



LUTHERAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION REPORT

This past year has been another great year for the Northeastern Iowa Synod LYO Board under the ever entertaining leadership of Pastor Mark Anderson. The board met for the first time at Redeemer Lutheran Church and the Synod Office, in Waverly, Iowa, in August 2008. We played games to get to know each other better, attended workshops and presentations, had bible studies, and elected officers. We also broke up into committees that we would be a part of all year to plan events such as the Jr. High Lock-in at UNI, the LYO Assembly, and Marketing. We also decided on the theme of "Relief in Christ" for the year. This theme is leading us to help with Flood Relief and Hunger Relief.

The LYO and the UNI Lutheran Student Center co-sponsored the annual junior high lock-in at the UNI Wellness and Recreation Center in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Members of the Northeastern Iowa Synod's Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) Board sent a written challenge to each congregation in the synod to help fight hunger. Also included in the challenge was to help raise money for a Mosquito Net to be sent to people all over the world to help prevent Malaria. To date, 11 congregations responded, and have raised \$4,616.87 in cash gifts to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal, and other food banks plus many pounds of food items donated to food banks.

The LYO Board has planned and participated in many events to encourage youth to help with flood and hunger relief. In March 2009, the annual LYO assembly was held at the Grand Harbor Water Park and Resort in Dubuque. The theme for this years assembly was "Jesus + Justice + Jazz : Upriver." The event included bible studies of various sizes, games, a ministry fair, a concert by Christopher Stephens, fellowship and worship.

We look forward to attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in July 2009. The theme is "Jesus+Justice+Jazz" and the gathering will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana. For more information about this or any other youth events, check out our website at www.neiasynod.org/youth.

Thank you to the many amazing board members and awesome adult volunteers who advise the board:

Michelle Anderson, Secretary	Faithe Guyer Katelyn Jolly	Keegan Strabala Sonja Von Hollen
Sam Behrens Gabe Bouzard	Cassidy Kingery Sydney Kueter	Kim Wild Ben Zelle
Tyler Conlon Carolyn Corson	Aimee Lenth Ward Matthias	Matt Martin, Campus Ministry Liaison
Luke Crawford Karen Davison	Daniel Meyers Tanner O'Brien	Deb Bachman, Adult Advisor
Doug Dobrzynski, Vice President	Caitlin Retz Nelson Schreen, Synod Council Liaison	Pastor Melissa Lane, Chaplain
Hannah Easton Sara Ernster, President	Alisha Stiles	Adrian Walter, Adult Advisor
Alica Foss		Pastor Mark Anderson, Synod Staff

SYNODICAL ORGANIZATIONS

We also would like to thank Charleen Bolte for being LYO's best friend and being there for us when we need her. She helps us behind the scenes, and without her we would not be as organized as we are.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sara Ernster, Board President

