



NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Marquette, Michigan

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E-Notes for April 15, 2016

The Season of Easter

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The women on Easter morning had no reason to be looking for anything other than death. Only the bright messengers in the tomb knew differently at that point. Death was not the final word.

Death did not possess the ultimate victory. Life was how things would end up, and death was counting its days.

So, get on with life. Shrug off the shrouds and say "NO" to the powers of death around you. The stone has been rolled away. Don't bring in an interior decorator to cozy up your tomb. Leave it!!"



- p. 146 "Our Hope for Years to Come:
Valparaiso Prayer Book"

Thank you to all the congregations and individuals who

contributed to the Always Being Made New Campaign for 2015!!!! We now have almost \$5000 that is available for grants to our Northern Great Lakes Synod congregations for Barrier Free Projects. For more information on details and how to apply, go to www.nglsynod.org.

Application deadline is September 1, 2016

DOMESTIC HUNGER GRANTS AVAILABLE

Congregations interested in applying for ELCA Domestic Hunger Grants should note the following deadlines:

May 1 - Applications available on website

July 10 - Deadline for completed application

Grants awarded on a two year cycle - current funding will be for 2016-2017.

FAIR TRADE USERS: To celebrate 20 years of making a difference through Fair Trade, Lutheran World Relief (LWR) is offering a coupon for 20% off your next order. The coupon can be found in the latest issue of "Living Lutheran". This might be a good time to get your congregation to start using these products. Go to: www.lwrcoffee.com and use the different code, **Lutheran20**, when you place your order.

YOU ARE INVITED

To the installation of **Pastor Kay Richter**, who will be installed Sunday, April 24th as pastor of First, Ewen - Our Saviour, Paynesville - Trinity, Trout Creek. The Service of Installation begins at 3:00 p.m. ET at Trinity Lutheran Church in Trout Creek, Michigan. Clergy are invited to vest. The color of the day is red. God bless their new partnership!

Luther Land Tour **Coming September 19-28,** **2016!!!**



Pastor Katherine Finegan and her husband, Dave, will be leading a Ten Day Fall Tour in the steps of Martin Luther.

Sponsored through “Faith Journeys”, hotel, breakfasts and dinners, program and guide, bus and airfare will all be included in the cost.

Save the dates in your calendar today!
The itinerary and more details are available online at www.nglsynod.org.

Your congregation also received material in the last Synod mailing.

Contact Rev. Katherine Finegan at kfinegan@nglsynod.org with an questions.

Join the Tour! Walk in the steps of Martin Luther.

Registrations received until June 1, 2016.

Ad Campaign Update!

Please send us a digital copy of the outside of your church building for the Ad Campaign. A "landing page" is being developed and we want people to see your church!

Thank you to all those congregations who have been able to give to support this effort. We have received donations from Endowment Funds, General Funds, Memorial Funds, and individuals. As of today, we have received almost \$10,000 with promises of more to come. If your congregation has not yet made a donation, please consider what you can give. We have covered the cost of production, and now need to buy air time. You are invited to be a part of this exciting new way to WITNESS!!!

LIFTING UP TO GOD IN PRAYER

+We thank God for the renewal of the land in Spring snows. Be with those who long for new life.

+We thank God for the blessings of the community of faith. Give us courage to invite and send us out to serve.

+We thank God for the freedoms we enjoy, for our government, our constitution. Be with us in this time of transition, as we

discern our vote for our next leaders.

+We thank God for the wonders of medical knowledge. Be with those recovering from surgery: Pastors Diane Strutowski, Peter Vorhes, Kristi Ursin and all this in need of healing.



MARKED! THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the congregations who collected school supplies for our Synod Youth Marked! Events. We had a great time assembling over 300 School kits to be shipped off with your LWR Quilts in the Fall. It was great way of learning all that we can do as Church together!

Almost 200 Youth and Adults participated.

Watch for more information for next year's MARKED!

PASTORS: Have You Taken the Health Assessment Yet?

Portico Benefit Services is offering a 1% discount to each congregation of the Synod if 65% of our plan members (pastors and covered spouses) take this health assessment.

Please take 15 minutes of your time TODAY to take the assessment. You will be benefiting yourself, your congregation, and your entire synod!

Go to MyPortico and click on the Mayo Clinic health assessment link under the 2016 GO Challenge.

The health assessment is confidential and results will not be shared with the Synod Office.



Conference 8 Choir Now Forming for Synod Assembly!

First rehearsal will be Thursday, May 12, at 6:30 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church in Marquette. Second rehearsal will be Friday, May 13, prior to opening worship. Registration for assembly not required if you are just participating in the choir.



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT.....

**An Adventure for Youth to Travel to
Tanzania.**

+ A youth trip (16+ years old) is being planned to visit Tanzania in the summer of 2017. See the Synod's website for more information. This could be a very exciting experience!

Check out www.prayfaithfully.org
for weekly "Breath Prayer"
and Daily Devotions.
The synod website is www.nglsynod.org



Items for the
Pre-Assembly Report
are needed
in the Synod Office
NOW!

Synod Assembly Registration
information is now
available online at
www.nglsynod.org/assembly.

Early Registration Deadline
is 5:00 p.m. ET

Sneaky Visitor Initiative

Similar to a Mystery Shopper or an Undercover Boss, you are invited to visit another congregation, preferably where no one knows you (*including the distant cousin and the aunt four times removed*), and evaluate that congregation on their welcome, their worship, their witness, and their building.

Evaluation forms are available at www.nglsynod.org.
Simply go to any NGLS congregation, and after your visit (*please do not fill out the form during the visit*), send the completed forms in to the Synod Office (*either electronically or through the mail*). The form with your

on April 8, 2016!!

Committees wanting a display table can find a Display Request Form on the synod website under assembly.

There are two tables still available.

Pre-Assembly Workshops will be held on Friday, May 13th, at Messiah Lutheran Church in Marquette. More information will be available on the website soon!

...many! The form with your feedback will be sent on to the congregation, and the fact that you sent it (that is, your identity) will remain in confidence at the Synod Office.

Sponsored by the Evangelism Committee



Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp **Activities**

Register for Summer Camp by April 1, 2016 and get a \$25 discount!

Volunteers to assist with finishing the four tree houses are welcome anytime after April 1, 2016

April 17: FLLC Annual Meeting

April 22-24: Adult Retreat

(Focus on Bible study)

April 22-23: Upper Elementary Retreat

(For grades 3-6)

April 29-30: Church Staff Renewal Retreat

(For anyone on your church staff)

May 11: Spring Cleaning Bee

For more information about any of these events,
please contact FLLC by phone at 906/214-2267
(CAMP)

or check out their website at

www.fortunelakelutherancamp.org.

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

**- Rev. Katherine Finegan
Assistant to the Bishop**

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E-notes from Northern Great Lakes Synod*

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