

Youth Ministry News

Northeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA
Bible Study

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Dear Friends,

This is not only a great time to be the church but a great time for youth & family ministry. Why? Because congregations are crying out for a greater emphasis in the study of Holy Scripture.

The Book of Faith Initiative from ELCA will be providing great new resources for congregations in general and youth groups especially. WIYLDE will continue to train youth in leading Bible study in their home congregations. In these days the people are asking for Bible study, the materials are ready and the leaders are trained - it is a great time to be the church.



Feature Headline

WIYLDE registration opens February 2, 2009. There will be a limited number of youth accepted so registering on time is very important. Youth from the

Northeastern Iowa Synod may also register for a \$50.00 WIYLDE scholarship from the Synod's LYO. This may be used in addition to a financial investment provided by the congregation. The Theme of this year's event will be "into the wilderness" and will include Bible study on Abraham & Sara, Moses and the Hebrew people, Jesus in the Wilderness, and the call of Paul to Macedonia. WIYLDE will be held at Luther College July 11-18.



Article Headline



book of faith

Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

There is a churchwide emphasis on Bible Study called "Book of Faith" (BOF) which will mean lots of congregation wide Bible study is on the way. The first step in the BOF is a web site which allows you to "join the conversation." *Please* go to <http://bookoffaith.ning.com> and register and then join the "group" called "Northeastern Iowa Synod" and also check out the "groups" called "Household of Faith" and "Movies that bring up BOF Themes."

What does this mean for Youth Ministry?

- 1) There is already some great stuff you can use in the starting material "Rediscovering the Book of Faith" available with a cool kit at <http://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/item.jsp?clsid=195725&isbn=0806680660>.
- 2) There will be much more available soon including a "Lutheran Study Bible" which will be perfect for Confirmation. It will be released in March of 2009.
- 3) There is a new Sunday School curriculum coming which will include a children's NRSV and will emphasize Bible knowledge.

Article Headline



The new "Hunger Packet" has just arrived at your church!!!! The "hunger packet" is a package of materials from ELCA World Hunger Appeal which will be *very* helpful to youth and family ministry. If you don't have it, it is sitting on your pastor's desk or in the trash. I hope you go and get it. Among many other things you will find it includes: "Basic Bulletin: ELCA World Hunger" which gives simple explanation of how the ELCA fights global hunger; "Taking Root" a new hunger education curriculum for children and youth; ELCA World Hunger Stand With Africa;" and "Congregation Connections" a tool for bringing ELCA World Hunger to Worship and congregational life. These things can all be ordered in bulk *FREE* from AFP.

Please also see the web pages [Hunger can be Fought by Youth](#) and [ELCA Hunger Resources ABC](#) on the Synod's Web Page.

ELCA Youth Gathering Updates

Leader Training

The ELCA Youth Ministry Network, in partnership with the ELCA Youth Gathering, is inviting you to participate in an Online Training Initiative in preparation for the Gathering in New Orleans. The Network has created 3 "semesters" of online courses, taught by experienced youth ministry

leaders, to help you effectively lead your groups and process their experiences in New Orleans. This training is more important than ever given the dynamics of a post-Katrina New Orleans and the different Gathering design for 2009. The online courses will not replace the local training provided by your synod's Gathering Coordinator, but will instead compliment and enhance it. The courses are offered free of charge to all adults who are bringing young people to the 2009 ELCA Youth Gathering. For more information or to register, please go to www.elcaymnet.org/onlinetraining.

Gathering Bibles

The 2009 ELCA Youth Gathering Bible will be the new **Lutheran Study Bible** (NRSV) being published by Augsburg Fortress as part of the ELCA's Book of Faith initiative. The purpose of the Book of Faith initiative is to increase biblical literacy and fluency throughout the ELCA for the sake of the world. As in previous Gathering Bibles, the Final 15 daily devotions will be printed in the front of the Bible so that you can gather with your group each evening to talk about the day, reflect on scripture, pray and prepare for the next day. Every registered participant -- youth and adult -- will receive a copy of the Gathering Bible in New Orleans.

Lutheran Music Program

Lutheran Music Program Announces Plans
for 2009 Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival
New Location, Curriculum and Partnerships Spark Enrollment

(Minneapolis, MN)... The 2009 Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival (LSM) will take place June 21 to July 19 and marks a return to the campus of Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. The residential music training academy - which serves more than 150 high school age musicians from across the United States - features three major ensembles: band, orchestra and choir as well as a comprehensive keyboard and organ program.

New Curriculum in 2009

Lutheran Music Program is also pleased to announce the commissioning and premiere of a new musicianship curriculum centered on composition and designed to honor composer Carl Schalk. This new curriculum will "unpack" Lutheran worship, songs and liturgical traditions. In 2009, the beginning level of the curriculum will be used by approximately 50% of the LSM student body; intermediate and advanced levels will become available in 2010 and encourage students to express their own creative ideas as young composers.

All students receive individual lessons; play in a coached chamber ensemble; participate in the symphony orchestra, band or choir; study musicianship; take electives such as jazz, conducting, church music or beginning voice; and attend recitals featuring professional faculty. Nearly every evening at LSM concludes with a faculty or student recital. All of LSM's recitals and concerts are free and open to the public.

For more information on Lutheran Music Program, the Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival, or the Young Musicians Partnership, visit www.lutheransummertime.org or contact the organization's national offices in Minneapolis at 888.635.6583 or by email at ism@lutheransummertime.org

WELCOME!

Mr. Paul Frantsen, Director of Family & Youth Ministries at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, ELCA in Waverly, IA.

Ms. Deb Bachman, Director of Youth & Family Ministry at St. John Lutheran Church, ELCA in Cedar Falls, IA (January 1, 2009)

Ms. Jessica Steen, Youth Ministry at Fredsville Lutheran Church, ELCA in Cedar Falls, IA

Mr. Chris Dahl, Associate Program Director, Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp, Story City, IA

THINGS TO WRITE DOWN

December	9, 2008	Youth Ministry Network
December	20, 2008	LYO Board Meeting
Jan 29- Feb 1	2009	Extravaganza! New Orleans
February	2, 2009	WIYLDE Registration Opens
March	7-8, 2009	LYO Assembly, Dubuque
March	21-22, 2009	Sr. High Youth Event, Warburg College
March	27-29, 2009	Dirty Feet Retreat, EWALU
March	28, 2009	Recharge, Riverside
April	4, 2009	Recahrge, Riverside
May	3-6, 2009	Feed My Starving Children, Warburg
June	5-7, 2009	Synod Assembly
July	9-16, 2009	WIYLDE, Luther College
July	22-26, 2009	ELCA Youth Gathering, New Orleans
October	16-17, 2009	Jr. High Lock-in at UNI (tentative)

Mark Anderson
Northeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA

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