



Northeastern Iowa Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Children, Youth and Family Ministry Newsletter

July 2014
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Lutheran Youth Organization Network

The Lutheran Youth Organization is getting a makeover! We want to empower and equip youth of the Northeastern Iowa Synod to be leaders in their congregations so congregations can have the best youth ministry they are able to have. In order to achieve this, we have changed the structure of the LYO.

The LYO is no longer an event planning board. It is now the Lutheran Youth Organization Network (LYON). It will focus on teaching leadership skills to those youth interested in being part of this network. We will continue to have monthly meetings. Each meeting will have three components: Bible study, conversations around their own personal life and ministry, and teaching on leadership skills.

LYON will still help with the Middle School Lock In that is held in October. We are also looking at still having a high school event in the late winter/early spring. More information will be coming on that soon.

After each monthly meeting, an email will be sent out to pastors and/or youth workers of those students involved letting them know what was discussed and how they can help those youth incorporate those ideas in their congregations.

The leadership skills and topics will include: How to invite others, what is personal stewardship, how to use social media, what does a personal devotional life look like, how to write and lead a Bible study, how to plan an event, how to lead prayer and pray in public, how to pray for someone, encouraging others, connecting church to the community, how to plan a service project and more.

All youth in grades 9-12 (starting in the 2014-2015 school year) are eligible to be part of this network. A Network Responsibility Description will be available in mid-July for youth to sign up to be part of this network. We are asking that those interested, sign up by August 15th.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Deb Bachman.

Grown Up Rally Day

When: Sunday, August 10th 3pm to 7pm

Where: Spiritual Life Center at Bremwood in Waverly

Who should come: Anyone who works with children and youth in their congregations. We will be talking about Sunday school, youth ministry ideas and the 2015 ELCA National Youth Gathering.

Cost: Nothing! This is a free event for all!

Schedule of the day:

3:00pm - Welcome

3:15pm - Practice Discipleship Trainings

Topics: Where is God? Framing Community

4:30pm - Rally Day Resources and Ideas; Youth Ministry Resources and Ideas

5:15pm - Meal (provided at no cost to you)

6:00pm - National Youth Gathering Update

7:00pm - Closing Prayer and Sending

Registration: Please register by **August 3rd** by emailing Deb Bachman at dbachman72@gmail.com.

If you have questions, you can also contact Deb Bachman.

National Youth Gathering Update

Here is a special welcome [video](#) from Presiding Bishop Eaton!

Have questions or want to know what others are doing? Check out [Gathering Leaks](#).



Registration soft opening (where you can access the online registration site to enter information) begins on September 15th. You can officially register for the Gathering on October 15th. We would recommend that you have your own congregational registration deadline in September so you have time to enter information before October. You will need your congregation's ID number to register.

We would also recommend that you start promoting and having meetings to talk to your students about the Gathering now or as soon as possible. Don't wait until September to talk to students about it. The ages that are eligible to attend are students who will be 8th graders through 12th grades in the 2014-2015 school year.

More information will be made available at the Grown Up Rally Day on August 10th. As soon as information is made available, we will pass it on to you!

Miscellaneous News

Job Posting for Youth and Family Director at First Lutheran in Algona, Iowa.

First Lutheran Church is seeking a Director for Youth and Family Ministry. He/she needs to be a self-starter and enjoys working with youth and families; works well with staff and volunteers; has the ability to initiate, organize and coordinate programming and events; is knowledgeable of and confident in working with the most recent media communication tools and other publicizing outlets to promote programs. Qualifications: B.A. degree in a related field and/or at least 2 or 3 years of relevant experience. Send resume to Pastor Marsha Smith at flcpastor@netamumail.com or by phone 515-295-3758.

The Name Gathering Project!

ELCA Lutheran campus ministries all across the country need the names of your new and returning college students. This is essential for our Lutheran outreach to them and support of them.

What you will need before submitting your college student information:

- Student's name
- Home address
- Phone number
- Email address
- College/university (city, state) where the student will be attending for the Fall 2014 semester
- Home congregation

When you have gathered that information, go the [Name Gathering Project!](#) and submit the information.

While there is not guarantee that your college student(s) will get involved in Lutheran campus ministry, be assured, they will be invited to "Come and see!" at least once.

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| July 21-26 | WIYLDE at Luther College, Decorah |
| August 7 | Youth Worker Network Meeting at Zion in Waterloo |
| August 10 | Grown Up Rally Day at Spiritual Life Center, Bremwood Waverly |
| September 4 | Youth Worker Network Meeting at Crossroads Parish in Osage |
| September 7 | God's Work, Our Hands Day
****Toolkit can be downloaded here |
| September 11 | Webinar: Framing Christian Community |
| October 2 | Youth Worker Network Meeting at Trinity in Mason City |
| October 9 | Webinar: Framing the Vision |
| October 10 | Middle School Lock In at UNI, Cedar Falls |
| November 6 | Youth Worker Network Meeting at St. Petri, Story City |
| November 13 | Webinar: Framing the Path |
| December 4 | Youth Worker Network Meeting at St John, Charles City |
| 2105 | |
| January 8 | Youth Worker Network Meeting at St Timothy's, Hudson |
| Jan 29-Feb.2 | ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extranvaganza, Detroit |
| March 5 | Youth Worker Network Meeting at Holy Trinity, Dubuque |

April 9	Youth Worker Network Meeting at Zion St John, Sheffield
May 7	Youth Worker Network Meeting in Decorah
June 4	Youth Worker Network Meeting at Synod Office, Waverly
July 15-19	ELCA National Youth Gathering in Detroit, Michigan

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