At the age of 27, with a newly minted Doctor of Theology degree, Dietrich Bonhoeffer gave a series of lectures that would, after World War II, be edited into his book, “Christ the Center.” I have been reading this work during Lent as a devotional. The young Bonhoeffer is an amazing theologian who calls his generation (and ours) to an understanding of Jesus as Crucified Lord. Here are a few of the gems - theological pearls of greatest price - a Christological masterpiece, wherein this Lutheran theologian blows me away with the essence of God’s grace in Jesus Christ:

“Man may struggle against the incarnate one; against the risen one, he is powerless.” (p.33-34)

“Christ is still betrayed by the kiss…There are only two ways possible of encountering Jesus; man must die or he must put Jesus to death.” (p.35-36)

“This presence (Christ) has a threefold form in the Church: that of the Word, that of the Sacrament, and that of the congregation. (p.46)

“The sermon is both the riches and the poverty of the Church...If the complete Christ is not in the preaching, then the Church is broken.” (52)

“Nature as such does not symbolize Christ. His presence is confined to the forms of preaching and the two sacraments.” (p.54)

“If he has not lived, the Church is doomed. If the Church is not sure of this, it is finished.” (p.71)

“When I speak the truth to one who is of a different opinion from mine, then I offer him the love I owe him.” (p.76)

“It is not good when the Church is anxious to praise itself too readily for its humble state. Equally, it is not good for it to boast of its power and its influence too soon. It is only good when the Church humbly confesses its sins, allows itself to be forgiven and confesses its Lord. Daily must it receive the will of God from Christ anew.” (p.113)
CONFERENCE OF ELCA BISHOPS
MARCH 2012 MEETING

From Alaska to Florida, New England to Southern California, the 66 bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America meet together twice a year for mutual support, discussion and planning for our future as a Church. As you can imagine, we sit and listen to reports and then vigorously discuss all the possibilities where God might be calling us in our common future. When we are together, it is quite a collection of pastors, theologians and poets. We are a group of folks who love the Lord Jesus and His Church.

When we met in Chicago this March, this is what we did:

+ We heard that there are 32,779 persons registered for the New Orleans ELCA Youth Gathering. Of that number, over 25,000 are high school age youth and 7,000+ are adult leaders. Over 100 people from our Synod will be attending this gathering, and it promises to be spectacular.

+ Bishop Mark Hanson, our Presiding Bishop, reported on his recent trip to the Vatican and his recent conversations with our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Brothers and representatives from the North American Lutheran Church. We have commitments to keep the conversation going within the Lutheran family, even as the LCMS has ended ministry relationships in the military chaplaincy and in many social ministry areas.

+ We heard reports about the work done in the Tanzanian Church. The Tanzanians are planning to organize six new dioceses to add to the twenty existing ones as that Church continues to grow.

+ About 45-60 new ELCA congregational mission starts will begin in 2012. More work will need to be done in redevelopment of existing congregations.

+ Income for the ELCA Churchwide was down over 4% last year, but receipts still exceeded expenses. A financially flat 2012 is predicted.

+ The bishops discussed extensively ideas about restructuring and re-energizing the Church structures to be more missional efficient in the future. The role of the churchwide organization and the synods was focused on in this meeting.

+ The Secretary reported that 614 congregations have left the ELCA since the 2009 Churchwide decisions, with perhaps 100 more in process. This represents 6% of our congregations and 7% of our members and about 5% of financial mission support.

+ Discussed the First Draft of the ELCA Social Statement on Criminal Justice. This will be considered at the 2013 Churchwide Assembly after considerable study, hearings and amendment in the synods.
SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2012

We will gather in Marquette, Michigan in worship and in business, in prayer and in conversation, in reflection and in learning as the Synod Assembly of the Northern Great Lakes Synod convenes for its 25th annual meeting. The May 20-21 event formally begins with Eucharist at Messiah Lutheran Church on Sunday evening, May 20 at 6:30 p.m. The Word of God will be proclaimed, the Lord’s Supper will be shared and Pastor Katherine Finegan will be installed as Assistant to the Bishop at the service. Also, Pastor Tracy Polzin will be installed as Camp Director for Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp during the Eucharist. The Lay School graduates for 2012 will be honored, and pastors celebrating anniversaries of ordination and retirement will be honored.

Our theme, “Christ The Teacher”, will be lifted up as two typical sessions of our Lay School classes will be taught for all voting members and visitors on Monday. The Lutheran magazine Editor Daniel Lehman will be our ELCA representative bringing greetings from our Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson. We will also review and adopt budgets, hear my report and act upon resolutions for the good of our Synod.

We will pray, sing, eat and enjoy the conversation of fellow Christians. Please note:

+ Registration is all on-line this year. You can still register. Go to our Synod website: www.nglsynod.org for details.

+ The Assembly Hall on Monday will have “wifi” so you should be able to bring your laptop computers and ipads and use them on the NMU campus. The Pre-Assembly Report will be totally available for all to read and download on-line. Selected pages will be printed and sent to Voting Members.

+ We will receive offerings at worship for the Dental Mission this summer in Tanzania and for the Synod Lay School for Mission. The “quarter offering” for ELCA World Hunger will be received Monday morning at Assembly.

+ There will be some activities before the Assembly begins including a Hunger meal. See the Synod website for details.
Synod Council News

The March Northern Great Lakes Synod Council meeting convened at the Northland Lutheran Retirement Community in Marinette, Wisconsin. Founded in 1917 by the Augustana Synod, Northland has grown to a continuum of services and housing for seniors, the elderly and the disabled. It is a gem! The facilities in Marinette and Menominee serve over six hundred people every day in the nursing home, apartments, assisted living and independent homes. With over 200 employees, including a chaplain, Northland is important to the community and the Lutheran Church. Pastor Ken Michaelis shared the Northland story at our Synod Council meeting and introduced many of us to the work they do in the name of Christ.

At the Council meeting, plans were reviewed for the Synod Assembly which meets May 20-21. A proposed budget for 2012 and 2013 was recommended to the Assembly. This budget reflects no income growth for 2012, and a 3% congregational mission support growth for 2013. Pastor Katherine Finegan was welcomed to the work of Assistant to the Bishop at the spring Council meeting. Pastor Keith Kolstad was appointed by the Bishop as Chair of the Candidacy Committee to replace Pastor Dorothy Lindstrom who is leaving our Synod for a congregational call in California. Pastor Matthew Lamb from Cedarville was called to a new part-time “Synod Missioner” position in the Three Lakes Conference. At the meeting, the Bishop also announced that Wainola Lutheran Church, Mass City, Michigan has taken a successful first vote to leave the Synod and the ELCA. Three seminarians have been received for placement in our Synod this spring and summer. Four other pastors have been called in our Synod and will be installed in our congregations over the next few months.

IN MEMORY - PASTOR CLARENCE SCHNORR

We give thanks to God for the life and ministry of Pastor Clarence G. Schnorr who died Sunday morning, March 18, 2012. After his ordination into the ministry of Word and Sacrament of the United Lutheran Church in America in 1950, Pastor Schnorr served God’s people at Kingshill and Holy Trinity Churches in Frederiksted, Virgin Islands. In that capacity he was important in the formation of the Caribbean Synod of the ULCA. He also served as pastor at Emmanuel in Menominee, Michigan; Mt. Olive, Mukwonago, Wisconsin; Zion, Horicon, Wisconsin; First, Grand Marais, Michigan and Our Redeemer, Newberry, Michigan where he served until his retirement in 1989. During his early retirement years he served in interim and pulpit supply capacity in many congregations in the Three Lakes Conference of our Synod.

Pastor Schnorr is survived in this life by his wife of 63 years, Pearl, and by their four children and their families. Many will speak well of Pastor Schnorr and his memory is blessed in our midst. He was buried from Our Redeemer Lutheran Church where he and Pearl have been faithful members. Christ has won for Pastor Schnorr and for all of us the victory of life over death. Christ is Risen indeed!
TRANSITIONS

+Congratulations to Pastor Scott Ehle, called to serve Bethel congregation as pastor in Menominee, Michigan. Pastor Ehle is a son of our Synod, raised in Rudyard, Michigan. Pastor Ehle will be installed on April 15, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. CT at Bethel. Clergy are invited to process with the stole color red. Welcome, Pastor Scott and your family, back to our Synod.

+Congratulations to Pastor Kate Schruba (Emanuel, Skandia) who has been called to serve as pastor at Calvary in Quinnesec and Bethany in Norway. Pastor Schruba was installed on Sunday, March 25, 2012 at Bethany in Norway. God bless her work!

+God keep Pastor Jesse Brown recently installed at Our Redeemer in Newberry. May Christ watch over him and his family as he begins his work in our midst.

+Congratulations to Graduate Seminarian, Breanne Johnson, called to serve as pastor at Zion Allenville and Bethel in Cedarville. She will be ordained in Harmony, Minnesota in April and begins her work soon after in our Synod. Congratulations to Pastor-Elect Johnson!

+Congratulations to son of our Synod, Pastor D.J. Rasner, recently called to serve as Senior Pastor at Gloria Dei in Hancock. A native of Wallace, Michigan, Pastor Rasner has recently been serving in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

+Thank you and God’s speed to Pastor Dorothy Lindstrom (Shepherd of the Lakes in Sayner) who will be leaving our Synod in April to answer a call to serve Shepherd of the Valley congregation in Merced, California. Pastor Lindstrom has served this Synod in many ways, including as Chair of our Candidacy Committee. Her wisdom and Christian maturity is a gift to us and to all the pastoral candidates she has worked with over these last ten years. God keep you and your spouse and family.

+Thomas A. Skrenes, Bishop
Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! It is with fear and trembling, and excitement too, that I enter into this call of serving as Assistant to the Bishop. I want to thank so many for their words of encouragement, support, and positive affirmation as I begin this work. And I want to thank my predecessor, too, Pastor Jennifer Johnson Wrege, who left me an invaluable example of excellence.

I look forward to becoming better acquainted with the Synod and its 83 congregations. I am most familiar with Conference 8, having served Bethany Lutheran in Republic for the past nine and a half years. I must thank the people of Bethany, Republic also, for their gracious welcome and goodbye, and for all the joys of our shared ministry in the years between.

Before being called to Bethany, my husband, Dave, and I, along with our three boys, Noah, Jacob, and Thomas, lived in White Bear Lake, MN. I attended Luther Seminary in St. Paul while also serving part-time as a Youth Director. I come from a family of pastors and teachers and a few postal workers. My background is steeped in the Missouri Synod tradition. Both grandfathers were pastors. And I would like to share a story about my grandfather on my mother’s side.

My grandfather, Clarence Rittmann, was the youngest of ten children. His father was a sugar beet farmer in Michigan. And of all the children, he was chosen to be the one who would receive an education. While his siblings helped work the farm, Clarence went to school. In later years, with the hindsight of middle age, my grandfather described himself when he was a young man as being arrogant, spoiled and conceited. Until, that is, he contracted Spanish Influenza in 1918.

Having been a distinguished member of the Reserved Officer Training Corp (ROTC), he was on his way to serve in the War to End All Wars. But influenza cut his journey short, and in expectation of his imminent death, he was sent home on a train. He remembers being on a stretcher, and loaded onto the train through a window, because the stretcher couldn’t make the bend in the narrow rail car. He also remembered his nurse, praying out loud every night at the foot of his bed, for weeks on end, that God have mercy on him and allow him to live. The arrogant, conceited and spoiled boy was humbled, not only by his illness, but by the prayers of his nurse, and his utter dependence upon God.

At 18 years of age, Clarence survived the flu that had killed millions. He thanked God for his life, and felt God’s purpose upon him. Clarence went to seminary and missionary training school. He met his wife, Emma, and the two of them left for India. He served as a missionary there for 45 years. They had five children together, one of whom is my mother, Lydia.

I share this story with you, because my grandfather’s story, and my mother’s story, are a part of my story. Their faith has shaped and continues to influence my faith. And I thank God that they made it a priority to talk about the faith when we were at home and when we were away. We had bedtime prayers when we lay down, and meal time prayers when we rose. Faith and God were a daily part of my life in countless ways.

What is your faith story? Where does it begin? For some, it may begin at baptism, and the Spirit of Christ at work in your life.

For others, it may well begin long before that, with a parent or a grandparent, or with another family member or friend, who was intentional about teaching you the faith. God blesses us with these faith givers, and God sends us to be the same to our children, and our children’s children, and the neighbor’s children, and the neighbor too. God sends us to be faith givers and share our stories of faith.

God be with you as you share your story.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Katherine Finegan
Pastoral Vacancies and Interim Pastors

Christ Parish, Ironwood - Pastor Peggy Rose
Siloa, Ontonagon, St. Paul & First of Winona, Mass City - Pastor John Autio
Grace, Gwinn - Pastor Peter Andersen
First, Dollar Bay & Grace, South Range - Pastor Bucky Beach
Holy Trinity, Chassell - Pastor Melinda Quivik
Bethany, Republic - Pastor Doug Norquist
Emanuel, Skandia - Pastor Jim Duehring
Shepherd of the Lakes - Pastor Devon Barrix
Part-time
Bethany, Negaunee - Pastor Rell Spickerman
Faith, Rock - Pastor Jonathan Schmidt
St. Mark’s, Marquette - Pastor Rell Spickerman

“For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.” 2Corinthians 8:9 (NRVS)

Mission Support pledges for 2012 are flat as compared to 2011. Mission Support gifts received through the end of February are slightly below last year, while designated gifts are up substantially. Special gifts for Seminarian Support, the ELCA Malaria Campaign and Disaster Funds, and gifts to fund the Endowment Development Officer’s position account for the increase.

The congregations of our Synod are indeed rich in the Lord. We give thanks for the generous sharing of those riches through the time, talents and treasures given to benefit the ministries of the Synod and the ELCA - all given to the glory of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

-Betsy Koski, Bookkeeper

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>$ Change</th>
<th>% Change</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pledged Amount</td>
<td>823,634</td>
<td>822,074</td>
<td>-1,560</td>
<td>-.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount Received</td>
<td>108,031</td>
<td>102,954</td>
<td>-5,077</td>
<td>-4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated Gifts</td>
<td>23,979</td>
<td>35,372</td>
<td>+11,393</td>
<td>+47.5%</td>
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ON-LINE DEVOTIONS FOR APRIL 2012
AND MAY 2012

www.prayfaithfully.org

April 1-7 / Pastor Lee Goodwin
April 8-14 / Bishop Tom Skrenes
April 15-21 / Pastor Jim Wendt, Our Savior's, Marinette
April 22-28 / Pastor John Kuziej, Pioneer Lake, Conover
April 29-May 5 / Confirmation Students, Bethany, Escanaba
May 6-12 / Confirmation Students, Bethany, Escanaba
May 13-19 / Pastor Lisa Ubbelohde
May 20-26 / Loraine Mussatti, All Saints, Wakefield
May 27-June 2 / Denise Laakko, United, Crystal Falls
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**APRIL 2012**

April 6 / GOOD FRIDAY – SYNOD OFFICE CLOSED

April 10 / Evangelism Committee meets at First Lutheran in Gladstone at 11:00 a.m. ET

April 15 / Pastor Scott Ehle Installation at Bethel, Menominee

April 16 / Youth Ministry Support Committee meets at Fortune Lake Camp at 10:00 a.m. CT

April 18 / Conference 8 Clergy Breakfast

April 19 / Conference 6 Clergy Breakfast

April 20-21 / Upper Elementary at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp

April 22 / MARKED Event at Our Savior’s in Marinette, 4:00 p.m. CT

April 23 / Conference 5 Clergy Breakfast

April 25 / Conference 1 Clergy Breakfast

April 26 / Leadership Support Meeting at Fortune Lake Camp, 11:00 a.m. CT

April 29 / MARKED Event at First in Iron River, 4:00 p.m. CT

**MAY 2012**

May 2 / Conference 2 Clergy Breakfast

May 3 / Conference 7 Clergy Breakfast

May 4-5 / Men’s Retreat at Fortune Lake Camp

May 6 / Pastor Breanne Johnson is installed at Bethel, Cedarville and Zion/Allenville

May 8 / Conference 4 Clergy Breakfast

May 9 / Conference 3 Clergy Breakfast

May 10 / Lay School Board meets at the Synod Office at 11:00 a.m. ET

May 20 / Synod Council at Messiah

May 20-21 / SYNOD ASSEMBLY AT NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

May 28 / MEMORIAL DAY – SYNOD OFFICE CLOSED
New Orleans: 100 Wells Challenge at ELCA Youth Gathering in July
Just $2500 could build a well that provides clean water for up to 500 families. The 100 Wells Challenge allows youth of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) across the country to make a difference by raising $250,000 to build 100 wells or support water projects where they are needed most. See www.elca.org/ELCA/Youth-Gathering/Planning-for-the-Gathering/Gathering-Offerings/100-Wells.aspx.

Observe World Malaria Day on April 29
The ELCA has committed to raise $15 million to join hands with 11 African companion churches in the global effort to prevent, treat and contain malaria by 2015. World Malaria Day is Wednesday, April 25, so consider observing it in your congregation on Sunday, April 29, with a special offering. Order offering envelopes, brochures and more by visiting www.elca.org/resources and click the ELCA Malaria Campaign tab on the left.

South Sudan: Coordinating a response in the midst of disaster

ELCA, Israeli government representatives meet
Representatives of the ELCA and Israeli officials met in Chicago Feb. 29 to discuss the "Arab Spring" developments, especially concerns for minority religious groups in the Middle East such as Lutheran Christians. Read more at www.elca.org/news (click on News Releases in the left-hand column).

Malaysia: New Lutheran study center opens
Sabah Theological Seminary in Malaysia opened the Lutheran Study Centre on March 9. Established at the initiative of the five Lutheran churches in Malaysia and Singapore, this center will enhance Lutheran identity within these churches and across southeast Asia, leading to enhanced evangelism efforts throughout the region. The ELCA is supporting this effort, and will place a missionary professor there this fall. Learn more at www.elca.org/malaysia.

Asia: Growing leaders to love the land
Looking for specialty coffee? Try some fair trade organic coffee from an Indonesian cooperative organized by the first female superintendent (bishop) in the Protestant Christian Batak Church. A self-confessed "city girl," she learned her agricultural skills at the Asian Rural Institute in Japan. Read more at www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=10550.
Wells, Bible camps, and sister parishes
Learn about these and other components of companion synod relationships through the online profiles updated recently by the New Jersey, Northwest Washington, and Southern Ohio Synods of the ELCA. See www.elca.org/companionsynodprofiles.

Immediate need for medical personnel in Cameroon
Short-term, volunteer medical personnel, especially a general surgeon, are requested for the Ngaoundere Protestant Hospital in Cameroon. For more information, see www.elca.org/globalserve/search and enter keyword Cameroon.

Two new hunger toolkits for your congregation
Looking for educational material, activities and games to teach about hunger and related issues like climate change, disease and food? Check out two brand-new toolkits: “Gender and Hunger Connections” and “Water and Hunger Connections.” See hunger education toolkits.

Malaria grants given – and still available!
Three ELCA colleges and two ELCA campus ministries have received grants to be used as seed money for ELCA Malaria Campaign educational activities and related fundraising among their students. Funding is still available until the new deadline of May 1, 2012. See http://blogs.elca.org/malaria/post/congratulations-to-our-grant-recipients-02.

"Suffering and Salvation in Ciudad Juárez"
Since 1993 more than 600 girls and women have been brutally slain in Ciudad Juárez in internationally condemned violence for which no one has been arrested. This new volume from Fortress Press offers a powerful reflection on this destructive violence and the yearning for release, justice and healing. See http://store.fortresspress.com/store/product/4824/Suffering-and-Salvation-in-Ciudad-Ju-rez.

Glocal Mission Gathering in Minneapolis, Minn., May 18–19
Equip yourself for God's work in today's global and local realities. Find more information and registration at www.elca.org/glocal.

Join us for an international, inter-generational, multicultural gathering of God’s people of all ages. Fun for the whole family! Discover the meaning of “accompaniment” as a way of life in which we become more aware and attentive of all relationships. See www.elca.org/localevents.

International Ecumenical Seminar, July 4–11, 2012, Strasbourg, France
Under the spell of this enchanting Renaissance city, outstanding lectures and spirited discussion combine with the job of meeting Christians from different countries and confessions to ask the question: "What to Do about 2017? The Ecumenical Challenge of an Anniversary." See www.elca.org/ecumenical.

In our prayers
Pray that all people around the world have easy access to clean water. (This prayer for March 31 is available along with daily prayers from around the globe at www.elca.org/prayerventures.)

Global Links shares highlights from ELCA.org, LivingLutheran.com and other churchwide websites of ELCA ministry and connections in other countries.
## Prayer Calendar – April 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pray for the <strong>members</strong> of Grace, Pembine and <strong>Pastor Eugene Wickman</strong> as they celebrate the <strong>87th anniversary of the congregation</strong> this month.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pray for the <strong>members</strong> of Emmanuel, Baltimore MD (Rev Bobby Booher), Glen, Glen Burnie MD (Rev David Berg), Harvest Wind, Mt Airy MD (Rev Cary Moorman), and Jerusalem, Whiteford MD (Rev Hugo Schroeder).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pastor Jesse Brown</strong> and the <strong>members</strong> of Our Redeemer, Newberry as they began ministry together in February.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>seminarian Bill Retza</strong>, Distributive Learning student at Luther Seminary as he celebrates his <strong>birthday</strong> today.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 5 | **Maundy Thursday**  
As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, pray that you too may find wholeness in a life of service as you seek to be a faithful disciple of your master. |
| 6 | **Good Friday**  
We are here at the foot of the cross, we gaze into his eyes, we see his pain, and in all this we experience God’s gifts of grace. Pray that as you leave the cross you take the crucified Christ with you. |
| 7 | **Saturday Night**  
As the day draws to a close and darkness descends and deepens, we do not yet see light, yet we know the blazing light of Easter is about to burst forth. Pray for hope in the dark times of your life, knowing that the life of the resurrected Christ is God’s gift to you. Pray also for **Seminarian Kristin Rice**, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, as she celebrates her **birthday** this day. |
<p>| 8 | <strong>Christ is risen! Alleluia!</strong> Keep saying these words over and over this day – make this your prayer today and every day! |
| 9 | Pray for the <strong>members</strong> of Mt Zion &amp; St Luke, Feagerville MD (pastor), Peace, Glen Burnie MD (Rev Bill Gohl), and <strong>Shepherd of the Glen</strong>, Glenwood MD (Rev Jim Luedeke). |
| 10 | Pray for the <strong>members</strong> of Grace, Pembine and <strong>Pastor Eugene Wickman</strong> as they celebrate the <strong>87th anniversary of the congregation</strong> this month. |
| 11 | Pray for the <strong>spouses of deceased pastors</strong> – Velma Schmidt and Lenita Scholer. |
| 12 | Pray for our <strong>Synod Staff</strong> (Bishop Tom Skrenes, Assistant Pastor Katherine Finegan, Kay Benedict, Louise Ingalls, Betsy Koski) who meet this day. |
| 13 | Pray for the <strong>members</strong> of Yombo Lutheran Church (Rev Isai Ntele), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and their NGLS companion congregation Immanuel, Neguane (Revs Steve &amp; Marcia Solberg). |
| 14 | Pray for the <strong>members</strong> of Holy Trinity, Chassell and <strong>Interim Pastor Melinda Quivik</strong> as they continue in the call process during a <strong>pastoral vacancy</strong>. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>15</th>
<th>Pray for the members of the <strong>Delta Conference</strong> who meet. Pray also for the <strong>members of Bethany, Escanaba</strong> and <strong>Pastor Erik Heskin</strong> as they celebrate the <strong>133rd anniversary of the congregation.</strong> And pray for <strong>Pastor Scott Ehle</strong> and the members of <strong>Bethel, Menominee</strong> as he is <strong>installed</strong> as pastor this day.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pastor John Autio</strong>, his <strong>wife Kathy</strong>, and the <strong>members of Mission United, Pelkie</strong>. Pray also for the members of the <strong>Youth Ministry Support Committee.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pastor Christopher Johnson</strong> and the members of Christ the King, Escanaba as they celebrate the <strong>1 year of ministry together</strong> this day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pastor Keith Kolstad</strong> (Zion, Marinette) as he celebrates his <strong>27th anniversary of ordination</strong> this day. Pray also for the pastors attending the <strong>Conference 8 Clergy Breakfast.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>First Call Pastor Colleague Groups</strong> who meet across our synod. Pray also for <strong>Pastor Jimalee Jones</strong> (retired) as she celebrates her <strong>24th anniversary of ordination</strong> this day. And, pray for the pastors attending the <strong>Conference 6 Clergy Breakfast.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Seminarian Eric Grayvold</strong>, Wartburg Theological Seminary, as he celebrates his <strong>birthday</strong> this day. Pray also for those young people and their leaders attending the <strong>Upper Elementary Retreat</strong> at <strong>Fortune Lake Camp</strong> these days.</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Pray for those attending the <strong>Bi-Synodical Candidacy Meeting</strong> this day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Pray for those young people and adults attending the <strong>MARKED! Event</strong> in Marinette this day. Pray also for <strong>Seminarian Julie Belew</strong>, TEEM at Pacific Theological Seminary, as she celebrates her <strong>birthday</strong> today. And pray for pastor elect <strong>Breanne Johnson</strong> called to Zion, Allenville/Bethel, Cedarville as she is <strong>ordained</strong> this day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Pray for the pastors attending the <strong>Conference 5 Clergy Breakfast.</strong> Pray also for the <strong>members of St John, Edgemere MD (pastor), St Mark, Snydersburg MD (Rev Mike Adams), and St Paul, Utica MD (Rev Bill Bucher).</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Pray for our <strong>Synod Staff</strong> (<strong>Bishop Tom Skrenes, Assistant Pastor Katherine Finegan, Kay Benedict, Louise Ingalls, Betsy Koski</strong>) who meet this day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pastor Kate Schruba</strong> and the <strong>members of ELCA Lutheran Parish of Dickinson County</strong> (Bethany, Norway/Calvary, Quinnesec) as they began ministry together in March. Pray for the pastors attending the <strong>Conference 1 Clergy Breakfast.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Pray for those participating in the <strong>Spring Work Bee</strong> at <strong>Fortune Lake Camp</strong> these days. Pray also for the members of the <strong>Leadership Support Committee</strong> who meet this day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Pray for our <strong>retired clergy</strong> and their <strong>spouses</strong> – <strong>Pastor Dean &amp; Elaine Peterson</strong> and <strong>Pastor Robert Sutherland.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pam Long, LLM</strong> and the <strong>members of Holy Cross, Baraga.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Pray for those young people and adults attending the <strong>MARKED! Event</strong> in Iron River this day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Pray for the <strong>members of St Philip, Baltimore MD (Rev Michael Guy), Trinity, Reisterstown MD (Rev Tim Feaser), and Woodsboro Evangelical, Israel Creek MD (Rev Dorothy Lundgren).</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“We pray for congregations in the Delaware-Maryland Synod as part of our partner synod relationship.”
## Prayer Calendar – May 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prayer Requests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pastor Philip Johnson</strong>, his <strong>wife Renee</strong>, and the community of <strong>Finlandia University</strong>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Tim Mulvaney</strong>, LLM, his <strong>wife Debbie</strong>, and the <strong>members</strong> of <strong>First, Trenary</strong>. Pray also for the pastors attending the <strong>Conference 2 Clergy Breakfast</strong>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pray for the pastors attending the <strong>Conference 7 Clergy Breakfast</strong>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Pray for the <strong>members of Bethany, Negaunee</strong> and <strong>Interim Pastor Rell Spickerman</strong> as they continue in the call process during a pastoral vacancy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Pray for the <strong>members of Christ, Edmondson MD (Rev Bob Schmitt), Gloria Dei!, Arnold MD (Revs Tom Willamsen, Ana Langerak, Hudo Zavandro), and Haven, Hagerstown MD (pastor)</strong>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pastor Breanne Johnson</strong> and the <strong>members of Zion, Allenville/Bethel, Cedarville</strong> as they <strong>begin ministry together</strong> this day. Pray also for the <strong>students and faculty</strong> from <strong>Finlandia University</strong> who are <strong>traveling</strong> in our companion synod in Tanzania these days.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Pray for our <strong>Synod Staff</strong> (Bishop Tom Skrenes, Assistant Pastor Katherine Finegan, Kay Benedict, Louise Ingalls, Betsy Koski) who meet this day. Pray also for our <strong>young people and teachers</strong> in <strong>Sunday School</strong> classes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>retired clergy and spouses</strong> – <strong>Pastor Rell &amp; Louise Spickerman</strong> and <strong>Pastor Margaret &amp; James Johnson</strong>. Pray also for the pastors attending the <strong>Conference 4 Clergy Breakfast</strong>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Pray for the pastors attending the <strong>Conference 3 Clergy Breakfast</strong>. Pray also for <strong>Pastor Erik Heskin</strong>, his <strong>wife Jif</strong> and their <strong>sons</strong>, and the <strong>members of Bethany, Escanaba</strong>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pastor Nick Johannes</strong> (retired) as he celebrates his <strong>14th anniversary of ordination</strong> this day. Pray also for <strong>Pastor Marcia Solberg</strong>, her <strong>husband Pastor Steve</strong> and their <strong>children</strong>, and the <strong>members of Immanuel, Negaunee</strong>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Pray for the <strong>members of Joy Reigns, Edgewater MD (Rev Nicki Parrish), Mt Moriah &amp; St Paul, Foxville-Greensburg MD (Rev Julie Brigham), and People’s Community, Baltimore MD (Rev Titus Clarke)</strong>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Pray those <strong>seminarians</strong> preparing for <strong>commencement</strong> at <strong>Wartburg Theological Seminary</strong>, Dubuque IA. Pray for the <strong>pastors and professors</strong> who have taught these students. Pray for the <strong>congregations</strong> that have supported them these years and those that will receive them as they go forth to serve our Lord.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td><strong>Mother’s Day</strong>  Pray for <strong>mothers</strong> – those who have given birth to children and those who are entrusted by God to nurture and care for His children.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Pray for those attending the <strong>Senior Adult Day</strong> at <strong>Fortune Lake Camp</strong>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Pray for our <strong>Synod Staff</strong> (Bishop Tom Skrenes, Assistant Pastor Katherine Finegan, Kay Benedict, Louise Ingalls, Betsy Koski) who meet this day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pastor Donald Wandersee</strong> (retired) as he celebrates his 56th anniversary of ordination this day. Pray also for <strong>Pastor Jonathan Schmidt</strong> &amp; the members of First, Gladstone as they celebrate 15 years of ministry together.</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Pray for the members of Spirit of Life, Wilmington DE (Rev Clarence Pettit), St John, Essex, MD (Rev Lans Alexis), and St Luke, Hampden MD (Rev Michael Dubsky).</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>campus ministry</strong> at Finlandia University, Michigan Technological University, and Northern Michigan University.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Pray for those preparing for <strong>confirmation</strong> – may they remember their baptism and the promise God made to them, may their faith be strengthened, their hearts opened, and their lives forever changed by the presence of the Holy Spirit at work in them.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Pray for the members of the <strong>Synod Council</strong> who meet this day. Pray also for those attending <strong>Synod Assembly</strong> these days. May the Holy Spirit be in the midst of our worship, fellowship, and discussions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pastor John Shallow</strong>, his <strong>wife Sue</strong>, and the members of Good Shepherd, Peshtigo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>spouses of deceased pastors</strong> – Dora Jane Swanson and Ruth Warmanen.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pastor Norman Peterson</strong>, Immanuel, Rhinelander, as he celebrates his 36th anniversary of ordination this day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Pray for pastors celebrating anniversaries of ordination this day – <strong>George Kaiser</strong> (retired) 45 years and <strong>John Shallow</strong> (Good Shepherd, Peshtigo) 31 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Pray for the members of St Mark, Wilmington DE (Rev Fred Melton), St Paul, Cumberland MD (Rev John Duffus), and St Paul, Newark DE (Rev John Keating).</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pastor Dean Peterson</strong> (retired) as he celebrates his 46th anniversary of ordination this day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pastor Doug Schoen</strong>, Emmanuel, Menominee, as he celebrates his 39th anniversary of ordination this day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Pray for the members of Kinondoni Lutheran Church (Rev Joseph Maseghe), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and their NGLS companion congregation Bethel, Ishpeming (Rev Lauri Maki).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Pray for the members of <strong>Our Redeemer, Newberry</strong> and <strong>Pastor Jesse Brown</strong> as they celebrate the 124th anniversary of the congregation this day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Pray for those pastors celebrating anniversaries of ordination this day – <strong>Bishop Emeritus Dale Skogman</strong> (retired) 47 years; <strong>Jonathan Schmidt</strong> (First, Gladstone) 26 years; and <strong>Mary Weinkauf</strong> (retired) 19 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>students</strong> who will be graduating in the coming days that higher education and employment opportunities will be available to them.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“We pray for congregations in the Delaware-Maryland Synod as part of our partner synod relationship.”
Northern Great Lakes Synod
2012 Assembly Events
May 20 - 21 2012
Messiah Lutheran Church and Northern Michigan University - Marquette, Michigan

**Sunday, May 20th**

**Writing with Impact Workshop**

Does your newsletter need an update? Do you have questions about the most readable format, the use of clipart and space, what makes for effective written communication? Every church has letters, bulletin announcements, and newsletters. Come learn something about writing with impact from Daniel J. Lehmann, Editor of the *The Lutheran* magazine who also spent 30 years in newspapers as a reporter and editor.

A Writing with Impact Workshop will be offered FREE to secretaries, newsletter editors, and anyone else who writes postcards, letters, and blurbs. Meet at Messiah Lutheran on Sunday, May 20th, from 3-5 p.m. **Space is limited to the first 50 people who sign up through the Synod Office at 228-2300.** Attendees are welcome to stay for the opening worship of Synod Assembly, however they need not be registered for Synod Assembly to attend the worship or the workshop.

**World Hunger Meal**

The NGLS World Hunger Committee is offering a “Hunger” meal on Sunday, May 20th, at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. ET. The “free will” offering from the meal will be donated to the “Quarters for Hunger” collection.

**Reservations are needed by May 16th.**

*To RSVP:* Please contact Mary Lou Blomquist at dmlb@chartermi.net or 906/774-8285.

**Free Fair Trade Chocolate will only be available at the meal!**

**Extra bars will be sold during Synod Assembly.**

**A Reception**

A reception honoring Pastor Katherine Finegan (Assistant to the Bishop); Pastor Tracy Polzin (Camp Director, Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp); Clergy celebrating retirements and ordination anniversaries; and Lay School Graduates will be in Magnuson Hall of Messiah Lutheran Church following the opening worship service and first plenary session.

**Everyone is invited!**

**Monday, May 21st**

**Prayer Ministry Breakfast**

Pastor David Van Kley and others will lead a “Prayer Ministry Program” Monday, May 21st, at Messiah Lutheran Church. It starts with breakfast being served promptly at 7:00 a.m. immediately followed by the program ending by 8:00 a.m. To attend, mark “yes” for breakfast on your synod assembly registration form. Cost is $7.

**Seating is limited to 100!**

*Your commitment to stay for the entire hour is greatly appreciated!*

**Quarters for Hunger Collection**

Bring your “Quarters for Hunger” donations with you early Monday to the University Center at Northern Michigan University. The total amount collected will be given by the close of Synod Assembly Monday afternoon.
Lay School for Mission Classes
at Synod Assembly

Monday, May 21st
The following classes will be offered at
9:30 to 10:15 a.m. ET and again at 2:00 to 2:45 p.m. ET
Participants are to choose one class per time slot.

Apocalyptic - The End of All Things: Biblical and Modern Views of the End of the World
Pastor Lee Goodwin
Course Description: Tsunamis and earthquakes, war and disease, global environmental catastrophe and economic meltdown - are these signs of the impending end of the world? How might we navigate frightening times and how have our ancestors in the faith done this in the past? This course will look at biblical writings (esp. Daniel & Revelation) as patterns for sustaining hope in times of trial. We will also consider other cultural examples (film, literature, television) of how we make sense of what is beyond our control.

Pentateuch
Pastor Maxine Gray
Course Description: This course will study the first five books of the Old Testament, commonly called the “Pentateuch.” Students will review the contents of the five books, ranging from narratives to legal material. They will study the Pentateuch, not merely as history and legal material, but as theological statements. The message of the books will be considered in light of contemporary culture and the issues that we face today.

Lutheran Confessions
Pastor Kenneth Lahners
Course Description: This course will introduce and explore the Lutheran confessional documents, especially the Augsburg Confession and Luther’s Small and Large Catechisms. Other confessional documents will be briefly noted. The history of the Reformation and the historical events that led up to the Reformation will also be examined. Participants will become familiar with the content and the historical development of the Lutheran Confessional statements. How do these documents reflect the theology of the Lutheran Reformers? Why are they important to us today? How can we recapture the vitality and energy which these documents carried in their time?

World Religions
Pastor Steven Gauger
Course Description: This course seeks to introduce students to the variety of religious expressions around the world, a variety found right here in our own backyard. Students will consider other religions in light of their understanding of Christianity. The course will cover the early development of the Christianity, especially the controversies over the nature of Jesus Christ, giving students the opportunity to define and articulate the orthodox Christian faith. It will examine other religious expressions including Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and Native American spirituality, consider what Christianity shares with other religions and how it is different, and explore how we live in a world and society that has a wide variety of religious expressions.

Stewardship and Spiritual Gifts
Pastor Jonathan Schmidt
Course Description: This course will study stewardship in all its aspects. Students will explore the Biblical grounding of being a good steward, but also consider how stewardship involves a multitude of gifts. Stewardship in the broader use will be examined in the congregation and in the lives of individuals. Included in the course will be the opportunity for students to complete a spiritual gifts inventory and consider how their giftedness is a part of their own path of discipleship.
THANK YOU!

Lutheran Campus Ministry
United, Crystal Falls
Grace, Gwinn
Immanuel, Negaunee
Trinity, Ishpeming
Sharon, Bessemer
Bethlehem, Florence

Lutheran World Relief
Prince of Peace, Marquette
Salem, Ironwood
Zion, Marinette
Immanuel, Negaunee
Calvary, Rapid River
Holy Trinity, Chassell

World Missionary Support
Trinity, Rhinelander
Bethel, Ishpeming
Trinity, Ishpeming

Seminarian Support
Calvary, Minocqua
Faith WELCA, Rock
Robert & Lila Panek
Siloa, Ontonagon
Christ the King, Escanaba
Trinity, Ishpeming
Rev. Kevin Kaiser

Kemppainen Scholarship Fund
Rev. Wallace & Alice Leno

Skogman Scholarship Fund
Rev. Wallace & Alice Leno

Malaria Net Project
St. Paul, Mass City
First, Gladstone
Immanuel, Rhinelander
WELCA, Immanuel, Negaunee

ELCA Disaster Fund
Immanuel, Negaunee
Mission United, Pelkie
Holy Trinity, Chassell
Grace, South Range

Mission Outreach
Faith, Calumet

Lay School for Mission
Trinity, Rapid River

Kisarawe Student Scholarship
WELCA, Trinity, Rhinelander

Kisarawe
First, Gladstone
Joan Frey
Rev. Robert & Deloris Langseth
Bishop Thomas & Luanne Skrenes
Albert & Kathryn Sundine
Phyllis Gottschalk
Joyce Peterson
Rev. Rudy & Darley Kemppainen
David & Mary Lou Blomquist

Tanzanian Health
Grace, South Range