



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

North/West Lower Michigan Synod
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Congregation Newsletter Insert - September 2010

Pray for Living Water

He led diligently for eight years our camping, conference, and retreat ministry expressed at Michi-Lu-Ca and Stony Lake and now too at the annual Gathering for our young people. We give thanks to God for Dan Smith whom we “found” in Papua New Guinea nine years ago and now bid Godspeed as he begins in September his work as director of the YMCA in Cadillac. He leaves Living Water Ministries in remarkable health. Please pray for LWM and particularly for the Board, Pastors David Sprang, Jack Eggleston, and Lauren Miller, and Bishop Schleicher as they take a deep breath and commence the search for Dan’s successor.

Part of Living Water Ministries’ health is in finding creative, enjoyable ways people can be supportive. Consider this opportunity:



Golf for God

Fundraiser to Benefit Living Water Ministries

Living Water Ministries will hold its first annual benefit golf outing called “Golf for God” on Monday, September 20, 2010! This year’s golf outing will be held at Tyler Creek Golf Course in Alto, MI. The outing begins at 1:00 pm, and includes 2 rounds of 18 holes, an appreciation dinner immediately following, and prizes. Each golfer will play 2 balls per hole, totaling 72 holes of golf each.

Golfers are required to sponsor themselves for \$1 per hole (\$72 total) and solicit donors to sponsor their play in a similar fashion. Solicited donations can be made per hole (i.e. \$1 per hole or more) or as lump sums. Living Water Ministries is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and gifts are tax deductible.

For golfers who raise a total of \$2,000 or more, a drawing for a grand prize will be held on the day of the outing. Also, this first annual *Golf for God* outing will host a \$10,000 hole-in-one prize hole, with other prizes awarded for a hole-in-one on any other par 3 hole.

We are actively seeking golfers, volunteers, and sponsors. We are also seeking congregations to sponsor a hole on the course with a donation of \$100. Sponsoring congregations will get a flag placed at each hole with their church logo/contact information on it. Contact C.J. Clark at (231) 861-4138 or stonylake@elcalivingwater.com if you are interested in supporting this event in any way.

“Greening our Spirits, Greening our Congregations”

October 8-10, 2010 - Camp Michi-Lu-Ca, 3506 Garling Rd, Fairview, MI 48621

Come, and be empowered by God’s Holy Spirit and the fellowship of other Lutherans who share a deep love and concern for God’s creation! This will be the 2nd annual “greening congregations” retreat hosted by the North/West Lower Michigan Synod’s EarthKeeping Opportunities (EKO) Team, to offer a special time of renewal, encouragement, and support for leading or maintaining congregational earthkeeping efforts.

This retreat would be especially helpful for representatives of congregational “green teams” OR for any clergy/laity who are interested in forming some kind of creation care group in their church. The retreat will feature facilitated discussions and the sharing of helpful ideas & resources, along with time for walks and reflection on the camp’s themed trails.

Registration fee: \$75 for four meals & 2 nights’ lodging. The camp offers a rustic and beautiful setting; participants should bring their own towels, bedding, etc. The retreat will begin Friday evening and conclude with worship and sending by about noon on Sunday.

Registration Deadline: Sept 24, 2010

For more information, contact Diaconal Minister Kim Winchell at kwinchelldm@aol.com. Some registration scholarships may be available; contact Kim if interested. To register, visit www.elcalivingwater.com or call 989-848-2230 for information about the camp setting and accommodations.

“And you shall be my witnesses....”

Pastor Roger Hardy, Director for Evangelical Mission

I am praying for the Mission Support Consultations that begin in September and ask that congregations and leaders pray for God’s love and grace to guide us in offering up our tithes and offerings. Congregations who still need resource persons for the Sunday they will emphasize stewardship education are invited to contact me at (517) 321-5066 or rogerhardy@mittensynod.org.

Sunrise Conference

Congregations in the Sunrise Conference (listed below) are invited to emphasize stewardship education on Sunday, September 19. On Monday, September 20, Bishop Schleicher will meet with rostered and lay leaders from 10:00am to 12:30pm at Grace Lutheran Church, 119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI.

- Grace, Alpena
- St. Paul, Alpena
- Trinity, Barton City
- St. Thomas, Cheboygan
- St. Matthew, Herron
- Hope, Hubbard Lake
- Trinity, Millersburg
- Hope-St. John, Oscoda
- Leer, Posen
- St. James, Rogers City
- St. John, Rogers City
- New Life, Spruce
- Spruce, Spruce

Traverse Conference

Congregations in the Traverse Conference (listed below) are invited to emphasize stewardship education on Sunday, September 26. On Monday, September 13, Bishop Schleicher will meet with rostered and lay leaders from 9:30am to 12:00pm at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1050 Peninsula Dr., Traverse City, MI.

- Feast of Victory, Acme
- Evangelical, East Jordan
- Calvary, Elk Rapids
- Trinity, Frankfort
- Peace, Gaylord
- St. John, Grayling
- Bethany, Kaleva
- Advent, Lake Ann
- Trinity, Manton
- Bethany, Northport
- Cross of Christ, Petoskey
- Messiah, Roscommon
- Immanuel, Suttons Bay
- Bethlehem, Traverse City