

NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD

Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America

Marquette, Michigan

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E-Notes for March 14, 2014

*** Lent***

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”

“Our task in Christian preaching when confronted with a secular society is therefore not to accede to demands for a demystified story but rather to call the terms of this secular world into question... For those of us who have been taken captive by the hope of Christ, there is no question, no choice, no decision at hand, but only obedience to a summons.”

-David J. Lose "Preaching At the Crossroads," P. 64-65.

THE FUTURE OF THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

"On February 20-22 Bishop Tom Skrenes, Pastor Warren Geier, dean of the synod's Lay School and about forty others attended a conference titled *Many Gifts/No Easy Answers: The New Context for Theological Education in the ELCA*. The conference was this year's Covenant Cluster Consultation and was held at Camp Carol Joy Holling in Ashland, Nebraska. (The Covenant Cluster consists of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa and Trinity Seminary in Columbus, Ohio) The goal of the conference was to receive information on the present landscape of theological education across the ELCA, to share ideas and reflections and to provide TEAC (Theological Education Advisory Committee) with direction as they continue their work.

Attendees at the conference included seminary presidents and deans, bishops and other synod staff, teachers and others from Lutheran colleges, representatives of

synodical lay schools and members of TEAC. As the title of the conference suggests, there are no easy answers nor is there agreement among such a diverse group on what the best course of action is. There *is* agreement that education of all the baptized, both clergy and lay people is a priority of this church. The questions revolve around the best ways to provide this education so that we might better serve a broken world in desperate need of good news....”.

The complete report from Pastor Warren Geier will be published in the next “Notes and Quotes.”

**WE ARE NOT AT OUR
GOAL YET?
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 65% of our portico health plan members take the survey!

Members will also benefit.

As of March 1, we stand at **35%** of our plan members who have taken the survey.

We need to be at **65%** for our congregations to benefit.

Only 22 more of our plan members in this need to take it!

The deadline is April 30!!

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

Marked!

Please call 906-228-2300 and register for the event you will be attending.

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**

You may bring the items when you come, but please call the Synod Office and let us know how many you have.

Thank you for your participation!

**Synod Assembly will be May
18-19, 2014
(Sunday afternoon – Monday)**

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

**Registration is now available online at
www.nglsynod.org/assembly**

Any Synod Committee wanting to have a **display table**
can fill out the request form online just below the
registration links!

Once again, a **Synod Assembly Choir** will be
forming.

Rehearsal times and days will be announced
soon.

The choir will sing at the Opening Worship of the
Assembly,
on Monday, May 19 at 8:30am.

Check out www.prayfaithfully.org for weekly “Breath
Prayer” and Daily Devotions.

The synod website is www.nglsynod.org

Introductory Webinar March 25 - Lutheran Energy Stewards Initiative

ELCA congregations and camps are invited to join an introductory webinar to Lutherans Restoring Creation's Energy Stewards Initiative.

It will be held on Tuesday, March 25, 8 pm Eastern/5 Pacific You can register by clicking on this link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5598175904190977281>

The Energy Stewards Initiative (ESI), a one-year national program beginning this June. The program — which costs \$120 a year (scholarships available) — helps congregations track and reduce energy use on an online platform, lower their carbon footprint with the help of an action plan, and free up funds for other ministries.

The program offers bi-monthly webinars, making available the shared wisdom of program leaders as well as other participants. Learn more about the program at www.lutheransrestoringcreation.org.

Application deadline is May 1, 2014.

EARLY REGISTRATION \$99 BY 3/31/14



www.lutheranmeninmission.org - (800) 638-3522 ext. 2566

Lutheran Men in Mission is committed to making men bold, daring followers of Jesus Christ. Inside of the framework of what appears to be a traditional national men's gathering, men of all ages will encounter a passion for discipleship, a hunger for the Word, and opportunities to be taught and equipped by men who have a desire to see the men of our congregations transformed through drawing closer to Jesus.

**To Register or find more information on Guys,
Guts, & Glory, go to
www.lutheranmeninmission.org**

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM OUR BIBLE CAMP

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 as soon
as they are selected.

May 2-4: Adoptive Family Retreat
May 12-13: Senior Adults Go to Camp

Visit fortunelake.org or phone 875-3697 for details.

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

are available at 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. 😊

Up Coming Synod Meetings and Events for March:

Constitution Meeting -	Thursday
March 27	at 11:00am at the Synod Office
Transformation Ministry -	Saturday
March 29	at Immanuel, Escanaba

Marked Events -

16 4:00 - 7:00pm at First, Gladstone

Sunday March

23 4:00 - 7:00pm at Our Redeemer, Newberry

Sunday March

30 4:00 - 7:00pm at United, L'Anse

TRANSITIONS

+All Saints Church in Wakefield and Sharon in Bessemer have agree to share a pastor beginning on June 1st. God bless this new venture in ministry!

+Northland Lutheran Retirement Community in Marinette Wisconsin has named its Chief Executive Officer. Congratulations to Darrell Lancour from Emmanuel Menominee. Darrell has been a long time

manager at the Retirement Community and began his work as Chief Executive Officer on March 1.

+We received word recently of the death of J. Howard Tamminen. His spouse Bea Tamminen was our synod's Office manager for the first years of our synod. I am sure she would welcome a word of greeting from those who remember her and Howard. Her address is 7000 62nd Avenue North, #140, Minneapolis MN 55428. "In life in death O Lord, Abide with me!"

+Bishop Skrenes received the "2014 Friend of Rural Ministry" award from Wartburg Seminary's Center for Theology and Land recently at a dinner in Dubuque.

LIFTING UP TO GOD IN PRAYER

+ For the peace of the world. For the peace of the

**Ukraine, Russia, Syria, Afghanistan, Southern Sudan
and the Congo.**

**+ For our young people. Young in heart, young in spirit,
youthful for decades ahead!**

**+ Pastor Erik Heskin as he continues to recover from
surgery.**

**+ All those seeking and needing spiritual
transformation.**

+Thomas A. Skrenes

Bishop