

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

ngls@nglsynod.org

E-Notes for June 18, 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”

As Finnish Americans and Finnish Canadians gather in Hancock for FinnFest, this quote from the great Historian of American Lutheranism: “The Suomi Synod wanted to be a “true daughter” of the Church of Finland and sought to include all Finnish Lutheran parties and movements. It was unable to achieve this goal because the Laestadians and the Evangelicals refused to be included...An academy and theological seminary was established in 1896 in Hancock, Michigan, later

to become Suomi (Finlandia University) College and Seminary.”
-E.Clifford Nelson “The Lutherans in North America,” p. 274.

WELCOME PRESIDING BISHOP MARK HANSON

Bishop Mark Hanson is coming to the Northern Great Lakes Synod.
During Finnfest 2013,
Bishop Hanson will preach at
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Hancock, MI at their
10:00 am Worship on Sunday June 23, 2013.

This service will be a celebration of the work of God in and through the Suomi Synod.

Come celebrate the legacy of the Finnish immigrant settlers whose faith

and piety
began the Suomi Synod, a predecessor
body to the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America.

SUOMI CONFERENCE TO COMPLETE ITS MINISTRY AND CLOSE ITS WORK

After a fifty year history of excellent ministry among Finnish-Americans and mission amongst the people of the Lutheran Community in Finland and Russia, the Suomi Conference is planning to end its work. More about its legacy later. Almost half of our synod's congregations come from the Suomi Synod. The following resolution will be considered at the Annual Meeting of the Conference this coming Sunday morning June 23rd:

“WHEREAS, the Finnish (Suomi) Special Interest Conference has faithfully provided spiritual soul care and mission opportunities to Lutherans of Finnish heritage for over fifty years; and
WHEREAS, the need for such ministry has diminished; and
WHEREAS, the number of participants and leaders has decreased, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Finnish (Suomi) Special Interest Conference move toward ending its ministry;
and
RESOLVED, that contributions be received until December 31, 2013; and
RESOLVED, that funds be distributed as designated and for the ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia by January 31, 2014, at which time the Conference will cease to exist.

Urban Plunge News

We had a GREAT trip!
23 Youth and 4 adults headed to the Windy City for a week of learning and fun.
We visited The Night Ministry who addresses the needs of homeless youth; The Kateri Center, a ministry for Native

Americans; and Telpochcalli, a ministry set in "The Little Village", a Latino neighborhood. We also did some sightseeing: Navy Pier, the Lincoln Park Zoo, Michigan Avenue, Millenium Park, The Bean, and of course, the traffic of Chicago.

Memorable moments include:
Learning about other cultures
Corn in a cup (that's **C**orn, with
a "C")

Ernesto, Georgina, Michael,
Esperanza, Vance and so many
others

The Street Magician

Bubba Gumps

Stereotypes were slashed away

The little kid who asked "Are you trying to get shot?" (said to the youth who was wearing the wrong colors in the wrong neighborhood)

Playing "Catch Phrase" and "Apples to Apples"

Trying new things like chocolate covered bacon 😊

Meeting other youth from our synod and making friends

Realizing how much we assume about people, and then hearing their real story

They stole our spare tire
Gaining confidence in defending
others from racial jokes or
stereotypes

The banana bread at Caribou
Coffee

Seeing homeless people
The architecture, amazing
buildings

Indian Tacos!

The people were awesome.

**Check out the pictures on
Facebook. Go to "Northern
Great Lakes Synod" page and
"like" it.**

2014 DOMESTIC HUNGER GRANT APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

Go to

www.elca.org/domestichungerrants

**Please call the Synod Office if
you have any questions - (906)
228-2300**

What's a good Bible Study?

What have other churches used and
it's gone well?

What is accessible yet challenging?
Informative yet not heretical, mind-
blowing, but in a good way?

Find out at www.nglsynod.org where the results of the Bible Study survey are posted.

And feel free to add your own review to material or curriculum that you have studied.

Click on Evangelism Resources.

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).

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

Lunch is included!

Choose from the dates and places below:

~Saturday September 7—

Christ the King, Escanaba

906-786-7400

~Saturday September 28—

Zion, St. Ignace

906-643-7870

**This event is in partnership with
the North/West Lower Michigan
synod**

~Saturday October 5—

Holy Cross, Baraga

906-353-6541

~Saturday October 12—

Pioneer Lake, Conover

715-479-4966

~Saturday November 23—

Messiah, Marquette

906-225-1119

Moved by the Spirit

**~September 20-22,
2013~**

**All the Women of the
ELCA
in the Northern Great
Lakes Synod
are invited to a
weekend
of Spiritual Renewal at
Fortune Lake Lutheran
Camp**

Lodging: Cost depends
upon lodging preference. Price includes
meals.

Please choose from one of the following:

~**Duplex**
—\$100: Houses
up to 8 people.
Bunk

beds with
full baths
and a
lounge
area.

Bring
your
own
beddi
ng,
linen
s,
and
toilet
ries.

~**Emmanu**

el Lodge—

\$125: Quad
occupancy in
two queen beds.

Full
bath.

Bedding
and linen
provided.

~**Grace**

**Place Retreat
Lodge—\$125:**
Double
occupancy, twin
beds.

In
room sink
and shared
bath with
adjoining
room.

Bedd
ing and
linen
provided.

Sorry, no single rooms available and no pets
permitted. Motels are available in the area.
If you have any dietary restrictions, please bring
what you will need.

**The Synodical Women's Organization Convention is
on September 20, 2013, before the retreat.**

Please contact Fran Voyce at francesvoyce@yahoo.com with
any questions.

Check out the brochure at www.nglsynod.org.

**FALL 2013
CLERGY AND SPOUSE
LEADERSHIP RETREAT**

**Mission Point Resort on
Mackinac Island, Michigan**

**Sunday September 29 –
Tuesday October 1, 2013
Check out the registration
form and more info**

At www.nglsynod.org

**It's not too late...
To Sign up for Camp**

at
**Fortune Lake
Lutheran Camp!**

Go to
www.fortunelake.org
or more info.

Mark Your Calendars:

**Church Musician
Workshop with Jay
Beech**

Saturday October 19 at

Bethany Lutheran, Republic
Music, technique, leadership
skills, and more
for the Church Musician.
Guitar players, drummers, piano
players, percussion, and more.
More info coming soon!

**CLERGY-
WHAT AN OPPO
RTUNITY!
“FAMILY
SYSTEMS” WOR**

K IN OUR SYNOD 2013-2014

Dr. Doug Hester was in our synod last fall doing introductory workshops for clergy and lay leaders on Family Systems Theory. Dr. Hester is a recognized leader and teacher of this movement that helps the church see itself more clearly. He has offered to spend some time in our synod in the next year to do some in depth work with our clergy and with clergy from other religious communities.

Your Synod Leadership Support Committee is enthusiastic about bringing Doug here to spend some time working with our pastoral leaders. The plan is to have three two day sessions (about 36 contact hours) in a group of at least 15 participants. The sessions

would be all day Monday and all day Tuesday. Three weeks have been selected in this coming fall, winter and in the spring of 2014. The group would meet at Fortune Lake Camp **October 7-8, 2013; Feb 24-25 and June 2-3, 2014**. All sessions are from 9:00 am CT- 4:00 p.m. CT.

We seldom have the opportunity to have this significant continuing education opportunity in our synod. Usually we need to drive to Minneapolis or to Chicago for such a program. It will be a great opportunity to have it within reasonable driving distance.

The anticipated cost for the total event (6 days) will be \$750. The synod will reimburse ELCA clergy \$200 of that cost, leaving the pastor or the congregation responsible for \$550 plus \$65 for housing and meals. Flexible payment plans can be arranged.

I need to know if this is of interest to you!

Could you respond to this email soon and let us know if you would like to continue the conversation about this possibility. Many pastors have already indicated their interest! I recommend this work to you.

The event is for clergy only!

For more information about Dr. Hester please see his website:

<http://ministryleadershipconcepts.com>

Go to "The Northern Great Lakes Synod"
page

And "like" us. 😊

**LIFTING UP TO
GOD IN PRAYER**

- + For all who gather at FinnFest this week in Hancock, Michigan**
- + All the congregations who are in the midst of Vacation Bible School this summer.**
- + All youth who will be attending a week of camp at Fortune Lake, and the counselors who will shape and guide their faith journey.**
- +For peace in Syria, Afghanistan and other troubled lands.**

+Thomas A. Skrenes
Bishop
tskrenes@nglsynod.org