

NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

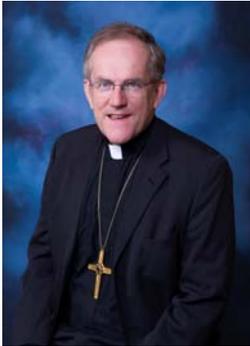
NOTES & QUOTES

Volume 24, Issues 2 and 3

FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2011

GROWTH

Bishop Thomas A. Skrenes
tskrenes@nglsynod.org



Lutheran evangelism is not an oxymoron. Evangelism is possible, and it is in our history as a Church. So what happened to us? Why is evangelism no longer a central issue in our Lutheran church life? We can be an evangelical church again. We can own up to our name as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

On my six-week sabbatical this past November and December, I read a number of fascinating books about evangelism in the modern American context.

“Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism” by Martha Grace Reese (Chalice Press: 2008) is one of the best.

Pastor Reese asks these important questions: “So why is it that we are having such trouble talking about this faith that has been handed down to us? Why is that we have, as churches, stressed talking about God so little?” She tells us, unflinchingly, what most of us are thinking about - evangelism and evangelists. “The typical barrier for people raised in mainline congregations is that we are foggy on why it matters that anyone be Christian. Most mainline Christians have little fear of Hell, but a horror of being embarrassed or looking obnoxious! Dismantling the barriers for most mainline Christians involves serious thinking, talking and praying about our relationship with Christ. If we are going to share faith, we need to know why we think it matters that we, or anyone else, are Christian.”

Based on her book, and a few other books I have been reading lately, here are a few “evangelical thoughts.”



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“About 60% of all new members in a church get there because a lay person invited them to church....”

THOMAS A. SKRENES, BISHOP (CONTINUED)

Claim the truth! Evangelism and growth for our churches is very possible.

Decline, while our immediate past, does not have to be our destiny.

Recognize the reality that ministry is more than just service to the local congregation. A priesthood to the world is the calling of all the baptized.

Explore community needs and get out there into the mission field wherein your congregations and its people live.

Scripture study and prayer needs to be a part of every group that meets in the church and in its ministry. Every group!

Ask this question often and loudly and to everybody. “Where do you see Jesus bustin’ out?” Our people need to reflect upon and to answer this question again and again.

Help our people (and us) fall in love with Jesus again. Do our sermons, our Bible studies, our devotional times in church meetings center on the one who became flesh and dwells with us? Do we ever seriously talk in detail about this Jesus?

Celebrate growth. About sixty percent of all new members in a church get there because a lay person invited them to church. Talk about bringing new people to church in the worship service announcements, the newsletter, pray in worship for growth. Expect excellent results. Then celebrate when God brings you new people.

Get help. Meet with other church leaders from other congregations, especially ones in your community from other Christian denominations. Find a church that is already growing and spend time learning from them.

Pray for guidance. (A longer essay on this subject entitled “This is a Football” is now available on the Synod website.)



SYNOD FINANCES - THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

The calendar year 2010 will be remembered in many ways. Again this past year, the people of the Northern Great Lakes Synod have been faithful to the work entrusted to all of us. Unrestricted congregational income received by the Synod is shared 50% with the Churchwide ELCA for the work we do together as a Church. Funding seminaries, world mission and developing new congregations in the U.S. continues to be the primary responsibility of the Churchwide ELCA. Our congregations have heard God’s call to “Go therefore

THOMAS A. SKRENES, BISHOP (CONTINUED)

and make disciples of all nations...”

In 2010, unrestricted congregational mission support totaled \$904,677 compared to \$974,252 in 2009, a decrease of more than 7%. Of our ninety congregations in our Synod as of December 31, 2010, sixty met, or exceeded, their pledged amount for the year. The average congregation attained 97.1% of its mission support goal.

Now we move to 2011. The economy in this Synod area struggles. Seven congregations are, or are in the process, of leaving our Synod fellowship, and they and their mission support will be missed. God’s people are faithful. Some adjustments will need to be made to our budget for 2011, but I am confident that God will supply our needs. Thank you for your support.

SYNOD COUNCIL ACTIONS - JANUARY 2011

Gathering at St. Mark’s Church in Marquette on Friday, January 21 and Saturday, January 22, the Synod Council:

- + Studied the Word of God with a focus on Psalm 133 and I Corinthians 1. The Council will be reading together Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s book “Life Together” over the next year.
- + Received Pastor Ron Strobel as a new Council member. Pastor Strobel is pastor of Holy Trinity in Chassell and represents the Copper Country Conference.
- + Heard reports from both the Bishop and the Assistant to the Bishop.
- + Discussed the ELCA Board of Pension’s Wellness project and reward for congregations, individuals and Synod.
- + Reviewed the financial report given by our Synod Treasurer. Expenses are within our budget, and the 2010 calendar year showed a 7% decline in mission support from congregations.
- + Approved the agenda and registration fees for the 2011 Synod Assembly.
- + Approved a continuing resolution to our Synod governing documents which require all persons on Synod committees to be members of a Synod congregation. See the Synod website for details.
- + Approved a continuing resolution to our Synod governing documents which requires the Synod Council to approve all workshops and forums for Synod Assembly. See the Synod website for details.
- + Received a report from our Planned Giving Counselor, Roger Knuth, on his decade of service to our Synod. He retires April 30, 2011.
- + Allowed Christ in Shingleton, First in Iron Mountain and Salem in Bark River to leave the ELCA and this Synod as per their request, and in fulfillment of the constitutions of this Church effective February 1, 2011.

- + Approved Roster of Ordained Minister and Roster of Associate in Ministry changes as per the Bishop's recommendations.
- + Participated in a report from Lutheran Campus Ministry. Nine students and two pastors added much to our meeting.

The Synod Council consists of twenty-one persons from the eight Conferences. We meet four times a year to review and do the work entrusted to the Council by the people of this Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The Vice President of the Synod, Pauline Kiltinen, chairs the meetings, and I, as Bishop, prepare the Agenda. Pastor Jennifer Johnson Wrege, Assistant to the Bishop, and I give the Council the information needed to make decisions on your behalf.

Our next meeting is on March 18-19 at Immanuel in Rhinelander.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2011

It was twelve years ago that the people of this Synod called me as your Bishop. Over the last few months, my wife, Luanne, and I have been in prayerful discernment concerning whether I would be willing to serve another six-year term as Bishop of the Northern Great Lakes Synod. We have decided that if the Synod Assembly meeting this May in Marquette calls me as Bishop, I am willing to serve again. We will be praying that in this matter and in all things, God's will might be done.

TRANSITIONS

- ◆ Congratulations to **Pastor Elisabeth Zant** who was ordained on Saturday, January 15, 2011. Pastor Zant will be installed as the pastor of **Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church in Munising**. Welcome her to our Synod.
- ◆ Congratulations to **Pastor Erik Heskin** who was recently installed as pastor at **Bethany Lutheran Church in Escanaba**. We welcome Pastor Heskin, his wife, Jennifer, and their sons, Leif and Thor.
- ◆ God bless **Licensed Lay Minister Diane Srutkowski** who has begun her work at **Trinity in Stonington**. Her installation at Trinity will be March 27, 2011. Welcome to this work!
- ◆ Long-time faithful Synod volunteer, **Trudy Johnson (Trinity, Ishpeming)** passed from this life on January 19, 2011. Trudy was, for years, in the Synod office helping with our Synod mailings. She served as a member and secretary of the Companion Synod Committee. Trudy is survived by her loving husband, Peter, their family and all of us. We give thanks to God for her faithful happy witness!
- ◆ Congratulations to graduate **Seminarian Chad Anderson** on his call to **Porterfield and Beaver American Lutheran Churches**. Pastor-Elect Anderson comes to us from Luther Seminary and will soon be ordained in his home congregation in Mondovi, Wisconsin. We welcome Pastor-Elect Anderson and his wife, Courtney, and their three children to our Synod.

- ◆ Congratulations to graduate **Seminarian Christopher Johnson** on his call to **Christ the King Lutheran Church in Escanaba**. Pastor-Elect Johnson comes to us from Luther Seminary and will soon be ordained in his home congregation in Mahtomedi, Minnesota. We welcome Pastor-Elect Johnson and his wife, Heather, and daughter to our Synod.

+Thomas A. Skrenes, Bishop



SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2011

May 12-14

***(Thursday, Friday,
Saturday)***

Northern Michigan

University

Marquette, Michigan

***Registration material will
be mailed out soon!***

**MARKED! EVENTS FOR SPRING
2011**

**Sunday, March 20, 2011 at Holy
Trinity Lutheran Church in
Chassell, Michigan**

**Sunday, April 10, 2011 at
First Lutheran Church in
Gladstone, Michigan**

**Both events are 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
local times**

**These events are for all confirma-
tion students, their pastors, and
adult mentors/guides.**

For more information, go to:

<http://www.nglsynod.org/youth-ministry.html>

**Don't miss out on this
opportunity to spend a fun day
with your students!**



+From the Assistant to the Bishop +

Pastor Jennifer Johnson Wrege



As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that

no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority.

Colossians 2:6-10

It had been a long day. I still had the drive from Marinette to Marquette before me. The plan was to gas up in Menominee, get a bite to eat in Escanaba, and finally head north to Marquette. It was supper time, past supper time according to my eastern time zone tummy. So when I marched inside the gas station to pay the cashier for the gas, I couldn't help but notice (and smell) the freshly popped popcorn displayed near the counter.

Normally, I wouldn't go for popcorn because the "not so healthy" butter flavored topping has already been added to the popcorn. But in this case, the popcorn was air-popped and customers were able to control the amount of that delicious topping by putting it on themselves. I grabbed a tightly closed box, paid my bill, and got on the road.

Once I was safely motoring along M-35 at full speed, I reached for my popcorn. Mouth watering, my taste buds fully activated, I eagerly anticipated that first mouthful of crunch. But, when I flipped the box top open, I discovered that my box of popcorn was completely and totally EMPTY. How disappointing was that?!

Trust me, not nearly as disappointing and painful as discovering the empty promises that come to us from almost every direction. People will sometimes disappoint us – even those we love and trust the most, but God's promises will never disappoint us. Our accomplishments will sometimes disappoint us when they do not satisfy or do for us what we thought they would, but God's Word will never disappoint us. Our possessions will disappoint us in that they do not have the power to forgive, restore or renew, but God's riches in mercy, forgiveness, and love will never disappoint us. Our hopes and dreams fail in the long term to sustain meaning and purpose for us, but God's purpose never fails. Sin, death and decay are evident everywhere around us, but they lose their power over us in Jesus crucified and risen.

That empty popcorn box, pointing to an empty tomb, remains in my car as powerful visual reminder of all the abundance poured out upon us in Jesus.

Blessings!

Pastoral Vacancies and Interim Pastors

Siloa, Ontonagon - Pastor John Autio

Faith, Ishpeming - Pastor Kenneth Lahnens

St. Paul, Wainola, First of Winona, Mass City - Pastor John Autio

United, L'Anse - Pastor Nick Hopman

Our Redeemer, Newberry - Pastor Barry Levine

Bethany, Norway - Pastor Mike Laakko

Calvary, Quinnesec - Pastor Douglas Johnson

Messiah, Marquette (Associate) - Pastor Peter Andersen

Bethany, Mohawk - Pastor Peter Vorhes

Part-time

Our Saviour, Atlantic Mine - Pastor Bucky Beach

Central, Menominee - Pastor Ken Michaelis

Bethany, Covington - Pastor Nick Hopman

Bethany, Negaunee - Pastor Marcia Solberg

Faith, Rock - Pastor Cori Johnson

As calendar year 2010 ends, mission support giving was \$69,574 below 2009. We thank the 55 congregations who were at or above 100% of their pledge, with an additional 14 congregations giving 90-99%. We celebrate the gifts that all our congregations made, knowing that it is our partnership together that accomplishes God's mission in our Synod.

Understanding that there will be a decrease in pledges for 2011 as seven congregations leave the Synod, we are offered the challenge and opportunity to grow in our giving to meet the needs of our Synod. Working together, trusting in Christ, we walk into 2011 with hope.

Betsy Koski, Bookkeeper

As of 12/31	2009	2010	\$ Change	% Change
Pledged Amount	1,005,571	932,017	-73,554	-7.3%
Amount Received	974,252	904,678	-69,574	-7.1%
Designated Gifts	232,377	251,124	+18,747	+8%



**NORTHERN GREAT LAKES
SYNOD**

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Volume 24 - Issues 2& 3

February & March 2011

ON-LINE DEVOTIONS FOR FEBRUARY
2011 AND MARCH 2011

www.prayfaithfully.org

Feb. 6-12 / JoAnne Barrix, Trinity, Rhineland

Feb. 13-19 / Pastor Devon Barrix, Trinity, Rhineland

Feb. 20-26 / Faith Circle, First, Gladstone

Feb. 27-March 5 / Denise Laakko, United, Crystal Falls

March 6-8 / Pastor Jean Schmidt, Bethany, Perkins

Lenten Devotions are written by participants of the Northern Great Lakes Synod Prayer Workshop and the Gladstone Campus Lay School Class on Prayer.



Northern Great Lakes Synod 2011 Assembly

Messiah Lutheran Church and
Northern Michigan University
Marquette, Michigan
May 12 - 14, 2011

The Rev. Rafael Malpica Padilla is the Executive Director for Global Mission, ELCA. He will be our ELCA Representative for the assembly.



The Rev. Wolfgang Herz-Lane, Bishop of the Delaware/Maryland Synod, will be our Opening Worship preacher and Friday's Bible study leader.

\$20 DISCOUNT FOR REGISTERING ON-LINE!

Online:	Voter \$140	Online Late Fee: Voter \$160
Mailed:	Voter \$160	Mailed Late Fee: Voter \$180
	Visitor (online or mailed, no late fee) \$25	

Friday Breakfast at St. Mark's Lutheran Church: 7:00—8:15 a.m. ET— Egg bakes, muffins, fruit juice and coffee will be offered for \$7 per person..

Saturday Breakfast at Messiah Lutheran Church: 7:00—8:15 a.m. ET—Pancakes, sausage, fruit juice and coffee will be offered for \$7 per person.

A Friday Evening Banquet will be offered at the Holiday Inn, Marquette, on May 13th, starting at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person. Your dinner will include a crisp garden salad, potato, vegetable, roll, coffee, tea, milk, or soda, plus dessert and one of the following entrees:

Chicken Supreme A juicy breast of chicken in a flavorful breading and flash fried. Finished in the oven and presented with a delicate savory mushroom cream sauce.

Roast Beef Slow roasted beef, sliced and ladled with rich pan gravy.

Lake Superior Whitefish Locally caught whitefish filet, seasoned with lemon pepper and seared on the grill.

(If you wish to participate in any of the meals offered, those options will need to be marked on your registration form and money included along with registration fees.)

Three Worship Opportunities

Opening Worship – Thursday, 6:30 p.m. ET
at Messiah Lutheran Church in
Marquette, Michigan

Evening Prayer—Friday following Banquet

Closing Worship—Saturday Morning at
Northern Michigan University

Other

Synod Assembly Activities

- ⇒ Bishop's Election
- ⇒ Quarter Offering for World Hunger
- ⇒ ELCA Representative Presentation
- ⇒ Celebrations and Recognitions

Junior High Youth Gathering

Mardi Gras Party!!!

March 4-5

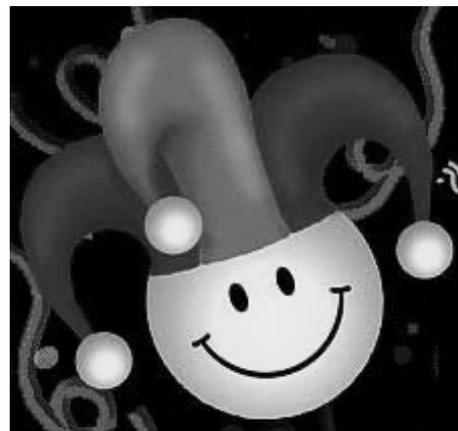
Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp

Come celebrate Mardi Gras at this gathering for Junior High students just before Ash Wednesday!

We'll learn about how Mardi Gras began and how it can make the pre-Lenten season in your home & congregation fun & meaningful.

There will be lots of fun with great music, speakers, and interesting Bible studies.

Cost for all programming, meals, & lodging
Only \$45 per person!



Junior High Gathering Registration Form

This event will begin at 6:30 pm (Central Time) on Friday, March 4 (please eat supper before you arrive) and will be finished by 2:30 pm on Saturday, March 5. You need to bring bedding, personal items, and a Bible.

Please register one adult for every 5-10 students registered. Fill out the form below and send it, along with the \$45 registration fee **by February 28** to:

Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp
138 Fortune Lake Camp Road
Crystal Falls, MI 49920

Name _____ Age _____ Gender: M F

Address (street, city, zip) _____

Congregation Name & City _____

(student's name) _____ has my permission to attend the Junior High Gathering at Fortune Lake March 4-5, 2011. I authorize any recognized adult leader to give permission for all medical treatments that may be considered advisable or necessary in the judgement of attending physicians in the event that my child should be admitted to any hospital or be in need of any medical treatment. I expect that every attempt will be made to contact me as soon as possible.

Signature Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Primary Phone _____ Alternate number _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone _____

Insurance Company _____ Policy Number _____

Allergies (food/medication) _____

Prescriptions/Medication currently being taken _____

Other Medical concerns _____

Covenant of Conduct

As a participant of the Junior High Gathering 2011, I agree to abide by the following rules of the whole Christian community of which I will be a part:

- † I will participate in all activities scheduled during the Gathering.
- † I will not use or be in possession of alcohol, tobacco products, or other controlled substances.
- † I will be in my cabin at night when required.
- † I will respect the other participants of the Gathering and their personal property.
- † Any other rules that may need to be established at the event.

Signature Youth Participant _____

Northern Great Lakes Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

THE PURSUIT OF GENEROSITY

“Passing the Plate: Why American Christians Don’t Give Away More Money” by Christian Smith and Michael O. Emerson (Oxford University Press: 2008)

Christian Smith and Michael Emerson are Christian sociologists who explore, in their 270-page book “Passing the Plate”, an issue that most congregational stewardship and finance committees have struggled with for years. Numerous surveys have indicated that the average giving by Lutherans is about 1.6% of income. And the problem of Christian giving is clearly defined when we realize that the top 5% of all givers in our congregations give 60% of all money given! The old 20-80 rule (20% of the people give 80% of all offerings) is now even more true as Smith and Emerson tell us that, over the last century, giving as a proportion of income has declined by half! Why is financial giving so weak among so many Christians in America? According to Smith and Emerson:

- ◆ **“Christians believe they are poor and, thus, they cannot give.”** Their surveys indicate that 52% of Christians believe they cannot give more because they do not have more. The authors demonstrate statistically the obvious - American Christians are not poor in any way.
- ◆ **“In American culture, money is one of the most personal, private, protected subjects going.”** It is often said that Christians talk about their own sex life more than they speak of their own money! For various reasons, they say, our church people have “not seriously confronted and grappled with the theological and moral teachings of Christianity to give generously.”
- ◆ **“Low Leadership Expectations: Our churches hold low expectations of financial giving because of ‘insecure church leadership and congregational cultures oriented toward avoiding possible offense, soft-peddle expectations of faithful generous giving.’”** Seventy-three percent of Lutherans report that their congregations emphasized stewardship either never, once a year, or only occasionally during the year.
- ◆ **“Most American Christians do not give generously because most tend to practice giving on an occasional and situational basis, not as a disciplined, structured, routine practice.”** If the church does not regularly ask, the church will not regularly receive.

- ◆ **“Christians do not trust the church with their money.”** The surveys and studies consulted by the authors noticed an increasing distrust of denominations and its hierarchy. Smith and Emerson feel that lack of trust as a reason not to give (while it does exist) is not nearly as important as the other causes listed above.

That is the struggle. Those are the issues. So what needs to happen? What can we do as the church to encourage generosity?

- ◆ **Move congregations and pastors from low expectation to high expectation.** This is the hardest work. It will take generations to accomplish. Necessary steps that are taken in congregations to resolve this problem will not be universally popular. Speaking as Christians and sociologists, Smith and Emerson make this pointed comment, “Churches lacking in vision, standards, and expectations will tend to attract people lacking in vision, standards, and expectations.”
- ◆ **Confront the truth about selfishness, consumerism and our cultures idolatry of money.** Guilting people into more financial giving has little lasting stewardship effect and has no effect on developing faith practices. Perhaps the church should begin to sound like a “Twelve Step” program for lovers of money.
- ◆ **Tell the story of God’s work in this world.** Everyone of our congregations has a story to tell. These congregations make an impact on the lives of God’s people and our communities. Lives are being strengthened, and the ministry of Word and Sacrament has been powerful since the first Lutherans settled in these woods and around these lakes in this area 150+ years ago. There is a great story of God’s continuing love to be told that can only inspire our own people to share from their blessings.

How can we learn to give freely, and in the midst of that joy to be drawn closer to the living God? It is a privilege to give to God’s work.

(A more extended essay on this book is available to you. See the Synod website: nglsynod.org)

Thomas A. Skrenes
January 2011



**Lutheran World Relief**

Bethany, Escanaba
Calvary, Minocqua
Holy Trinity, Chassell
Zion, Marinette
Bethel, Menominee
St. Mark's, Marquette
Trinity, Rhineland
Faith, Calumet
Prince of Peace, Marquette
Calvary, Rapid River
Zion, St. Ignace
Grace, Gwinn

Lutheran Campus Ministry

Grace, Gwinn
Immanuel, Negaunee
United, Crystal Falls
Christ the King, Escanaba
Bethlehem, Florence
Calvary, Rapid River
Zion, St. Ignace
Mission United, Pelkie
Emanuel, Skandia
Bishop Dale & Jo Skogman

Tanzanian Student

Trinity WELCA, Rhineland

Seminarian Support

Rev. Kevin Kaiser
Shepherd of the Lakes, Sayner
Calvary, Minocqua
Emmanuel, Menominee
Bethany, Amasa
Richard & Evelyn Bjorklund
Zion, Ironwood
Trinity, Ishpeming
Zion, Manistique

ELCA Disaster Funds

Immanuel, Negaunee
Grace, South Range
United, Crystal Falls
Messiah, Marquette
Bethel, Menominee
Christ the King, Escanaba

Faith, Calumet
Our Redeemer, Newberry
Mission United, Pelkie
Christ Lutheran Parish, Ironwood

Tanzania Dormitory

James & Judith Quirk
Kenneth & Bonnie Groh
Karl Langseth
Rev. Robert & Deloris Langseth
Bishop & Luanne Skrenes
Aaron Skrenes
Bishop Dale & Jo Skogman
David & Mary Lou Blomquist
Revs. Lee & Lori Liverance
Richard & Betty Peterson

Malaria Net Project

St. Paul's, Mass City

Mtoni

Rev. Keith & Karen Kolstad

World Missionary Support

Pioneer Lake, Conover
Mission United, Pelkie
Bethel, Ishpeming
Trinity, Rhineland
Zion, Ironwood

Kemppainen Scholarship Fund

Anne Todia
Philip & Paula Kemppainen

Skogman Scholarship Fund

Steven & Joni Peffers

Lay School for Mission

Trinity, Rapid River

Bishop Discretionary Fund

Joyce Dupras

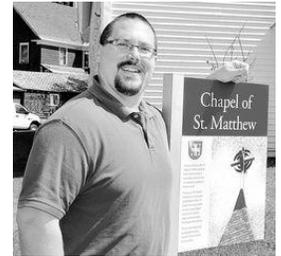
Congregational Mission Support

Mission United, Pelkie

Campus to Congregation

Feb./Mar. 2011

News from the University Chaplain's office at Finlandia University for our companions in the Northern Great Lakes Synod



"side by side . . . growing in faith toward God and love toward neighbor"

Being Thankful

I am thankful for my Campus Ministry Team, Team Leaders and Work-Study Students.

you.

Emily: Being new this year to Finlandia and Campus Ministry, you have quickly become an integral part in sharing Christ. Your quick responses, laughter, stories of faith and willingness to go to task on my many lists and agendas has been wonderful. I am excited to work with you and I know the next few years will be better and better! Thank you. I thank God for you.

Dave: Your music ministry is always a joy and I've loved hearing it and playing along. I also enjoy seeing your approach to ministry on campus...different, unique and Spirit-filled. You reach out to others and us another view and different angles to campus Ministry. Thank you. I thank God for you.

To everyone: Remember our youth & young adults, our future leaders and those seeking Christ in many ways. Amen.

Team Leader—Beth Bellinger. Work Studies: Sandra Harris and Emily Hendry. Team Music Leader—Dave Hendrickson. These four make up the core of the Campus Ministry Team. Each member performing a unique task for the betterment of the entire community. Not only have they involved themselves in the tasks of Campus Ministry, they have also placed themselves as role models in a variety of ways on and off the Finlandia campus.

Our team leaders have worked tirelessly to promote the mission of Finlandia University as well as the fellowship in Christ Jesus. Our campus and campus ministry would not be the same this year without them, and I thank God. I'm taking some time here to give them each some public praise for the jobs they have done.

Beth: I thank God for you. You helped me bridge my continued ministry from Fortune Lake to Finlandia. You've been my Team Leader who has been taking care of me and Finlandia. You've maintained the ministry & chapel schedules. You've helped plan, coordinate and run events. You've been diligent with leading student Chapels and I've been able to call on you to do things at all times. Thank you. I thank God for you.

Sandra: I thank God for you. In being a close friend of Beth, you've also been right there when needed, and have helped with even the small details of ministry work, like cleaning, folding bulletins and putting up posters. You bring a bright and vibrant excitement in all you do. I've appreciated the way you are so forward in questioning things or asking what needs to be asked so that you can better understand. Thank you. I thank God for



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Campus Ministry

Events Calendar

'COME AND SEE' WHAT WE ARE PLANNING!! ALL ARE WELCOME :-)

Recurring Events:

Sundays Keweenaw Friends & Copper Country Bible Church usage

Mondays 12:30-1:00 pm Student-led Chapels

Tuesdays 7:00pm alternating between Ministry Meeting and Bible Study

Wednesdays 12:30-1:00 pm Chapel with Communion

Thursdays Open—TBA

Fridays (every other) 8:00-9:00 pm TGIF (next events: Feb. 11 & 25, Mar. 25)

Other Activities:

Feb. 9-11 Guests: Captive Free West Lakes team!

Feb. 10 6:00pm: Captive Free Concert!

Feb. 11 8pm: TGIF Valentine's Movie Night

Feb. 12/13 TBD: Community Service Event

Feb. 26/27 TBD: Community Service Event

Mar. 4-11 Alternative Spring Break to McAllen, TX service via Rio Grande Habitat for Humanity and The Comfort House

Other activities yet TBD following initial Campus Ministry meetings in January. Check the Finlandia

Alternative Spring Break

Finlandia students will embark on a trip of service, faith and servant leadership on March 4-11. The group will travel far south to McAllen, TX to stay at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in McAllen and service on separate projects with: Rio Grande Habitat for Humanity, and The Comfort House. Habitat projects being worked on are roughly 18 miles from McAllen.

The Comfort House is a place where terminal patients are cared for with dignity and respect.

Finlandia Campus Ministry is always seeking donations to help defray the costs of the Alternative Spring Break.

If interested in donating, please contact Chaplain Soren Schmidt and/or make checks payable to: Finlandia Campus Ministry.



Any questions or comments? Contact Soren Schmidt, University Chaplain at: soren.schmidt@finlandia.edu or (906) 487-7239.

Visit our Website: www.finlandia.edu



A Year of Prayer
A Lifetime of Praying!

prayfaithfully@nglsynod.org
www.nglsynod.org/prayfaithfully

Prayer Calendar – February 2011

1	Pray for Pastor Steve Gauger and the members of Calvary, Rapid River as they celebrate 17 years of ministry together this month.
2	Pray for those attending the Region 5 Mobility Event as they discern God's calling.
3	Pray for the members of the Worship Committee who meet this day.
4	Pray for the members of Divinity, Towson MD (Rev Chris Chantelau), First, Gray Manor MD (Rev Bill Wallace), and Grace, Westminster MD (Revs Dave Helfrich & Matt Fuhrman).
5	Pray for the clergy spouses from our synod and the synods in Wisconsin attending the Clergy Spouse Retreat in Appleton WI these days.
6	Pray for the members of Bethany, Escanaba and Pastor Erik Heskin as they begin their ministry together these days.
7	Pray for our Sunday schools and Christian Education programs throughout the church that our young people may grow in their faith and know Jesus.
8	Pray for the members of Gethsemane, Wallace & St Stephen, Stephenson and Interim Pastor Jonathan Schmidt as they continue in the call process during a pastoral vacancy.
9	Pray for Pastor Lloyd Ludeman, his wife Amy, and the members of Prince of Peace, Eagle River WI.
10	Pray for the members of Jerusalem, Baltimore MD (Rev Bill Lundgren), Messiah, Sykesville MD (Rev Liz Senft), Our Saviour, Lansdowne MD (Revs Bill Gohl & Hank Brown), and St John, Creagerstown MD (Rev Joan Copeland).
11	Pray for Pastor Warren Geier, his wife Kathy, and the members of Bethany, Ishpeming.
12	Pray for the members of Tandika Lutheran Church, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (Rev Kumbuka Pori) and their NGLS Companion Congregation, Faith, Sault St Marie (Rev Barry Levine).
13	Pray for those attending the Second Sunday Folk Dance at Fortune Lake Camp.
14	 In the midst of hearts, roses, and chocolate, remember the greatest sign of love, the cross of Jesus. Pray that as God's love shines upon you, you may reflect that love to all you meet this day.
15	Pray for winter activities and the fellowship created in our congregations.
16	Pray for the spouses of deceased pastors – <i>Betsy Framstad and Lavina Goodrich.</i>
17	Pray for Pastor Katherine Finegan, her husband David & their children, and the members of Bethany, Republic.

18	Pray for the members of St John & St Mark, Myersville MD (Revs David Howell & Jurgen Hilke), St Luke, Cumberland MD (Rev Steve Yelovich), and St Paul, Lutherville MD (Rev Mark Huffman).
19	Pray for campus ministry at Finlandia University, Michigan Technological University, Northern Michigan University, and Bay College.
20	Pray for the members of Salem, Ironwood – who are now a part of the Christ Lutheran Parish, Ironwood – as they celebrate the 124th anniversary of the congregation.
21	Pray for the members of the Synod Council Executive Committee who meet this day.
22	Pray for Pastor Elisabeth Zant and the members of Eden, Munising as they begin their ministry together these days.
23	Pray for Pastor Barb Girod (Faith, Three Lakes WI) as she celebrates her 24th anniversary of ordination this day.
24	Pray for Pastor Bill Shepherd , his wife Diane , and the members of Bethel, Menominee.
25	Pray for the members of St Paul, Conococheague MD (pastor), St Peter, Beards MD (pastor), Trinity, Deer Park MD (Rev Kathy Rohrbah), and Trinity, Hagerstown MD (Rev Quentin Fleming).
26	Pray for those attending the Basket Weaving Retreat at Fortune Lake these days.
27	Pray for those attending the Theological Conference at Fortune Lake these days. Pray also for presenter Dr. David Lose.
28	Pray for our retired pastors and their spouses – <i>Pastor Chrysande Levesque Hendrick and Pastor Peter & Marilyn Anderson.</i>



A Year of Prayer
A Lifetime of Praying!

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Prayer Calendar – March 2011

1	Pray for Pastor Bonny Kinnunen and the members of First, Iron River as they celebrate 5 years of ministry together .
2	Pray for Pastor Jim Duehring , his wife Gisele , and the members of Prince of Peace, Harvey .
3	Pray for the members of the Synodical Women's Organization Board who meet this day.
4	Pray for those attending the Church Council Retreat at Fortune Lake Camp these days.
5	Pray for those attending the Junior High Youth Gathering at Fortune Lake these days.
6	Pray for the members of Calvary, Mt Airy MD (Rev Roger Rinker), Elias, Emmitsburg MD (Rev Jon Greenstone), First English, Balitmore MD (Rev Don Burggraf), and Harmony Community, Harmony MD (pastor) .
7	Pray for the members of Porterfield & Beaver American and Interim Pastor Lee Goodwin as they continue in the call process during a pastoral vacancy .
8	Pray for seminarians who await assignments to synods and calls to congregations.
9	 Pray for all the faithful as we begin our pilgrimage to the cross , that with eyes fixed on the cross we may be drawn into God's embrace and filled with the gifts of life. Pray also for the members of Immanuel, Escanaba and Pastor Judy Kincaid , as they celebrate the 123rd anniversary of the congregation this day.
10	Pray for the members of Grace, Easton MD & St Paul, Cordova MD (Revs John & Amy Godshall-Miller), Jerusalem, Westminster MD (Rev Stacey Marsh) and Messiah English, Canto MD (Rev Lee Hudson) .
11	Pray for the members of the World Hunger Subcommittee who meet this day.
12	Pray for Pastor Jean Schmidt , her husband Jonathan & daughter Rebecca , and the members of Bethany, Perkins .
13	Pray for those attending the Conference 8 Spring meeting .
14	Pray for those attending the Senior Adult Day at Fortune Lake .
15	Pray for the members of the Synod Assembly Planning Committee who meet this day.
16	Pray for the spouses of deceased pastors – <i>Ruth Groth and Tioni Heikkinen</i>
17	Pray for the Lay School Campuses across our Synod who meet faithfully to learn of God's word and the mission and ministry of the church – for the students learning and the instructors teaching.
18	Pray for the members of the Synod Council who meet these days in Rhinelander.

19	Pray for the members of Mt Joy, Gettysburg PA & St Paul, Harney MD (Rev Faye Snyder), Our Shepherd, Severna Park MD (Rev Earl Janssen), and Second English, Baltimore MD (Rev Gerry Rickel).
20	Pray for those confirmation students and mentors attending the Marked! Event in Chasell.
21	Pray for Pastor Jennie Johnson Wrege and Bishop Tom Skrenes and their colleagues attending the EOCM All Staff Meeting in Chicago these days.
22	Pray for our retired clergy and their spouses – <i>Rev Dean & Marie Marin and Rev Ernest & Kaaren Ness.</i>
23	Pray for Pastor Dorothy Lindstrom , her husband Duane , and the members of Shepherd of the Lakes, Sayner WI.
24	Pray for annual meetings recently concluded that ministries will go forward, renewed and centered on Jesus Christ, lead by the Holy Spirit.
25	Pray for the members of Azania Front Cathedral, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (Rev Ernest Kadiva) and their NGLS companion congregation Messiah, Marquette (Rev David VanKley).
26	Pray for prayer ministries – those who write devotions and those whose lives are touched by them.
27	Pray for Diane Srutowski, LLM as she is installed as the Licensed Lay Minister at Trinity, Stonington this day.
28	Pray for the members of St John, Cumberland MD (Rev Mark Dill), St Luke, Dundalk, MD (Rev Vicki Hamel), St Mark, Sabillasville MD (Rev Janet Comings), St Peter, Ocean City MD (Revs Harry Wolpert & James Davis), and Trinity, Joppa MD (Revs Paul Austin & Chuck Lashley).
29	Pray for Pastor Doug Johnson , his wife Elaine , and the members of Bethlehem, Florence WI.
30	Pray for those who sing in choirs and play musical instruments for the Glory of God in our congregations.
31	Pray for the members of Zion, St. Ignace and Pastor Jeremy Winter as they celebrate the 104th anniversary of the congregation this day.