



Northern Great Lakes Synod

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

E-Notes for November 30, 2021

The Season of Advent

Thought of the Day

"Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace! So says our God. Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load."

~ELW #256, "Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

News & Information



Join us this Winter for Lifelong Faith Formation Classes!

The synod offers a Lifelong Faith Formation program for adults who want to grow in faith and spirit as they learn together. Meeting online via Zoom, classes range in duration from two sessions to ten weekly meetings. Registration will be available soon, so here's a preview of the 2022 winter schedule:

- **Introduction to Biblical Hebrew** - Sunday evenings with Pastor Nicole Hanson Lynn
- **The Samuel Series: Prayer and the Spiritual Life** - Monday mornings, facilitated by Barb Ojibway, Pastor Lee Goodwin, and Pastor Jon Magnuson
- **The Big Picture Bible Discussion** - Tuesday evenings, coordinated by Susan Anderson and Jeff Henquinet
- **Anishinaabe Culture** - Up to three evening sessions beginning on Thursday, January 27, coordinated by Denise Cadeau, Dean of Anishinaabe Studies at Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College
- **Ezekiel Bible Study** - Wednesday evenings with Pastor Tommy Richter (this second class in the series will cover chapters 25-48)
- **Dialogue with the Islamic Resource Group** - Coordinated by Pastor Christina Forsythe, on two evenings, Thursday, January 20 and Friday, January 21



Specials on Dell Computers

The ELCA continues to be in partnership with Dell Computers and their Corporate Affiliate Purchase Program. This program is also extended to our synods and congregations. Dell's Member Purchase Program offers a 10% discount on selected Dell electronics & accessories. Cyber Monday offers run through December 5 ([see flyer](#)). Shop online through your Member Purchase Program store: www.dell.com/mpp/ELCA.

Annual Report Cover Now Available

The 2021 ELCA Annual Report cover is ready and available for download! The file is available for use [here on our website](#).



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

Finlandia's Anniversary Celebration

Due to the sharp rise in community spread of the coronavirus in Houghton County, Finlandia's 125th Anniversary celebrations scheduled for **December 3-5** are being modified. Check out their [website](#) for details!



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



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 the new year and the **registration deadline is January 13**. Check out [this flyer](#) for 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?" For all the details and registration, please visit the [Ignite the Church website](#).



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](#).

NGLS Youth Ministry Updates



Youth Core Leadership Team Applications Open!

The Youth Core Leadership Team exists to provide leadership development and faith formation opportunities for ELCA high school youth. Accepted team members will learn and improve on skills such as worship planning, collaboration, peer ministry, and small group training as they plan and lead the ELCA Youth Leadership Summit. This group of leaders also serves as a focus group for ELCA Churchwide Ministries and are often interviewed and asked to serve on other committees and teams as the church strives to do ministry with youth more effectively. This past year, Sean Korpela of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Ironwood, was selected to serve as one of the team members. Thank you, Sean for representing the NGLS!

If you know of a high schooler between 9th and 11th grade who would excel at an opportunity like this, please encourage them to apply for one of the open positions. [Click here](#) for the application and additional information about the program. The deadline to apply is January 15, 2022.



2022 ELCA Youth Gathering Update

Plans for the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering continue to move forward with caution and congregations should use their best judgment when deciding what will be best for their youth right now. Registration will remain open through May 22 and the Gathering will take place July

24-28 in Minneapolis, MN. Attendees from the NGLS will have the option to travel together via bus transportation. Contact Stefanie Ehle, Synod Youth Coordinator, at youthcoordinator@nclsynod.org to get connected with other Gathering attendees from our synod or visit the [Gathering website](#) for details.

Synod Youth Ministry Team

The Synod Youth Ministry Team has been meeting regularly to talk about ways to share resources in youth and family ministry with congregations in our synod and plan activities for youth to develop their faith and strengthen their relationship with God. David Nelson, of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Houghton, serves as the new committee chair. If you have suggestions for youth events you would like to see in our synod or ideas of how to connect with Youth Leaders, contact David (dannelso@mtu.edu) or Stefanie (youthcoordinator@nclsynod.org).



[Facebook](#)



[Instagram](#)



[Website](#)

Keeping in Prayer

[December Prayfaithfully Calendar](#)



Prayfaithfully Devotions

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

November 27-December 4 by Ruth Warmanen

December 5-11 by Jackie Lehto

December 12-18 by Pastor John Ansell

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

Transitions

- We pray God's blessings upon **Pastor Catherine Ford** who has been called to serve the work of Christ with the people of **Faith, Three Lakes**. Pastor Catie will be Installed on Sunday, December 5 at 3 pm CT. Clergy are invited to vest and the color of the day is red. Masks are expected.

Lifting Up to God in Prayer

- For the power to be still and wait this Advent season.
- For families to find healing and hope in their relationships.
- For health care workers who are weary.
- For those without access to the basics of life: water, food, shelter.

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.

Pastor Jim Duehring

Assistant to the Bishop/DEM