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Northern Great Lakes Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Marquette, Michigan

npls@nplsynod.org

E-Notes for May 27, 2021

The Season of Pentecost

Word of the Day

"It's curious, you will not find the word 'Trinity,' or a Greek or Hebrew equivalent of it, anywhere in the Bible. The term was first used, in its Greek form, by a theologian named Theophilus of Antioch* who lived around 180 AD which is about 100 years after the Bible as we have it was coming together. So why do we celebrate Trinity Sunday when the word 'Trinity' is not even in the Bible? Because the word 'Trinity' says in one word what many words in the Bible describe, which is the fullness of God as God is described and talked about and witnessed to and experienced throughout the Bible. This one word gives us language to help us wrap

our heads and hearts around what is ultimately divine mystery. This mystery the people of Biblical story gave witness to and people today still experience, and that mystery is God coming to us and experienced in three distinct ways; as Father, as Son, and as Holy Spirit."

~From Sermon Trinity A 2011, Rev. Katherine Finegan

*The Concise Oxford Dictionary of The Christian Church, 1977.

On the Web & Quick Links





[COVID-19 Event Risk Assessment Tool](#)

[Donate Online to the Northern Great Lakes Synod](#)

- [!\[\]\(aca6fcc8bd95e8255b9ea1b1d08ef300_img.jpg\) Check out more resources on the NGLS website](#)
- [!\[\]\(0083087c61cec498ac803a4aec5bb1bd_img.jpg\) Like us on Facebook](#)
- [!\[\]\(2e94242fda9f31152eb2b29146bfce46_img.jpg\) Link to Prayfaithfully Daily Devotions](#)
- [!\[\]\(680c68b4e62fe5ec9774c1168e904fbf_img.jpg\) NGLS YouTube Channel](#)
- [!\[\]\(0012cbbec5c5a1cf6c111135ad58ebc0_img.jpg\) June Prayer Calendar](#)

[News & Information](#)



Synod Office Hours

Beginning June 4 our office will have slightly different hours on Fridays this summer.

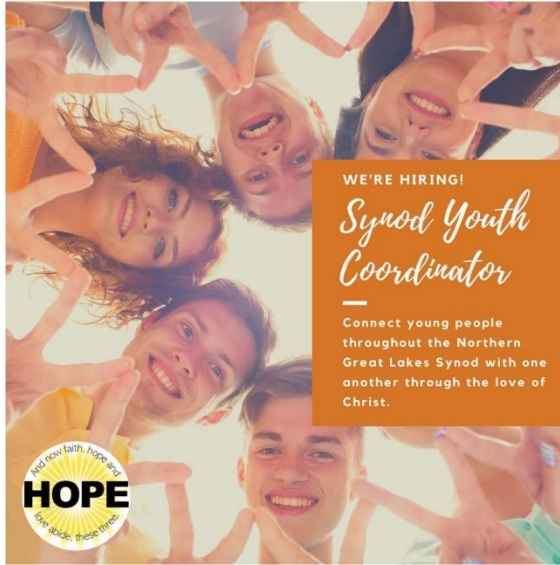
Monday-Thursday: 9 am-5 pm ET

Friday: 8 am-4 pm ET



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.



Synod Youth Coordinator

The NGLS is seeking to hire a part-time person to help coordinate synod-wide youth activities! Click [here](#) for the all the details. Please contact [Pastor Jim Duehring](#) with inquiries. The deadline to apply is June 15, 2021.



Save the Dates for Walking Together Events this Fall!

You are invited! Our Walking Together events will include idea generating conversation, encourage creative solutions, and offer the blessing of being church together with other congregations in your area. You are welcome to attend an event in a neighboring Conference, and next year, Conferences 1,2,4, and 6 will host. A flyer is available [here](#) on our website.

- Conference 3 Headwaters: **Sunday, September 19 at 12:30 pm CT** at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Rhinelander, WI
 - Conference 5 Menominee Valley: **Saturday, September 18 at 9:30 am CT** at Porterfield Lutheran Church in Porterfield, WI
 - Conference 7 Three Lakes: **Sunday, September 26 at 3:30 pm ET** at Faith Lutheran Church in Sault Ste. Marie, MI
 - Conference 8 Superior Central: **Thursday, September 16 at 5:30 pm ET** at Messiah Lutheran Church in Marquette, MI
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FEMA is providing financial assistance for COVID-19 related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020. Please see the [COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Flyer](#) and the informative [funeral assistance video](#) with more information. FEMA's COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Helpline is 1-844-684-6333. [FEMA.GOV](#) will continue to have updates on the funeral assistance program and a FAQs page is located here: [FEMA.gov/funeral-assistance/faq](https://www.fema.gov/funeral-assistance/faq).



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, June 2, 2021.**



[LOPPW on Facebook](#)



Upcoming UP Wild Events

Rock Painting | Saturday, May 29 at 2 pm ET | In Person

Express your creativity at our Rock Painting activity on the shores of Lake Superior. All ages and stages are welcome. We will provide some rocks and paint but we encourage you to BYOB: Bring your own brush and/or other materials for the more crafty artist. We will share some stories of thousand year old Native American pictographs that can be still seen across Lake Superior. There are some picnic tables in the Shiras Park area but please bring a folding chair or beach blanket to sit on.

TO RSVP: email lanni@upwild.org.

Donations \$5-10 are appreciated to cover material costs.

Wild Church Network | Thursday, June 10, time TBA |

Zoom

We are collaborating with the Wild Church Network on a presentation geared on sustainable fashion * sustainable food. More details to come.





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 [overview of the webinar here](#) in the meantime.

Council Presidents' Seminar Series

Please mark your calendar for the next Zoom meeting with Chuck Thomas and Ray Miller on **Thursday, July 22 at 7 pm ET/6 pm CT**. More information to come! In the meantime, check out the [Resource Library for Council Presidents](#) on our website.



ELCA Resources

PORTICO®

Benefit Services | A Ministry of the ELCA

In recognition of May as Mental Health Awareness Month, Portico Benefit Services is pleased to share the following resources with you, courtesy of our health and wellness vendor partnerships

- [Helping You Thrive EAP Overview Flyer](#) – new feature: online scheduling link allow faster access to video support, from the comfort of home.
 - In late May, Portico will introduce **Being Here**, it is a Portico-specific podcast series. In an upcoming email later this month to all ELCA-Primary health benefit members, you'll find our inaugural episodes that include topics on: **Beating Burnout 2.0**, **Grief & Compassion Fatigue**, and **Financial Literacy**.
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LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION

Building men for Christ

Ambassador-Gram

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

Stewardship Resources



Congregational leaders are encouraged to check out the wide variety of resources available online at the [ELCA](#) and [NGLS](#). 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 [Stewardship Toolkit](#), written by Rev. Robert Blezard, Assistant to the Bishop of the Lower Susquahanna Synod.

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:

May 23-29 by Virginia Paulson, LLM

May 30-June 5 by Pastor Bob Langseth

June 6-12 by Pastor Linda Forray

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 our congregations in transition. We pray that God raise up and prepare pastoral leaders who will be blessed and be a blessing in each situation.
- For those who are awaiting a vaccine for Covid. May the supply meet the demand all across the world.
- For peace and a way forward in Palestine and Israel
- For Bishop Emeritus Dale Skogman and former Synod Vice President Pamela Long, both diagnosed with terminal cancer. God grant comfort, the support of family and friends, and that peace that only God in Christ Jesus can give.
- Prayers of thanksgiving and gratitude for the Spirit that gathered people across our Synod together in assembly. We give thanks and praise for all that was accomplished, discussed, experienced, and shared!

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/>



E-Notes is a twice monthly electronic newsletter
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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

+ Bishop Katherine Finegan

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E-Notes from Northern Great Lakes Synod

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