



Northeastern Iowa Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Children, Youth and Family Ministry Newsletter

February 2018

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Lutheran Youth Organization Network

The next meeting is **Saturday, Feb. 17** starting at 10 a.m. at the synod office. Lunch will be included. The entire year of meetings is included below in the Upcoming Events section.

The Lutheran Youth Organization Network (LYON) has begun to meet once again. Students who attended WIYLDE will serve as the facilitator, synod council liaison and recorder. Any youth in grades 9-12 in the synod are welcome to join us! If you have a student who would like to join LYON, please contact Deb Bachman at dbachman72@gmail.com.

Purpose: To equip youth of the Northeastern Iowa Synod to be leaders in their congregations so congregations can have the best youth group they are able to have.

This network will gather together once a month in person. Each meeting will focus on three aspects: Spirit (Relationship with Christ); Life (Relationship with others); Ministry (Leadership).

WIYLDE 2017 met and elected the following students:

Facilitator - Jared McLey

Co-Recorders - Sarah Retz and Sarah Frantsen

Synod Council Liaison - Matthias Letsche

Synod staff support will come from Deb Bachman and Pastor Mark Anderson.

LYON will work on leadership skills as well as planning two synod wide youth events - one in the fall for high school students and one in the spring for junior high students.



Abdelkader Global Leadership Prize

Essay and Poster Contest
Deadline May 15, 2018

Scholarship Awards

Essay Contest

U.S. High School students - 1st Place \$1,000; 2nd Place \$500

U.S. College/University students - 1st Place \$1,500; 2nd Place \$1,000

New! Poster Contest

U.S. High School students - 1st Place \$1,000; 2nd Place \$500

U.S. College/University students - 1st Place \$1,500; 2nd Place \$1,000



2018 ELCA National Youth Gathering

From our Synod Coordinator, Mark Anderson:

As of Friday, February 2 here are current registration numbers for the Gathering:

- Gathering registration is at 29,256 participants
- Our last number for Northeastern Iowa Synod is 582
- MYLE is at 559 participants
- tAble is at 59 participants

HOUSING: An email was sent out to congregational primary leaders with information on housing. Our hotel assignments have been given to us. The exact configuration of rooms has not yet been determined. Keep checking your account to find those configurations soon. Our synod is being housed at one of three hotels: Crown Plaza Galleria, Springhill Suites NRG and Doubletree Suites Galleria.

TRANSPORTATION: If you have registered for the Gathering, please [email Mark Anderson](#) the following information: church name, lead adult, number of students and chaperones and how you are getting to Houston. The synod has a [Transportation Database](#) on the website that helps congregations reach out if they have extra bus/plane tickets to sell or if you need to purchase bus/plane tickets.

AIRLINE DISCOUNTS:

Flight discount info has been compiled into one file for youth workers to reference as they make group travel plans. Check it out here on the [Google Drive](#). There may be additional airline discounts added to this list as they become available; stay tuned.

BOOK LIST:

We will be sharing an updated book list soon. After continued conversation with local community leaders, the service learning team is expanding the list beyond those original titles provided by the Houston Independent School District to include a wider variety of literature that can be more easily found at bookstores carrying standard/well-known titles. Here is a link to the [Amazon Wishlist](#).

Getting Ready Curriculum: The [Getting Ready Curriculum](#) has been released. You can download and print it off from this website.

Registration is open. The early bird deadline has passed, but you can still register for the gathering. [Registration](#) is now at \$390 until Feb. 15, 2018.

Social Media: Be sure to follow the [ELCA Youth Gathering Facebook page](#) as they send out updates through that platform. You can also follow the ELCA Youth Gathering [blog](#).

Our Synod page: Each month, we will share more information as it comes in. Our synod has its own page on our synod website where information will be kept up to date. You can access it [here](#).

Handbook: There is a great handbook that is available that will answer many, many of your questions! You can download it [here](#)! This truly has great information - check it out! There are even some fundraising ideas.

Houston: Want to learn more about our host city, Houston? Check out this information [here](#).

GNews: Here is a [link](#) to the latest GNews (the official newsletter of the gathering). Sign up to receive it in your inbox!



WIYLDE 2018: A WIYLDE Ride

This year's WIYLDE will focus on sharing your faith through many different aspects. The learning times and Bible studies will focus on worship, leading youth group, leading Bible studies and looking beyond high school. There will be many guest teachers, small groups, large group Bible studies, games and more!

For Who: High School aged students of the Northeastern Iowa Synod

Cost: \$225 per student (Northeastern Iowa Synod will kick in a \$75 scholarship)
Recruit a friend who is brand new to WIYLDE and receive \$25 off your registration when they register!

Registration Deadline: May 15, 2018

Registration forms can be found on the [synod website](#).

Contact Deb Bachman with questions at dbachman72@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

2018:

June 10-13: WIYLDE at Wartburg College

June 27-July 1: ELCA National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas

Youth Worker Network Meetings (10 a.m.-12 p.m.):

**No meeting in February due to Extravaganza (in Houston Jan. 26-29)

March 1: Holy Trinity in Dubuque

April 5: First in Decorah

May 3: Lutheran Student Center in Cedar Falls

Lutheran Youth Organization Network Meetings:

**All 10 a.m.-12 pm at Synod Office in Waverly

February 17

March 10

April 14

May 12

Riverside and Ewalu Camp Events:

[Riverside website](#) and [Ewalu website](#)

Join My Mailing List

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