



Northern Great Lakes Synod

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

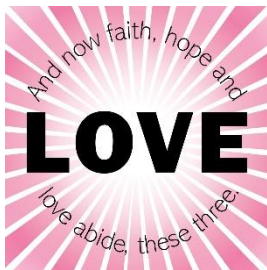
E-Notes for February 28, 2023

The Season of Lent

Word of the Day

"When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent' [Matthew 4:17], he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance."
~from Luther's 95 Theses

Synod Assembly News



Synod Assembly Registration & Payment Now Available Online

Registration and payment for Synod Assembly are now available online only on the [Synod Assembly website](#). Here's a [quick guide on how to register](#). Voters need to be registered before 5 pm ET on April 12 in order to take advantage of the registration rate of \$125. After 5 pm ET on April 12, the late

registration fee is \$150. The registration rate for visitors is \$25. Registration for voters and visitors closes permanently at 5 pm ET on **April 26, 2023** and will not open again due to technology requirements.



Information for Voting Members

- In order to vote at Synod Assembly, all voting members must be present in the ballroom at NMU. We will not have remote voting this year.
- **Voting members are required to bring their own device (a smartphone, tablet or laptop) with wifi capability and a web browser and charger for elections.**
- The Election Runner app can be downloaded in advance, but it is not required.
- Voting members will be issued a unique voter ID and password at Synod Assembly, which will be on the back of their name tag (this information will not be available prior to Assembly).
- For any votes using Election Runner, a link to the vote (or vote ID number for those using the app) will be displayed on the screens in the Assembly ballroom. Voters will simply need to type the link into their browser (or the vote ID into the Election Runner app). It will ask for a voter ID and password (located on the back of the voter's name tag). They may then vote in the allotted time frame.



Food Options at Synod Assembly

There are 3 optional, prepaid-only meals to choose from when registering for Synod Assembly:

1. **Friday Morning Breakfast (\$10)**
 - 7-8:30 am at Marquette Hope Connection (927 W. Fair Ave., Marquette)
 - Hosted by NMU Campus Ministry
 - Menu will include scones, eggs, fruit, meat and a Celtic devotion. Proceeds benefit the NMU Campus Ministry Pilgrimage to Iona, Scotland May 24-June 3, 2023.
2. **Friday Evening Banquet (\$25)**
 - 6 pm at NMU and your choice of entrée:
 - **Lake Superior Whitefish:** Meuniere style broiled whitefish with brown butter and lemon,

served with harvest rice pilaf and zucchini ribbons.

- **Pork Tenderloin:** Medallions of pork with honey mustard sauce, alongside roasted sweet potatoes, sauteed apples and fresh mango chutney.
- **Farmer's Market Paella (vegetarian & vegan):** A meatless take on the Spanish classic, arborio rice seasoned with saffron, tomatoes, carrots, petite peas and artichoke hearts.

3. **Saturday Morning Breakfast (\$10)**

- 7-8:30 am at Messiah Lutheran Church (305 W. Magnetic St., Marquette)
- Hosted by Messiah's Confirmation class
- Menu will include breakfast tacos (tortillas, eggs, breakfast sausage and salsas) and Honduran breakfast burritos (eggs and black beans). Proceeds benefit Messiah Lutheran Church's asylum-seeking family.

News & Information



A & C Reports Deadline is tomorrow, March 1

Each year the ELCA asks congregations to provide information about their people and activities in an annual congregation report. The report is filled out on Form A and Form C, which arrived in your church's mailbox earlier in January. You can [access electronic versions of the forms and instructions here](#) and [complete your A & C report online here!](#)



**Rostered Leader Reports to the Bishop
Due March 15, 2023**

Below you will find links for filling out your annual Report to the Bishop online. Please use the following instructions:

1. Click the appropriate button below to access your report. Please note that LLM's should use the link for Minister of Word and Sacrament--Under Call from a Congregation.
2. Save the report to your computer.
3. Fill out the report and save it again.
4. Attach the report file to an email to Heather (hoysti@nglsynod.org) OR print out your report and mail to the Synod Office.

The reports can also be filled out by hand and mailed to the Synod Office if you prefer. Please note: the deadline for getting your report to the Bishop is **Wednesday, March 15, 2023**.

Ministers of Word and Sacrament

[Under Call from a Congregation](#)

[On Leave or Disability](#)

[Retired](#)

[Under Call from Synod Council or ELCA Church Council](#)

Ministers of Word and Service

[Under Call from a Congregation](#)

[On Leave or Disability](#)

[Retired](#)

[Under Call from Synod Council or ELCA Church Council](#)



Free Congregational Vitality Survey

Want to have a tool to gauge what people in your congregation are thinking about your congregation? This [Congregational Vitality Survey](#) will be a helpful tool. The ELCA Congregational Vitality Survey is a simple 36 question survey tool to gain input from both leaders and participants on how they see key areas for both vitality and sustainability.



Help for Earthquake Survivors

Right now, your congregation can rush aid to our neighbors devastated by the earthquake in Turkey. Lutheran World Relief teams are already coordinating a response, and it is your congregations' compassion and generosity that will rush emergency care. Gifts to LWR's emergency response fund will deliver critically needed care for families like water, medical care, shelter and essential supplies. Congregations and their members can give online at lwr.org/quake or mail a check to Lutheran World Relief, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061. Please write QUAKE in the memo.

Upcoming Events



Grow in Spirit, Faith and Understanding

There's still time to register for Lifelong Faith Formation classes this winter. Sign up now for the online courses which begin in March and April.

Great reading and lively conversation:

Introduction to Family Systems Thinking & Book Study of Friedman's Fables—"Metaphors for Family Systems Thinking," with Pastor Jim Duehring, Assistant to the Bishop Every Saturday, 11 am ET/10 am CT **April 1-May 6** (5 sessions), register by March 11.

For details and to register, visit our website. If you have any questions, contact Deacon Lori Ward at lori.ward@nngsynod.org or 615-519-1969.



A New Cohort of Faithful Innovations

Registration deadline is June 1, 2023


Gain training in listening skills and discerning God's movement in your congregation and neighborhood. Gather a team of 4 to

7 lay people to join your rostered leader or licensed minister and experience the process of Faithful Innovations. The next cohort takes place **June through November**. For more information on Faithful Innovations and to download the flyer for Cohort #5, please [visit our website](#).

NGLS Youth Ministry Updates

Registration is Open for these Upcoming NGLS Youth Opportunities

Youth Advocacy Retreat
April 14-16, 2023 Madison, WI




Featured Guest
Rev. Alex LaChapelle

Growing up, Pastor Alex was a child of color in an all-white family, and a mostly white church and school. Reflecting on his life, he will dig deep in the scriptures to the places where he finds comfort and hope for himself as a person of color. Alex has spent time as a missionary for the ELCA in Southern and Eastern Africa and currently serves Prince of Peace Lutheran in Marquette, MI.

Workshop:
Minority in the Middle

<https://www.loppw.org/resources/youth-advocacy/>

Youth Advocacy Retreat
April 14-16, 2023 Madison, WI



Featured Guest
Charlotte Strom

Charlotte (She/They) is currently based in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and spends their time working at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, exploring God's Creation, making music with other camp folks, and learning more about the world around her. Charlotte is excited to share new songs as well as familiar favorites with updated lyrics all with the goal of making a more inclusive space around the campfire.

Workshop:
Campfire with Compassion

<https://www.loppw.org/resources/youth-advocacy/>

Youth in Advocacy Retreat April 14-16, 2023

High School Youth from across the U.P. and Wisconsin are invited to gather in Madison for a weekend in April to learn what it means to be an advocate and how advocacy relates to our Lutheran faith. Throughout the weekend, participants will explore topics that affect us both globally and locally such as racism, environmental justice, LGBTQIA+ advocacy and world hunger. There will be designated time for meaningful conversations, engaging workshops, prayer, interactive music, personal reflection and fellowship with peers. **On Sunday morning we will join the congregation of Trinity Lutheran for worship and then meet with a legislator at the Wisconsin State Capitol.** Contact Stefanie Ehle at youthcoordinator@nqlsynod.org if you are interested in attending this event.

Pastor Alex LaChapelle of Prince of Peace, Harvey and Charlotte Strom, Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp's Hospitality Coordinator will serve as guest leaders at this event. Let's show our support by sending youth from our Synod to this retreat!

Registration for this event is available at loppw.org/resources/youth-advocacy. The cost is only \$75 per person and includes all programming, lodging, and meals. Scholarships are available for anyone who needs financial assistance.

Read an invitation to pastors, parents, and youth leaders [here](#).



Journey: Tri-Synod High School Gathering July 24-27, 2023

The Northern Great Lakes Synod is excited to be partnering again with the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin and the LaCrosse Area Synod for another regional youth gathering where high schoolers will encounter God and one another in new ways through creative ministry, challenging conversation, inspiring guest speakers, service learning and uplifting worship. Additional details and a link to register are available at <https://nswi.org/journey>. [Read an invitation letter to pastors, youth leaders, and parents here!](#)

Upcoming NGLS Conference-Wide Youth Events

Youth from anywhere in the synod are welcome to travel to Conference-Wide Events!



Menominee Valley Conference UnBirthday Party

Date: Friday, March 10

Time: 5–7 pm CT

Location: Bethel Lutheran Church (1309 14th Ave, Menominee, MI)

Contact: Stefanie Ehle, youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org

Menominee Valley Conference Youth between 6th and 12th grades are invited to Bethel Lutheran Church in Menominee for an UnBirthday Party on Friday, March 10 from 5–7 pm. We will put together Birthday Blessing Bags (cake mix, a can of soda,

frosting, sprinkles, candles, a pan, and party supplies) to donate to local food pantries. There will also be food and games to celebrate everyone's birthday! Please RSVP to Stefanie at youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org to ensure we purchase enough food and supplies.



Save the Date! Synod-Wide Family Hike May 13, 2023

Contact Stefanie Ehle (youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org) if you would like a Zoom link for our upcoming planning meeting.

Be sure to connect with NGLS Youth Ministry online to receive the latest updates!



Facebook Instagram Website

Keeping in Prayer



March Prayfaithfully Calendar

Prayfaithfully Devotions

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

February 26-March 4 Pastor Kelly Ylitalo

March 5-11 by Deacon Lori Ward

March 12-18 by Pastor Maxine Gray

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 welcome **Pastor Christine Olson** as a full-time Interim at **Emmanuel, Menominee**. Pastor Christine begins her efforts on February 20. Many thanks to **Pastor Keith Kolstad** for serving as Administrative Interim. May God bless Pastor Christine and the people of Emmanuel during this transitional time.
- We celebrate with **Prince of Peace, Eagle River** as a call has been extended to and received by **Pastor Grant Van Lishout**, who starts on March 1. An Installation date has been set for April 23, 2023 at 3 pm CT. God bless their new partnership!


Lifting Up to God in Prayer

- For peace in Ukraine and the Holy Lands.
- For renewal of faith during this season of Lent.
- For congregations in transition.
- For those struggling to find hope in their lives.

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

Copyright © 2023 Northern Great Lakes Synod, All rights reserved.
E-Notes from Northern Great Lakes Synod

Our mailing address is:
Northern Great Lakes Synod
1029 N. Third St., Suite A
Marquette, MI 49855