

Happy Father's Day



Children, Youth and Family Ministry News

June 2013

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In a few days the Synod will meet in Assembly at Luther College. We are one of very few Synods which allow congregations an extra vote if they bring a high school student as a voting member. Why? We feel that the perspective of youth is very important and this guarantees that there will be an opportunity for their full participation. Because they are full voting members, there is no "Youth Convo" like other Synods offer. We also do not ask the youth to provide child care or serve meals or other tasks. We are very intent on treating them as full members of the Assembly. However, it is true that youth do like to hang out with people their own age and are not always equally entertained by the recreational activities planned for the Assembly members. Therefore, Ms. Alison Northrop will serve a kind of informal leader shepherding the youth attending the Assembly. If you are sending teenagers to the Synod Assembly tell them to look for Alison and she'll help them to meet the other youth present. If your congregation does not send any youth to the Synod Assembly now would be a good time to ask why not?

Keep In Touch,
Mark

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Synod

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Welcome!

Please welcome Ms. Holly O'Brien who is now serving at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Cresco and Mr. Kyle Jaeger who is serving at St. John's in Guttenberg. Mr. Alex Krumm has joined that staff at Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp in Story City as the Assistant Program Director.

New Resources!

There is a new set of resources on line from [Lutheran Suicide Prevention Ministry](#). "Click" on "Prevention

A Reprint

Here is a re-print from the congregational newsletter from Saint John in Waukon. It helps us to remember why we do what we do.

Class of 2013 Speaks

Senior Sunday has become a tradition eagerly looked forward to by the members of the congregation and the radio community. On this day members of the senior class assist in the readings and speak to the congregation. Laughter is mixed with tears as seniors take the podium to speak. Senior Sunday 2013 was no exception. As always the readers did a wonderful job and the speakers reminded everyone of what St. John's does for the youth. A few of the comments capture the appreciation of all youth:

This is an amazing congregation - thank you for being a big part of my life

Sunday school teachers helped me realize I love to learn and to teach

This congregation taught me about caring for others

Colorado - what a great Christian experience

Getting up for church is a habit that will carry though my life

Everyone is so supportive here

Together we explored all of the nooks and crannies of the church

Thank you for allowing me to attend Bible camp which helped me grow in my relationship with God

Climbing to the top of the mountains in Colorado brought me physically closer to God, but also closer spiritually to God

There is always someone here I can talk to

Shout out to the Sunday school teachers who put up with us

People of this church are role models for us

I stand before you and remember my faith

You have helped shape me into who I am today

The opportunities provided by the church have

Resources" to get links to many resources including a 6 video series on You tube on Mental Illness, Depression, Substance Abuse ready to use in your congregation.

2015 ELCA Youth Gathering

As the Gathering approaches it's time to study up on Detroit. This article from the [New York Times](#) gives some insight on city's financial woes.

This heartwarming story from [ABC](#) tells about an amazing example of social investment in the design and manufacture of the "sleeping bag coat."



WARNING! The Early bird discount deadline for WIYLDE is fast approaching! After June 17, 2013 the tuition goes UP and the scholarship

helped me grow

Thank you St. John's for your care of our young people.

Upcoming Events

June 6	Youth Worker Meeting St John, Cedar Falls
July 21-28	WIYLDE Luther College
August 1	Youth Worker Meeting First Lutheran, Northwood
September 5	Youth Worker Meeting Synod office, Waverly
October 3	Youth Worker Meeting Trinity, Mason City
November 7	Youth Worker Meeting St. Petri, Story City
December 5	Youth Worker Meeting Redeemer, Waverly
2014	
January 9	Youth Worker Meeting Immanuel, Cresco
February 6	Youth Worker Meeting St John, Guttenberg
March 6	Youth Worker Meeting Decorah, Decorah
March 22-23	LYO High School Assembly Ewalu Bible Camp
April 3	Youth Worker Meeting

goes DOWN so please encourage your participants to get registered. On line registration is [here](#).

Running From Malaria

3 guys...350 miles...21 days ~ Running from Malaria is a youth-led project to raise awareness and funds to end Malaria! The boys, including our own Scott Van Daalen, will run across Iowa to bring awareness to the fight against Malaria. You can see where they will be stopping and bring your congregation to meet them, encourage them and even run with them for while. See their [web page](#) and their [Facebook page](#).

Holy Trinity, Dubuque

May 1

Youth Worker Meeting
Bethlehem, Cedar Falls

June 5

Youth Worker Meeting
Salem, Lake Mills