

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

npls@nplsynod.org

E-Notes for November 1, 2014

THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS

“QUOTE OF THE DAY”

“On this Feast Day of All Saints, we Christians around the world gather to celebrate the lives of those saints who have gone on before us. We give thanks for those saints living still today. And, we ponder how all

of us -- you and me -- are called to live lives of sanctity. This passage reminds us that being a faithful witness -- like the great multitude -- is the baptismal vocation of us all.”

--Eric Mathis, www.workingpreacher.org commentary.

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

FOUR PASTORS WILL TRAVEL TO TANZANIA

On the Tuesday of Thanksgiving week, the bishop along with three parish pastors will travel to Tanzania. Visiting congregations in the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania in Dar es Salaam will be Bishop Skrenes, Pastor Chris Johnson from Christ the King Escanaba; Pastor D.J. Rasner from Gloria Dei in Hancock and Pastor David Hueter from Zion in Manistique and Bethany in Isabella. A part of the two weeks in Tanzania will be meeting with the Convention of the Diocese and

companion congregations.

If anyone wishes to send letters to congregations or individuals in our Companion Diocese please get them to the Synod Office by November 15th. Also, if you have clergy albs or pastoral stoles that you or congregation wish to give away to the Tanzanian Church and its pastors please send them to the Synod Office in Marquette by November 15th.

And pray that all might have a safe and meaningful experience as together we worship the living Christ as brothers and sisters.

Poverty Summit - A Focus on Youth

Saturday, November 8th, 9:30 am - Noon
Zion Lutheran Church, 2714 James St.,
Marinette, WI

Engaging problems that can lead to and be impacted by poverty. Be an advocate for youth experiencing **hunger, homelessness, & human trafficking.**

Special Guest Speaker Representative John

Nygren

discussing his journey with his daughter and passing legislation on heroin

A Northern Wisconsin/Upper Peninsula of Michigan Poverty Summit

for people of all ages to share and participate in activities to address youth and poverty and discuss advocacy from a faith perspective

Contacting us with the number of youth and adults attending before the event would be helpful:

cindyc@loppw.org 608-270-0201 ext. 109

No cost to attend.

<http://www.loppw.org/files/2014/10/Poverty-Summit-Marinette-Nov-2014.pdf>

Check Your Mail

The next Congregational Mailing from the Synod includes:

- ~A Devotion Booklet resource meant to be used by your Council and various committees. If you want more copies, call the Synod Office.
- ~Information about Worship, Witness, Welcome Grants available to spark a new ministry.
- ~ A flyer describing the Matthew 28 in Action Retreat for church leaders and pastors.
- ~**MARKED!** Event information
- ~Up and coming events

Matthew 28 in Action Retreat

Coming January 30 – 31, 2015, Friday –
Saturday

at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp.

Cost will be **\$50 per team** for lodging,
meals, and program.

Come to this retreat with a team of 4-6 congregation members and your pastor.

Register by calling the Synod Office at 906-228-2300 by Monday, January 26, 2015.

Sponsored by the Transformational Ministry Team, this retreat will give church teams a taste of the possibilities for transformation and renewal available through a variety of resources, activities, Bible Study, prayer, discernment, ministry efforts and more.

Come and find out what can happen in your church and begin the journey of discovery of what God is up to in and through your congregation.

GOD DOES GREAT THINGS!

Our Northern Great Lakes Synod continues to be a gift to the whole Church of Jesus and to the world which God has created. The prayers, the energy and the financial support of the ministries of the synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are an example of how God can work in us. We have turned a corner, there is a new wind blowing and it is now time to recommit ourselves to the work we do together in the name of the Crucified one.

It is important and exciting to know that:

+The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America sends **missionaries** with the Gospel of Christ throughout the whole world.

We are serving God's people around the globe and they are helping us see the face of Jesus in very different ways!

+Seminaries are training the **next generation of pastors!** Church Colleges, campus ministries at our state universities and bible camps are building lives for Jesus.

+Forty **new congregations** will be organized in the next year throughout the United States with your financial and prayer support.

+Our **Synod Office supports your work** with youth, stewardship and outreach programs as well as clergy searches, and administrative assistance.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND YOU!

Every instance of violence is different, yet every act of gender-based violence hurts a beloved creature of God. Read anonymous personal stories in the "Draft of a Social Message on Gender-based Violence" that is being prepared at the direction of the ELCA Church Council. These stories start to unveil the reality of what gender-based violence does and is, and you are invited to review the draft and reflect on these realities from a standpoint of faith. In October and November, you also are invited to share your comments and suggestions about the text. Visit www.elca.org/socialmessages and click on the Gender-based Violence graphic to download the draft and to participate in the public comment period.

!!! COLLECT YOUR QUARTERS !!!

**Did you know that every year a Quarter
Offering is taken
at Synod Assembly for World Hunger?
YES IT'S TRUE!!!!**

**This year our goal is 100% participation.
Even with not every church giving, we
raise upwards of \$10,000 every year.**

**Imagine what we could do if every
congregation of the NGLS participates!**

Start collecting loose change NOW.

**Put a jar out, a basket, a piggy bank, and
let the coins pile up.**

**Let's make an intentional effort to let
our loose change make a difference.**

**Synod Assembly will be at Finlandia
University in Hancock**

May 15-17, 2015

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Coming February 8-9, 2015 at Fortune Lake
Lutheran Camp**

**The Theological Conference for Rostered
Leaders:**

**Featuring our Keynote Speaker, Bishop
Craig Satterlee,
former professor at Lutheran School of
Theology, Chicago and
current bishop of the Northwest Lower
Michigan Synod.**

Mark your calendars for

2015

MARKED!

4:00 – 7:00pm local time.

Sunday March

1: Prince of Peace,
Harvey

Sunday March

8: Zion, Ironwood

Sunday March

15: Northland Village,
Marinette

MARKED! is a Synod sponsored event for all

NGLS Confirmation Students. Every congregation is asked to attend a **MARKED!** event at least once every two years, every year if distance allows. Pastors and leaders bring their Confirmation youth for an afternoon of service, learning, music, and fun. Supper is included in this **FREE** event.

Like last year, every NGLS congregation will be asked to participate by collecting items. This year it will be all about **BABIES!** Baby kits for LWR and Baby Bundles for shelters and food shelves will be assembled. Your congregation will receive a letter soon detailing how many of each item we need from your church. Any questions, please call the Synod Office.

Rise Up Together: Detroit 2015

Plans are well underway for the Youth
Gathering in Detroit

July 15-19, 2015.

Your church should have received a poster and a DVD. Please use these materials to generate enthusiasm and commitment among your leaders and young people.

Some dates to remember:

TODAY: Registration soft opening. Leaders may enter data.

October 15: Website goes live. Primary leaders can submit registrations.

January 15, 2015: Registration fee increases \$50, from \$325 to \$375.

Places to find more information:

www.gatheringleaks.com

www.elca.org/gathering

Facebook page ELCA Youth Gathering

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=285650866539>.

If your church is interested in riding a Synod Bus to the Gathering (leave on Tuesday July 14, return Sunday July 19, 2015) please call the Synod Office at 906-228-2300 or email Rev. Katherine Finegan at kfinegan@nglsynod.org. She is the NGLS Gathering Synod Coordinator and Synod Day Director. If she doesn't know the answer to your question, she'll direct you to someone who will. The cost of the bus will be split between those who ride it. The Synod will provide T-shirts for all NGLS participants for our Synod Day. It's all very exciting!!! Don't miss this incredible opportunity for a faith-deepening, group building, justice proclaiming, fellowship gushing and love overflowing event!

Start saving for your congregation's trip to the 2015 Youth Gathering

Have you started saving for your congregation's youth to attend the ELCA's Youth Gathering next summer in Detroit? Consider registration fees, transportation, lodging and meals.

The Mission Investment Fund, the financial ministry of the ELCA, offers a special **Demand Investment Youth Ministry account**. With this account, you earn interest on your fundraising dollars—and have the flexibility and convenience of writing checks as expenses occur. Your congregation can open an MIF Demand Investment Youth Ministry account for as little as \$100, and your funds will be available to you when you need them.

The Mission Investment Fund will also host an onsite Service Center at the Gathering, July 15-19, 2015. Authorized account holders will be able to conveniently cash checks on their MIF Demand accounts at this Service Center at the youth event.

July 2015 is closer than you think. Visit <http://www.mif.elca.org/youthministry> for more information and to download a Demand Investment Youth Ministry account application. For information on MIF investments and ministry loans, contact MIF Customer Service at 877-886-3522 or your MIF Regional Manager LuAnn Ferguson, at (651-900-3575), luann.ferguson@elca.org.

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

Rostered Leaders in first Three Years of Call: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The 2014 FCTE (First Call Theological Education) Fall Event will be held November 9-12 at St. Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon Wisconsin.

Please reserve these dates now, and watch for detailed information to arrive during the early part of September.

First Call Theological Education cares about your transition to rostered leadership. The ELCA is committed to providing a three-year structured program of theological education and involvement in colleague groups, all designed to assist you as newly rostered leaders in the transition to public (rostered) ministry. As a whole church we want to surround you with resources, while still giving you the freedom to determine your unique situation.

This year, part of the time spent together will be adding your personal input to be used by the ELCA's Theological Education

Advisory Council. This council plans to address in a holistic way issues on theological education, leadership development, candidacy, call, and rostered leaders.

Please note: if you would like to assist with any of our worship opportunities, please contact Linda Rozumalski at 715-472-4895 or rozumalskili@gmail.com

See you in November!

Sheri Jackson, First Call Planning Committee

Go to “The Northern Great Lakes Synod” page and “like” us. 😊

TRANSITIONS

+We celebrate with the people of Shepherd of the Lakes, Sayner who have called Rev. Kristi Ursin to serve as their pastor. May God bless their partnership in ministry.

LIFTING UP TO GOD I N PRAYER

*We pray for Pastor Matt Lamb as he recovers from surgery. May he be restored to health and his strength renewed.

* Our prayers are with Jeanette Kuziej, wife of Pastor John Kuziej of Pioneer Lake, Conover, and Peggy Gauger, wife of Pastor Steve Gauger of Calvary, Rapid River. Both are recovering from recent surgery and are being treated for cancer.

+Rev. Katherine Finegan
Assistant to the Bishop