

NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Marquette, Michigan

ngls@nglsynod.org

E-Notes for October 16, 2013

~ THE PENTECOST SEASON ~

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

“QUOTE OF THE DAY”

“If every Bible is lost, if every church crumbles to dust, if the Last believer in the last prayer opens her eyes and lets it all finally go, Christ will appear on this earth as calmly as casually as he appeared to the disciples walking to Emmaus after his death, who did not recognize this man to whom they had pledged their very lives: this man whom they had seen beaten, crucified, abandoned by God; this man who, after walking the dusty road with them, after sharing an ordinary meal, and discussing the scriptures, had to vanish once more

in order to make them see.”

--Christian Wilman

PROMISES PROMISES

**From Pastor Jeremy Winter
Zion in St., Ignace and Trinity in Brevort
and a Newlywed!**

“Well, I’m married. I must admit, it is pretty great so far. I’m not sure it has entirely sunken in yet though. I mean this is a pretty huge deal. My life is forever changed by this one single event. Changed in a very, very good way, but still changed all the same. I have made vows tying myself to another person for the rest of my life. I have made promises to that person. Promises I intend to keep. Promises I will have to work at for the rest of my life.

Now, we make a lot of promises in life. Some are huge like the promises of marriage. Others are nothing in comparison

like promising to take out the garbage or do the dishes. But a promise is still a promise. It is a pledge, a vow, that we will keep our word. That we will do what we say. They truly are amazing things, these promises we make. But here is the problem – we don't always keep them. We are human and as such we are not even close to perfect. So we often fail in keeping our promises, both big and small. The garbage doesn't get taken out and marriages fail. It is a harsh reality of life; promises are not always kept. At least not by us.

Luckily for us that isn't the way God works with promises. You see God makes a lot of promises in the Bible to lots of different people. In that, God is no different than anyone else. But here is the thing: God keeps all those promises he makes. God keeps his promises to Abraham and to Jacob. God keeps his promises to Moses and Joshua. God keeps his promises to David and Solomon. And God keeps his promises to us. For God has made many promises to us as well. Promises to love us no matter what. Promises of forgiveness and salvation through the death of Christ. Promises that no matter what happens to us in life we are not alone. Promises of his Holy Spirit being a part of us and active in our lives. Amazing promises that God has made to each and every one of us. Promises which we can always count on. Promises which will never be broken. Why? Because God promises they won't. And God

never breaks a promise, and never will.”

PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON TO SPEAK AT WINTER THEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

The Winter theological Conference for Professional Leaders will feature ELCA Churchwide Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. Mark your calendar! Bishop Eaton will be a guest of our synod at Fortune Lake Camp on Sunday, February 16-17. Mark your calendar. More information will be sent to pastors and licensed lay ministers in a month.

Lutheran Campus Ministry welcomes a new Campus Minister at Northern Michigan University

Lisa Johnson has training and experience in Youth and Family Ministry, Campus Ministry and Outdoor Ministry. She will move from Ashland, Nebraska and begin

her work here as early as November 1. Her efforts will include Lutheran Campus Ministry at Northern as well as Youth Ministry at Messiah Lutheran Church, Marquette.

Welcome Lisa to the Northern Great Lakes Synod!

MALARIA MOSQUITO MATERNITY FUND RAISING COMPANION SYNOD PROJECT

Ann Christiansen from First Lutheran in Gladstone has a "Mosquito Kit" including everything needed to have a fund raiser for malaria work. For more information contact her at annchristiansen9130@yahoo.com

**CHECK OUT THE NEW STEWARDHIP
PAGES ON THE SYNOD WEBSITE:
Interesting ideas and resources**

www.nglsynod.org

Is Your Constitution up to date?

Constitutional amendments need to be approved by the Constitution Committee before they are adopted by your Congregation.

If you plan on making changes to be adopted at a Winter Congregational meeting, please submit your Constitution to the Synod Constitution Committee for review and approval by November 1, 2013. Call the Synod Office at 228-2300 or Pastor Doug Johnson at 715-528-4851 or djohnson@borderlandnet.net with any questions.

What is Transformational Ministry?

A year- long beginning to clarify the mission and purpose of your congregation for greater effectiveness

and unity in ministry. Each participating congregation commissions 6-8 folks to be the TM Team, along with their pastor, to attend three overnight retreats and meet monthly to learn and strategize how to lead their congregation towards more effective ministry.

Sign up and registration deadline is November 1, 2013.

Go to www.nglsynod.org for more details or call Pastor Katherine Finegan for more info.

Dental Mission to Tanzania

Luanne Skrenes is coordinating another dental mission trip to Tanzania next summer (2014).

The trip will be approximately two weeks in length and will include time spent with companion congregations, Kisarawe Lutheran Junior Seminary, and a safari.

The cost will be approximately \$4000.00. Any interested dentists, dental assistants, and dental hygienists should contact Luanne at lmskrenes@aol.com or 906-485-5121.
Karibu Tanzania! (Welcome to Tanzania!).

TRANSITION

+Congratulations to Elaine Hendrickson (Our Saviour's, Atlantic Mine) who was installed as a Licensed Lay Minister at Atlantic Mine on Sunday, October 13th.

Check out www.prayfaithfully.org for weekly
“Breath Prayer” and Daily Devotions.

Coming to a Church near you.... “Breaking the Mold”

A series of training events to equip adults to share the Gospel with Young Adults, Youth, and the Unchurched.

All trainings are from 9am – 3pm local time.

All are free, but registration is required
(call the Synod Office at 228-2300 even if you have responded on Facebook).

For Pastors, **Youth workers**, Sunday school teachers,
and adults.

Lunch is included!

~Saturday, November 23—

Messiah, Marquette

906-225-1119

What people are saying about Breaking the Mold:

"Good ideas! Interesting! Awesome practice done together, beneficial to network, Great discussions, Excellent presentation!

Mark Your Calendars: Church Musician Workshop with Jay Beech

Saturday, October 19th at Bethany Lutheran, Republic
Music, technique, leadership skills, and more
for the Church Musician.

Guitar players, drummers, piano players, percussion,
and more.

Register at www.nglsynod.org \$15/person capped at
\$50 per congregation. Includes Lunch!

Bring resources, books, website addresses that you
find helpful.

Go to "The Northern Great Lakes Synod" page

And “like” us. 😊

LIFTING UP TO GOD IN PRAYER

+In thanksgiving to God for the seminaries of this church who prepare women and men for ministry in our midst.

+For the world missionaries who share the Christian faith and learn from our sisters and brothers around the world.

+In thanksgiving for the installation of Bishop Elizabeth Eaton chosen to serve as our ELCA Presiding Bishop.

+For the synod staff of the Northern Great Lakes Synod. Help them to serve the Word of God.

+Thomas A. Skrenes, Bishop

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