



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

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**E-Notes for April 29, 2016**

## **The Season of Easter**

### **QUOTE OF THE DAY**

"If faith and church have changed your life, you'll want others to understand that there is no sin, no resentment, no bitterness, no wound, no fear, no illness, no loneliness that God cannot forgive, dissolve, heal, cure, fill. You'll want everyone to know that the God of infinity is there to lead them by the hand into forever. Nothing is more real than this good news."

- Martha Reeves "Unbinding the Gospel", p. 62



**SYNOD ASSEMBLY IS COMING!**

**This year's Synod Assembly will be at Messiah Lutheran Church in Marquette on Friday, May 13th**

**and move to Northern Michigan University on Saturday, May 14th.**

**The color of the day for the Eucharist on Friday, May 13th is red. Rostered Clergy, AIMs and Licensed Lay Ministers are invited to process in the 6:30 p.m. service. Clergy, bring your red stole.**

**The Offering collected at the opening worship will be divided equally between the Bishop's Discretionary Account for Special Needs of Congregations and Clergy and the NGLS Mission Outreach Fund. Offering envelopes will be provided in the worship bulletins.**

**Are you collecting quarters for the World Hunger offering to be taken on Saturday, May 14th, during the First Plenary of Synod Assembly? The offering is collected in red wagons...let's see if we can exceed last year's total!!**

**Information on pre-assembly workshops will be going out in a Congregational mailing next week and will be available on the website.**

## **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!

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 \$10,000 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 new way to WITNESS!!!

## LIFTING UP TO GOD IN PRAYER

+For the people of God gathering in synod assemblies all over the United States in these spring days. We pray especially for those synods electing bishops. God keep us steadfast.

+For those who mourn the loss of loved ones. Comfort and remind us of the power of Easter.

+For the graduates of Finlandia University, our Church college, who commence the rest of their lives on May 1.

+For the people of Bethany Lutheran Church in Isabella who officially close their congregation's life on May. We give thanks for the faithful in these 114 years of parish life.

## TRANSITIONS

+ Congratulations to **Pastor Kay Richter**, who was installed on Sunday, April 24th as pastor of First, Ewen; Our Saviour's, Paynesville; and Trinity, Trout Creek. God bless their new partnership!

+Congratulations to **Pastor Breanne Johnson** (Zion, Allenville and Bethel, Cedarville) who has been called to

Allenville and Bethel, Cedarville) who has been called to serve as pastor of Faith Lutheran Church in Sault Sainte Marie, MI. She begins her work on June 1st.

+ Congratulations to **Pastor Melinda Shriner** who comes to us from the East Central Synod of Wisconsin. Pastor Shriner has been called to serve the people of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Newberry.

+Congratulations to **Pastor David Hueter** (Zion Lutheran Church in Manistique) who has been called to serve the people of St. Thomas Church in Cheboygan, a congregation of the Northwest Lower Michigan Synod. We shall miss Pastor Hueter who leaves this synod after twenty-eight years of service in our midst.

+Blessings to **Pastor Peter Vorhes** (Faith Lutheran Church in Calumet) after hip replacement surgery. A speedy recovery also to **Pastor Michael Laakko** (Bethany Lutheran Church in Amasa and United Lutheran Church in Crystal Falls) after surgery for a detached retina. Come healing God!

## **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](http://www.nglsynod.org).

**Application deadline is September 1, 2016.**

## **DOMESTIC HUNGER GRANTS AVAILABLE**

[www.nglsynod.org](http://www.nglsynod.org) for more information on details and how to apply.

Congregations interested in applying for ELCA Domestic Hunger Grants should note the following deadlines:

May 1 - Applications available on website

July 10 - Deadline for completed application

Grants awarded on a two year cycle - current funding will be for 2016-2017.

**FAIR TRADE USERS:** To celebrate 20 years of making a difference through Fair Trade, Lutheran World Relief (LWR) is offering a coupon for 20% off your next order. The coupon can be found in the latest issue of "Living Lutheran". This might be a good time to get your congregation to start using these products. Go to: [www.lwrcoffee.com](http://www.lwrcoffee.com) and use the different code, Lutheran20, when you place your order.

**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](http://www.nglsynod.org).

Your congregation also received material in  
the last Synod mailing.  
Contact Rev. Katherine Finegan at  
[kfinegan@nglsynod.org](mailto:kfinegan@nglsynod.org) with an questions.

**Join the Tour! Walk in the steps of Martin  
Luther.**

**Registrations received until June 1, 2016.**

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## **Conference 8 Choir Now Forming for Synod Assembly!**

**First rehearsal will be Thursday, May 12, at 6:30 p.m. at  
Messiah Lutheran Church in Marquette. Second rehearsal  
will be Friday, May 13, prior to opening worship.**

**Registration for assembly not required if you are just  
participating in the choir.**





SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT.....

## An Adventure for Youth to Travel to Tanzania.

+ A youth trip (16+ years old) is being planned to visit Tanzania in the summer of 2017. See the Synod's website for more information. This could be a very exciting experience!

Check out [www.prayfaithfully.org](http://www.prayfaithfully.org)  
for weekly “**Breath Prayer**”  
and **Daily Devotions**.  
The synod website is [www.nglsynod.org](http://www.nglsynod.org)



### Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp Activities

### 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.**



Volunteers to assist with  
finishing the four  
tree houses  
are welcome  
anytime after  
April 1, 2016

### May 11: Spring Cleaning Bee

For more information about  
any of these events,  
please contact FLLC by phone  
at 906/214-2267 (CAMP)  
or check out their website at  
[www.fortunelakelutherancamp.org](http://www.fortunelakelutherancamp.org).

**Evaluation forms are  
available at [www.nglsynod.org](http://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**



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