

Youth Ministry News

Fight Malaria

January, 2009 – Vol. 4, Issue 1

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Dear Friends,

Happy Epiphany,

Please give prayer and consideration to accepting the 2009 LYO Hunger Challenge. The LYO Board is asking that EACH youth group in the synod try to raise some funds to fight the plague of malaria. Only \$10 will save a child from this disease and help to fight hunger. How many nets can your youth group provide?

Also in this issue are the links to the 2009 LYO Assembly. Our theme: "Jesus, Justice Jazz: Upriver" is meant to suggest up North we too know something about the Mississippi, natural disasters and about proclaiming Christ through mission.

Finally, you will find links to all sorts of helpful tools for getting ready for the ELCA Youth Gathering. There is much more to preparing for a gathering than rules and fund raising. Don't neglect prayer, Bible study, and learning about the city and the hurricanes. Remember, some of these youth were very young when Rita and Katrina hit. However, most youth can relate to the three disaster in our synod this summer!

Best Web Page

Saint Ansgar's church site won the "Thrivent Website of the Year Award" for 2008. It was chosen from the 12 monthly winners from the

past year. To see the site go to:

<http://www.lutheranonline.com/saintansgar>

Cheryl Gardner is our webmaster. She has done a terrific job creating the site and keeping it up to date.

2009 Hunger Challenge

One of the best ways to witness to our Christian faith is to follow our Lord's command to care for those in need that:

"in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me. "

Matthew 25:31-46

Therefore, the 2008-2009 LYO Board issues a challenge to every the youth of every

congregation in the Northeastern Iowa Synod to boldly serve our Lord Jesus Christ by raising funds to fight world hunger and in so doing raise awareness of Global need.

One of the most significant causes of hunger is the plague of malaria. The disease kills adults and children in rural areas. To add to that tragedy, these are people who would otherwise be farming. FACT: In 2007, malaria killed about one million people. FACT: Malaria can be prevented for about \$10 per person to buy bed nets, medicine, and bug spray.

So please, raise funds to help purchase mosquito nets through the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. For ideas how to raise funds including the Souper Bowl of Caring and Fair Trade please go to <http://www.neiasynod.org/youth/hunger.asp>.

When the funds are raised please mail them to the Synod Office with the form provided on-line.

Your youth group's gift will be recognized on the synod web site and by a certificate of appreciation.

2009 LYO Assembly

You are invited to the 16th annual Northeastern Iowa **Synod's LYO Assembly**, "Jesus, Justice, Jazz - Upriver" will be held March 7-8 at the Grand Harbor Hotel in Dubuque, Iowa. This assembly will include prayer, Bible study, worship, workshops, speakers time with your congregation, and time at the 25,000 square foot indoor water park at our hotel on the banks of the Mississippi.

To learn more go to www.neiasynod.org/youth

To Register go to www.neiasynod.org/youth and download the **registration form** and permission forms and send the completed registration form to the Northeastern Iowa Synod LYO with the registration fee of \$50.00 per participant **AND** call the Grand Harbor Hotel to make reservations at 563-690-4006. Standard hotel rooms (4 people to a room) are available at our group rate for \$109.00 + taxes and include water park passes of all registered guests.



ELCA Youth Gathering Updates

Video story of a family trying to rebuild after Katrina

PBS FRONTLINE: The Old Man and the Storm. FRONTLINE follows one New Orleans family as it struggles to rebuild and pull back together after Hurricane Katrina.

View videos, learn more, and join discussions at www.pbs.org/frontline/katrina.

Here are some frequently asked questions about serving in New Orleans during the Gathering and Getting Ready resources for preparing your group.

Registration for the 2009 ELCA Youth Gathering is now closed having reached 36,650 young people and adults are registered and preparing to participate in Jesus Justice Jazz.

Need to make a substitution, deletion, or change in your group's registration? Here's what to do...

Submit the changes and information in writing via e-mail to gathering@elca.org. Please do not call the Gathering office with changes.

Make sure e-mailed changes are sent from the Primary Leader's e-mail account or that the e-mail message provides the Primary Leader's e-mail address for responses.

Include your Congregational ID # in all messages and correspondence.

The "Getting Ready" materials are available at

http://archive.elca.org/youth/gathering_getting_ready/resources.html

WHAT YOU GET FROM THE GATHERING DEPENDS ON HOW WELL YOUR GROUP IS PREPARED.

Bible Study

The Lutheran Study Bible, something to consider for confirmation students, small group Bible Study, and your own personal use is now available for pre-order. It can be had in hard or soft cover and cheaper at 10 or more. [Lutheran Study Bible](#)

Book of Faith 40 Day Devotional for Lent can be ordered at [NOW](#). Free Lenten Worship planning help is available [Right Here](#)

2009 VBS Offering from Augsburg Fortress is "Discovery Canyon." You can see it on there web page [Here](#)

THINGS TO WRITE DOWN

January	21, 2009	AWE Redeemer Lutheran, Waverly
Jan 29- Feb 1	2009	Extravaganza! New Orleans
February	1, 2009	La Vida @ Lutheran Campus Ministry, UNI
February	2, 2009	WIYLDE Registration Opens
March	1, 2009	La Vida @ Lutheran Campus Ministry, UNI
March	21-22, 2009	Sr. High Youth Event, Warburg College
March	27-29, 2009	Dirty Feet Retreat, EWALU
March	7-8, 2009	LYO Assembly, Dubuque
March	28, 2009	Recharge, Riverside
April	4, 2009	Recharge, Riverside

May	3-6, 2009	Feed My Starving Children, Wartburg
June	5-7, 2009	Synod Assembly
July	9-16, 2009	WIYLDE, Luther College
July	15-29, 2009	Wartburg Seminary Youth Leadership School
July	22-26, 2009	ELCA Youth Gathering, New Orleans
October	16-17, 2009	Jr. High Lock-in at UNI (tentative)
November	14-15, 2009	Church Youth Fest, Luther College

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