

Human Trafficking Workshop at Decorah

Sunday, April 17
First Lutheran, Decorah
4 p.m.

The Northeastern Iowa Synod is partnering with the Iowa Department of Justice to present a second workshop about human trafficking. The “Stop Human Trafficking” workshop will be presented Sunday, April 17, 4 p.m., at First Lutheran, Decorah. Clergy members, hotel staff, law enforcement officials, first responders, teachers, social service professionals and others are invited to learn about human trafficking in Iowa and how to identify possible victims.

Michael J. Ferjak, senior criminal investigator with the Iowa Department of Justice – Office of the Attorney General, will answer questions and present information about human trafficking, how local hoteliers and law enforcement can combat it, and available resources to respond.

Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery in which children and adults are illegally traded and exploited for sex or forced into labor against their will. The Northeastern Iowa Synod is committed to offering workshops to raise awareness about human trafficking and how to respond if someone suspects a human trafficking situation.

The workshop is free and open to the public. To learn more, contact First Lutheran at **563-382-2638** or the synod office at **319-352-1414**.



Stewardship Network

The Stewardship Network is made up of Al Charlson, Pastor Gary Hedding, Pastor Corey Smith, and Pastor Judy Converse. Our Synod Council liaison is Darwin Meyer and our synod staff liaison is Pastor Mark Anderson.

In 2013, the Northeastern Iowa Synod received a Macedonia Project grant through the ELCA utilizing funds from Thrivent Financial Services. This grant — along with the faithful leadership of the network members and others — has made possible some of the great things we have done over the past two years! We were able to:

- Offer workshops on stewardship in the local congregation at the past two Synod Assemblies, including resources for use.
- Create a video — with the assistance of Wartburg College students — to provide information on where mission support money in our synod goes.
- Fund refreshments at conference consultations with Bishop Ullestad.
- Provide funding to bring Dr.

Mark Allan Powell as our keynote speaker for the Fall Theological Conference in Dubuque in October 2015. The conference also included a workshop with Dr. Powell on Monday afternoon.



- Train two pastors from our synod in the Ventures in Stewardship program.
- Provide an opportunity for members of the Stewardship Network to attend the Money Leadership Retreat, which was offered to newly rostered people in the synod last April.

New members to the Stewardship Network are always welcome. We look forward to continued opportunities to share our interest and enthusiasm for faithfully sharing the blessings that God has given.

Stewardship resources can be found at www.neiasynod.org/ministries/stewardship.

— Pastor Judy Converse
Stewardship Network Facilitator

Invite a high school youth to WIYLDE

WIYLDE, the Wholly Iowa Youth Leadership Discipling Event, is an intense experience for youth to engage in team building, worship, Bible study, prayer, and small group time. Youth can choose between three “tracks” focusing on worship, Christian service, or contemporary issues and theology. Congregations that send youth to WIYLDE receive back young people with the enthusiasm and skills to do ministry in their congregations and beyond.

WIYLDE is set for June 12-15 at Wartburg College in Waverly, immediately following Synod Assembly. To learn more and to download a registration form, visit www.neiasynod.org/wiylde.