



## Children, Youth and Family Ministry News December 2012

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**Dear Friends,**

This is breaking news from Todd Buegler of the ELCA Youth Ministry Network!

The second phase of the Practice Discipleship Initiative will launch in January of 2013. This project is the result of a dynamic partnership between the ELCA Youth Ministry Network, the ELCA and its Youth Gathering, ELCA Lutheran seminaries and colleges and their faculty who teach children, youth and family ministry, and resource providers of the church.

The Practice Discipleship Initiative fosters faithful, thoughtful and intentional leaders in congregations who follow Jesus in their daily lives.

The Practice Discipleship Initiative will:

**Educate:** Train leadership to accompany young people on their faith journey.

**Connect:** Develop partnerships to strengthen faith formation opportunities for and with young people.

**Renew:** Gather leaders for mutual support and encouragement in ministry.

The project is made possible by funding provided by the ELCA, the North Carolina Synod, Luther Seminary and the ELCA Youth Ministry Network.

Training opportunities for adults who work with children and youth will take place in several different formats. Seven webinars are being developed to be presented every two weeks beginning in January. The team of educators developing these webinars is led by Dr. Jeremy Myers of Augsburg College. Link to descriptions of Webinars can be found [here](#). All the titles and dates are listed below in the Upcoming Events section.

These webinars will also be presented live as workshops at the 2013 ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza, to be held January 25-28 in Anaheim, California.

One coach from each of the 65 ELCA synods will also receive specialized training at the Extravaganza, to return to their synods and present workshops to professionals and volunteers.

The Practice Discipleship Initiative will be directed by Catherine Anderson, the Coordinator of Youth Ministry for the Northeastern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA. More information on the project, including all of the training resources from the first phase of the project, can be found [here](#) people.

Keep in touch,  
Pastor Mark

## Idea to Steal



The parish nurse at Our Saviors in Mason City sets out these pencil boxes for people to exchange coupons. The boxes are labeled by category such as baby products, pet supplies, and breakfast cereals. This could be a great ministry for a parent's group and a big help to families.

High School La Vida



High School La Vida is back at the Lutheran Student Center on the UNI Campus in Cedar Falls. AJ Houseman and some college students are looking forward to welcoming the high school students and their leaders in once a month to enjoy the ministry of the LSC. The dates starting in January can be found on the Upcoming Events calendar below. Each night will start at 7pm and run until 9pm. All students in grades 9-12 are welcome to come and there is no cost for this event. Come join in the fun!

## Book Review

In worship, confirmation, Bible study and almost everywhere else PowerPoint is the tool of the day. In her book "The Non-Designer's Presentation Book: Principles for Effective Presentation Design" Robin Williams (the teacher, not the comedian) gives some basic tips with lots of examples that even I could understand. If you want better slides but don't know how, and don't have a lot of time to learn this is the inexpensive book to buy - or just borrow my copy. Pr. Mark.

## Upcoming Events

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Dec 6     | Youth Worker Meeting<br>Bethany, Iowa Falls                        |
| 2013      |  |
| Jan 3     | Youth Worker Meeting<br>Synod office, Waverly                      |
| Jan 13    | Faith Formation in a Missional Age<br>Webinar with Dr. Terri Elton |
| Jan 13    | High School La Vida<br>Lutheran Student Center, Cedar Falls        |
| Jan 20    | If Necessary Use Words<br>Webinar with Dr. Hans Wiersma            |
| Jan 24-28 | ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza                           |

Anaheim, CA

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Feb 3     | Theories of Culture<br>Webinar with Dr. Nate Frambach               |
| Feb 7     | Youth Worker Meeting<br>First Lutheran, Decorah                     |
| Feb 10    | High School La Vida<br>Lutheran Student Center, Cedar Falls         |
| Feb 17    | Working Together in Solidarity<br>Webinar with Rozella White        |
| March 2-3 | Wazzup with Supper Retreat<br>Ewalu Bible Camp                      |
| March 3   | Inculturating the Gospel<br>Webinar with Dr. Colleen Windham-Hughes |
| March 7   | Youth Worker Meeting<br>St Petri, Story City                        |
| March 10  | High School La Vida<br>Lutheran Student Center, Cedar Falls         |
| March 17  | Dog Eating Chicken<br>Webinar with Heather Hansen                   |
| April 4   | Youth Worker Meeting<br>Holy Trinity, Dubuque                       |
| April 5-7 | Dirty Feet Retreat<br>Ewalu Bible Camp                              |
| April 7   | Going Public<br>Webinar with Jeremy Myers                           |
| April 14  | High School La Vida<br>Lutheran Student Center, Cedar Falls         |

April 26-27

A Hike with Martin  
Ewalu Bible Camp

May 2

Youth Worker Meeting  
St John, Charles City

May 12

High School La Vida  
Lutheran Student Center, Cedar Falls

June 6

Youth Worker Meeting  
St John, Cedar Falls

July 21-28

WIYLDE  
Luther College

Sincerely,

Mark Anderson

Northeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA

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