Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During the past year, many of you heard me tell stories meant to illustrate some aspect of our new reality as church. I take this opportunity to share one of those stories with all our readers of our Notes & Quotes Synod newsletter.

When I had first graduated from college, I became a Youth Director at a church in East St. Paul, MN. It was only part-time, so to supplement our income, I found a job at JCPenney’s for two evenings a week and every other weekend. Because I was already a Youth Director, I requested that on Sundays I be given permission to arrive late for my Penney’s shift, since I needed to be in worship.

So my first day of work, I am given a nametag. Lo, and behold, the nametag not only has my name on it, but also the title, Fashion Specialist. That I was a specialist in anything was news to me. Apparently, because my shoes matched at the interview, I had been granted this elevated status. Never mind that I had not been trained in fashion and I had no idea how to tie the currently in vogue neck scarves that were so popular in the early 90’s. As I greeted customers and asked, “Can I help you?” I realized that the ladies who shopped at Penney’s believed that I knew what I was doing, simply because my nametag said so.

I pretended until I actually knew something. Over time, I gained confidence dispensing fashion advice about skirt length and style, colors and seasonal palettes.

I also realized, that even though my nametag didn’t say this, my co-workers knew I was a churchgoer. Because I showed up late on Sundays, they knew
Our faith is meant to make a difference, both in who we are and how we are with others. I do believe there is value and blessing in having our faith be as visible to the world as a nametag, even if you don’t feel fully equipped or qualified to embody all that that means. Even if we do not wear a nametag that proclaims our faith, when our lives show it, people are drawn to the light of Christ that shines through you. Do not be afraid to speak about how you think God works in the world, or about prayer, or about your own doubts and hopes and convictions. I believe you are more capable than you know. God bless your conversations of faith.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan

TRANSITIONS

+Pastor Brenda Greenwald was ordained by Bishop Finegan on July 14, 2019 at Bethany Lutheran Church in Cherry Hills, Colorado. She accepted the call as Minister of Word and Sacrament to St. Stephen’s, Stephenson and Gethsemane, Wallace. May God bless their ministry together!

+Pastor-Elect Molly Eversoll has begun her ministry as Associate Pastor at Messiah, Marquette! She will be ordained on August 3, 2019 by Bishop Finegan.
TRANISITIONS continued...

We say goodbye to:

+ Pastor Jim Wendt and family, who was serving Our Savior’s, Marinette. He has accepted a call to First Lutheran Church in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin.

+ Pastor Ken Ranos and family, who was serving Faith, Three Lakes. Pastor Ranos has accepted a call to Bethlehem Lutheran in Indianapolis, Indiana.

God’s blessings to these families in their new locations!

Aug 5-10 Churchwide Assembly in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Sep 8 God’s Work, Our Hands Sunday

Sep 20 Synodical Women’s Organization’s (SWO) Convention at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp

Sep 20-22 SWO’s Retreat at FLLC

Sep-Nov Walking Together Events

Oct 6-8 Fall Theological Retreat for Clergy, LLM’s, and Spouses at Mackinac Island.

Conf. 1: Sun. Oct. 20, 2-5:30 pm All Saints, Wakefield

Conf. 2: Sun. Sep. 22, 4-7 pm Holy Trinity, Chassell

Conf. 3: Sat. Oct. 26, 9-11:30 am Prince of Peace, Eagle River

Con. 4: Sat. Oct. 19, 9-11:30 am Bethany, Norway

Conf. 5: Thur. Oct. 17, 5:30-8 pm Gethsemane, Wallace

Conf. 6: Thur. Oct. 24, 5:30–8 pm Immanuel, Escanaba

Conf. 7: Sat. Oct 5, 11:15 am-2:30 pm Zion, St. Ignace

Conf. 8: Thur. Nov 7, 5:30-8 pm Bethany, Ishpeming

Fall Theological Conference/Retreat for Clergy, LLM’s, and Spouses at Mission Point, Mackinac Island October 6-8th, 2019

Registration Deadline: August 31, 2019

Must be received in Synod Office by this date.

For more information, go to www.nglsynod.org, scroll down to upcoming events and download the brochure and/or registration form.
“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday

is Sunday, September 8, 2019. This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace.

You work every day to make your community a better place. Let us continue doing this work together in 2019! To view the video and access resources to guide your congregation’s planning, promotion and more, go to www.elca.org and type “God’s Work. Our Hands. Sunday” in the search box in the upper right hand corner of ELCA’s home page.

Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp
FALL Fest

Saturday, October 5, 2019

Quilt & Fine Arts Auction
Events start at 9:00 a.m. CT

To view the full schedule of events, go to www.nglsynod.org, scroll down to Upcoming Events and click the link.
How does the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—our national denominational affiliation) view the Bible? According to our constitution (based on the ELCA model constitution) section C2.02:

“The canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the written Word of God. Inspired by God’s Spirit speaking through their authors, they record and announce God’s revelation centering in Jesus Christ. Through them God’s Spirit speaks to us to create and sustain Christian faith and fellowship for service in the world.”

If we believe what our constitution says—that the Old and New Testaments are the written Word of God—we would do well to read that Bible and reflect upon the ways we can approach that reading and interpretation task.
Most of you probably believe that the Bible is important to Christianity, but there is an undeniable divergence in how Christians—and perhaps even non-Christians—use the Bible to think about ethical decisions in life.

I encourage you to read the Bible for yourselves. I encourage you to read biblical commentaries. I encourage you to join a Bible study group. I encourage you to humbly pray for discernment as the Christian community will continue to use biblical materials to make sense of life. If the Bible is to have any relevance for the Christian community, then Christians need to familiarize themselves with the “first language” of the faith.

Six of our synod’s congregations have committed to the Faithful Innovations process for personal and community spiritual growth. A major part of this process is reading and prayerfully reflecting on the Bible as individuals and with each other. We call it, “Dwelling in the Word”.

Please pray for:

Bethany, Mohawk
Trinity, Ishpeming
Faith, Ishpeming
First, Iron River
Trinity, Trout Creek
First, Ewen

Please pray for these congregations walking through the “Faithful Innovations” process and their reading and reflecting on God’s Word. Also, consider your own Bible reading habits. God is still speaking!

～ Pastor Jim Duehring

Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Colossians 3:16

Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Colossians 3:16

GOD STILL SPEAKS,
ARE YOU LISTENING?
Pastoral Vacancies and Interims

**Full-time**

Christ Lutheran Parish, Ironwood—Pastor Paul Heykes  
Grace, Pembine—Pastor Doug Johnson  
Immanuel, Escanaba—Pastor Dennis Meyette  
Christ the King, Escanaba—Pastor Tom Otis  
Bethany, Republic—Pastor Tom Wickstrom  
Faith, Sault Ste. Marie—Pastor Melinda VanderSys  
United, Crystal Falls/Bethany, Amasa—Pastor Dave Johnson  
Gloria Dei, Hancock—Pastor Peter Vorhes  
Zion, Manistique—Pastor Dennis Meyette  
Grace, Gwinn—Pastor Bre Kinnunen  
Zion, Allenville/Bethel, Cedarville—Rev. Renee MacLeod  
Our Savior’s, Marinette—Rev. Linda Forray  
Faith, Three Lakes—Rev. John Kuziej  
Mission United, Pelkie—Rev. D. J. Rasner

**Part-time**

Lutheran Campus Ministry (NMU), Marquette—Pastor Bre Kinnunen

“God gives because God loves. God gives to us because God loves us. And when we give our offerings to God as an act of worship we reflect that love. We love God back.” - Paul Tournier

We close the first half of 2019 with mission support gifts $7,143 or 2% below 2018. Congregations and the Synod face financial challenges, but within that challenge is the recognition of why we give. Our gifts for the work of the Church reflect the love God has shown us through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We love God back when we give generously, with a joyful heart, in the assurance that all we need will be provided. May we all reflect God’s love in our giving!

- Betsy Koski, Bookkeeper

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>As of 6/30</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>$ Change</th>
<th>% Change</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pledged Amount</td>
<td>813,739</td>
<td>804,474</td>
<td>-6,265</td>
<td>-.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount Received</td>
<td>351,579</td>
<td>344,436</td>
<td>-7,143</td>
<td>-2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated Gifts</td>
<td>109,659</td>
<td>93,738</td>
<td>-15,921</td>
<td>-14.6%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### PRAYFAITHFULLY

**DEVOTION SCHEDULE**  
**FOR August & September 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Devotion Leader</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 28-August 3</td>
<td>Chuck Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 4-10</td>
<td>Fortune Lake Camp Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 11-17</td>
<td>Carolyn Lawrence</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 18-24</td>
<td>Pastor John Kuziej</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 25-31</td>
<td>Evan Rein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 1-7</td>
<td>Michael Holman, LLM</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 8-14</td>
<td>Pastor Bill Jacobson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 15-21</td>
<td>Dawn Holmgren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 22-28</td>
<td>Pastor Terry Frankenstein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 29-October 5</td>
<td>Pastor Tammy Barthels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3 Ordination of Molly Eversoll in Roscoe, IL by Bishop Finegan

5-10 Churchwide Assembly in Milwaukee, WI

13 NGLS Staff Meeting at the Synod Office, 11 a.m.

14 Bi-Synodical Candidacy Meeting in Tomahawk, WI

15 Lay School for Mission/LLM Board Mtg at the Synod Office, 11 a.m. ET

and Marquette Young Adult Ministry Meeting at Messiah, Marquette, 2-4 p.m. ET

18-23 Mission Developer/DEM Meeting in Baltimore, MD (Pastor Duehring)

22 Leadership Support Committee Meeting at Trinity, Trout Creek, 10 a.m. ET

25 Companion Synod Committee Meeting at Messiah, Marquette, 3 p.m. ET

27 NGLS Staff Meeting at the Synod Office, 11 a.m.

28-29 Discovering Hope Committee Meeting (ELCA) in Chicago (Bishop Finegan)

2 Synod Office closed for Labor Day

4 World Hunger Committee Meeting at Bethlehem, Florence, 1 p.m. CT

4-5 Wisconsin Bishops and NGLS Bishop meet with Lutheran Social Service in Milwaukee, WI

6 Synod Office closed for Staff Day

7 Faithful Innovations Training at FLLC, 9 - 3 CT

8 ELCA’s “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday

10 NGLS Staff Meeting at the Synod Office, 11 a.m.

13-14 Synod Council Meeting at Bethel, Cedarville

17 Synod Assembly Planning Committee Meeting at the Synod Office, 11 a.m. ET

and Worship Committee Meeting at the Synod Office, 1 p.m. ET

18 Synod Finance Committee Meeting at the Synod Office, 11 a.m. ET

19 NGLS Staff meet with Portico Representative Jennifer Prinz, 1 p.m. ET

20-22 Synodical Women’s Organization Conference/Retreat at FLLC

22 “By Faith” Event at Finlandia University

and Walking Together Conference 2 Meeting at Holy Trinity, Chassell, 4 p.m. ET

25 Lutheran Campus Ministry Meeting at the Synod Office, 11 a.m. ET

25- Oct. 1 Conference of Bishops Gathering in Chicago
Always Being Made New
Messiah, Marquette
Michael & Vicky Mattila

Answer the Call/Fund for Leaders
St. James, Marinette
Immanuel, Rhinelander
Messiah, Marquette
Donna & Scott Hiltunen
Chad & Fay Mattila
Bethany, Republic
Orville & Susan Kabat
Cynthia Steikar
Ken & Fayda Mills
Grace Wurster
Immanuel, Rhinelander
Tom Perry
Ray Leverton
Jane Sims
Grace, Pembine
Sharon, Bessemer
All Saints, Wakefield
Bethany, (Perkins) Gladstone

Companion Synod Projects
St. Paul, Mass City
First, Gladstone

ELCA Disaster Relief
Messiah, Marquette
Christ Parish, Ironwood
Salem, Ironwood
Zion, Ironwood
Calvary, Minocqua
Ascension, Minocqua
Bethany, Amasa
Pioneer Lake, Conover
Grace, South Range
Sharon, Bessemer
Mission United, Pelkie
Bethany, Ishpeming

Lutheran Campus Ministry
Good Shepherd, Peshtigo
Faith, Rock – NMU
Grace, Gwinn – NMU
Prince of Peace, Marquette - NMU

Lutheran Social Services
Emanuel, Skandia
Trinity, Ishpeming

Lutheran World Relief
Zion, Marinette
Salem, Ironwood
Holy Trinity, Chassell
Calvary, Minocqua

Missionary Sponsorship
Trinity, Rhinelander
Mission United, Pelkie

NGLS Endowment Fund
Rev. Kay Richter
Ann Christiansen

NGLS Leadership Support
Bethany, Norway
Good Shepherd, Peshtigo

NGLS Mission Outreach
Dora Jane Swanson

NGLS Seminarian Support
Zion, St. Ignace
Prince of Peace, Marquette
Faith, Rock
United, Crystal, Falls

Skogman Scholarship
Dirk & Sue Manson
Bishop Em. Dale & Jo Skogman

Skrenes Fund for Ministry
Bishop Em. Tom & Luanne Skrenes
Jeffrey Skrenes
Jeremy & Kristen Skrenes
What do “benevolence” and Mission Support mean?

A reflection by Virgil Gibson, an ELCA member from Gettysburg, PA

I’ve been thinking about this lately, and it caused me to look back at my orientation and education as an adult convert to Christianity and Lutheranism. I had an intuitive sense that someone paid to get that Navy chaplain in that place to meet me at the right time. I knew that all the really remarkable work that went on in Jesus’ name in the world required money to make it happen, but nobody seemed interested in telling me about it. When I first experienced a stewardship campaign, most of the talk was about the congregation’s needs, so I still didn’t make a full connection that we had partners “out there” in the world. I wondered about the budget line that said “District Fair Share,” which later became “Benevolence Apportionment,” but it didn’t ring any bell for me.

So let’s look at what Webster says:

Webster’s Dictionary: benevolence

1. benevolence (noun): the disposition to do good; good will; charitableness; love of mankind, accompanied with a desire to promote their happiness

2. benevolence (noun): an act of kindness; a good deed done; charity given

3. benevolence (noun): a species of compulsory contribution or tax, which has sometimes been exacted by arbitrary kings of England and falsely represented as a gratuity

So that’s it! Compulsory contribution – if you want to play in the game, you have to bring some of the chips! Didn’t have much appeal did it?
If that’s how we speak of the wonderful opportunity to participate in Jesus’ mission in the world, I’m afraid it will leave many folks flat. So what’s in a name you may ask? I’d say it is everything.

So, let’s hear how the ELCA describes it:

**Mission Support frequently asked questions**

**Q:** What is Mission Support? I’ve heard this term used, but I’m not sure what it means.

**A:** As members of the ELCA, we do mission together through our financial giving. We do God’s work in ways that no individual, congregation or synod can do alone. Mission Support is the portion of your weekly financial offering that your congregation shares with your synod and the churchwide organization, the other two expressions of this church.

“Mission” is a broad term used to describe all the ministries of this church, not just those involving ELCA missionaries who work with our Lutheran partners around the world. “Support” is the portion of members’ offerings that makes all ELCA ministries possible, here at home and abroad.

Mission Support is the way that Lutherans experience sharing Jesus’ message of love around the world; it is the lifeblood of the work that God does through the ELCA, providing almost 80 percent of budgeted support for our ministries.

Now that sounds more like it!

Maybe we need to be telling our friends how they can be part of Jesus’ undying message to the world. From my viewpoint, it is part of the great, good news that Jesus has come into the world and that it needs to be boldly proclaimed at every congregational budget meeting, every new-member class, and every confirmation class. This is how we are making known the marvelous news that God is among us.
An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” (Matthew 2:13)

And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” (Matthew 8:20, Luke 9:58)

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The gospels recount the story of Jesus as a migrant, in need of welcome and reception. And Jesus identifies with every wanderer, every displaced person, every refugee, asylum seeker and migrant, when he tells the crowd, “I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” (Matthew 25:35).

For 80 years, Lutherans in the United States have joined together to respond to God’s call to love the neighbor who comes to us as stranger and sojourner. Since 1939, LIRS (Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service) has led the Lutheran movement to welcome vulnerable migrants and refugees in America. Together we have equipped and supported over half a million new Americans, while advocating boldly for policies that protect those we serve. Meanwhile, as part of the AMMPARO strategy, 128 welcoming and sanctuary congregations in 35 synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America have committed to offering accompaniment to migrants in their communities.

This year’s Migrant and Refugee Sunday, which can be observed on any Sunday, comes at a critical moment in our nation’s history for welcoming the stranger. We are shutting our doors to refugees during the worst global migration crisis in recorded history. And we are jailing and separating mothers and children who are fleeing horrible situations in their home countries, seeking refuge at our borders. Each of these people, we know, is a beloved child of God; each of them is the stranger in whom we see the face of Jesus. And in each of them we are reminded of our calling to be bearers of welcome and hope as we receive the stranger among us.

During this critical and unsettling time for migrants and refugees, we must live boldly into our Lutheran faith tradition and our legacy of courageous and compassionate welcome for those who seek refuge in our communities. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America invite you to visit www.lirs.org/migrant-refugee-sunday and www.elca.org/ammparo for resources to support your congregation’s ministry of welcome. There you will find materials for preaching, prayers, bulletin inserts, study guides, and ideas for community gatherings and advocacy actions. These materials are seasonal, based on the Revised Common Lectionary, and are updated throughout the church year. We encourage you to explore these materials to determine how they can best support your congregation’s response to Christ’s call to welcome the stranger.

As you proclaim God’s care for the most vulnerable, pray for those whose lives are uprooted, and interact with migrants and refugees in your communities, we pray that you experience grace and hope in welcoming the stranger, in welcoming Christ our Lord.

Together in Welcome,

Krish O’Mara Vignarajah, President & CEO of LIRS
Elizabeth A. Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA
O God, you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us the light of the Holy Spirit. Direct the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by the light of that Spirit, as this church prepares to gather in assembly, that we might have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is divided, reunite it; Direct the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by that truth and peace, as this church prepares to gather in assembly. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, grant to your Church your Holy Spirit and the wisdom which comes down from heaven, that your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ’s holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve you and in the confession of your name may abide to the end. Direct the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by your wisdom, as this church prepares to gather in assembly. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Loving God, through holy baptism you continue to make us new and gather us together across all human divisions reconciling us to yourself in one body through the cross. Strengthen us by your presence, that our thoughts and actions may be rooted and grounded in your love for us. Direct the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by your reconciling love, as this church prepares to gather in assembly. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

By your word, eternal God, your creation sprang forth, and we were given the breath of life. By your word, eternal God, death is overcome, Christ is raised from the tomb, and we are given new life in the power of your Spirit. May we boldly proclaim this good news in our words and our deeds, rejoicing always in your powerful presence. Direct the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by your Word, as this church prepares to gather in assembly. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**August 4 - Sunday before the Assembly**
Let us pray for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and its members who gather this week in its Churchwide Assembly. Inspire the celebration of God’s varied works throughout the church. Instill your peace in the midst of the work you have called us to and the deliberations that will take place. Shape the work of the church according to your will for the whole world. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For those traveling to the assembly.
O God, our beginning and our end, you kept Abraham and Sarah in safety throughout the days of their pilgrimage, you led the children of Israel through the midst of the sea, and by a start you led the magi to the infant Jesus. Protect and guide us now as we set out to travel. Make the ways safe and the homecomings joyful for those traveling to the Churchwide Assembly and bring us all at last to our heavenly home, where you dwell in glory with our Lord Jesus Christ and the life-giving Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**August 11 - Sunday after the Assembly**
Holy One, you formed the church to announce the words of eternal life to the world. Equip the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America which concluded its Churchwide Assembly yesterday to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ. Gather the church together into one body for the sake of our shared mission to tell of the love of God. Filled with your Word, turn the church inside out so that we might live lives that proclaim your freedom and renewal to all the world. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prayer Request</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>pastors who celebrate birthdays this month:</strong> Jared Howard (8/1), Paul Raappana (8/06), Diane Srutowski (8/06), John Ansell (8/10), Bucky Beach (8/11), Cori Johnson (8/13), and Jim Duehring (8/18).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pray for members of St. Mark Lutheran Church, Myersville, MD; St. Mark Lutheran Church, Snydersburg, MD; St. Mark Lutheran Church, (St. Paul Street), Baltimore, MD; and St. Mark Lutheran Church, Wilmington, DE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pray for Molly Eversoll as she is ordained today in Roscoe, IL. She has been called to Messiah Lutheran in Marquette as the Associate Pastor. Bishop Katherine Finegan is presiding at this ordination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>pastors who celebrate the anniversary of their ordination this month:</strong> Rell Spickerman (8/16), Diane Srutowski (8/17), Bill Jacobson (8/19), and John Ansell (8/21).</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>all who are attending our ELCA Churchwide Assembly</strong> in Milwaukee, beginning today and going through August 10. May the Holy Spirit guide them as they make decisions and plans for the future, and may God guide the elections of Presiding Bishop and ELCA Secretary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>women who give children up for adoption and families who adopt children into their homes.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Pray for a <strong>solution to the rampant gun violence</strong> in our country.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Licensed Lay Ministers who celebrate their birthdays this month:</strong> Sharon Babbitt (8/25).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>High School Students</strong> as they begin practices for fall sports – may they be safe and healthy as they compete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp and the Summer Staff</strong> as they close the summer camping season. May their travels be safe and their homecomings happy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>men and women in the armed forces and their families</strong> who miss them and sometimes struggle in everyday life without those they love.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>pastors who celebrate the anniversary of their ordination this month:</strong> Gene Wickman (8/23), Craig Mansur (8/28), Devon Barrix (8/28), Dave Christenson (8/29), and Doug Norquist (8/30).</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>our NGLS Staff</strong> as they meet today at our Synod Office and coordinate ministries within our Synod.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>the Bi-Synodical Candidacy Team</strong> as they meet in Tomahawk, WI, today. May they feel the Spirit moving in their midst.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>our Synod Committees for Lay School in Mission/Licensed Lay Ministry</strong> and <strong>Young Adult Ministry</strong> as they meet in Marquette today to plan for ministries in our Synod.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>pastors who celebrate birthdays this month:</strong> Jesse Brown (8/21), Matt Lamb (8/23), Andrea Fluegel (8/24), and Eleanor Russey (8/27).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Pray for our Synod Endowment Board as they meet today at First Lutheran in Gladstone.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Pray for Pastor Jim Duehring, Assistant to the Bishop, as he attends the Mission Developer/DEM meeting in Baltimore, MD, today through the 23rd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Pray for members of St. Martin Lutheran Church, Annapolis, MD; St. Mary Lutheran Church, Westminster, MD; St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Keedysville, MD; and St. Michael Lutheran Church, Baltimore, MD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Pray for the members of Kinondoni Lutheran Church, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and their NGLS Partner Congregation, Bethel Lutheran Church, Ishpeming (Pastor Lauri Maki).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Pray for parents and students as they prepare for a new school year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Pray for our Synod Leadership Support Committee as they meet today at Trinity Lutheran in Trout Creek.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Pray for teachers, bus drivers, administrators and staff as they prepare their rooms, offices and vehicles for the new school year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Pray for Education and Youth Committees as they gear up for fall programs and reconnect with students who have been away for the summer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Pray for our Companion Synod Committee as they meet today at Messiah Lutheran in Marquette.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Pray for families who are taking “children” to college for the first time and missing them already. May these young adults be safe and industrious in their studies and find a faith community in their new homes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Pray for our NGLS Staff as they meet today at our Synod Office and coordinate ministries within our Synod.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Pray for all of our ELCA Seminaries and for all ELCA congregations to encourage members to consider a career as Ministers of Word and Sacrament (Pastors) or Ministers of Word and Service (Deacons).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Pray for all our ELCA seminary students, especially those from our Synod: Micah Cavaleri, Pat Kempf, Carolyn Lawrence, Sarah Sleeter, and Kelly Ylitalo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Pray for all who are traveling this weekend and celebrating “the end of summer” with one last vacation or gathering with family and friends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Pray for God’s Work, Our Hands planning teams as they put the final touches on plans for ministry projects around their communities and the world.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“We pray for congregations in the Delaware-Maryland Synod as part of our domestic partner synod relationship.”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Prayer Request</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>pastors who celebrate the anniversary of their ordination this month:</strong> Cori Johnson (9/7), Nancy Kauppi (9/10), and Julie Belew (9/22).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pray for all <strong>workers in this country</strong>, past and present on this <strong>Labor Day</strong>, and for advocates who ensure that workers are treated with fairness and integrity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pray for the members of <strong>St. Paul Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Burkittsville, MD; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Cumberland, MD; and St. Paul Lutheran Church (Curtis Bay), Baltimore, MD.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Bishop Katherine Finegan, other bishops, and our Lutheran Social Services partners in ministry</strong> as they meet in Milwaukee today and tomorrow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>pastors who celebrate birthdays this month:</strong> David Murphy (9/6), Gene Wickman (9/8), Thomas Skrenes (9/8), Judith Kirchoff (9/9), and Rell Spickerman (9/10).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>pastors who celebrate the anniversary of their ordination this month:</strong> Kay Richter (9/23), Greg Mileski, II, (9/24), Timothy Vadis (9/27), and Kari Vadis (9/28).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Pastor Jim Duehring and the congregations that are participating in the Faithful Innovations Training</strong> today at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Pray for all those workers for Christ who celebrate this weekend by doing God’s Work, Our Hands ministry in their communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Sunday School teachers</strong> and leaders who put in countless hours of preparation and organization to <strong>shape our children’s Christian foundations.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Today is <strong>World Suicide Prevention Day.</strong> Pray for all who suffer with depression and other mental illnesses. Pray also for doctors, nurses, and counselors who treat patients with these illnesses. Pray for our healthcare systems as they find ways to provide comprehensive care for those in need.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>all our ELCA seminaries and our seminary students,</strong> especially <strong>Carolyn Lawrence.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>pastors who celebrate birthdays this month:</strong> George Olson (9/12), Steven Solberg (9/14), and Mary Weinkauf (9/22).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>our Synod Council members</strong> as they meet today and tomorrow at Bethel Lutheran Church, Cedarville. May God guide them and inspire them as they make decisions on behalf of our Synod Ministries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Pray for the members of <strong>Temeke Lutheran Church, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania,</strong> and their <strong>NGLS partner congregation, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Hancock.</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>For farmers who are harvesting their crops; we pray for <strong>good weather and sufficient help</strong>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>Licensed Lay Ministers who celebrate their birthdays this month</strong>: Jon Babbitt (9/19).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Pray for our <strong>Synod Assembly Planning Team</strong> and our <strong>Synod Worship Committee</strong> as they meet today in Marquette.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Pray for our <strong>Synod Finance Committee</strong> as they meet today in Marquette. May God’s guidance and their gifts of wisdom and discernment bless our ministries for years to come.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Pray for Jennifer Prinz, our <strong>Portico representative</strong>, as she travels to meet with our <strong>Synod Staff</strong> today in Marquette. May their meeting be guided by God and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Pray for the <strong>women of our Synod</strong> as they gather at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp for their annual SWO Convention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Pray for the <strong>Women of the ELCA</strong> as they enjoy their synodical retreat <strong>September 20-22 at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp</strong>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Pray for all those gathering at <strong>Finlandia University</strong> for the By Faith event today.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Pray for all those who have been blessed by the ministries of graduates of <strong>Suomi Seminary</strong>. May those who gather to remember and celebrate at Finlandia have safe travels and happy reunions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>those in prison</strong>. May they know the power of God’s transformative love and grace so that they are able to return to productive lives when they are released.</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>pastors who celebrate birthdays this month</strong>: David Christenson (9/27), Peter Vorhes (9/28), David Tielbar (9/28), and Lee Goodwin (9/29).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Pray for our <strong>ELCA Bishops</strong>, especially our NGLS Bishop Katherine Finegan and all of the newly elected synod bishops, as the Conference of Bishops meets in Chicago today through September 30.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Pray for those who give freely of their time to serve on committees, task forces, and councils of our congregations, our synod, and our churchwide organization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Pray for the members of <strong>St. Paul Lutheran Church, Frostburg, MD; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Fulton, MD; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Funkstown, MD; and St. Paul Lutheran Church (Harney), Gettysburg, PA.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>police officers and fire fighters</strong> who risk their lives to keep us safe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Pray for <strong>School Bus Drivers and all the student athletes</strong> they are transporting to sporting events around our communities and our country. May they be safe, play well, and display the good neighborship that trust in our Lord brings to them.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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