

Northern
Great Lakes
Synod

Youth Ministry

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

THIS MONTH:

- 3-4-5 Guide to Youth Ministry
- Bits & Pieces
- Youth Ministry Calendar
- "Shaping Future Leaders" Conference

A Guide to Youth Ministry: 3-4-5

3 stands for "Triple-A-Adult" - Authentic, Affirming, and Available.

4 stands for the Four Keys to Faith Formation. The Four Keys are:

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

Last month we talked about Caring Conversations. This month our topic is Family Devotions. For most families, "God stuff" is done almost exclusively in the congregational setting. It is not enough! People need to experience God in a life of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving both at church **AND** at home.

Congregations should play a major role in providing resources and instruction so that families know how to have a devotional life at home. They need to model, teach, and encourage their members to develop a worship life for Monday through Saturday.

There are many resources available for family devotions. Your synod has ideas for encouraging and teaching families how to pass on the faith to the next generation. And remember, "families" isn't necessarily defined by a mother, father, and 2.5 children! A "family" can be whatever group you are a part of, whether it's the people who live with you at home, your circle of friends, the committee that you may be a part of, the church council, the youth group, etc. A "family" will become closer and stronger if they pray for one another and share God with each other.

For more on the 3-4-5 Guide to Youth Ministry see "Frogs Without Legs Can't Hear: Nurturing Disciples in Home and Congregation" by David Anderson and Paul Hill, published by Augsburg Fortress. Next month "Rituals and Traditions"...





Bits & Pieces

Are you a pastor, youth director, or volunteer who needs a boost in your ministry to young people? Consider attending the **ELCA Youth Ministry Network Continuing Education Extravaganza** for some excellent learning opportunities, as well as uplifting worship, nationally-known speakers & musicians, and a chance to network with others from across the country who are doing the same things you are! The Extravaganza will be held Feb. 1-5 in Tampa, FL. Scholarships are available! For more information, contact Wendy Black or go to: www.elcaymnet.org

Don't forget to mark your calendars now for:

MARKED!

with the Cross of Christ forever

A brand new annual event for confirmation classes!

It is an opportunity for your confirmands to hang out with our Bishop—and an opportunity for him to hang out with them. There will be two events:

Sunday, April 15 in the Minocqua, WI area &

Sunday, April 22 in the Marquette, MI area.

Both events will be from 4:30—7:00 (local times).

Please save the dates now for your confirmation class schedule!

YOUTH MINISTRY CALENDAR

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

FEBRUARY

1-5 ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza, Tampa, Florida

9-11 SPUNGE Training, Luther Park Bible Camp, Chetek, WI

You won't want to miss the Northern Great Lakes Synod's

Theological Conference

"Shaping Future Leaders"

December 3-4, 2006 Ramada Inn, Marquette, MI



The presenter will be the Rev. Dr. Roland D. Martinson of Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. Dr. Martinson will be sharing results from the study of Exemplary Congregations in youth ministry. Each participant will receive a complimentary copy of **COMING OF AGE: EXPLORING THE IDENTITY AND SPIRITUALITY OF YOUNGER MEN**

(Martinson, Hill, & Anderson). Registration brochures have recently been mailed to all congregations or you can find it at:

www.nglsynod.org