release Time:** Pastor Kevin Kaiser and Pastor Mike Laakko
Students are “released” from school for a time of Christian Education, snacks, music, and more.
Come hear how these youth programs are working in Republic and Crystal Falls.
- ~**Mid-Week Sunday School:** Featuring Mary Hansen (Kid’s Club from Ironwood) and Rev. Bonnie Kinnunen (CREW from Iron River.)
Different than Release Time, some churches have chosen to move their Sunday school to a mid-week time.
Come learn what this change means for programming possibilities and community outreach.
- ~**CORE:** with Rev. Chris Johnson and Rev. Dave Johnson
This organization seeks to be a positive reforming influence in the ELCA.
Come hear about their efforts.

- ~**World Hunger:** with the Synod Hunger Committee
For Congregational Hunger Representatives and all those interested in beginning or building their church's World Hunger involvement.
- ~**Prison Ministries:** with Pastor Jim Duehring and Dave Blomquist.
Come learn what the possibilities are for ministry in our prisons.
- ~**Banner Making:** with Rev. Chrys Levesque - Hendrick
Learn one process for the visioning and creating of banners that enrich your worship space.
- ~**Bible Study:** with Pastor Allan Johnson
We will soon begin the Year of Mark. Come get an overview of this unique and fascinating gospel.
- ~**Without Vision the People Perish:** with Lutheran Campus Minister Lisa Johnson.
What vision does your congregation have for its purpose? Its mission?
How is such a thing discerned and clarified?
Come learn about tools and steps you can take to discover your congregation's mission.
- ~**Constitutional Review:** with Rev. Doug Johnson
How out of date is your Constitution? What is the process for amending it? Where is a church to begin?
Come have all your constitution questions answered, and learn why this document is so important.
- ~**The Great Commission Agenda for Councils** with Rev. Matt Lamb
The Church Council has an important role for leadership in the church, and congregational renewal is a part of that.
Come hear one method for equipping and training councils to effectively lead their congregations with purpose.
- ~**Advocacy:** with Rev. Cindy Crane of Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin.
Public policy can have a profound impact on people struggling with poverty and housing insecurity.
Learn what it means to be an advocate and what are the hunger issues facing people in the U.P. and Northern Wisconsin,
- ~**Poverty Simulation:** with Rev. Mary Beth Kovanen and the Hunger Committee
What does chronic poverty and hunger feel like? How would you cope with powerlessness?
What if you had been born in a system that works against your efforts to improve?

Come get a small taste of what so many people experience every day.

~**Reconciled in Christ:** What does it mean to be a “Reconciled in Christ” congregation? What is the process?

Hear from two congregations in our synod who are offering intentional and public welcome to people who consider themselves LGTB.

~**Rise Up Detroit:** Explore the possibilities, Learn about the event, Partner with other churches.

~**Liturgy Matters:** Come hear from our own Rev. Melinda Quivik who has so much to offer and teach when it comes to the importance of meaningful liturgy, the involvement of the laity in worship leadership and planning, and practical steps to enrich worship and reach for excellence in the worship experience.

~**Screen Time:** With Rev. Keith Kolstad and Rev. Jim Duehring. Come hear from congregations in our synod who are using screens to enrich worship and not distract from it. Find out how screens can be tastefully added to the worship space and provide yet another dimension to the worship service.

~**Social Media:** With Rev. Erik Heskin. Does our church really need to be online? (YES!)

What is the best way to do this? Webpage? Facebook “Group”? Facebook “Page”? What about photos? Privacy concerns? What are the best practices? Come hear all about it.

~**Newsletters and Bulletins:** with Rev. Katherine Finegan. What makes for a user-friendly bulletin?

How do we look at things from a visitor’s perspective? What makes for a readable and engaging newsletter?

Come learn some tips and share your own best practices.

~**Matthew 28 in Action:** with LLM Linda Forray, Rev. Marcia Solberg, and Ray Miller.

We know we’re supposed to be “making disciples,” but what exactly does that look like? What can people do, as a congregation and individuals, to put the Great Commission into action?

What is missional ministry and how can it renew the congregation?

~**Choir Mechanics – Singing and Directing:** with Dave Dagenais. Come learn some tips for how to get the most out of

your voice, fine tune directing skills, share music resources, and learn an anthem for our closing worship.

Start recruiting your congregational team now! To register, go to www.nglsynod.org, scroll down to Worship, Witness, Welcome: Festival of Congregational Renewal, and click on the link. You will be asked to choose four workshops so we have some idea of what workshops need more space. Final workshop registration will be at the Festival.

Friday October 10

ration	6:30pm	Regist
al Opening Worship	7:00pm	Festiv
me	8:00pm	Welco
tion	8:30pm	Recep

Saturday October 11, 2014

e & Registration	8:30am	Coffe
------------------	--------	-------

hops		9:00am	Works
noon	Lunch	12	
shops		1:00pm	Work
g prayer		3:00pm	Closin

Register by October 3rd

at www.nglsynod.org and be prepared to use paypal or download the registration form and send it along with a check to the Synod Office.

Hotel accommodations on your own.

If you are a World Hunger congregational representative, please fill out and return the registration form which you received in the mail to the Synod Office.

If you are interested in hosting a workshop or a display table, please call the Synod Office.

Rise Up Together:

Detroit 2015

Plans are well underway for the Youth Gathering in Detroit

July 15-19, 2015.

Your church should have received a poster and a DVD. Please use these materials to generate enthusiasm and commitment among your leaders and young people.

Some dates to remember:

September 15: Registration soft opening. Leaders may enter data.

October 15: Website goes live. Primary leaders can submit registrations.

January 15, 2015: Registration fee increases \$50, from \$325 to \$375.

Places to find more information:

www.gatheringleaks.com

www.elca.org/gathering

Facebook page ELCA Youth Gathering

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=285650866539>.

If your church is interested in riding a Synod Bus to the Gathering (leave on Tuesday July 14, return Sunday July 19, 2015) please call the Synod Office at 906-228-2300 or email Rev. Katherine Finegan at kfinegan@nglsynod.org. She is the NGLS Gathering Synod Coordinator and Synod Day Director. If she doesn't know the answer to your question, she'll direct you to someone who will. The cost of the bus will be split between those who ride it. The Synod will provide T-shirts for all NGLS participants for our Synod Day. It's all very exciting!!! Don't miss this incredible opportunity for a faith-deepening, group building, justice proclaiming, fellowship gushing and love overflowing event!

+++

Mark your calendars for Youth Ministry Events at Fortune Lake!

October 17-

19

Retreat

Junior High

October 31 - November

2

Senior High Gathering

Go to www.fortunelake.org for more info
and registration.

The easiest Youth Ministry event you'll
never have to plan.

Just come!....and bring your youth!!!

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

Rostered Leaders in first Three Years of Call: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The 2014 FCTE (First Call Theological Education) Fall Event will be held November 9-12 at St. Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon Wisconsin. Please reserve these dates now, and watch for detailed information to arrive during the early part of September. First Call Theological Education cares about your transition to rostered leadership. The ELCA is committed to providing a three-year structured program of theological education and involvement in colleague groups, all designed to assist you as newly rostered leaders in the transition to public (rostered) ministry. As a whole church we want to surround you with resources, while still giving you the freedom to determine your unique situation.

This year part of the time spent together will be adding your personal input to be used by the ELCA's Theological Education Advisory Council. This council plans to address in a holistic way issues on theological education, leadership development, candidacy, call, and rostered leaders.

Please note: if you would like to assist with any of our worship opportunities, please contact Linda Rozumalski at 715-472-4895 or rozumalskili@gmail.com

See you in November!

Sheri Jackson, First Call Planning Committee

**Go to “The Northern Great Lakes
Synod” page
and “like” us. 😊**

TRANSITIONS

✚Congratulations to **Pastor Andrea Fluegal**, ordained at Roseville Lutheran Church, Minnesota on July 13, and called to serve Prince

of Peace, Eagle River. Pastor Fluegal will be installed Sunday, September 7 at 3pm CT. Clergy are invited to vest. The color of the day is red.

+There is a new pastor in Chassell at Holy Trinity Church. Welcome **Pastor-Elect Joe Iverson** ordained in Westby, Wisconsin on August 23rd and who will be installed at Holy Trinity on September 21st. Clergy are invited to vest. The color of the day is red. God bless our new partners in ministry and their efforts in our midst.

+Blessings to **Pastor Jeremy Winter** whose last Sunday was August 17 and to **Pastor Kristin Rice** whose last Sunday is August 31. We commend them as they leave their respective calls and wish them Godspeed on their new paths.

LIFTING UP TO GOD I N PRAYER

*Those persecuted for their religious faith. We especially pray for those who struggle to lift high the cross of Jesus in

Iraq. Bring peace O God!

*All those congregations who will participate in the “God’s Work, Our Hands” Sunday on September 7. May God bless your efforts to make a difference!

*We lift up the Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Palestine, Syria, and all places of violence and warfare. God give us wisdom, humility, and hope.

*We hold in prayer all the unaccompanied minors. May their needs be met, and the complicated politics untangled so that a life-giving way forward may be found and God’s will is done.

*All those suffering from the Ebola virus and all those struggling to tend to the needs of the sick. We pray for effective treatment and a stem to the spread of the illness.

*All of our congregations as they make plans for a new program year: for Sunday School teachers and Bible Study leaders, for Quilters and Choirs, for Pastors and Councils, for Youth groups and Senior Fellowship. Renew us, Holy Spirit, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways.

~Rev. Katherine Finegan

Assistant to the Bishop