



Northern Great Lakes Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Marquette, Michigan

npls@nplsynod.org

E-Notes for July 29, 2021

The Season of Pentecost

Thought of the Day

"We cannot do everything
and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.
This enables us to do something,
and to do it very well.
It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way,
an opportunity for God's grace to enter and do the rest."

"A Future Not our Own" by Archbishop Oscar Romero

Quick Links

- [!\[\]\(694fcb4611893e9db5249daba48abfc1_img.jpg\) Check out resources on the NGLS website](#)
- [!\[\]\(8ec8d5dc48934930a762fecf6ecbe179_img.jpg\) COVID-19 Event Risk Assessment Tool](#)
- [!\[\]\(c34a15e67573dae8fbb88f4cbfb0f2e9_img.jpg\) Prayfaithfully Daily Devotions](#)
- [!\[\]\(41f06fdeabb4e5a71d06fe8f32a46127_img.jpg\) August Prayer Calendar](#)
- [!\[\]\(18eb66208e65404cce5042d73cf0a851_img.jpg\) Like us on Facebook](#)
- [!\[\]\(14a9d4de9e6699d41b68e8807e2d5f76_img.jpg\) Subscribe to our YouTube Channel](#)

Spotlight Event



Stewardship Workshop at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp

On **Saturday, September 11** from **12-3:30 pm CT**, ELCA Regional Manager for Mission Investment Fund Rev. Richard Wehrs will host a **FREE** workshop focusing on the 12 donor confidence factors which can either bolster or undermine your congregations stewardship efforts. Lunch will be provided in the dining hall at 12 pm CT and the workshop will take place from 1-3:30 pm CT. Please **RSVP no later than Tuesday, August 31** so

we can properly plan for lunch and meeting space. RSVP to Pastor Jim Duehring at jduehring@nglsynod.org or (906) 228-2300. For all the details, please see the [event flyer](#).

News & Information



Synod Office Hours

Our office has slightly different hours on Fridays this summer.

Monday-Thursday: 9 am-5 pm ET

Friday: 8 am-4 pm ET

Synod Youth Ministries Coordinator

We welcome Stefanie Ehle as our part-time Synod Youth Ministries Coordinator. Stefanie will work with our Synod Youth Team to help coordinate conference-wide and synod-wide youth ministries. She will also be the Synod Coordinator for the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. Stefanie can be reached at:

youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org



Youth Ministries Coordinator
Northern Great Lakes Synod, ELCA
1029 N. Third St., Suite A
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 228-2300 (office)
(810) 881-2669 (cell)

Remembering the Children

Many of you have read sad news reports about unmarked gravesites of indigenous children in Canadian boarding schools. Unfortunately, we in the U.S. also have a tragic history of our own. We recently heard of reports from the Rosebud Sioux tribe that bodies of tribal children had been returned to their familial homeland. Members of the **American Indian Alaska Native Lutheran Association** recently penned a letter about these matters. You can find the full text of that letter [here](#).

Registration Now Open! Synod Offers Fun and Interesting Online Classes for Adults

The Northern Great Lakes Synod has announced the upcoming schedule of Lifelong Faith Formation and registration is available [here on our website](#). Online classes for adults begin in September and include:

- **Ezekiel Bible Study** with Pastor Tommy Richter



- **Intermediate Biblical Greek** with Pastor Nicole Hanson-Lynn for people who have previously studied Greek
- **Walking Together: Companionship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania**, led by Luanne and Bishop Emeritus Tom Skrenes
- **A Book Study of *Friedman's Fables: "Metaphors for Family Systems Thinking,"*** with Pastor Jim Duehring, Assistant to the Bishop (who is also leading a one-session introduction to the approach)
- **Holy Communion Post-Pandemic: What, When, Where, Who, and Why**, a two-week series with Bishop Katherine Finegan.

For more information, visit the [Lifelong Faith Formation](#) page on our website or contact Deacon Lori Ward at (615) 519-1969 or lori.ward@nclsynod.org.



Free Ministry Resource

Thriving Beyond COVID is a 3 or 4 session scripture based study resource designed to help churches release the burdens of the pandemic, promote deeper faith in the Spirit's power at work in their midst, and empower their mission going forward. Check out www.thrivingbeyondcovid.org for details.



Leadership Coaching in our Synod

Assistant to the Bishop, [Pastor Jim Duehring](#), is an ELCA trained coach through CoachNet. **He is available for free coaching sessions** for interested and motivated individuals within our synod. Whether you are a rostered leader or a lay leader in your congregation, you might benefit from coaching. More detailed information is available [here](#).

Upcoming Events

Come Experience NATURE PRAYER SERVICE
Sunday August 8 | 4PM
Masonville Rec. Area
Rapid River, MI

UPwild.org

The graphic features a background image of a mossy forest path. A green rectangular box on the right contains the event details. At the bottom right, there is a small inset photo of a man and a child walking on a path in a forest.

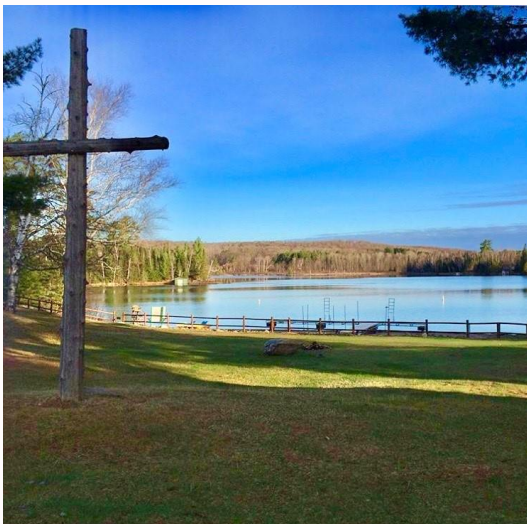
Upcoming UP Wild Events

Nature Prayer Service | Sunday, August 8 at 4 pm ET

We will gather in Rapid River at the Masonville Township Recreational Area on Cole Street for an opening reflection on "Why the Wild Matters," poems read by our members, prayer, solo time for directed exploration in nature and community discussion. All are welcome, including children. More information can be found at upwild.org or contact lanni@upwild.org.

Lake LeVasseur Hike | Saturday, August 21 at 1:30 pm ET

We will traverse into a place that is sought out for its seclusion and wildlife. Our wilderness reflection will be on the importance of refuges and sanctuaries. Join us for our wilderness walk- all are welcome! For directions on where to meet please email lanni@upwild.org.



Seeking Shalom, Seeking Musicians

Musicians are needed to help with a healing service for Pastors, Deacons and LLMs at the Seeking Shalom event at Fortune Lake on

Thursday, August 19, 7 pm CT.

If you are a cantor, play the piano, guitar, flute, or other instrument and are available to share your musical

talent with us please
[email Pastor Grant Van Lishout.](#)

faith+lead

LUTHER SEMINARY

Hybrid Ministry in a Post-Pandemic Church

Luther Seminary's Faith + Lead Team will host a live webcast **August 19, 26 and September 2 from 10 am-12 pm ET / 9-11 am CT** called "Hybrid Ministry in a Post-Pandemic Church." Whether you're adapting how you worship, give, lead, or all of the above—or you need a plan for getting your entire congregation on-board—this course will give you a framework for success. Visit the [event website](#) for more details and to register.



Enfleshing Witness Event

Church Anew – a ministry of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Eden Prairie, MN – is hosting a virtual theological conference on **Thursday, August 26 at 12 pm**

ET/11 am CT. In this intentionally crafted gathering, you will encounter distinct voices, speaking from their own communities, enfleshing witness for this moment of challenge and creativity in the church and in the world. Find all of the event details and free registration [here](#).



Join us for Walking Together

Our Walking Together events will include idea generating conversation, encourage creative solutions, and offer the blessing of being church together with other congregations in your area. You are welcome to attend an event in a neighboring Conference. A detailed flyer is available [here](#) on our website.

| <u>Conference</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 8 Superior Central | 9/16 | 5:30 pm ET | Messiah, Marquette |
| 5 Menominee Valley | 9/18 | 9:30 am CT | Porterfield, Porterfield |
| 3 Headwaters | 9/19 | 12:30 pm CT | Immanuel, Rhinelander |
| 7 Three Lakes | 9/26 | 3:30 pm ET | Faith, Sault Ste. Marie |

Upcoming Events Sponsored by Local Indigenous Communities

As part of our synod's resolution to foster relationships between the NGLS and Indigenous communities; and to further understand appreciate the history, heritage, culture and spirituality of our Indigenous neighbors, you are invited to consider this upcoming event:



**3RD ANNUAL
ANISHINAABE
RACIAL JUSTICE
CONFERENCE**

SAVE THE DATE!
SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 3, 2021

**KEWEENAW BAY INDIAN COMMUNITY
NIIWIN AKEAA COMMUNITY CENTER
111 BEARTOWN ROAD, BARAGA, MI 49908
KCHIWIKWEDONG ANISHINAABE AKI**

**COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING IS OUR PRIORITY.
WE ARE PLANNING TENTATIVELY FOR IN PERSON.
SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSALS BY JULY 31 @ 11:59 PM EST
WWW.NATIVEJUSTICE.ORG/CONFERENCEPROPOSAL**

3rd Annual Anishinaabe Racial Justice Conference

September 30-October 3 in
Baraga, MI

This conference will offer workshops, presentations, panel discussions, and coalition building on racial justice. For more information, visit the Native Justice Coalition [website](http://www.nativejustice.org).



First Call Leaders Event

The 2021 First Call Fall Conference will be held **November 7-9 (5 pm CT on Sunday-4 pm CT on Tuesday)** at St. Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon, Wisconsin. Please mark your calendar; more details coming in September.



New Faithful Innovations Cohort

These learning communities of Jesus are designed for For Laity, Pastors, Deacons and Licensed Lay Ministers of the Northern Great Lakes Synod. The next cohort begins in January 2022 and your leadership team is invited to join online or in-person. Check out [this flyer](#) for all the details!

ELCA Resources



2022 Youth Gathering Updates

Check out the [latest edition of gNews](#) for information about Getting Ready Materials, volunteer applications and more!

PORTICO[®]

Benefit Services | A Ministry of the ELCA



Updates from Jennifer Prinz, Portico's Regional Representative

Read all about Portico's recent communications and updates [here](#). The following topics are included:

- 2022 Portico Annual Enrollment
- Two ELCA-Recommended Health Plan Options Continues for 2022
- Easy Access for Primary Physician Care.

As always, Jennifer Prinz can be reached at (563) 650-4122
or JPrinz@porticobenefits.org.

Stewardship Resources



Congregational leaders are encouraged to check out the wide variety of resources available online at the [ELCA](#) and [NGLS](#). If you would like Pastor Jim Duehring to visit with your congregation about stewardship, please contact him at the Synod Office (906) 228-2300.

Another helpful stewardship resource is the [Stewardship Toolkit](#), written by Rev. Robert Blezard, Assistant to the Bishop of the Lower Susquahanna Synod.

Keeping in Prayer



Prayfaithfully Devotions

Check out [Prayfaithfully](#) on our Synod website!

People from the Northern Great Lakes Synod write weekly devotionals.

Make daily devotions a part of your routine, you'll be blessed by this inspiring discipline. Check out our upcoming devotions:

August 1-7 by Karen Carter

August 8-14 by Pastor Diane Srutowski

August 15-21 by Fortune Lake Staff

Maybe God is inspiring you to write for this synod devotional resource.

If interested, contact Betsy Koski in the Synod Office, (906) 228-2300

or bakoski@nglsynod.org.

Transitions

- We celebrate with the following congregations as they gather to install their new pastor:
 - **Immanuel, Escanaba** gathers to install **Pastor Mike Markwell** on Sunday, August 15 at 2 pm ET. The color of the day is red. Clergy are invited to vest and process.
 - **Faith, Sault Ste. Marie** as they finally get to install **Pastor Rita Chirala** on Sunday, August 29 at 3 pm ET. The color of the day is red. Clergy are invited to vest and process.
 - **Bethel, Cedarville and Zion, Allenville** as they finally get to install Pastor Renee MacLeod on Sunday, September 12 at 3 pm ET. The color of the day is red. Clergy are invited to vest and process.
- **Pastor Lloyd Leo Luedeman** has accepted a call to serve at **Grace, Pembine**. He will begin his pastoral duties there on September 1. Thanks be to God!
- **Pastors Steve and Evelyn Weston** begin their intentional interim pastoral duties at **Bethel, Ishpeming** on August 16. They will also serve as administrative interim pastors for **Trinity and Faith, Ishpeming**. We welcome the Westons to our synod!

Lifting Up to God in Prayer

- For God's comforting presence to be with Rev. Tom and Sue Wickstrom and family as they remember the life of daughter Michelle.

- Michelle Irene Wickstrom Brendalen, 48, of Park Falls, WI, died Nov. 8, 2020 from complications of diabetes. She is survived by per parents, Rev. Tom and Sue Wickstrom, brothers Lucas & T. J. (Nicole) Wickstrom, nephews Joshua & Evan and niece Nicole as well as her son, Paul J Brendalen (Amanda), grand daughters Zoe & Mackenzie and many aunts, uncles and cousins. She was preceded in death by an infant sister, her daughter Katelyn and her grandparents. Services will be July 31, 2021 at 11am (EST) at Bethel Lutheran church in Ishpeming MI with visitation at 10am. A luncheon will follow. Memorials can be made to the American Diabetes Association, your church or hospice association of your choice. Interment will be at Park Falls WI cemetery near her daughter on August 2.
- For firefighters.
- For our siblings in Christ in the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of Tanzania.
- For renewal and respite for all taking vacations.
- For those who don't know of the love of God in Christ the Lord.

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

Visit the Northern Great Lakes Synod website: www.nglsynod.org

**Link to the Bishop's Articles for
Congregational Newsletters:**
<https://www.nglsynod.org/newsletter-articles/>





E-Notes is a twice monthly electronic newsletter from the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Pastor Jim Duehring

Assistant to the Bishop/DEM