

# NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Marquette, Michigan

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E-Notes for February 14, 2014

## \* THE EPIPHANY 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”

“There are many legends behind Saint Valentine. One is that in the 1st century AD it is said that Valentine, who was a priest, defied the order of the emperor Claudius and secretly married couples so that the husbands wouldn't have to go to war. Soldiers were sparse at this time so this was a big inconvenience to the emperor. Another legend is that Valentine refused to sacrifice to pagan gods. Being imprisoned for this, Valentine gave his testimony in prison and through his prayers healed the jailer's daughter who was suffering from blindness. On the day of his execution he left her a note that was signed “Your Valentine.”

-Unknown  
Sourcing  
“Wikipedia”

**You are invited to  
welcome the Presiding  
ELCA Bishop  
MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR! February 16-  
17.**

**Schedule for Bishop Elizabeth Eaton  
IN THE NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD**

**BETHANY ESCANABA/UNITED CRYSTAL**

# **FALLS**

**On Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Bethany Lutheran Church in**

**Escanaba:**

**9:45 a.m. Eastern**

**Time Coffee Reception**

**10:45 a.m. Eastern**

**Time Bishop Eaton preaching at Sunday Worship**

**United Lutheran Church in Crystal**

**Falls:**

**1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Central Time Forum and Reception**

**The above are open to the public. All are  
welcome!**

## **WINTER THEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE**

**The Winter Theological Conference for Professional Leaders  
will feature ELCA Churchwide Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.  
Attendance by registration for rostered persons.**

# HAVE YOU DONE THE HEALTH ASSESSMENT?

Rostered persons who are a part of the Portico Health Care program need to take the Health Risk Assessment as soon as possible. This year again, our congregations will benefit from the 2% refund program if 60% of our portico health plan members take the survey!  
Members will also benefit.

This is a big deal. We made it last year—let's do it again this year!

## Breaking the Mold High School Gathering and Youth Ministry Training Retreat Feb. 28 - March 2, 2014

- For 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders and the adults/pastors/volunteers who work with them.

- At Fortune Lake, registration at 6:00pm CT Friday Feb. 28. Eat supper before coming.
- Cost: Only \$75 for adult/youth participant,
  - \$25 of which will be covered by a generous grant from the Northern Great Lakes Synod.
- Includes snacks, meals, programming, fun, games, worship, music, talent show
- Register online at [fortunelake.org](http://fortunelake.org) by Feb. 25.
- Questions? Call Fortune Lake or the Synod Office at 906-228-2300
- Bring outdoor shoes/boots and indoor shoes/slippers 😊

### **CHOIR ROBES AVAILABLE**

Bethel Lutheran Church in Ishpeming has used choir robes if anyone is interested in them.

Please contact Bethel, Ishpeming at 906/485-5533 for more information.

# ANOTHER ANNUAL MEETING IS HISTORY!

All good news we hear! We all survived another Annual Meeting! In fact, one pastor even said, "It was great!" Please send a congregational annual report to the synod office. The bishop and Assistant to the bishop may not read every word but it is read by us and filed as a part of the congregation's record. Please send us a paper copy!

## WHAT A PRIVILEGE TO BE A MEMBER OF GOD'S CHURCH

God does great things! 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.

To Equip the Church Council:

Check out the following link

for 10 - 10minute webinars meant to teach Church Councils how to lead.

<http://waytolead.org/resource/lead-10-minute-toolbox/>

# Marked!

**Marked!** is an afternoon of service, learning, food and fun  
for Confirmation Youth.

You are encouraged to bring your Confirmation Youth  
to one of the following Marked! Events:

March 16, 2014 at First,  
Gladstone 4:00 – 7:00pm

March 23, 2014 at Our  
Redeemer, Newberry 4:00 – 7:00pm

March 30, 2014 at United,  
L'Anse 4:00 – 7:00pm

**YOUR CONGREGATION SHOULD BE  
COLLECTING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

- Large bars of bath soap
- Fingernail clippers
- Bath sized and hand sized towels
- Combs



- **Toothbrushes and toothpaste**
- **Deodorant and shampoo**

## **WRITE IT ON TABLET!**

**Synod Assembly will be May  
18-19, 2014**

**(Sunday afternoon – Monday)**

**at Northern Michigan University and Messiah  
Lutheran Church in Marquette, MI.**

**Many congregations select their voters at  
their annual meetings, so take a prayerful  
moment to decide if you might be interested  
in attending the assembly as a voter or  
visitor.**

**More details about the Assembly will be  
available online soon.**

Check out [www.prayfaithfully.org](http://www.prayfaithfully.org) for weekly “Breath Prayer” and Daily Devotions.

The synod website is [www.nglsynod.org](http://www.nglsynod.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM OUR BIBLE CAMP

Feb. 21-23: Family Retreat (all types of families welcome)

Feb. 22: FLLC FLAME meeting (9:30 to noon CT)

March 7-8: Church Council Retreat led by Dawn and Jonathan Rundman.

Council members are welcome to come for entire event or just Sat. (9:00-2:00 CT)

March 28-30: "Living Water" Adult Lenten Retreat led by

Pr. Lee Goodwin.

The Annual Meeting of Fortune Lake  
Lutheran Camp

will be Sunday April 6.

Please email the names and email  
addresses of delegates to  
[officemanager@fortunelake.org](mailto:officemanager@fortunelake.org) as soon  
as they are selected.

Visit [fortunelake.org](http://fortunelake.org) or phone 875-3697 for details.

Rostered Leaders Reports and  
Congregational Parochial Reports (Forms  
A & C)

are available at [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org).

If you need help finding them, please contact the  
Synod Office for directions!

Send in the Rostered Leader reports to the bishop too please!

Go to "The Northern Great Lakes Synod" page  
And "like" us. 😊

## **LIFTING UP TO GOD IN PRAYER**

- + We pray for all people in war perplexed lands especially in Syria. For those persecuted for religious reasons.**
- + Our congregations as they work to build new and exciting ministries. Come Lord Jesus!**
- +For the women and men of our nation serving in the armed forces around the world. Bring peace O God!**
- +For our Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton as she visits our synod.**

**+For our brother Bishop John Doerfler, recently  
ordained and installed as the Roman Catholic  
Bishop of Marquette.**

**-Thomas A. Skrenes, Bishop**