

Northern  
Great Lakes  
Synod

# Youth Ministry

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2006

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*"This synod supports congregational youth & family ministry through Christ-centered resources, ideas, & powerful ministry events."*

## THIS MONTH:

- Youth Ministry  
3-4-5
- Bits & Pieces
- Youth Ministry  
Calendar
- NGLS Junior  
High Retreat

## *A Guide to Youth Ministry: 3-4-5*

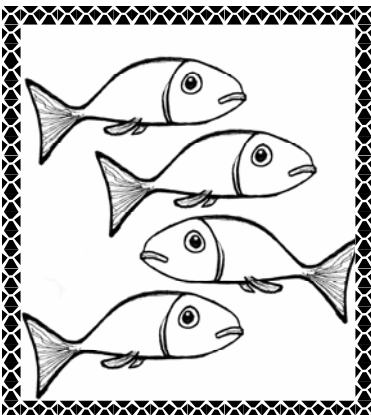
Last month we learned that "3", in the 3-4-5 Guide to Youth Ministry, stood for "Triple-A-Adult". A "AAA-Adult" is one who is Authentic, Affirming, and Available.

This month, we'll move into "4". The "4" stands for the Four Keys to Faith Formation. The Four Keys are:

- Caring Conversations
- Family Devotions
- Rituals and Traditions
- Service

As a "AAA-Adult", you need to take the time to have Caring Conversations with young people. Just learning their name and using it when you see them is a start—whether it's at church, at the grocery store, or at a school event. Once a relationship is established, conversation comes easier. Invite the young person to talk about their faith, encourage them to ask questions, help them understand that doubting is something we all do from time to time and that it's OK. Tell them stories of your own faith journey. But remember, don't be judgmental, give unsolicited advice, or tell them how they should or shouldn't feel. Be a good listener. Share your faith & values, and care for these young people! Caring Conversations go a long ways in young people's faith formation.

More detailed information on the 3-4-5 Guide to Youth Ministry can be found in the book, "Frogs Without Legs Can't Hear: Nurturing Disciples in Home and Congregation" by David Anderson and Paul Hill, published by Augsburg Fortress. It is also available to borrow from the synod. More next month...





# Bits & Pieces



**CONGRATULATIONS** to the new President of the NGLS Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO)!! Mariah Dzanbozoff of First Lutheran in Gladstone, MI, was elected by her peers during Leadership School August 7-11. Mariah will be representing our synod at the Council of Synod LYO President's meeting in Washington, D.C. in November. Larissa Larson, Trinity, Ishpeming will be the multi-cultural representative and Terri Shoquist, Our Saviour's, Iron Mt., will be the adult counselor.

**Special Thanks** to those adults who helped make this year's Leadership School possible: Small group leaders Melissa Aggen (FLLC summer staff), Alyssa Arseneau (Bethel, Ishpeming), Matt Monroe (Holy Trinity, Chassell), Pat Pfahler (Ascension, Waukesha), Terri Shoquist (Our Saviour's, Iron Mt.), and Erin Thomas (First Gladstone); Chris Campbell (Our Saviour's, Iron Mt.) who served as our "DJ" at the dance; Tim Tahtinen (Ascension, Waukesha) who served as our Co-Director; Bishop Skrenes who was the speaker (and photographer!) at our banquet; and Pastor Philip Johnson and the other staff members of Finlandia University for all their help, support, and for making us feel welcome. Blessings to all in your continued ministry!

**Save The Date!! December 3-4, 2006 in Marquette, Michigan.** "Shaping Future Leaders" theological conference for all rostered persons in our synod and lay leaders who are involved in youth ministry. The Rev. Dr. Roland Martinson of Luther Seminary will be our presenter. Dr. Martinson is an expert on youth & family ministry in the ELCA. Don't miss this top-notch event in our synod!

**Host Churches are needed** for LYO (Lutheran Youth Organization) meetings. We are looking for churches to host one overnight meeting from Sat. evening through Sun. morning worship (we meet several times per year throughout the synod). We need several sleeping rooms, a TV/DVD player, and a light breakfast. If you are willing to host us, please contact Wendy Black. Thanks!



## YOUTH MINISTRY CALENDAR

### OCTOBER

13-15 SPUNGE Training, FLLC

### NOVEMBER

3-4 NGLS Jr. High Retreat, FLLC

9-12 Council of Synod LYO Presidents  
Washington, D.C.

17-19 SPUNGE Training, Lutherdale  
Bible Camp, Elkhorn, WI

### DECEMBER

3-4 "Shaping Future Leaders" Theological  
Conference, Marquette, MI

8-10 SPUNGE Training, Sugar Creek  
Bible Camp, Ferryville, WI

### JANUARY

12-14 SPUNGE Training, Luther Point  
Bible Camp, Grantsburg, WI

*Just a reminder...*

## NGLS Junior High Fall Retreat

Friday & Saturday, Nov. 3 & 4, 2006  
Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp

*We'll have Bible study, music,  
a campfire, outdoor games,  
small groups led by NGLS-LYO,  
and worship.*

*Watch for registration  
information arriving in your  
congregation this month!*