



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

[ngls@nglsynod.org](mailto:ngls@nglsynod.org)

**E-Notes for August 31, 2017**

## The Season of Pentecost

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

As I complete this third and final bishop's term and move on to the next chapter of my life, I recall the words of Martin Luther, who in 1515 wrote this on Psalm 119:73, *Semper enim sumus in via...* "For we are always traveling, and must leave behind us what we know and possess, and seek for that which we do not yet know and possess."

- Bishop Skrenes in his message to the synod, August 28, 2017

### **A FINAL WORD FROM BISHOP SKRENES**

"This is an important time for this synod and for Pastor Katherine Finegan, soon to be your bishop. I am delighted that she will serve with you over the next years and I have great confidence in her ability and pastoral leadership. Thinking God for her, I will pray for the bishop and for her family every day."

Thanking God for her, I will pray for the bishop and for her family every day. She is a great person of faith.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."



## **A Report From Tanzania**

A participant in the ministry at Mtoni Clinic was Michelle Johnson, (Prince of Peace, Harvey) who is a nursing professor at Northern Michigan University in Marquette. She also had a powerful experience at the clinic and with our brothers and sisters in Dar es Salaam.

She writes: "I have always kept my beliefs about religion within my church family. I have not been good about sharing the word of God with anyone else beside that family. One of the things that I will always carry with me is the way people in Tanzania express their love of God openly and without hesitation or judgement about their beliefs. Song and dance are openly means of expressing this love, whereas we tend to be less demonstrative about it. Although I will not change this in myself overnight, I hope that I will become more open about the church and be able to share beyond my safe zone of my church family.

I also found that no matter how much or little people have they are always

willing to share with you what they have been given. This is another area in which we as Americans can learn and not think about our "possessions" that we own, but what God has given us to share with others.

Thank you for allowing me to take place in this experience and I know that I will return again one day."

The complete report is available on the synod website:

<https://jwwmedia.s3.amazonaws.com/ngls-companion/Sustainability.pdf>

## **BISHOP THOMAS AND LUANNE SKRENES FUND FOR MINISTRY UPDATE**

More than **\$31,000** has been received in gifts 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.





## Schedule Change for Tuesday!

7:00 - 8:30 a.m. Breakfast

9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Plenary III

10:30 a.m. Closing Prayer

### You will need...

a **credit card** to give to the clerk when you check in for any additional room charges while you stay. Registration fee covers breakfast only. All other meals are your responsibility.

To get the discount rate of \$18 per person round trip with Star Line Ferry at the docks or online -  
**mention or 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



## **Installation Choir and Choir Rehearsal Times Update**

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, 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, 10 a.m. at Messiah, Marquette**

**Saturday - October 21, 10 a.m. at St. Peter Cathedral, Marquette**

**Bethany, Ishpeming will be having regular choir rehearsals on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. with Bob Bucan.**

**Any questions? Call the Synod Office.  
Singers welcome!!**



### **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.

Campus Ministry works!

### **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*



**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

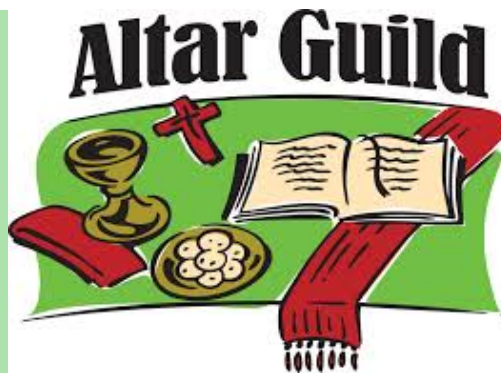
## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR MARKED!**

**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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.elca.org/gathering)

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



### **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:**

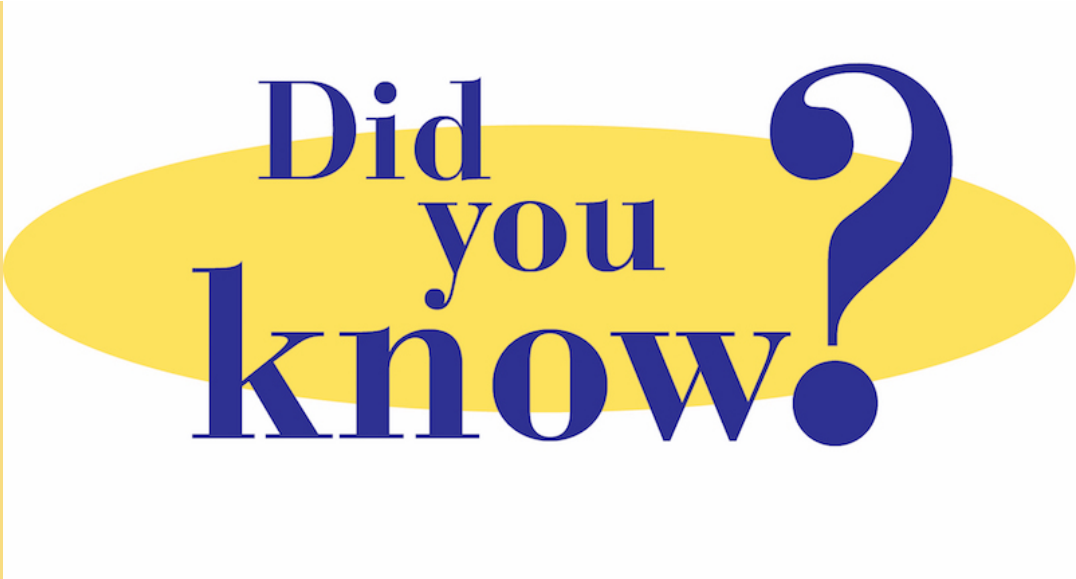
1. Grants given to congregations to begin or nurture a companion congregation relationship with another congregation from our Lutheran Companion Synod in the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of Tanzania

**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.

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Did  
you  
know?

Did you know...

- That many of our congregations are in a life giving relationship with Lutheran congregations in Tanzania?
- That some congregations there would really like to be partnered with congregations here?
- That the Companion Synod Committee would be willing to come to your church to give a presentation on the blessings of such a relationship?
- That currently the Always Being Made New Campaign is raising funds to support these wonderful relationships?
- AND that in 2018, YOUR CHURCH can apply for these funds to begin or support your Companion Congregation relationship?!!!

Be sure to check out the application materials for the current cycle of Always Being Made New at [www.nglsynod.org](http://www.nglsynod.org) and designate a Sunday to receive an offering for this effort.

## **LIFTING UP TO GOD IN PRAYER**

+For the people of Texas. Help us help them O Lord in their time of need.

+For peacemakers in Washington D.C., on the Korean peninsula, Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan.

+For Bishops - Thomas and Katherine and their families in this time of transition.

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)



Northern Great Lakes Synod, ELCA



Northern Great Lakes Synod, ELCA

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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

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