

NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Marquette, Michigan**

nngls@nnglsynod.org

E-Notes for September 16, 2015

SEASON after PENTECOST

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“At no point in your stewardship program should you put next year’s budget in front of people. A page full of numbers causes most people’s eyes to glaze over in a blank stare...Putting a budget in front of people will limit their giving...Don’t use a budget, use Scripture.”

--Charles R. Lane “Ask, Thank, Tell”

YOUR LEADERS ARE GIFTED

Last weekend your synod council met at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp. The Synod Council meets four times a year, reviews reports from the bishop and assistant to the bishop and acts on matters relating to the work of our church. Your synod council elects two persons each fall who with the four constitutional officers (Bishop, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) serve as the Executive Committee. Elected to serve for the next year from the council are Pastor Christopher Johnson (Christ the King, Escanaba) and Dr. Rick Pink (Zion, Manistique) It is an honor to be elected to serve on the Executive Committee. We are fortunate to have such excellent leaders. As bishop, I am thankful to

them and our officers Pam Long (Grace, South Range) who is our vice-president; Pastor Doug Johnson (Bethlehem, Florence) who is our Secretary and Dr. Larry Pagel who is our Synod Treasurer. Please pray for your leaders and when you see them tell them how much you appreciate their work and leadership!

ST. MARK'S, MARQUETTE T O CLOSE

Life is a series of transitions! It is a time of “transition” for the people of St. Mark’s Lutheran Church in Marquette who voted to close at their congregational meeting last Sunday. Dwindling attendance and accompanying reduced financial support make closure necessary as the 116 year old congregation will end its ministry in July 2016. Please

pray for the 29 members of the congregation as they do the work necessary to attend to all the details required to close. The meeting yesterday closed with a prayer of thanksgiving to God for all the ministry accomplished by St. Mark's Church.

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES AND SYRIAN REFUGEES

The work of Lutheran Social Services includes refugee resettlement as our church social ministry agency works with the federal government and Lutheran Immigration Refugee Services. LSS of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan is working with 450 refugees this year and the Syrian refugee crisis will bring more later this year and next year into Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. LSS is a respected partner with the U.S. government and will be contracted to assist in our humanitarian responsibility to help those fleeing war and political instability. Please pray for this

work that God might bless our church's efforts.

COLLEGE STUDENTS---NAMES **WANTED**

Where are your congregational students going to college?

Our Synod supports efforts for Lutheran Campus Ministry.

In an effort to connect new freshman(and others in school) with a supportive community of faith, we are asking for names so that students can be contacted directly.

For Northern Michigan University students, please contact Lisa Johnson

at messiah.lisaj@gmail.com

For Michigan Technological University students, please contact Pr. Bucky Beach at bsbeach@mtu.edu, and at Bay College, contact Pastor Dean Peterson at deteron2@charter.net.

**COMING SOON TO A
CHURCH NEAR YOU...**

***Nurturing Faith that
Sticks.***

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.

Sponsored by the Synod Youth Task Force
More information coming soon!

Thinking ahead to

MARKED!

4:00 – 7:00pm local time.

Includes worship, learning, fun and food!!

**[if !supportLists]▪ [endif] Feb. 28: Holy Trinity,
Chassell**

**[if !supportLists]▪ [endif] March 6: Prince of
Peace, Eagle River**

**[if !supportLists]▪ [endif] 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:

Items suggested for local

schools:

~70-sheet notebooks of wide or College ruled X

4 ~Hand sanitizer

~30 centimeter ruler X

1 ~Boxes of tissues

~Pencil sharpener X

1 ~Clorox

wipes

~blunt scissor X

- 1 ~Notebooks
- ~#2 unsharpened pencils X
- 5 ~Folders
- ~black/blue ball point pens (no gel pens) X
- 5 ~Pens/pencils
- ~box of 16 or 24 crayons X
- 1 ~erasers
- ~2 inch Pencil eraser X
- 1 ~stickers
- ~Drawstring school bag. Pattern available at
- ~Granola bars
- www.lwr.org/schoolkits

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!

Faithful

Finances

A Workshop for All Those Entrusted
With Congregational Finances

Saturday, October 24, 2015

Ascension Lutheran Church

Minocqua, WI.

Topics covered will include:

[if !supportLists]✓ [endif] **Best Practices for Handling Cash Funds**

[if !supportLists]✓ [endif] **Required Synod and IRS Forms**

[if !supportLists]✓ [endif] **Records Retention**

[if !supportLists]✓ [endif] **And more!**

Presented by Synod Bookkeeper: Betsy Koski

Offered as part of **The Festival of Congregational Renewal so please register at www.nglsynod.org**

Cost for the Festival and Lunch, \$10. Attend this workshop only, or add others.

Pastors:

**Rostered leaders in first 3
years of call:**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS
NOW!**

“The 2015 FCTE (First Call Theological Education) Fall Conference will be held **November 8-11** 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.

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

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.

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 any NGLS 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 ☺

ATTENTION MUSIC LOVERS ALL

For Organists, Choir Directors, Choirs,
Musicians and assorted Music lovers

~Organist Workshop and

Hymnfest/Concert: At Messiah Lutheran,
Marquette.

Featuring Daniel Schwandt, Organist and
Cantor for the
Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago

~VOLUNTEER CHOIR WANTED to enrich Friday
night's concert. All are welcome! Rehearsal
Thursday night October 1 at 6:30pm. Free

admission to Friday's concert. Need not attend Saturday Workshop!!

Concert and Hymnfest: Friday, October 2 at 7pm, Cost is \$5.00 (Choirs invited to rehearse Thursday evening)

On Saturday, October 3 8:30am registration - 2:30pm: Workshop, beginner to advanced. Lunch included.

Cost: \$30.00 (complimentary ticket to Friday Concert with pre-registration). Register by going to www.nglsynod.org.

Festival 2015

**The Festival of Congregational
Renewal is coming
October 23-24, 2015
at Ascension Lutheran, Minocqua,
WI.**

**Plan on meaningful worship,
interesting workshops,
riveting discussion,
and a boatload of ideas to bring
back to your congregations.
Mark your calendars now to avoid
future conflicts.**

**Register at www.nglsynod.org by October
12th!**

Only \$10 per participant. Lunch included.

Please go to our website and fill out the “Interest Inventory” to indicate which workshops “interest” you.

The “inventory” is designed to help the planning committee decide which rooms would accommodate the most requested workshops.

Fortune Lake Lutheran
Camp

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

Sept. 18-20 -- Women's Fall
Retreat

Oct. 3 -- FLLC Fall Fest
and Quilt Auction

Oct 16-17 -- Junior High
Retreat: "I Believe"

Nov. 6-8 -- UFO Crafting
Retreat

Nov. 7-8 -- High School
Retreat: "Rise Up and

Recharge"
Dec. 4-5 - Grief Retreat:
"A Long December"

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

On FACEBOOK??? Go to "The
Northern Great Lakes Synod" page
and "like" us. 😊

TRANSITIONS

+We celebrate with:

Pastor Kevin Kaiser and Steffany Kaiser as they welcome 6 lb 7 oz, Baby William Decker Kaiser into the world! William was born on September 14, 2015.

+Pastor David Tielbar will be installed as Pastor of Zion, St. Ignace and Trinity, Brevort on Sunday, September 20 at Zion Lutheran at 3pm. Clergy are invited to vest. The color of the day is red.

+Pastor Ann Gonyea will be installed at Eden, Munising on October 11 at 3pm. Clergy are invited to vest. The color of the day is red.

LIFTING UP TO GOD I

N PRAYER

+For the people of the Mideast who are struggling for peace and freedom. For the refugees who by the thousands are fleeing their homes, seeking safety for themselves and their families.

+For the leaders of our synod and congregations. For pastors and lay leaders who strive to do God's will.

+For those who learn and teach at our public and private schools.

+For the courage to share the news of Jesus to a world in need.

+ + +

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