

Northern Great Lakes Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Marquette, Michigan

ngls@nglsynod.org

E-Notes for April 29, 2021

The Season of Easter

Word of the Day

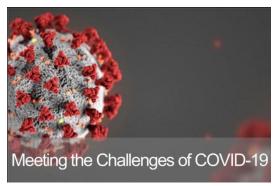
"My thesis is a simple one: The local congregation is the future of the church. The renewal of the church finally depends upon what happens at the grass-roots level. And renewal at this level awaits, it seems to me, the conscious reclaiming of the gifts of the Spirit on the part of the laity."

~Jürgen Moltmann, Hope for the Church, p. 21.

On the Web & Quick Links









COVID-19 Event Risk Assessment Tool

Donate Online to the Northern Great Lakes Synod

- Check out more resources on the NGLS website
- f Like us on Facebook
- Link to Prayfaithfully Daily Devotions
- NGLS YouTube Channel
- May Prayer Calendar

2021 Synod Assembly



April 30 is the Final Day to Register!

Voter registration and payment for Synod Assembly are **online only** this year and the deadline is tomorrow!

 Late Voter Registration is \$60 and the final day to register for Synod Assembly is tomorrow, <u>April 30</u> at 5 pm ET due to technology requirements!

Voting Members

Online registration and payment for Voting Members is available on our website! Here are some helpful tips as you register:

- 1. Our <u>How to Register Guide</u> has step by step instructions for registration.
- 2. Each voting member needs to be registered and paid for separately online. Please be sure to pay at the time of registration.
- 3. Don't have PayPal? No problem! Once you enter the voter's information and get to the PayPal screen, click, "Check Out As Guest" and enter the email address you'd like the receipt to go to. You'll have the option to pay with a debit/credit card from there.

Pre-Assembly Materials Now Available Online

The Pre-Assembly Report, proposed Synod Constitution, proposed 2022 Compensation Guidelines, worship script and bulletin (coming soon), ELCA 2020 Annual Report, Presiding Bishop Eaton's 2021 Synod Assembly Letter and more are available for download on the Synod Assembly website.

Visitors

No registration needed! All links to workshops, worship and the business meeting will be available on the <u>Synod website</u>, <u>Facebook page</u> and <u>YouTube</u> <u>channel</u>.







NGLS Website NGLS on Facebook NGLS on YouTube

Attend a Synod Assembly Workshop!

Visit the <u>Online Workshops</u> page of the Synod Assembly website and plan your workshop experience. There is so much to choose from, including a new workshop detailed below!



New Workshop Added!

We've added another online Workshop for Synod Assembly Week:

"All Things ELCA Youth Gathering"

Tuesday, May 11 at 7pm ET/ 6pm CT Wednesday, May 12 at 8pm ET/ 7pm CT

Our Synod Youth Gathering Coordinator, Pastor Stacy Pethke, will present information on the ELCA Youth Gathering taking place July 24-28, 2022 in Minneapolis. This will be a chance to learn more about this amazing opportunity and ask your questions as we try to build momentum for this event in 2022.

Topic: All Things ELCA Youth Gathering

Time: May 11, 2021 07:00 PM ET, May 12, 2021 08:00 PM ET

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88457730190?pwd=UEpzWmtFTmlteVRZdC9sYWs0ejFadz

Meeting ID: 884 5773 0190

Passcode: 795587

One tap mobile +16465588656,,88457730190#,,,,*795587# US (New York)

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system here.



News & Information



Hunger/Poverty Ministries Grant Application

The Northern Great Lakes Synod has applied for and received ANOTHER Covid Relief Grant! This grant is targeted for ministries that address issues of hunger and poverty. For example, if your congregation supports a food pantry, clothes closet, backpack program, meal program, or offers rent assistance, your ministry is eligible for this financial support. The application deadline is **June 1**, **2021**. More information and the application are available for download in both PDF and Word formats.



ELCA Open Doors Ministry Grants for Congregations

Open Doors is a new initiative to support ELCA congregations interested in meeting new people as we transition into a time of re-gathering in physical spaces. Your congregation is invited to apply! Together as the ELCA, we share a ministry goal of connecting with a million new people and activating our communities so that more people may know the way of Jesus. If you have a concrete, actionable idea for meeting new people during this critical time, you might be eligible for an Open Doors Grant. Find out more information here.



FEMA is providing financial assistance for COVID-19 related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020. Please see the <u>COVID-19 Funeral Assistance</u>

<u>Flyer</u> and the informative <u>funeral assistance video</u> with more information. FEMA's COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Helpline is 1-844-684-6333. <u>FEMA.GOV</u> will continue to have updates on the funeral assistance program and a FAQs page is located here: <u>FEMA.gov/funeral-assistance/faq</u>.



Communion Rail Available

Bethlehem, Florence is looking to give away the communion rail pictured here. If your church could use it and would like to pick it up or if

you'd like more information, please give the Bethlehem, Florence Parish office a call at (715) 528-4851.



PPP Loan Sign Up Extension

Perhaps your congregation might still be interested in a PPP (Payroll Protection Program) loan. To determine whether or not your congregation is eligible for a PPP loan, check out more details, including various links here.



Leadership Coaching in our Synod

Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Jim Duehring, is an ELCA trained coach through CoachNet. **He is available for free coaching sessions** for interested and motivated individuals within our synod. Whether you are a rostered leader or a lay leader in your congregation, you might benefit from coaching.

- Coaching is a posture of helping someone achieve a goal.
- Deep listening happens and a supportive relationship is developed.
- ELCA Coaching is an interactive process between three people: the leader, the coach, and the Holy Spirit.
- Coaching trusts the Holy Spirit will guide, enlighten, and empower the
 process of self-discovery, marshal the needed resources to accomplish
 what is desired, and empower the change to achieve the desired results.
- Coaching is about growth, change, and results.
- It believes that the answers to what a leader wants to do lie within the leader.
- The task of the coach is to draw those out by creating the opportunity for the "ah-ha" moments of discovery.

It is the hope of our Synod Vitality Team to build up a culture of coaching within our synod to help individuals and congregational systems grow in faith and vitality!

Contact Pastor Jim at (906) 228-2300 with your questions or interest around coaching.

Upcoming Events



Wednesday Noon Live

Join the Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin the first Wednesday of each month at noon for updates on legislation and an interview with a guest via Facebook Live! The next Wednesday Noon Live will take place on Wednesday, May 5, 2021.





On Tuesday, May 11 we will hold a special webinar with CH(COL) Roy Myers, Dean of Graduate School for Army Chaplain Corps Professional Development and Program director of the School for Spiritual Care - Army CPE. CH Myers will share about professional development opportunities in the US Army and how he was called into ministry. The Zoom information is included here:

Topic: Webinar with CH(COL) Roy Myers

Time: May 11, 2021 09:30 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83923675429

Meeting ID: 839 2367 5429



Virtual Festival of Homiletics for Rostered Leaders

At the Festival of Homiletics **May 17-21, 2021**, you'll hear respected and thoughtful speakers present on the theme: "Preaching for the Future Church."

Since this year's event is virtual, and we want to welcome as many attendees as possible, you can <u>register to view the main sessions for free</u>. But to get the most out of the Festival of Homiletics, purchase the recordings for full access to on-demand content you can view anytime:

- All sessions in audio and video formats
- Live workshops
- Bonus sermons and lectures from top speakers
- Private social networking with other pastors and leaders

Purchase the on-demand package for \$75.



Domestic Hunger Grant Application Essentials

Applications for the 2021 cycle of ELCA World Hunger Domestic Hunger Grants will open soon! Here is a brief overview of the timeline. Please visit the <u>ELCA</u>

<u>Domestic Hunger Grants website</u> for all of the details.

- Registration open: March 17, 2021 May 5, 2021
- Application open: April 19, 2021 May 21, 2021
- Application review: June 2021 October 2021
- Details on the grant decision timeline will be provided at a later date.
- Visit https://www.elca.org/domestichungergrants for the Domestic Hunger
 Grant Application Essentials.



Upcoming UP Wild Events

Outdoor Holy Hike | Saturday, May 22 at 2 pm ET | In Person

Check the UP Wild website as more information will be posted on location and details.









Webinar on Hunger and Climate Change

Join the North/West Lower Michigan Synod and ELCA World Hunger on **June**24 at 6:30 pm ET for a conversation about climate change, poverty, hunger and the many ways God is at work around the world and here in the United States. The presenter will be Ryan Cumming, Ph.D., Program Director for Hunger Education, ELCA World Hunger. More information, including how to register, will be released soon, so mark your calendar and read an <u>overview of the webinar here</u> in the meantime.

ELCA Resources



Ambassador-Gram

The latest edition of the Lutheran Men in Mission Ambassador-Gram is available! Find resources, event information and more here.



Ignite the Church Conference 2021

Join us online in 2021 for Adapting to a New Reality: Living into a Fresh Vision for God's Church. Monthly webinars focus on key areas:

- May BONUS WEBINAR: Thriving Beyond Covid
- October BONUS WEBINAR: Topic TBD

The Ignite the Church Conference movement continues to grow as leaders are encouraged and ministry is transformed! Please visit IgniteTheChurch.net to see the outstanding line up of speakers and panel leaders and to get more information on how **you** can join the movement.

Stewardship Resources



Congregational leaders are encouraged to check out the wide variety of resources available online at the <u>ELCA</u> and <u>NGLS</u>. If you would like Pastor Jim Duehring to visit with your congregation about stewardship, please contact him at the Synod Office (906) 228-2300.

Another helpful stewardship resource is the <u>Stewardship Toolkit</u>, written by Rev. Robert Blezard, Assistant to the Bishop of the Lower Susquahanna Synod.

The theme for the month of May is: Stewards of Our Eders' Wisdom.

Keeping in Prayer



Prayfaithfully Devotions

Check out Prayfaithfully on our Synod website!

People from the Northern Great Lakes Synod write weekly devotionals.

Make daily devotions a part of your routine, you'll be blessed by this inspiring discipline. Check out our upcoming devotions:

April 25-May 1 by Pastor Doug Norquist

May 2-8 by Rebecca Peterson

May 9-15 by Synod Conference Presidents & Representatives

Maybe God is inspiring you to write for this synod devotional resource. If interested, contact Betsy Koski in the Synod Office, (906) 228-2300 or bakoski@nglsynod.org.

Lifting Up to God in Prayer

- For all preparing for Synod Assembly in May.
- For those exhausted by all the ongoing decisions during these pandemic times.
- For the unemployed and underemployed.

Check out www.prayfaithfully.org for a weekly

Breath Prayer and Daily Devotions

Visit the Northern Great Lakes Synod website: www.nglsynod.org

Link to the Bishop's Articles for Congregational Newsletters:

https://www.nglsynod.org/newsletter-articles/







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Rev. Jim Duehring

Assistant to the Bishop/DEM

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E-Notes from Northern Great Lakes Synod

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