



Northern Great Lakes Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Marquette, Michigan
npls@nglsynod.org

E-Notes for October 29, 2021

The Season of Pentecost

Thought of the Day

"Everything that is done in this world is done by hope."
~Martin Luther

Spotlight Information



Tolling of the Funeral Bell

At this time last year, just over 200,000 people had died of COVID-19 and we rang our church bells to honor their memory. This year, that number is climbing above 700,000 (as per CDC and WHO). Each death represents a grieving family, a loss suffered, the absence of a loved one felt.

Sunday, November 7 is All Saints Day. This is a day that our Church remembers our beloved dead. Again on this day, we will also remember the many who have died during this pandemic. Please include all those who grieve in your prayers during worship and your personal devotions. You are also invited to ring your church funeral bell for **five minutes at 12 noon CT/ 1 pm ET on Sunday, November 7**. Our Roman Catholic, Episcopal, and Methodist siblings, in addition to all community churches, are also invited to remember the dead in this way. You can RSVP and share the [event on our Facebook page](#).

“Whether we live, or whether we die, we are the Lord’s.” May God comfort all who mourn as we surround the grieving with the warm embrace of communities of faith and the love of God in Christ Jesus.

[News & Information](#)

Native American Sunday

Native American Sunday will take place on November 21 and a synod task force (Walking with our Indigenous Neighbors) has created a wonderful worship resource to use. This resource is customizable and available on the [homepage of our synod website](#) under "Year of Discovery." We hope that by utilizing this resource our congregations will have some sense of the deep spiritual traditions of our indigenous neighbors who honor the Creator.



2022 Professional Leader's Retreat

an event for Pastors, Deacons & LLMs

Join us at the Ramada Inn in Marquette, MI **February 27-28, 2022!** We will welcome the Rev. Dr. Leah Schade from Lexington Theological Seminary as she presents, "Ministry in the Red-Blue Divide: Preaching and Teaching in the 'Purple Zone.'" For complete details, please see the [event flyer](#). Registration is now available [here on our website](#).

PORTICO[®]

Benefit Services | A Ministry of the ELCA

Check in with your Portico Regional Rep, Jennifer Prinz

Getting ready for Annual Enrollment, curious about Portico's new voluntary vision care benefit, or want to find out more about Target Date Funds or mental health resources? I can help! [Sign up using this link](#). Let me know if you'd prefer to video chat or talk over the phone, and I'll email you the day before with a quick reminder. Please note: all times are Central Standard Time.



Free Bible Study Resource

[Enter the Bible](#) is an expansive, fascinating, helpful and free resource for those who want to study the Bible and grow in their faith. Luther Seminary's nationally recognized professors have contributed podcasts, blog posts, essays and video clips to enrich your experience.

Books Available for Borrowing!

The NGLS Synodical Women's Organization board has accumulated books that are available for reading ([view the list here](#))! SWO Board member Dawn Holmgren would be able to send any of the titles listed here to anyone interested. For more information or to request a book, please email Dawn at dmholmgren10@gmail.com or call at (906) 280-2615.



Boundaries & Implicit Bias Training

All NGLS rostered leaders, LLMs and pulpit supply leaders are expected to complete an online boundaries training module through Safe Gatherings at least once every three years. Read the full training details [here on our website](#).

Upcoming Events

[Click Here for Upcoming UP Wild Events](#)



LSS Webinar: The ABC's of Refugee Resettlement

We've all heard a lot in the news about the evacuation of Afghans and many people have questions. Join us via Zoom (details included below) on **Thursday, November 4 at 7 pm ET / 6 pm CT** when staff from Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan presents "The ABC's of Refugee Resettlement." You'll learn how the program works, how you can help, and the latest information about the evolving situation of refugees from Afghanistan.

Northern Great Lakes Synod is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87531512413?pwd=Y3Jrc3BOMlVJZFNPeG5wa3pkUTNKZz09>

Meeting ID: 875 3151 2413

Passcode: 007119

One tap mobile

+19294362866,,87531512413#,,,,*007119# US (New York)

+13017158592,,87531512413#,,,,*007119# US (Washington DC)



U.S. Army North Central Chaplain Recruiting Station is pleased to announce a special virtual event with CH(COL) Michael Shellman, the Military District of Washington Senior Chaplain. He will join us via Zoom on **Tuesday, November 9 at 10:30 am ET / 9:30 am CT** to share his Chaplain Corps story and opportunities to serve God and Country in the US Army. Check out the event on [Facebook](#).



Indian 101 Webinar with Vance Blackfox

You are invited to attend this webinar on **Tuesday, November 9 at 11 am ET / 10 am CT!** The general population knows very little about the Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island – even the most basic topics are often grand mysteries. This is, of course, by design, as the colonial project prioritized the complete erasure of Native peoples. Indian 101 will be a time to learn some of these basics and to cultivate a foundation for standing in solidarity with Indian people across the United States. More details can be found [here on our website](#).



Unfinished Objects Retreat

This event will take place at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp **November 19-21** and aims to provide time to crafters of all types to work on any outstanding projects they may have. Limited meals and programming will be provided in order to allow participants to focus on their crafting. Come and spend time with new and old friends, rejuvenate your spirit, and get some hobby work done! Registration is open now on the [Fortune Lake website](#). Deadline to register is November 8. We hope to see you there!



New Faithful Innovations Cohort

These learning communities of Jesus are designed for For Laity, Pastors, Deacons and Licensed Lay Ministers of the Northern Great Lakes Synod. The next cohort begins in January 2022. Check out [this flyer](#) for all the details!



Ignite The Church CONFERENCE

2022 Ignite the Church Conference

A new Hybrid version of the grassroots Ignite the Church Conference will gather **February 8-10** in-person and online to reflect on the theme, "Seismic Shifts: Where Do We Go From Here?" Four large group sessions will focus on the following shifts: *Public Church* (Robin Steinke and Winston Persaud), *Hybrid Church* (Joe and Jess Liles), *Adaptive Church* (Tod Bolsinger), *Thriving Church* (Stephanie Spellers). Ten 90-minute workshops will dig deeper into these shifts to offer encouragement, inspiration, and challenge for church leaders. To register and learn more, please visit the [Ignite the Church website](#).

NGLS Youth Ministry Updates



Our Synod Youth Ministries Coordinator is Here to Help!

If you have questions or would like to be on the email list for Youth Leaders, please contact Stefanie Ehle at youthcoordinator@nclsynod.org.



Info Meeting for NGLS Congregations

Youth leaders, pastors, and anyone interested in learning more about the ELCA Youth Gathering are invited to join us **Saturday, November 13 at 11 am ET / 10 am CT** via Zoom for an informational meeting. This meeting is for folks who are committed to attending the Gathering in 2022 as well as anyone who is still undecided and looking for more information to help with the decision-making process. Stefanie Ehle (Gathering Synod Coordinator) and Stacy McEachern (Synod Day Coordinator) will host the meeting and be available to answer questions, provide additional details, and help you prepare. **If you would like a Zoom link to this meeting, please email youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org with your name and congregation affiliation no later than Friday, November 12.**

[Click Here for Additional 2022 Youth Gathering Updates](#)

Keeping in Prayer

[October Prayfaithfully Calendar](#)

[November Prayfaithfully Calendar](#)



Prayfaithfully Devotions

Check out upcoming [Prayfaithfully](#) on our Synod website!

October 24-30 by Pastor Kari Vadis

October 31-November 6 by Pastor Brenda Greenwald

November 7-13 by Donna Ahlberg

If you are interested in writing a week's worth of devotions, contact Betsy Koski at (906) 228-2300 or bakoski@nglsynod.org.

Lifting Up to God in Prayer

- For sinners to repent.
- For sinners to know the loving forgiveness of the Lord.
- For the church of Christ to always be reforming to better reflect Christ.
- For health care workers who are weary.

Quick Links

- [Check out resources on the NGLS website](#)
- [COVID-19 Event Risk Assessment Tool](#)
- [Stewardship Toolkit](#)
- [UP Wild Events](#)



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

Rev. Jim Duehring

Assistant to the Bishop/DEM

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