

Youth Ministry News

Northeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA

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www.neiasynod.org/youth
www.elca.org/gathering
www.elcaymnet.org

Effective communication is fundamental to youth ministry. Communication between the congregation and parents; congregation and youth; between parents and youth; and between the congregation and the wider church. The wider church offers the resources of the synod, the colleges, the seminaries, and the network



of those who serve by witnessing to youth. To further good communication and networking we are trying a new communication tool, "constant communication" which makes a better newsletter and allows for much better tracking of your response to these epistles. This news letter is only a part of the partnership we share in reaching out to the youth in Northeastern Iowa. For more helpful information please visit our website at www.neiasynod.org/youth. Please feel free to post this newsletter or to forward it to your friends.

Extravaganza!



The ELCA Youth Ministry Network's annual continuing education event, the "Extravaganza" will be held

January 29-February 1, 2009 in "the Big Easy." If you are planning on attending or even thinking of attending contact Robin Souhrada at blc.youth@cfu.net to arrange housing and traveling together.

375 at the Middle School Lock-In!



More than 375 Youth attended the annual Jr. High Middle School/Lock-in sponsored by Lutheran Campus Ministry at UNI and the Synod's LYO. The evening included a concert by the Lutheran rap artist AGAPE www.hiphopoutreach.com and a Bible study on the theme "Rebuilding: More Than Just Stuff." The event was held at the UNI Wellness Center which offers the youth swimming, a climbing wall, volleyball, wallyball, basketball, ping pong, and lots of room to hang out. Thanks to all the

College students, LYO Board members, pastors, youth workers, and parents who spent the night with us.

Update from the Youth Gathering

- Want to know which congregations have registered for the gathering, how they are getting to New Orleans and if they looking for partners in transportation? Please go to www.neiasynod.org/youth
- If your [youth group would be interested in serving communion on Sunday morning](#) during worship in the Superdome, please send an email to Pastor Chris Marien at pc@redeemerboise.org. Include the following information:
Congregational ID #; Name of congregation;
Full address of congregation; Primary Leader name; Primary Leader email & phone number; Estimated number of youth and adults interested in assisting with communion
- 1,100 people have joined the ELCA Youth Gathering Facebook group. You'll find discussions and ideas for fundraising, service opportunities before and after the Gathering, volunteer opportunities for young adults, and more. <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=12679517425>



Have you always wanted to dance in a Superdome? The Dome Creative team is hard at work preparing the evening mass gathering events for each night in the Superdome in New Orleans. As in Gatherings past, we are looking for youth groups of all shapes and sizes to participate in "mass cast moments" during our evenings together. Mass cast participation is limited to a total of 450 Gathering participants.

If your youth group would like to serve in this way during the Gathering, please send an email to Alison Bondy at Drumbondy@live.com. Include the following information:
Congregational ID #; Name of congregation; Full address of congregation; Primary Leader

name; Primary Leader email; Primary Leader contact phone number; Estimated number of youth and adults interested.

Things to Write Down

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|--|
| • November | 1, 2008 | Jr. High Event, Wartburg College |
| • November | 2, 2008 | Poverty Simulation, Wartburg |
| • November | 8-9, 2008 | Church Youth Fest, Luther College |
| • November | 15, 2008 | LYO Board |
| • December | 9, 2008 | Youth Ministry Network |
| • Jan 29- Feb 1 | 2009 | Extravaganza! New Orleans |
| • March | 21-22, 2009 | Sr. High Youth Event, Wartburg College |
| • March | 7-8, 2009 | LYO Assembly, Dubuque |
| • May | 3-6, 2009 | Feed My Starving Children, Wartburg |
| • June | 5-7, 2009 | Synod Assembly |
| • July | 9-16, 2009 | WIYLDE, Luther College |
| • July | 22-26, 2009 | ELCA Youth Gathering, New Orleans |

Pastor Mark A. Anderson,
Assistant to the Bishop
Northeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA



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