

**NORTHERN GREAT
LAKES SYNOD**

Evangelical Lutheran

Church in America

Marquette, Michigan

ngls@nglsynod.org

E-Notes for April 15, 2013

~ THE EASTER 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~

**“In spite of all we have heard and all
that we have seen, it is often hard to**

believe.

**Because it is hard to believe, we will
invest ourselves in the Easter mystery
for fifty days
(a week of weeks).**

**Because it is hard to believe, John the
evangelist will provide sign after sign
celebrating Jesus' victory over death.
Because it is hard to believe, the Lord
Jesus will return to us again and again
in the mystery of holy communion,
inviting us to touch and taste his
presence, as he offers us his peace.”**

**~Sundays and Seasons, Year C 2013, p.
167**

**MEET PASTOR JAMES DUEHRING,
OUR NEW SYNOD MISSIONER:
COORDINATOR FOR SYNODICALLY
AUTHORIZED MINISTERS-LICENSED
LAY MINISTERS**

Pastor Jim Duehring has agreed to serve in a very part-time synod capacity as liaison with our Licensed Lay Ministers and the congregations they serve.

He continues his work as pastor at Prince of Peace in Harvey where he has served since 2008.

As Synod Missioner for these LLM's Pastor Jim will be visiting with each Licensed Lay Minister at their site of ministry at least

twice a year. He will facilitate evaluations of all Licensed Lay Ministers annually and submit recommendations to the Bishop for the re-appointment of LLM. He will also attend twice yearly meeting of Licensed Lay Ministry Advisory Committee.

Pastor Jim also will recommend persons for possible LLM positions and advise the bishop on possible policy changes.

We thank Pastor Duehring for his willingness to serve!

“ANSWER THE CALL SUNDAY”

April 21, 2013

Seminarian Tera Kossow Lowe from First
Lutheran in Gladstone writes:

“As a recipient of seminary scholarship funds from the Northern Great lakes Synod, I have to extend my heart-felt thanks for not only this support, but for the prayer support and words of encouragement that comes to me from all of you. Answering God’s call to ordained ministry causes much to be anxious about, and it is a blessing to be relieved of some anxiety over how my education will be paid for. I thank God for the blessing of your prayers and support.”

Last year \$40,422 was distributed to our ten seminarians, both part and full-time students. What a joy to support these future pastors! These are the men and women who will carry the Gospel to a generation yet un-born! Your support of “Answer the Call Sunday” would mean a great deal to these students, their families and the whole Church of God. If you would like to endow a scholarship for a

student call the bishop at the synod office. If you would like to make a gift to this work, your support is deeply appreciated. The training of our pastors is something this synod and the whole ELCA does very well.

**CLERGY-WHAT
AN
OPPORTUNITY!
“FAMILY
SYSTEMS”
WORK 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; Feb 24-25 and May 19-20. 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 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. Seven pastors have already indicated their interest! I recommend this work to you.

For more information about Dr. Hester please see his website: <http://ministryleadershipconcepts.com>

TAKE THE ELCA “ADVOCACY” SURVEY

2013 ELCA Advocacy National Priorities
Survey

As members of the ELCA, we believe that we are freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor, and advocating for public policy that helps the most vulnerable and protects God's creation is one way we live out this call. Advocacy is most effective when Lutherans across the country are involved and active, and the ELCA has advocacy ministries that help facilitate these efforts. This staff works through offices in Washington, D.C., at the United Nations, in state capitols, and with corporations about their practices and social responsibility to engage Lutherans in a national network for policy change. Our work is framed by ELCA social policy and by the service Lutherans are engaged in throughout the world. Your responses to this short four-question survey greatly help the church's advocacy ministries facilitate this active and growing network of Lutherans speaking out for public policy that advances the common good and reflects your commitments. To get started now on the third annual ELCA Advocacy National Priorities survey, go to:

<http://archive.elca.org/cgi-bin/rws/rws5.pl?FORM=NAP2013>

WE WANT YOUR PICTUR ES!

As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the ELCA and the Northern Great Lakes Synod, the Synod Assembly planning Team needs photographs (digital or hard copy) of ALL of the following:

~Significant dates in your congregation in the past 25 years.

These might include

groundbreakings, pastors' installations, Anniversary celebrations, or other events.

~Your Confirmation Class photo of 1988.

~1-3 shots of activities that have taken place in the last year, 2012-2013.

We plan to use the photos during Synod Assembly for both photo board displays and include them in powerpoint presentations.

When you send the photos, please include the following information:

1. Date photo was taken
2. Congregation name and location
3. Event name or description of photo
4. Names of those in the

photograph, if possible
Photographs can be mailed to the
Synod Office, Attn: Betsy Koski,
1029 N. Third St., Marquette, MI
49855, or you can e-mail them to
Betsy at bakoski@nglsynod.org.

Upcoming Events at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp

April 19 – 21: Life Together Adult Retreat at
FLLC;

explore the teachings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer
with Pastor Pete Andersen and Pastor Jim
Duehring.

May 13 – 14: Seniors Go to Camp;

an overnight opportunity for senior adults to
sample the program
that kids get to enjoy.
For more info., visit fortunelake.org or phone
906-875-3697.

**PASTOR
CHARLES
“CHICK” LANE OF
LUTHER
SEMINARY
TO BE WITH US IN
LATE APRIL!**

He is the “stewardship guru” of the

whole Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America!

The author of the great resource “Ask,
Thank, Tell!” Pastor Lane will be with us
on two nights in late April.

Congregational leaders, stewardship
committee members, interested
Lutherans—

you are welcome to hear Pastor Lane
discuss practical helps
in improving our stewardship work.

We will think and work together to help
our congregations grow!

MONDAY APRIL 29 7:00-8:30

**GLORIA DEI CHURCH,
HANCOCK**

TUESDAY APRIL 30 7:00-8:30

**BETHANY CHURCH,
ESCANABA**

Please call the synod office at
906.228.2300

or email us at ngls@nglsynod.org with

the number of people who will come
from your congregation.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT TIME AGAIN!

If you are a plan member and receiving health care benefits under the ELCA Portico plan —it's time to take the health Assessment! Cash wellness benefits are available to you and to your congregation again this year. The congregation will save 2% again this year. Last year well over 80% of our synod plan members benefited from this program. **Pastor Barb Girod** will be encouraging you to spend the time on the Portico website and complete the questions.

As of April 14 of this year, only FOUR more pastoral leaders need to take the survey for us to reach 65%.

If you are waiting—please wait no longer and get it done! Please go to the ELCA Portico website <http://www.porticobenefits.org/>

Thank you!

Synod Assembly Banquet Tickets

This year's Synod Assembly (May 16-18) includes a BANQUET on May 17!

For all registered voters and visitors, **the price of the ticket is included in the registration fee**, but if you have others that would like to attend just the banquet, there is now an added line on the payment part of the registration form so you can purchase as many extra tickets as you need and on the actual registration

form there will be a place where you can put the entrées selected for each additional ticket.

However, anyone and everyone, even if they are not a registered voter or visitor, is invited to attend the banquet. Additional tickets are available for purchase through the Synod Office for \$16.00 each.

A REMINDER:

To Conference 8 churches.

Spread the word among those who love to sing in your church, a Conference 8 choir is forming to sing at Synod Assembly.

Rehearsals will be at Messiah Lutheran:

Wednesday May 1, 6:00 – 6:45pm

Wednesday May 8, 6:00 – 6:45pm
Thursday, May 16, Assembly Worship
begins at 6:30pm.
We are hoping for 30-60 voices!

World Hunger Offering at Synod Assembly

It's not too soon to be thinking of your congregation's offering.

Traditionally, it has been a quarter collection.

But there are as many ways to gather in this offering as there are congregations.

Here are some ideas:

- *Make a paper chain to fill the narthex, \$1 a link.

- *Devote a complete month to

gather loose change
and bills

*Give out World
hunger boxes
(available for free at
<http://elca.org/hunger>
)

*Fill M&M candy
containers or film
canisters with quarters

*Invite your folks to
simply Write a check. 😊

Also, if you know of a **congregation**
that has gone above and beyond
in their efforts to address World Hunger,
please nominate them for “The Big Bear
Award.”

Click here for the form:

<http://www.nglsynod.org/assembly/pdf/BigBear2013.pdf>

And if you know of an **individual**
who has given a distinguished effort

towards addressing World Hunger,
please nominate them for
“The Bread Basket Award”

Click here for the form:

<http://www.nglsynod.org/assembly/pdf/BreadBowl2013.pdf>.

Completed forms can be sent to
kfinegan@nglsynod.org

May 17-19, 2013
Youth Quake for Grades 6-12
at Finlandia University
PLAN ON IT!

**This is a great opportunity for every church
in the Northern Great Lakes Synod to bring
their youth.**

Never before has a Youth Encounter
Event been so close to us!
Mark your calendar and plan on being
there!!

***Note Change: The FINLANDIA
HOUSING DEADLINE has been
extended to APRIL 26th!!!***

**Go to youthencounter.org for
registration information**

check out the info at:

[http://www.youthencounter.org/Default.aspx?ta
bid=980](http://www.youthencounter.org/Default.aspx?tabid=980)

***Dates & Locations
for our annual
MARKED! events
for confirmation
classes.***

***Add it to your
calendar today!
Sunday, April 21,***

**2013 Messiah
Lutheran,
Marquette, MI 4:00-
7:00pm ET**

**Sunday, April 28,
2013 Prince of
Peace, Eagle River,
WI 4:00-7:00 pm CT**

For more information, click on:
[http://nglsynod.org/pdfs/marked
2013.pdf](http://nglsynod.org/pdfs/marked2013.pdf)

**TRANSITIONS: +Death of Mrs.Betsy
Framstad.**

Betsy Framstad, widow of Pastor Waldemar

“Fram” Framstad died recently. She was a member of Emmanuel in Menominee where her memorial service was held April 13th. Betsy was a fine person. I will never forget her warm friendship and her unshakeable faith in God and God’s people. She is survived by five children and many grandchildren. Thanks be to God for Betsy Framstad and thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

LIFTING UP TO GOD IN PRAYER

**+ We hold in prayer the family of Noah
‘Mac’ Imbody who passed to life eternal on**

April 4th. Rev. Imbody

**served as Pastor to Zion Lutheran,
Manistique from 1954-1959.**

**+ We hold in prayer the people of the
South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, Bishop
Burnside, and the family of**

**Maureen Mengelt at her accidental
death.**

**+ Finlandia University as it prepares for the
Quake/Zone in May, and all the Youth and
leaders who are**

planning to attend.

**+ The Synod Staff as they prepare for the
May Synod Assembly**

**+ For the Transformational Ministry Teams
from Grace, Pembine and Faith, Sault St.
Marie and their**

**congregations, as they continue the
process and prepare to attend the
Transformational Ministry**

Retreat in May.

Rev. Katherine Finegan
Assistant to the Bishop

kfinegan@nglsynod.org