



Children, Youth and Family Ministry News *May 2013* Vol. 8, Issue 5

Happy Spring!!!

In a few days I will leave to be a part of the Synod's first visit to our Companion Synod in Hungary. Of course I've been reading up on Hungary and specifically the history of the Lutheran Church in Hungary. In the book, "The Struggle of Hungarian Lutherans under Communism," I found something amazing. After WWII the Soviets who had liberated the Hungarians from the Nazis forgot to leave and became the occupation force themselves. The very first thing the Russians did to the Lutheran Church was to nationalize its parochial schools. Why? To limit the teaching of the Good News of Jesus Christ. By turning all the church schools into Soviet schools they could replace the Gospel with Communist propaganda. But also by curtailing the faith formation in the nation's youth they could deprive the church of its future leaders. Those who would destroy the church see it so clearly; I only wish that those who would build the church could see it too. That faith formation is crucial if we are going provide the church with a strong leadership in the future. This is why we have created WIYLDE, why we support outdoor ministry, and why the LYO Assembly is so important. In the future we will have the church we invested in today.

Keep in Touch,
Pastor Mark A. Anderson



WIYLDE - July 22-27
WIYLDE, the Wholly Iowa Youth Leadership and Disciplining Event will be held under the theme "Take a Walk on the WIYLDE Side" at Luther College. It is important



Synod Assembly
The Synod will meet in Assembly at Luther College June 7-9.



Summer Camps
All Summer our outdoor ministries will be offering great programs for children of all ages. Don't forget to promote [Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp](#) and [EWALU Camp](#)

to pay attention to the date Monday, June 17, 2013 because the fee for registrations received after that date will be much more expensive!

So, help your congregation's families by getting the youth signed up plenty early. All the information you need is [here](#).

Remember that each congregation may send an additional "voting member" to the Assembly if that member is a youth (High school age). It is also true that any or all of the regular voting members may also be youth. Ms. Alison Northrop will attend the assembly to shepherd the youth who wish to gather together when the assembly is not in session. Youth may also attend the Assembly as visitors but they do need to register. All the information and registration materials for the assembly are [here](#).

[and Retreat Center](#) to the families in your congregation. Our camps offer traditional camping, family camp, day camp, houseboating, Ranch camp, Ropes Courses, high adventure trips, and all this with a big dose of Bible study and worship.

Upcoming Events

June 6

Youth Worker Meeting
St John, Cedar Falls

July 21-28

WIYLDE
Luther College

2014

March 22-23

LYO High School Assembly
Ewalu Bible Camp

2014 LYO Assembly - March 22-23, 2014

[EWALU](#) will be the host for the 2014 LYO Assembly. Please put this date on your calendar and when you are ready, yes, the registration forms are available [here](#).

Sincerely,

Mark Anderson

Northeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA

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