



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

## Youth & Family Ministry

February 14, 2010

Issue 5.4



### Northeastern Iowa Synod Youth Ministry



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#### Upcoming Events

**2010**

February 28

**Dear Friends,**

The Function of the LYO and the Synod is to give congregations the support they need for excellence in Youth and Family Ministry. This winter we are offering several tools please use them and invite others.

First, now is the time to register for the LYO Assembly. The 17th Annual Northeastern Iowa Synod Lutheran Youth Organization Assembly will be held March 13-14, 2010 at Grand River Center and Grand Harbor Hotel (Water Park) in Dubuque. There will be prayer, water, worship, comedy, and great food. Let me add a special word of thanks to

the good folks at Lutheran Services of Iowa for their partnership. Details and Registration Material are all at [www.neiasynod.org/youth](http://www.neiasynod.org/youth)

Second, it's also time to register for an excellent education event. Bring pastors, youth workers, church council liaisons, Youth Ministry Committee members and youth. See the details below.

Third, please take a look at the [new resource page](#) and always feel free to send me your best ideas to add as the collection of best practices grows.

*Keep in Touch,  
Pastor Mark*

## Spring Training Event

March 27, 2010, 10:00am

Buckmaster Room

Wartburg College, Waverly

The Home Life Work Group invites Christian education leaders, Sunday school teachers, youth leaders, pastors, and others interested to attend the Spring Training Event set for Saturday, March 27, at Wartburg College. The event starts at 10 a.m. and will offer workshops, speakers and activities focused on new and innovative ways to work with youth and families. Keynote speaker will be Tammy Jones West, who is the youth and family ministry coordinator for the North Carolina Synod and an adjunct professor for

La Vida at Lutheran Student Center at UNI 7:00-9:00pm

**March 7**

Safeguarding Training at St. Paul in Monona and Our Savior in Osage

**March 19-20**

Mission Trip to Guatemala

**March 13-14**

[LYO Assembly](#)

**March 27**

Home Life Wok Group Spring Training Event, Wartburg College

**April 8**

Family Ministry "Swap Meet" Bethlehem, Cedar Falls, 6:00pm

**March 28**

La Vida at Lutheran Student Center at UNI 7:00-9:00pm

**April 18**

La Vida at Lutheran Student Center at UNI 7:00-9:00pm

**July 27-Aug 1**

[WIYLDE](#)

2012

July 18-22, [ELCA Youth](#)

[Gathering](#)

**2012 Youth**

religious studies at Lenoir Rhyne University in Lenoir Rhyne, North Carolina. Breakout sessions will cover a variety of topics, including church year activities for families.

Cost to attend is \$15 with lunch on your own. To register or to learn more, contact Elayne Werges, 641-435-2396, or email [elayne@butler-bremer.com](mailto:elayne@butler-bremer.com).

## Youth & Family Ministry Resources Page

[Click Here](#)

Visit our brand new Youth & Family Ministry Resources page to find ideas, activities and other learning resources to help pass on the faith to children and families. The current theme features Lent & Easter ideas:

- Lenten Fair
- Last Supper event
- Holy Week decorations
- KinderLent services and more!

You'll find creative ideas from Sunday school teachers, youth and family ministers, pastors, parents and others from Northeast Iowa and beyond. And, you can share your own ideas and experiences with others!



**2010 Hunger  
Challenge**

*The challenge is to raise as many funds as possible for the ELCA Hunger Appeal and/or for*

## Gathering Returns to NOLA

CHICAGO (ELCA) -- The Youth Gathering of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) will return to New Orleans in 2012. Returning to a host city consecutively is unprecedented in the history of ELCA Youth Gatherings, according to Heidi Hagstrom, director for youth gatherings, ELCA Vocation and Education. The gathering will take place July 18-22, 2012.

Recognized as the largest event organized by the 4.6 million-member denomination, the ELCA Youth Gathering is a triennial event that brings together tens of thousands of high-school-age Lutherans from across the country and overseas for leadership development, faith formation, service opportunities and more.

In the summer of 2009 about 37,000 Lutheran teenagers, adult leaders and others gathered in New Orleans not only to paint and make home repairs but to learn about and experience the faith of people who live there. Residents of New Orleans and others along the U.S. Gulf Coast continue to recover more than four years after Hurricane Katrina.

Information about the ELCA Youth Gathering is at <http://www.ELCA.org/youthgathering> on the ELCA Web site.

**local food shelves between now and the LYO Assembly in Dubuque on March 13. The LYO Board has many resources available on the web page [www.neiasynod.org/youth/hunger.asp](http://www.neiasynod.org/youth/hunger.asp)**

**All congregations who participate will receive a certificate and thank you letter from the LYO. The congregation which raises the most funds, per member, will be presented with a trophy.**



The Restructuring Team of the ELCA LYO has completed some great work and is asking again for a few minutes of your time. Please complete the following survey regarding the Churchwide LYO Purpose Statement and Core Values. These are drafts and your feedback is greatly appreciated!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/D9SP267>

The survey will be live until March 1, 2010...so spread the word and encourage others to participate.

You should also visit the LYO Pages for updates on all of the Restructuring Work [www.elca.org/lyo](http://www.elca.org/lyo)

Thanks in advance for the 10 minutes!

LYO Web site: [www.neiasynod.org/youth](http://www.neiasynod.org/youth)

Youth Ministry [Blog](#)

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