

Shining with the Light of Christ in the Northern Great Lakes Synod

Volume 33, Issue 3 | June - July 2021

Dear Northern Great Lakes Synod,

As I write this, it is not even 48 hours since our week of Synod Assembly concluded.

I do believe the experience of Synod Assembly this year was uneven for many people. For those who received prompt answers to technology questions, for those who voted without incident, for those who simply accessed the YouTube feed and listened to workshops and business, I do believe this was, overall, a very positive experience for you.



However, I am also well aware of a certain level of frustration for those who waited on the phone for answers, got disconnected, who didn't know what a web browser was much less how to click on it, who had trouble with the web portal and impatient with the voting glitches, you will join me in being happy if we never have synod assembly this way again.

Please trust that the goal was **not** to add to the frustration of days that are already full of reasons to feel weary. That just happened by accident. I hope that we have all increased our knowledge and understanding of technology and the communication required to fine tune the details.

Despite the challenges, we did manage to accomplish some things worth celebrating and we have learnings that will definitely be applied to future efforts.

We passed, by a significant majority, the resolution to Repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery, thereby adding our NGLS name to the other 17 synods who have done this work. It is an excellent beginning, as the Task Force is already thinking of ways to lead our synod into more meaningful ways of being good neighbors. I wish to commend the Doctrine of Discovery Task Force for their creative and tireless efforts to educate our synod on what the doctrine is, what it has meant, and why repudiation was the right thing to do. From Lifelong Faith Formation classes, to workshops, to video communications, their work was inspired and inspiring.

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Northern Great Lakes Synod
1029 N. Third St., Ste. A
Marquette, MI 49855

Office: (906) 228-2300 | Fax: (906) 228-2527
www.nglsynod.org

Bishop Finegan | kfinegan@nglsynod.org
Pastor Duehring | jduehring@nglsynod.org
NGLS | ngls@nglsynod.org

Thank you to:

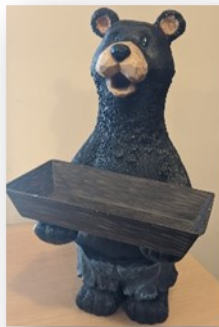
- Jeff Henquinet of Good Shepherd, Houghton
- Pastor Melinda VanderSys of Our Redeemer and First, Presbyterian, Newberry
- Pastor Julie Belew of Holy Cross, Baraga
- Pastor Bucky Beach of Good Shepherd, Houghton and Lutheran Campus Ministry of MTU
- Pastor Scott Ehle of Bethel, Menominee
- Retired Pastor Dave VanKley
- Staff Liaison, Pastor Jim Duehring

The World Hunger Committee celebrated the winners of the Big Bear Awards and the Bread Basket Awards.

The Big Bear Award is given to a group that has made an exemplary effort in the area of hunger ministry.

Congratulations to our Big Bear Award Winners:

- Board of Outreach at Faith, Three Lakes
- The Garden Crew at Calvary, Minocqua



The Bread Basket Award is given to individuals who give an exemplary effort to address issues of hunger and poverty. We congratulate this year's winners:

- Ron Schickowski of Pioneer Lake, Conover
- Elizabeth Beyne of Messiah, Marquette

Thank you both for your inspiring example of compassionate commitment and generosity with your time and energy.

We celebrated the installations of Pastor Grant Van Lishout and Deacon Lori Ward.

Pastor Van Lishout will serve with our ministry partner, Marywood Franciscan Spirituality Center and Deacon Ward will serve as our Northern Great Lakes Synod Missioner for Lifelong Faith Formation and LLM evaluation administrator. Livestreamed

through YouTube and Facebook, we enjoyed a lovely worship service complete with "All Creation Sings" liturgy, hymns led by the music team of Messiah, Marquette, a choral anthem offered by Ascension, Minocqua, and preaching by Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

We had a week of communications, workshops, Prayfaithfully video devotions, and more.

The online workshops are something we will definitely do again as more than 400 participants were able to learn together through technology from every corner, hamlet, shoreline, and woodland copse in our synod territory. Special thanks to our pastors and deacon who contributed to the special devotions on Hope that week.

Despite the challenges, we managed to update and amend our Synod Constitution, lift up the creativity of our congregations as ministry efforts have pivoted, and celebrate that the work of Christ in and through the Church has continued, unabated. And most of all, we embraced HOPE. From scripture readings to the word proclaimed, from hymns sung to anthems heard, from the images of ministry in action that flashed across our screens to the plans for future gatherings, we embodied that we are people of hope; hope in the future God has prepared, hope in the plans that God has for us, hope that pandemic challenges will give way to creative solutions and making the most of unexpected opportunities – we hope together.

I hope to see you this fall at a Walking Together event near you. I hope you are able to join a Lifelong Faith Formation class. I hope to read about this assembly in your congregational newsletter. I hope that you are reminded, once again, that as a synod of congregations, we are in this work together, walking alongside each other and the presence of Christ who walks with us. It is a joy and a privilege to be in partnership with you!

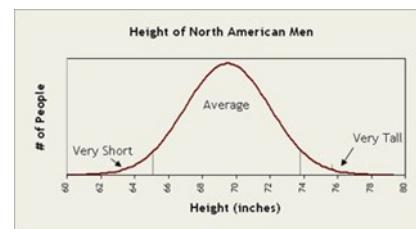
Thank you for a great Synod Assembly week!

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan

“What’s Normal?”

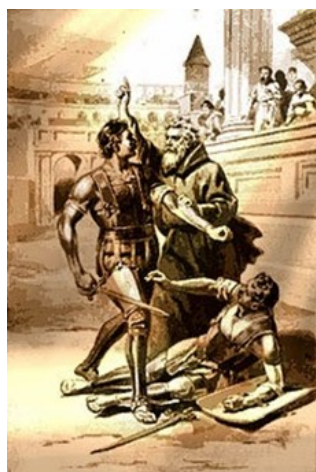
Are you normal? If your closest friends were asked if you were normal, what would they say? Feel free to laugh or cringe after reading that question. My dictionary defines “normal” as, “*according with, constituting, or not deviating from a norm, rule, or principle; regular.*”

So, are you just a regular person? As a former math teacher, I know that “normal” has mathematical references in geometry and statistics. “Norm” can refer to “average.” There is the famous “normal distribution curve.” The statistical theory is that on any given thing you are wanting to measure (height, weight, intelligence, income) we all fall somewhere along that distribution curve—sometimes referred to as the “bell curve.” Most of us fall within range of that 50th percentile. But, of course, there are exceptions!



In the fictional community of Lake Wobegon, Garrison Keillor would always start his radio show with, “Welcome to Lake Wobegon, where all the women are strong, all the men are good-looking, and all the children are above average.” Well, of course, we know that not everyone, no matter your gender identity or age, can be “above average.” Lake Wobegon apparently was a very “unnormal” place.

Do you wish to be “normal?” Or do you delightfully claim your “unnormalness.” I don’t think that’s a real word, but it should be. As the pandemic is winding down at least in most parts of our country, we hear the rejoicing of “returning to normal.” I, too, am seeing hope. But is returning to normal really the goal of the followers of Jesus and the Christian church? How about returning to “better”?



Legend has it that a man named Telemechus was attending the brutal games at the Roman Colosseum. Men were tortured and killed by wild beasts as the crowds cheered. Gladiators fought to the death. It is said that Telemechus was so disgusted by what had been “normalized” that he stood up and declared that this barbarism should stop. Legend has it that he was killed by the mob because of this. However, his martyrdom spurred a change in the hearts of the people. Emperor Honorius, himself a Christian, was moved to outlaw gladiator fights to the death. What had been normal—the bloody gladiator fights—eventually changed.

Truly, not everything in the past is worth returning to.

Dare we in the Christian church seek the ways of love and truth found in Christ Jesus? Might we find new ways to follow Jesus even as we cherish the old ways that brought us joy and hope?

Maybe there are things in the past unworthy of the Christian message, and we should not return to them and what was considered “normal.”

The apocalyptic vision of the victorious Christ in the Book of Revelation has Christ saying, “See, I’m making all things new.” (Revelation 21:5)

Maybe “normal” isn’t what it used to be. Maybe that’s okay, for the Lord is at work in our hearts, in our churches, and in the whole world shaping us to be what we are not yet.

Thy kingdom come! Your “better normal” be revealed and manifested among us!

Pastor Jim Duehring
Assistant to the Bishop/DEM

Welcome

From Synod Vice President, Chuck Thomas

Consider this scripture from 2 Peter 1:10-11: “Therefore, brothers and sisters, be all the more eager to confirm your call and election, for if you do this, you will never stumble. For in this way, entry into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be richly provided for you.”



Welcome: As I write this article the 2021 Synod Assembly has just been completed. At the Assembly we affirmed five new Synod Council members who heard and answered the call to become leaders in the NGLS. I extend a warm welcome to new council members Nancy Heykes, Matthew Johnson, Don Peterson, Pastor Diane Srutowski, and Katie McEachern, and I also welcome Pastor David Tielbar back for a second term. I look forward to individually speaking with each new member, if not before, then at our next Synod Council meeting at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp on September 10-11, 2021.

Welcome: Others heard and answered the leadership call and were elected by the Synod Assembly to represent us at the next ELCA Churchwide Assembly in 2022. Congratulations to Pastor Soren Schmidt, Pastor Kelly Ylitalo, Sandy Feleppa, Matthew Johnson, Barbara Rice, and Sean Korpela. I welcome your leadership and look forward to you joining Bishop Finegan and myself at the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

Welcome: I also welcome the four new members elected to the Synod Discipline Committee: Pastor Mark Laatsch, Pastor Brenda Greenwald, Linda Davis, and Jim Norsen. And, I welcome the two new members elected at the Assembly to the Synod Consultation Committee: Naomi Kauppi and Walter Scanlon. Your willingness to serve is appreciated.

Welcome: I welcome the prayers of all the faithful in the NGLS for not only the above new leaders, but for all of God’s faithful who accept a leadership role within the NGLS.

Welcome: Finally, I welcome your feedback. If you have questions of me or concerns you would like Synod Council to consider, please contact me through the synod office or at my email, cthomas906@yahoo.com.

Transitions

We thank God for **Pastor Bre Kinnunen** who took over as Administrative Interim at **Grace, Gwinn** on April 1.

We thank **Pastor Don Ludemann** for his ministry at **Prince of Peace, Marquette** and welcome **Pastor Molly Eversoll** as Administrative Interim as of June 1.

We celebrate with **Pastor-Elect Micah Cavaleri** who will be ordained and installed on June 12. Pastor-Elect Cavaleri has been called to serve at **Grace, South Range**. The ordination and installation begins at 1 pm ET at Grace Lutheran Church and on Zoom.

We welcome **Pastor-Elect Mike Markwell** who has been called to serve **Immanuel, Escanaba** starting June 14. Pastor-Elect Markwell will be ordained on June 5 at St. John Lutheran Church in Joliet, IL. Thanks to **Pastor Dennis Meyette** who has served as Immanuel’s Interim Pastor for almost three years and retired at the end of May.

We give thanks for the ministries of **Pastor Warren Geier** and **Pastor Lauri Maki** who will both retire this summer. Pastor Geier’s last day at **Bethany, Ishpeming** will be June 30 and Pastor Maki’s last day at **Bethel, Ishpeming** will be July 31. We



celebrate their many years of ministry as they begin this new adventure! God bless Pastor Geier and his wife, Kathy and Pastor Maki and his wife, Lois!

We welcome **Pastor Bruce Thorsen** who will begin serving as Interim Pastor at **Bethany, Ishpeming** on July 27.

In Our Prayers

We hold **Bishop Emeritus Dale Skogman** and his family in prayer as he has been diagnosed with terminal cancer. May God’s comforting arms surround them and give them peace.





Summer Event for Leaders

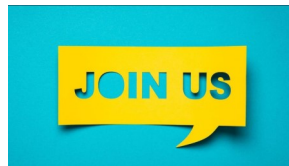


Rostered Leaders, Licensed Lay Ministers and their families are invited to a summer event at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp **August 18-20**. The theme for this continuing education event will be "Seeking Shalom—Post-Pandemic Wholeness and Health." More details coming early this summer, but in the meantime please save the dates!

Council Presidents' Seminar Series

You are invited to join a conversation that will further equip you for your important leadership role. This Zoom event is set for **Thursday, July 22 at 7 pm ET/6 pm**

CT and will be led by Ray Miller and Synod Vice President, Chuck Thomas. The Zoom link will be sent out closer to the event. To make sure you're on the email list, please contact Heather at the synod office hoysti@nglsynod.org or (906) 228-2300.



Walking Together

These 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.

Conference 3—Headwaters

September 19 at 12:30 pm CT at Immanuel, Rhinelander

Conference 5—Menominee Valley

September 18 at 9:30 am CT at Porterfield, Porterfield

Conference 7—Three Lakes

September 26 at 3:30 pm ET at Faith, Sault Ste. Marie

Conference 8—Superior Central

September 16 at 5:30 pm ET at Messiah, Marquette



Synod YouTube Channel

Search for "Northern Great Lakes Synod" on YouTube and check out the resources, worship experiences and learning opportunities we have made available! Expect more content to be added as we create and receive it. Check back often!



Northern Great Lakes Synod Calendar

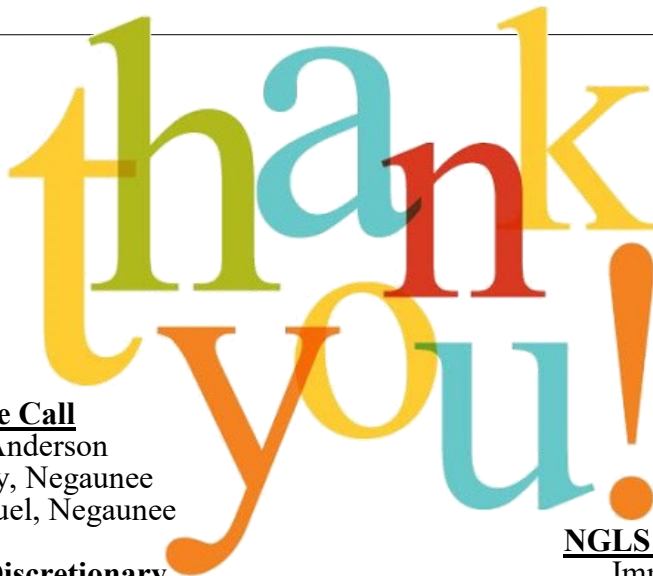
Be sure to check the Synod website nglsynod.org for up-to-date event information!



- 12 Ordination and Installation of Pastor-Elect Micah Cavaleri at 1 pm ET at Grace, South Range & via Zoom
- 14 World Hunger Committee meeting, 10:30 am ET via Zoom
- 15 NGLS Staff Meeting, 10 am ET
- 21-23 Assistant to the Bishop at Systems Academy online
- 29 NGLS Staff meeting, 10 am ET



- 5 Synod Office Closed
- 14 NGLS Staff Meeting, 10 am ET
- 22 Council President's Seminar Series, 7 pm ET via Zoom



Thank you to the following donors for their generous support of the work of Christ in and through our Synod.

Answer the Call

Joyce Anderson
Bethany, Negaunee
Immanuel, Negaunee

Bishop's Discretionary

Christopher Tassava
Al & Kathy Sundine
Rev. Grant & Rev. Sherry Van Lishout

ELCA Disaster Funds

Bethany, Amasa
Salem, Ironwood
St. Paul, Ironwood
Verna & Lee Johnson
Ascension, Minocqua
Calvary, Minocqua
Mission United, Pelkie
Shepherd of the Lakes, Sayner
All Saints, Wakefield

Equipping the Saints Endowment Fund

Rev. Gerald & Susan Anderson
Verna & Lee Johnson

Lutheran Campus Ministry

Gary & Christine Ebert
Immanuel, Escanaba
Grace, Gwinn
Immanuel, Negaunee
Prince of Peace, Marquette
Good Shepherd, Peshtigo
Calvary, Rapid River

Lutheran Social Services

Emanuel, Skandia

Lutheran World Relief

Zion, Ironwood
Prince of Peace, Marquette
Immanuel, Negaunee
Calvary, Rapid River

NGLS Mission Outreach

Immanuel, Escanaba

NGLS Seminarian Support

Rev. Grant & Rev. Sherry Van Lishout
Lee & Verna Johnson

Skogman Scholarship

Joseph & Pamela Durbin
Dirk & Sue Manson

Skrenes Fund for Ministry

Immanuel, Negaunee
Virginia Paulson
Bishop Tom & Luanne Skrenes

Synod Undesignated

Margaret Rovenko
Donald Schutt

Synod Youth Coordinator

Trinity, Ishpeming

Tanzania Projects

First, Gladstone
Trinity, Ishpeming
St. Paul, Mass City
Immanuel, Negaunee
Grace, Pembine
Joyce Peterson

UP Wild

Rev. Jim Duehring

World Missionary Support

Zion, Ironwood
Mission United, Pelkie
Grace, Pembine

All those who gave Synod Assembly offering.

Pastoral Vacancies and Interims

Grace, Gwinn—Rev. Bre Kinnunen
 Faith, Three Lakes—Rev. John Kuziej
 Community, Palmer and Suomi—Virginia Paulson, LLM
 Bethlehem, Florence—Rev. Lisa Ubbelohde
 Bethany, Mohawk—Larry Molloy, LLM
 All Saints, Wakefield & Sharon, Bessemer—Rev. Sue Johnson
 St. James, Rudyard—Rev. Matthew Deames
 Grace, Pembine—Rev. Dwaine Sutherland
 First, Gladstone—Rev. Dennis Meyette
 First, Iron River—Rev. D.J. Rasner
 Christ the King, Escanaba—Lon Hider
 Faith, Rock and First, Trenary—Rev. Rell Spickerman
 Prince of Peace, Marquette—Rev. Molly Eversoll

*“He lives to grant me rich supply; he lives to guide me with his eye;
 He lives to comfort me when faint; he lives to hear my soul’s complaint.” (ELW #619)*

Through the first third of the year, congregations have been faithful and generous in their mission support giving and we are truly grateful to be more than \$8,400 ahead of last year at this time despite a decrease in pledges. God does indeed grant us rich supply and our gifts given in loving response help us share God’s love with others in our synod and around the world. As we move forward in hope through the year, may we join with the hymnist in proclaiming that *I Know That My Redeemer Lives!*, trusting that in Christ’s life, death and resurrection everything we could ever need has already been supplied.

- Betsy Koski, Bookkeeper

As of 4/30	2020	2021	\$ Change	% Change
Pledged Amount	796,322	774,999	-21,323	-2.7%
Amount Received	235,170	243,642	+ 8,472	+3.6%
Designated Gifts	40,381	39,127	- 1,254	-3.1%



Northern Great Lakes Synod

1029 N. Third Street, Suite A
Marquette, MI 49855

Phone: (906) 228-2300
Fax: (906) 228-2527
Email: ngls@nglsynod.org

Synod Website:
www.nglsynod.org

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Prayfaithfully

NGLS Daily Devotions Schedule June & July 2021

May 30-June 5	Pastor Bob Langseth
June 6-12	Pastor Linda Forray
June 13-19	Pastor Dave Johnson
June 20-26	Pastor Matt Deames
June 27-July 3	Deacon Lori Ward
July 4-10	Conference 7 Text Study Group
July 11-17	Pastor Maxine Gray
July 18-24	Michael Holman, LLM
July 25-31	Pastor Brahm Semmler Smith



A Year of Prayer
A Lifetime of Praying!

prayfaithfully@nclsynod.org
www.nclsynod.org/prayfaithfully

Prayer Calendar - June 2021

1	Pray for pastors who celebrate birthdays this month : <i>Paul Holmstrom (6/2), Lauri Maki (6/3), Nick Johannes (6/6), Jay Welshonse (6/12), Terry Frankenstein (6/14), Richard Likeness (6/15), Mike Markwell (6/17), and Melinda VanderSys (6/18).</i>
2	Pray for all graduates beginning a new phase of life . May God bless them with the Spirit of courage and adventure as they work to achieve their goals. May God surround them with support systems and faithful mentors as they face challenges and temptations.
3	Pray for pastors who celebrate the anniversary of their ordination this month : <i>Fran Strong (6/4), David Van Kley (6/4), Ken Michaelis (6/5), Peter Vorhes (6/6), Keith Kolstad (6/7), Warren Geier (6/7), Ron McCallum (6/8), David Echelbarger (6/10), and Lee Goodwin (6/14).</i>
4	Pray for farmers and ranchers, fishers and beekeepers, and all who produce our food . May God bless them with favorable weather, sunshine and rain at appropriate times, and safety in the midst of their work. May God fill us with gratitude as we eat what they have provided for us.
5	Pray for Pastor-Elect Mike Markwell who will be ordained by Bishop Finegan today in Joliet, IL at St. John Lutheran Church. Pray also for Immanuel Lutheran Church, Escanaba MI as they begin their ministry with Pastor-Elect Mike.
6	For school children looking forward to summer vacations and summer learning opportunities. May they continue to learn and grow and take the time to exercise their minds and bodies in play.
7	Pray for the members of St. Mark Lutheran Church, Myersville, MD; St. Mark Lutheran Church, Snydersburg (Hampstead), MD; St. Mark Lutheran Church, Baltimore, MD; and St. Mark Lutheran Church, Wilmington, DE.
8	Pray for ministries in transition and congregations who are seeking rostered leaders to serve them, <i>especially Grace Lutheran Church, Pembine, and their interim Pastor Dwaine Sutherland; and Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Florence, and their interim Pastor Lisa Ubbelohde.</i>
9	For all those hoping to travel for graduations, weddings, or vacations. May they all find ways to be safe and healthy.
10	Pray for the Synod Leadership Support Committee as they continue to plan opportunities for the rostered leaders of our Synod to remain healthy in body, mind, and spirit.
11	Pray for Licensed Lay Ministers who celebrate birthdays this month : <i>Elaine Hendrickson (6/12).</i>
12	Pray for Pastor-Elect Micah Cavaleri and Grace Lutheran Church, South Range, MI , as they celebrate his ordination and installation today.
13	Pray for all Northern Wisconsin and Upper Michigan communities as they welcome visitors during this vacation season. May we all care for one another and keep one another safe.
14	Pray for our Synod World Hunger Committee as they meet today and continue to address the needs of hungry people around the world.

15	Pray for our Northern Great Lakes Synod Staff as they meet today in Marquette and make plans for our ministries in our Synod and around the ELCA.
16	Pray for pastors who celebrate the anniversary of their ordination this month: <i>Micheal Laakko (6/15), Stacy Pethke (6/16), David Jensen (6/17), Maxine Gray (6/17), and Mark Laatsch (6/17).</i>
17	Pray for Pastors who celebrate birthdays this month: <i>Dean Marin (6/22), Breanne Kinnunen (6/22), Kay Richter (6/22), Jon Magnuson (6/25), Bill Jacobson (6/25), and Duane Priebe (6/29).</i>
18	Pray for our Lutheran Campus Ministry leaders as they continue to find ways to care for students who have had so many aspects of their lives turned upside-down during the last year.
19	Pray for pastors who celebrate the anniversary of their ordination this month: <i>Earl Bergh (6/19), George Olson (6/19), Jon Magnuson (6/19), Ingmar Levin (6/20), Les Niemi (6/20), Matt Lamb (6/21), Alex Ross (6/21), Bob Langseth (6/22), and Raymond Korry (6/22).</i>
20	Offer prayers of thanksgiving for fathers on Father's Day . Pray that all fathers become involved, responsible parents who raise their children to be caring individuals who will have fulfilling lives.
21	Pray for Assistant to the Bishop Pastor Jim Duehring as he continues his education with the Systems Academy which is meeting online today through June 23.
22	Pray for Lutheran Disaster Response as they continue to work with those dealing with and recovering from COVID-19, floods, fires, earthquakes, tornados, and other natural and man-made disasters.
23	Pray for our vulnerable friends, neighbors, and loved ones , especially those who are lonely and isolated. May we find new ways of sharing God's love with those in need.
24	Pray for pastors who celebrate the anniversary of their ordination this month: <i>Stephen Gauger (6/25), John Kuziej (6/25), Eleanor Russey (6/25), Wally Leno (6/26), Dean Marin (6/26), Philip Johnson (6/26), David Johnson (6/26), Paul Holmstrom (6/27), Lauri Maki (6/28), David Murphy (6/28), and Paul Raappana (6/29).</i>
25	Pray for members of Magogoni Lutheran Church, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania , and <i>their partner congregation Christ the King Lutheran Church, Escanaba, MI.</i>
26	Pray for the members of St. Martin Lutheran Church, Annapolis, MD; St. Mary Lutheran Church, Westminster, MD; St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Keedysville, MD; & St. Michael Lutheran Church, Perry Hall (Baltimore), MD.
27	Pray for law enforcement officers and other first responders as they watch over our communities and keep us safe. May they be well-supported and receive the respite they need after long and difficult shifts.
28	Pray for Call Committees and Councils as they lead our congregations and work with rostered leaders in transition. May the Holy Spirit guide all decisions with wisdom and strength.
29	Pray for our Synod Staff as they meet and continue to serve all the members and congregations of our Synod and ELCA ministries throughout the world.
30	Pray for all who are preparing for marriage . May God bless relationships with love, courage, forgiveness and peace.

"We pray for congregations in the Delaware-Maryland Synod as part of our domestic partner synod relationship."



A Year of Prayer
A Lifetime of Praying!

prayfaithfully@nclsynod.org
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Prayer Calendar - July 2021

1	Pray for all those facing addictions to drugs or alcohol . May God lead them to seek help and forgive them when they make mistakes.
2	Pray for pastors who celebrate the anniversary of their ordination this month : Bob Patrick (7/1), D.J. Rasner (7/2), Jared Howard (7/7), Andrea Fluegel (7/11), Tammy Barthels (7/11), Ann Gonyea (7/12), Brenda Greenwald (7/14), and Sue Johnson (7/15).
3	Pray for the members of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Burkittsville, MD; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Cumberland, MD; and St. Paul Lutheran Church, Curtis Bay (Baltimore), MD .
4	Pray for our nation as we celebrate independence this day. May God guide our nation's leaders to work for the rights, welfare, and dignity of people everywhere.
5	Pray for our Synod Staff as they close the Synod Office for a day of Sabbath rest, renewal, and time spent with God and family.
6	Pray for pastors who celebrate birthdays this month : Micah Cavaleri (7/2), Dean Peterson (7/6), Jennie Johnson Wrege (7/7), Mark Laatsch (7/7), Stacy Pethke (7/7), Ann Gonyea (7/8), Ken Michaelis (7/9), Norm Peterson (7/9), Steven Anderson (7/9), Keith Kolstad (7/9), Joe Daiker (7/9), Nicole Hanson-Lynn (7/9), Ingmar Levin (7/10), D.J. Rasner (7/10), and Kayla Keilholtz (7/10).
7	Pray for planters . May God bless all those who grow food on farms and in backyards. May God bless those whose plants provide beauty for all who pass by.
8	Pray for men and women in the armed forces who are away from their homes and stand in harm's way and for their families who miss them. May God's peace fill their hearts and may they return home safely.
9	Pray for those in nursing homes and care facilities across our Synod and for their families who wish they could visit more than sometimes seems possible. May God fill them with a Spirit of hope and good cheer.
10	Pray that we may be good stewards of all the lakes, rivers, streams, and waterfalls that grace this Synod. May God teach us how to keep them clean and beautiful for future generations.
11	Pray for pastors who celebrate birthdays this month : Ron McCallum (7/16), Gerald Anderson (7/17), Devon Barrix (7/24), and Raymond Korry (7/27).
12	Pray for all clergy in transition as they move to new calls, make transitions to new communities, and navigate the complexities of buying and selling homes.
13	Pray for all those who are pondering whether to answer a call to train as ministers of Word and Sacrament or Word and Service. May God guide them as they consider the call.
14	Pray for ministries in transition and congregations who are seeking rostered leaders to serve them, <i>especially the shared ministry of All Saints Lutheran Church, Wakefield, & Sharon Lutheran Church, Bessemer, and their interim Pastor Sue Johnson</i> .
15	Pray for members of Yombo Lutheran Church, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania , and <i>their partner congregation Immanuel Lutheran Church, Negaunee, MI</i> .

16	Pray for pastors who celebrate the anniversary of their ordination this month : <i>Gerald Anderson (7/20), Scott Ehle (7/21), Allan Johnson (7/25), David Tielbar (7/25), Jim Duehring (7/26), and Katherine Finegan (7/28).</i>
17	Pray for refugees around the world . May God bring them to safety as they flee from war zones, violence, and natural disasters. May God teach us compassion and help us to care for those who have lost so much.
18	Pray that we can help children discover the joy of reading this summer. May God show us ways to use local libraries and to share our books with others.
19	Pray for firefighters, police officers, first responders, and others who put themselves in harm's way to help and protect others. May God give them a Spirit of courage and wisdom, compassion and patience, as they respond to tense situations.
20	Pray for educational administrators at elementary and secondary schools, colleges and universities, and seminaries as they make plans for the fall.
21	Pray for those with macular degeneration and other visual impairments . May God keep them safe, bless medical researchers with new ideas for treatment, and provide them with caregivers to help them negotiate in the midst of a sighted world.
22	On this day when we remember St. Mary Magdalene , pray for all those who boldly tell their stories of encountering our living Lord, Jesus Christ. May God bless them with the words they need so that those who listen hear the Good News of new life in Jesus.
23	Pray for youth and families who struggle with hunger during the summer when schools are not providing meals. May God show them where resources are available. May God help us to be generous in our caring for them.
24	Pray for Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp as the staff looks ahead and makes plans for the fall and the future of their ministry.
25	Pray prayers of thanks for the sunshine and the rain, the birds and the flowers, the smell of fresh mown grass . May we all be filled with the Spirit of thankfulness this summer.
26	Pray for those who struggle with gender orientation and identity . May God bless them with peace and confidence in who God has created them to be. May God fill their lives with people who understand and support them in all they do.
27	Pray for all who participate in county fairs – those who bring entries, those who work at booths and concession stands, those who judge entries, and those who enjoy the carnivals and shows. May God bless them with all they need along the way.
28	Pray for caregivers everywhere who grow weary from carrying burdens for loved ones who can no longer care for themselves. May God give them strength and respite.
29	Pray for loggers and state and national forest service workers as they care for our beautiful Northwoods.
30	On this International Day of Friendship , pray for all your friends and then also pray for all your enemies .
31	Pray for the members of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Frostburg, MD; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Fulton, MD; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Funkstown, MD; and St. Paul Lutheran Church, Harney (Gettysburg), PA.

"We pray for congregations in the Delaware-Maryland Synod as part of our domestic partner synod relationship."



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Northern Great Lakes Synod

1029 N. Third Street, Suite A • Marquette, MI 49855

Phone: 906-228-2300 • Fax: 906-228-2527 • Email: ngls@nglsynod.org

Website: www.nglsynod.org

May 17, 2021

"Synod Youth Ministries Coordinator Position"

Rev. Katherine A. Finegan

Bishop

kfinegan@nglsynod.org

Rev. Jim Duehring

Assistant to the Bishop

jduehring@nglsynod.org

Heather Oysti

Office Administrator

hoysti@nglsynod.org

Betsy Koski

Bookkeeper/Secretary

bakoski@nglsynod.org



Companion Relationships:

Eastern & Coastal Diocese

Evangelical Lutheran Church
in Tanzania

Delaware-Maryland Synod

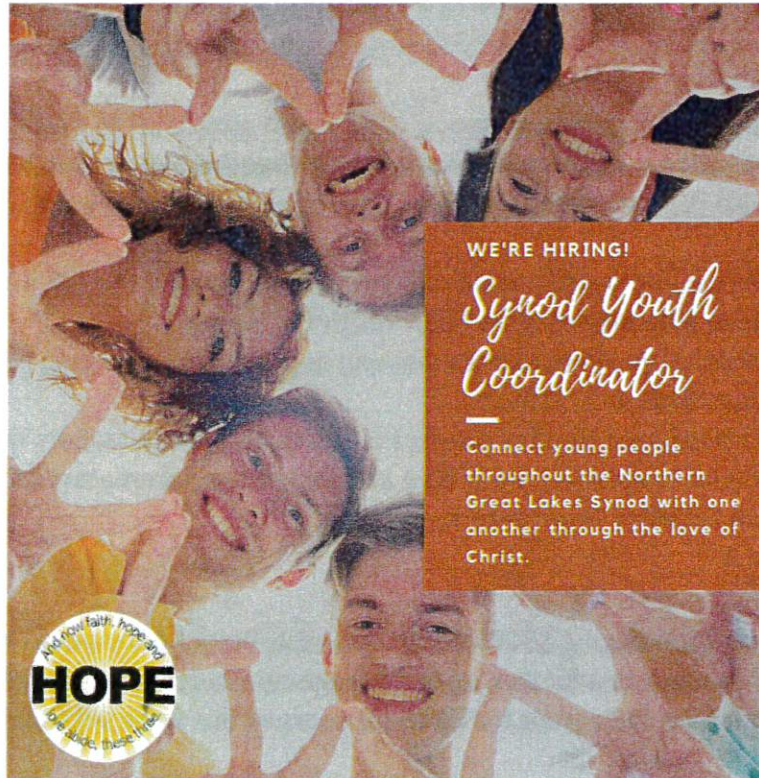
Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America



Cynthia Halvorson

ELCA Regional Gift Planner

cynthia.halvorson@elca.org



The Northern Great Lakes Synod of the ELCA, located in beautiful northern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, is seeking to hire a part-time person to help coordinate synod-wide youth activities.

Deadline to apply: June 15, 2021

Please contact Pastor Jim Duehring, Assistant to the Bishop to inquire about this position. A formal application will be sent to you upon request.

(906)228-2300 or jduehring@nglsynod.org

Details of this position are on the next page.

Synod Youth Ministries Coordinator Position

“Churches that grow young are willing to make young people a priority not just in rhetoric but also in daily reality.” Growing Young, p. 231

Rationale:

In order to prioritize a consistent and intentional coordination of various youth ministries throughout the Northern Great Lakes Synod, we propose the engagement of a “Synod Youth Ministries Coordinator”. The target ages for this youth ministries effort are 5th grade through 12th grade, but the hope is that young adults 18-30 might also be engaged in leadership and support roles. The initial coordinator position will be part-time, but our vision is open to expand this position as interest and capacity grows.

Duties:

1. Help coordinate conference wide and synod wide youth ministries to maximize the collaborative potential of congregational youth ministries working together when possible.
2. Help coordinate with Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp opportunities for youth ministries sponsored by the synod.
3. Assist in the promotion and coordination of synod efforts around the ELCA Youth Gathering and follow up activities for those who attended an ELCA Youth Gathering.
4. Plan and offer occasional youth ministries training opportunities to equip people to do youth ministry in their own congregations and contexts.
5. Utilize social media platforms to offer support to youth and youth leaders in our synod.
6. The coordinator is encouraged to help evolve and define the parameters of this work.
7. Attend Synod Youth Ministry Team meetings.

Compensation:

This will be a stipend position paying \$500/month. Monthly work hours would vary, but an average of 20 to 25 hours per month is expected for this work. Mileage reimbursement would also be provided. The hope is that the applicant could commit for up to (3) years of this work with an initial contract offer of (2) years.

Accountability:

This coordinator would be directly supervised by Pastor Jim Duehring, Assistant to the Bishop, and would have the support and consultation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod Youth Team.

Qualifications:

1. A passionate, mature, authentic Christian active in their own congregation
2. Demonstrated ability to work with youth and adults
3. A valid driver's license with reliable transportation
4. Pass a background check and offer personal and professional references
5. Strong organizational and communication skills
6. 21 years of age or older

Preferred Qualifications:

- Familiarity with the ELCA and the cultural context of the Northern Great Lakes Synod
- Strong technology skills and experience with social media platforms
- Experience in event planning
- Ability to work remotely (There is the possibility of some office space in Marquette.)