

July 10, 2018

News from Around the Synod

HEADLINES

2018 ELCA Youth Gathering Recap

The 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering- This Changes Everything was held June 27-July 1 in Houston, Texas at the NRG Park.

About 30,000 youth and adult leaders from across the country were in attendance and participated in many activities and discussions. The attendees were involved in a service day, an interaction center day, and a Synod day, where they learned about different ministries and discussed current issues.

Each day concluded with mass gatherings where the theme of "This Changes Everything" was the focus. "This" was represented by a new idea each day, such as: God's Call, God's Love, God's Grace, God's Hope, and, on Sunday, the theme was Jesus Changes Everything.

To learn more about the Youth Gathering visit [their Facebook page](#). To view any of the videos from the event, visit [their YouTube page](#).



GIVE NOW

Help financially support the mission and ministries of the Nebraska Synod.

Give to the Annual Fund!

As we move forward in our effort to create a Culture of Philanthropy within the Synod, I was reminded of a quote by a fellow Resource Development colleague, "To be philanthropic, you must give without requiring something in return....". Scripture also bears out this concept and adds that we should give with a "cheerful heart".

Our Annual Fund this year, and for years to come, will focus on this concept. Gifts to the fund will go for general support, not specific areas of ministry. This means we can use these dollars where they are needed most at that moment, allowing us to be quick to meet immediate opportunities as well as fund new ministries as needed.

Gifts may be given as a one-time cash gift or as a monthly donation. Gifts can be made on-line at: www.nebraskasynod.org.

Click on GIVE NOW.

Your passion for ministry and support of the Nebraska Synod is a great testament to your love for Christ and the church.

Thank you!

QUICK LINKS

Drinking From the Well

Are you looking for a way to expand and deepen your faith? Do you think God might be inviting you into a closer relationship? Then consider participating in the Drinking From the Well program.

Drinking From the Well is the newest ministry from the Seeking the Spirit Within: The Institute for Spiritual Direction Formation from the Nebraska Synod. Registration for the 2018-19 program are currently being accepted. For more information or to register click on [this link](#).

Nebraska Synod News

To view more stories from around the Synod or to see previous Walking With Grace issues, visit [our website](#).

MINISTRY RESOURCES

Transformational Ministry

Is your congregation ready to engage in Transformational Ministry? You might be if:

- the congregation recognizes that doing church the same way is not working and is looking for a new way to move forward together into the future.
- the congregation wants to find new energy, purpose and direction using God's Word, prayer, conversation and faith practices.
- the congregation is ready to link the gifts that God has given it with God's vision for the world.
- the congregation is interested in identifying new ways the congregation can connect with its neighborhood and community.
- the congregation wishes to learn how to navigate change calmly, confidently and effectively.
- the congregation is willing to engage in four weekend workshops during a two-year long process that will equip, support and encourage renewal and growth in the congregation.

The main goals of Transformational Ministry are to connect your congregation more deeply to God, to each other, and to the world outside your doors. A congregational team will be accompanied by a coach to help you achieve individualized goals, equipping you with tools along the way. The next opportunity to begin this Transformational Ministry journey will be at First Lutheran in Lincoln on Saturday, August 4, 2018 from 9am to 4pm. Cost for registration is \$40 per person, which includes breakfast, lunch, snack, and all materials. Please contact Rich or Rebecca Sheridan, Nebraska Synod Evangelists, at



CELEBRATIONS & REMEMBRANCES

Prayers for:

- [Monthly Prayer List](#)

FOR LEADERS

- [Congregations and Rostered Leaders in Transition](#)
- [The Parish Paper](#)
- [2018 Transmittal Form](#)
- [Pulpit Supply](#)
- [Season of Hope](#)
- [Lenten Resources](#)

CAREERS

- [For Careers visit the Nebraska Synod Website](#)

EXCHANGE

For more info on items being offered, visit [The Exchange](#) on the Nebraska Synod website.

ENDOWMENT FUND

evangelism@nebraskasynod.org for more information. Download a brochure at www.nebraskasynod.org/outreach.

Other Ministry Resources

- [Transformational Ministry](#) -trainings for congregations
- [Renewal Grants](#)
- [One Another Grant Proposals](#)
- [Buck the Trend: A Curriculum for responding to Hunger & Poverty](#)
- [Reformation 500th Anniversary resources](#) -events & materials
- [Faith, Sexism, Justice resources](#) -brochures, forms, & other materials
- [Drinking from the Well](#) -spiritual direction information
- [ELCA Go & Do News](#) & World Hunger [Synod Cumulative Giving](#)
- [Mission Field Nebraska](#)
- [Center for Rural Affairs](#)
- [ALOA grants](#)
- [Lombard Mennonite Peace Center Trainings](#)
- [Mileage Reimbursements & Visitation Reporting Update](#)
- [World Hunger Domestic Hunger Grants \(applications now open\)](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Foundations of Christian Leadership 2018

Are you a leader in justice, community, education or church ministry? Are you seeking colleagues to inspire creativity and build skills to further your mission? Join us for Foundations of Christian Leadership offered by Leadership Education at Duke Divinity. EXPERIENCE:

- Leadership assessments and personalized feedback
- Multidisciplinary faculty seasoned in theological reflection and organizational science
- Diverse, collaborative and encouraging learning community
- Worship, conversation, skill development, and time to reflect
- Eligibility for a \$3,500 grant to fund a project for your organization

Two four-day in-person sessions

PROGRAM COST: \$150 (thanks to a generous gift from the Lilly Endowment Inc.)

Houston, TX:

Session 1: October 22-25, 2018; Session 2: January 28-31, 2019

Application due: August 22, 2018

CONTACT: María Teresa Gastón at mtgaston@div.duke.edu 919-613-5355 (Hablo español).

LEARN MORE: [Explore FOCL](#). TO APPLY- [click here](#).

Has God blessed you?

The abundance God gives me is not so I can live in luxury, it is so that I can help others live!

As you consider how you can “raise your standard of giving” and express your gratitude to God through your generosity, please give to the Nebraska Synod Endowment Fund. It will have a perpetual impact, and will never stop advancing the Gospel!

Please click on [this link](#) to give to the Endowment Fund.

Thank you for your gifts!

\$1000 Scholarship Available

Beta Sigma Psi has a scholarship available to Lutheran men attending

the University of Nebraska Lincoln in the fall. Our

fraternity is dedicated to helping one another grow spiritually in their faith as they attend college.

For more information and

an application, contact our recruitment chair at (308) 830-1582 or by email at connorsears0@gmail.com.

The application deadline is on September 1st.



Partnership Day of Celebration

August 5th is a day of celebration for the partnership between the Nebraska Synod and the Northern Diocese of Tanzania. We would like to ask all Nebraska congregations to lift up this partnership in the prayers of the church on this day of celebration.

NEBRASKA SYNOD EVENTS

- Oct. 8-18, 2018- **Argentina Accompaniment Trip**
- Oct. 29-31, 2018- Theo Con
- Nov. 9, 2018- Freed For Life Banquet @ Sheridan Lutheran, Lincoln
5:30pm
- Nov. 16-18, 2018- LYON Assembly @ Carol Joy Holling

YOU ARE INVITED

Lutheran Volunteer Corps Brews for Justice

Come have a drink with the Lutheran Volunteer Corps at “Brews for Justice.” Support LVC by joining us on Tuesday, July 10th from 6-8pm at Thunderhead Brewing – 13304 W. Center Rd. in Omaha. Meet our current volunteers, share some drinks and appetizers, and bid in our silent auction. Tickets are \$35 for recent alumni, \$45 if registered by June 30, and \$50 for those registering after June 30 or at the door. Register online at - action.lutheranvolunteercorps.org/brews_for_justice_omaha or

contact Scott Glaser at Omaha.dev@lutheranvolunteercorps.org or (720) 218-5112.



MOSAIC is pleased to present

INCLUSION MATTERS

A deeper dive into community connections, civil rights and social justice for people with intellectual disabilities

Tuesday, July 17, 2018
7:00 p.m. | Ice Cream Social
7:15 p.m. | Presentation, followed by Q&A



Featuring Ronnie Polaneczky
Award-winning journalist for Philadelphia Daily News and The Philadelphia Inquirer and 2015 Eugene C. Pulliam Journalism Fellow

This event is open to the public and will be held at the Omaha Hilton, 1001 Cass St., Omaha, NE.
RSVP to Jaime Corsar at jaime.corsar@mosaicinfo.org or 402.896.3884 x31106 by Tuesday, July 10.

- Lutheran Episcopal Volunteer Network is looking for Volunteers ages 21-30 for more information visit levn.org
- July 10, 2018- LVC Brews for Justice
- July 17, 2018- Award-Winning Journalist **Ronnie Polaneczky to Speak on Community Connections & Social Justice for People with Intellectual Disabilities** @ the Hilton Downtown Omaha, 7pm. The event is open to the public.
- Aug. 11, 2018- **Creation Care Workshop** @ Reformation Lutheran, Wichita, KS
- Sept. 22, 2018- Youth Ministry Event @ St. Thomas, Omaha 8:30am
- Oct. 4, 2018- **Tabitha's Signature Event** @5:30pm Country Club of Lincoln, Lincoln
- Oct. 8-23, 2018- **Interfaith Pilgrimage to Israel**
- Oct. 26-28, 2018- **Men's Retreat** Camp Chrysalis TX
- Nov. 3-17, 2018- Luther Wittenburg, 18th **International Seminar**
- Feb. 9, 2019- Omaha Rings! Handbell Festival & Worship @ St. Thomas Lutheran, Omaha

Click on the links provided for more information on the listed events.

YOUTH MINISTRY
LOCAL TRAINING 

GROWING SPIRITUAL GRIT IN TEENAGERS

The Strength They Need to
Do Tough Stuff

SAVE THE DATE!

Plan now to bring your youth ministry team to Group's 2018
Youth Ministry Local Training

Join us for a half day of training focused on creating a ministry environment that naturally grows grit in teenagers while helping them tap into the "core strength" found in the heart of Jesus.

Mark your calendar and plan now to bring your team this fall!

Cost: As low as \$29.95 per person

When: Saturday, September 22, 2018 from 8:30a-12:30p

**Where: St. Thomas Lutheran Church
17007 Q Street
Omaha, NE 68135**

Learn more and register at group.com/growinggrit or call 866-894-9810



communications@nebraskasynod.org



www.nebraskasynod.org

Nebraska Synod ELCA

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