



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

nngls@nnglsynod.org

E-Notes for August 15, 2017

The Season of Pentecost

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"God put you on earth to do a job. Every day is a gift of God. You plow into the work. You may have problems - physical, emotional - but you have the sense that God is looking after you."

~ Former Chief Justice William Rehnquist

TANZANIA MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Dr. Danielle Anderson, a professor of Public Health and a member of Trinity in Ishpeming, speaks of her summer 2017 experience in Africa. She made her second trip to Tanzania having traveled to the country with a previous synod project group in 1999 as a youth to assist in the construction work at the Kisarawe School. Recently she said:

"Many Americans struggle to hear God when he speaks. Often, later upon reflection an 'aha' moment occurs and one realizes God's words. It can be frustrating during this time of uncertainty. For me, time spent thousands of miles away from the 'noise' of my life created a clear path for God's words to be heard. Tanzanians showed me how they live their life for Christ while we (I) find myself getting caught up in life and trying

time for Christ while we (1) find myself getting caught up in me and try to make time for Christ. Each day in Tanzania was a blessing being surrounded by and hearing God's love through the words and actions those we encountered.

It has been difficult to come back to America with its current social and political environment and block out all the 'noise.' How can I keep God's voice strong and not fade back to a whisper, sometimes too soft to hear? By remembering our brothers and sisters' example in Tanzania being thankful for their teaching, and basking in Christ's love, patience, and acceptance, knowing we are all God's children."

HANG IN THERE!

"Where I went to seminary - Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio - outside of the chapel on the wall is inscribed in stone the words of Hebrews, "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever." In our time - the church needs to be persistent with that message of Christ. Persistence is needed. Keep at it. Hang in there - keep proclaiming! Don't give up! St. Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 4: "Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed but not driven to despair; persecuted but not forsaken; struck down but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our bodies."

Luther says in his explanation to the Third Article of the

Apostles Creed in that Catechism, "I believe that by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but instead the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, made me holy, and kept me in the true faith."

~ From Bishop Skrenes's sermon at the 50th Anniversary Worship Service of United Lutheran Church in Crystal Falls, Michigan.

BISHOP THOMAS AND LUANNE SKRENES FUND FOR MINISTRY

More than \$25,000 has been received in gifts and pledges for the Bishop Thomas and Luanne Skrenes Fund for Ministry.

The ministry of Jesus in the Northern Great Lakes Synod continues! Luanne and I are showing our thanksgiving to God and appreciation to the ministry of the synod by establishing the "Bishop Thomas and Luanne Skrenes Ministry Fund" through our Synod Endowment. Annual distributions from the Skrenes Fund will support the clergy of our synod - debt retirement, as well as the work with our companion synod, the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. Please consider a financial gift to the Skrenes Ministry Fund of the synod thank you for supporting the efforts that have energized us in our ministries!

You may send your gift to the Northern Great Lakes Synod
1029 N. Third Street, Suite A, Marquette, MI 49855.





Updated Reminder!

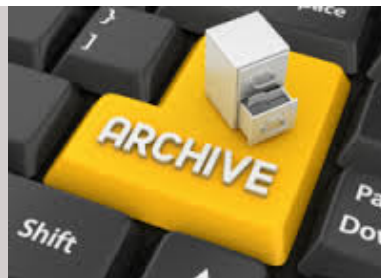
We have a discount rate of \$18 per person round trip with Star Line Ferry.

When purchasing tickets at the docks -
mention that you are with the Northern Great Lakes Synod
or "NGLS"

or

if you buy online tickets - enter the code "NGLS"

The last boats leaving for the island on Sunday evening
depart at
6:00 p.m. ET from St. Ignace
7:30 p.m. ET from Mackinac City



DOES THE SYNOD HAVE ARCHIVES? WHAT GOES IN IT?

Yes, our Northern Great Lakes Synod shares a historic record archives with the other eleven synods of Region 5—the synods in Upper Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa. The archival vaults are underneath Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque Iowa. They are staffed and maintained by the synods of Region 5 and the whole ELCA. A permanent record of the ministry of the congregations and synods is kept there for individual and

ministry of the congregations and synods is kept there for individual and historian use.

This week several large boxes of records were shipped to the archives by our synod office. The files of the 47 Pastors of this synod who have died since 1999 and the record files of the 14 congregations that have left the ELCA or closed since I became bishop were sent to the archives. Rostered persons who resigned from call without retiring are sent to the churchwide offices in Chicago for their safe guarding. Part of the bishop's responsibility is to safeguard the records of the synod and, along with the Synod secretary, I have worked to maintain the records and other historical information of this synod. I will be turning over responsibility for the files and records of the current congregations and pastors (under call and retired) as well as the synod on September 1 to our new bishop.



Going to NMU or MTU or LSSU this Fall?

Let us know!

If you have a student going to Michigan Technological University this Fall, connect that person to Lutheran Campus Ministry by calling Pastor Bucky Beach at 906.482.5410.

If one of your students is going to Northern Michigan University, call Messiah Lutheran Church in Marquette at 906.225.1119.

If your student is going to Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie, call Faith Lutheran Church at 906.632.7246.

Bishop's Transition Team News



You are Invited
*to the Installation Service of
Bishop-Elect Pastor Katherine Finegan
on Saturday, October 21 at 1:30 p.m.
at St. Peter Cathedral
Marquette, Michigan
With Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton
Reception to follow at the Holiday Inn,
Marquette from 3:00 - 5:30 p.m. ET*



Installation Choir and Choir Rehearsal times

You are invited to sing with an adhoc choir that will enrich the Installation Worship Service of Bishop-elect Pastor Katherine Finegan on October 21 at 1:30 p.m.

However, there are some things you need to know before you sign up:

- Because of the needs of sound and musicians, the choir will sing from the balcony of St. Peter Cathedral.
- There are 30 narrow and winding steps spiraling up to the balcony.
- There is a small chair lift which can transport one person at a time.
- The nearest bathroom facility is either up more stairs or back down the 30 stairs.
- **There will be a final choir rehearsal on Saturday, October 21, at 10 a.m. ET at St. Peter Cathedral in Marquette.**

If you are still interested in being a part of this choir and willing to brave the balcony steps, please call the Synod Office at 906-228-2300 **and sign up by September 15th.**

Choir Rehearsals are scheduled for:

Saturday - October 7, 10 a.m. ET at Bethany, Ishpeming

Saturday - October 14, at Messiah, Marquette

Saturday - October 21, at St. Peter Cathedral, Marquette



FORTUNE LAKE
A place of grace in Crystal Falls, MI

Women's Fall Retreat at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp September 15-17, 2017

Theme "A Godly Touch"

"I want men/women everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer,
 without anger or disputing." 1 Timothy 2:8

Engaging Workshops

Singing

Praise & Worship

Great Fellowship

Food & Fun

Crafts

15 minute Massage (cost \$10)

Duplex housing \$125.00

Lodge housing \$140.00

Cost includes: Meals, Saturday
 night ice cream social,
 workshop materials,
 and Coffee Café.

~**To register**, please call Pam at 906-428-2442 or 906-280-2918. Forms are
 available on the following website: <https://www.nglsnod.org/welca/>



Plan for the Future!
Leave a Legacy!

Don't miss this great opportunity to meet with our

Regional Endowment Planner, Tim Knutson.

Come learn something about Estate Planning, getting your financial affairs in order, and creating a legacy that will benefit your family, your church, and the work of Christ long after you are gone.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017

at Pioneer Lake, Conover

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. CT

Supper included!

Thursday, October 12, 2017

at Calvary, Rapid River

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. ET

Supper included!

This event is FREE, however, registration is required.

Please reserve your spot by calling the Synod Office at 906-228-2300 by the end of the day on Thursday, October 5th.

(Pastors/LLM's are invited to join Tim for lunch on :

Tuesday, October 10 at 12 Noon at Tula's in Rhineland

or

Thursday, October 12 at 12 Noon at Family Inn in

Escanaba.

Please call the Synod Office by October 5
to reserve your lunch.)

Sponsored by the Northern Great Lakes Synod

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR MARKED!

Sunday, February 18, from 4-7pm at Gloria Dei, Hancock

Sunday, February 25, from 4-7pm at First, Gladstone

This is a wonderful event for your Confirmation Youth. This year, congregations are invited to collect items for Backpack Programs throughout our Synod that help to feed hungry students over the weekends.

Check out more info at www.nglsynod.org



ALTAR GUILD WORKSHOP

Saturday, September 30

8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Bethany Lutheran, Ishpeming
Featuring Rev. Melinda Quivik

Cost: \$20 which includes program, lunch and snacks

Register by Monday, September 25

[More information at www.nglsynod.org](http://www.nglsynod.org)

Sponsored by the Synod Worship Committee

Don't miss it!!
Bring your whole Altar Guild!!
Ecumenical!!

Learn the finer details and best practices!!



Pre-Retirement Seminar

Are you 50 years old or over?

While many adults over the age of 50 are thinking about retirement, everyone approaches this important stage in life differently. Some spend a lot of time in the planning stage, while others start planning with just months to spare. No matter where you are in the process, Portico's day long **Pre-Retirement Seminar** can help. The good news is we're coming soon to your area!

Together with our partner, Ernst & Young, we cover all phases of retirement planning in simple, understandable terms - from **establishing a retirement budget**, to **discussing investment strategies**, to **reviewing health care options**. We leave plenty of time to address your retirement questions. This small investment in time and money may be beneficial, not just for pre-retirement planning, but for peace of mind. You'll breathe easier

knowing what you need to do now to help ensure a confident retirement when the time is right for you. Take advantage of this opportunity and join us! We look forward to seeing you there.

DATE: Friday, November 10, 2017

LOCATION: Saint Andrew Lutheran Church

3200 N. Mountain Road, Wausau, WI 54401

TIME: Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. seminar runs from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Register today and to see other seminar locations and dates, go to the following website:

<https://myportico.porticobenefits.org/NewsEvents/Events/Pre-RetirementSeminars>



National Youth Gathering – Houston June 27 – July 1, 2018

Make plans to attend with your youth,
or contact Lisa Bouche at lisabouche92@gmail.com
if you have one or two youth who need a church to go with.

Check out the information and links available at www.elca.org/gathering

Or go to Facebook and check out the group:
ELCA Gathering 2018 - HOUSTON!! (NGLS)

Always
being made
New.

The Campaign for the ELCA.

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

**YOU ARE INVITED TO CONTRIBUTE FUNDS TO THE 2017
CAMPAIGN TO BE SPLIT EQUALLY BETWEEN:**

- 1. Grants given to congregations to begin or nurture a companion congregation relationship with another congregation from our Lutheran Companion Synod in the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of Tanzania.**
- 2. The Churchwide portion will go to equip missionaries from Tanzania to Tanzania and beyond; and the Synod portion will go to nurture or begin companion congregation relationships between NGLS congregations and ELCT congregations.**

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

LIFTING UP TO GOD IN PRAYER

+For peace in our land, for reconciliation and healing and for an end to hatred, bigotry and racism.

+For those who suffer with diseases of the body, mind and spirit.

+We pray for our congregations, pastors and deacons.

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

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

Bishop Thomas A. Skrenes

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E-notes from Northern Great Lakes Synod

Our mailing address is:
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