

HEADLINES

Faith Formation Summit

Would you like to help people deepen their connection to God and to each other? You and other leaders in faith formation are invited to join people from Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas as they take part in the Faith Formation Summit on April 27-28. Tom Schwolert of Vibrant Faith will lead engaging workshops on the topics of Transforming Relationships and Digital Engagement. The content will apply to ministry with people of all ages.

The Faith Formation Summit will be held at Carol Joy Holling Camp near Ashland, and registration costs are dependent upon housing. Commuter: \$50

- 1 Person Room: \$155
- 2 Person Room: \$125
- 3 Person Room: \$110
- 4 Person Room: \$100

Meals are included in each option above.

This is a joint effort of the Nebraska, Western Iowa and Central States Synods. More information can be found at wisynod.org/synod-events. To register, [click this link](#). If you have questions, please contact [Lisa Kramme](#).



Embracing Stewardship- for all seasons across all generations

Stewardship is something that is much bigger than we usually let it be. It's part of our identity as Children of God- no matter our age, experience, story, the day or month of the year, or even our location. Together we'll unpack this and much more at "Embracing Stewardship- for all seasons across all generations," a one-day stewardship workshop on Friday May 18, 2018. The workshop will run from 9am-3:30pm at Camp Carol Joy Holling in Ashland, Nebraska.

Keynote presenters will be Rev. Charles (Chick) Lane and Mrs. Grace Duddy Pomroy, co-authors of Embracing Stewardship: How to put stewardship at the heart of your congregation's life. Other works that they have written include: Ask, Thank, Tell: Improving Stewardship Ministry in Your Congregation, by Chick Lane; and "Stewards of God's Love," an ELCA churchwide resource written by Grace Pomroy, Deacon Timothy Siburg, Nebraska Synod Director for Stewardship, and Bishop Brian Maas, of the Nebraska Synod will also be present to host and help facilitate the day, and partake in a time of panel conversation, questions, and discussion.

To register, please visit [this link](#).

Lunch and the cost of registration for the workshop will be provided. Additional resources will be available for purchase at reduced rates. There will also be opportunity for on-going mentoring and conversation with stewardship leaders after the event to track progress on stewardship in your context.

If you have any questions about this stewardship event, please contact Deacon Timothy Siburg at the Nebraska Synod Office.

Also, if you will be traveling a distance and needing housing, or, if planning to also attend a Portico Retirement Benefits Seminar on Thursday May 17, 2018, there is availability to stay overnight at camp. To make those arrangements and reservations, please contact Camp Carol Joy Holling.



MINISTRY RESOURCES

New Online Giving Options

With the launch of the new Nebraska Synod website, congregations can now donate to Mission Share online. Congregations have the option of giving online with a different amount each month or they can select monthly withdrawals with a static recurring donation. If you have any questions about the new program or how to set up your account, you are welcome to contact Stephanie Lusinski at 402-896-5311 or Stephanie@nebraskasynod.org.



Report to the Bishop 2018

Attention Rostered Ministers- It is time to complete the Report to the Bishop. Please go to [this link](#) to complete this report.

Retirement Question? Portico Can Help!

Retirement planning can seem daunting unless you have someone to walk you through it. Portico's day-long pre-retirement seminar for Portico plan members age 50+, will do just that.

Together with Ernst & Young, Portico covers all facets of retirement planning in understandable terms — from establishing a retirement budget to reviewing health care options. You'll breathe easier when you know the steps you need to take. Take advantage of this opportunity and join us on May 17th at Carol Joy Holling Camp. Just click [here](#) to register! The cost is \$35/person which includes lunch at the event.

Senior Driving Program: Helping Senior Drivers May Keep Them On the Road Longer

The National Safety Council, Nebraska has developed a Senior Driving Program that may help older adults continue to drive safely on Nebraska's roads for as long as possible. The program is designed to help seniors identify areas of improvement in their driving skills and includes behind-the-wheel drive sessions to assess driving skills in practical driving situations. For more information read [this article](#). You can also download the [flyer here](#).

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](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

The People God Called: Refreshing the Preacher & the People

Preaching familiar Bible passages and bringing the living Word to our listeners can feel challenging at times. Join us at Our Saviour's in Broken Bow for the 2018 PMA Convocation, 1 pm April 13 to 3 pm April 14. Together we'll explore the traits of good preaching—tips on preparation, resources, reading the context, sermon delivery, & dos/don'ts. This event is for PMAs, PMA Students, and the pastors who mentor or supervise PMAs.

The program fee of \$50 includes Friday dinner and Saturday lunch. [Click here](#) to register online. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Cobblestone Hotel & Suites; reserve your room by calling the hotel at 308-767-2060 and mention "Nebraska Synod PMA Convocation" to get the discount rate of \$85. The deadline for registration and hotel reservations at the discounted price is April 3.

For more information contact Pastor Carol Mapa (pma@nebraskasynod.org) or Pastor Steve Meysing (steve@nebraskasynod.org).



Exploring the Holy Land, Meeting the People

Join members and friends of the Nebraska Synod in a remarkable journey to the Holy Land (Israel, Modern Palestine, Jordan). This learning opportunity is offered through the Nebraska Synod, the NSHLA group (Nebraska Synod Holy Land Accompaniment) and the Global Mission Team of the synod.

April 16 – 28, 2018

The Nebraska group will visit this Christian in 2018 and visit with students and staff, as well as other Lutheran and school churches.

Pastor Megan Morrow, an assistant to the bishop of the Nebraska Synod, will be leading the 2018 traveling group as it visits holy sites and gets acquainted with the people in the Lutheran churches and many others in Israel and Jordan who will share their stories. For more information [click here](#).

NEBRASKA SYNOD EVENTS

- Mar. 10, 2018- Prepare the Way: Following to Lead
- Apr. 13-14, 2018- PMA Convocation
- SAVE THE DATE! April 16-28, 2018: Holy Land Accompaniment
- May 31-June 2, 2018- Women & Justice Social Statement Draft Hearing & Nebraska Synod Assembly
- July 23-Aug. 7, 2018 - Tanzania Vision Trip

YOU ARE INVITED

Lutheran Volunteer Corps

The Lutheran Service Corps is hosting its 15th Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, May 12th at Eagle Hills Golf Course in Papillion. Sponsorship opportunities are available including Hole Sponsorships (\$250), Banquet Sponsor (\$500) and Major Sponsor (\$2,000). Please consider sponsoring a foursome for this event or joining the fun as an individual golfer. Registration fee is \$100 and includes lunch, a round of golf, and a dinner banquet. For more information, contact Scott Glaser at (720) 218-5112 and look for our event page at http://action.lutheranvolunteer corps.org/lsc_golf_2018.

The Lutheran Volunteer Corps (LVC) is a national nonprofit organization serving Omaha by placing full-time volunteers with local nonprofits. These volunteers are giving a year of their life to serve others, learn simple and sustainable living, and engage in social justice work. LVC is offering to speak at adult forums and youth forums to talk about the work of LVC, about volunteerism, and about social justice work in Omaha. There is also a chance of a game of "giant Jenga." Please contact Scott Glaser at (720) 218-5112 or Omaha.dev@lutheranvolunteer corps.org to set up a visit from an LVC Volunteer or board member for your church or civic group.

Expand Your Horizons -Thursday, March 15, 2018, 7:00-8:30 PM



Guest speaker Larry Jensen from the Omaha Area Sanctuary Network (OASN) will discuss problems with our current immigration system, means people enter without authorization, immigration law enforcement procedures, and what we can do to help as part of or in concert with the New Sanctuary Movement including providing physical sanctuary. He will also discuss OASN and its role in bringing the movement to Omaha.

More: Pastor Meysing, Seven Oaks Senior Center, 3439 River Rd, Omaha – 402-492-9817/2911

- Mar. 15, 2018- Expand Your Horizons/ Omaha Area Sanctuary Network: Welcoming Immigrants and Working for Immigration Justice @ 7pm Notre Dame Housing Senior Center, Omaha. Call 402-982-9933 for more information.
- Apr. 7, 2018- **Tabitha 10K & 2M race** @ Holmes Lake Park, Lincoln start time 9am
- May 18, 2018- **"Embracing Stewardship- for all seasons across all generations"** at Camp Carol Joy Holling
- May 27-June 1, 2018 - Spanish Language & Hispanic Ministry Intensive for more info [click here](#)
- June 10-15, 2018 - Building Congregational Capacity for Hispanic Ministry for more info [click here](#)
- SAVE THE DATE: June 27- July 1, 2018 - **ELCA Youth Gathering**
- Oct. 4, 2018- **Tabitha's Signature Event** @5:30pm Country Club of Lincoln, Lincoln
- Oct. 26-28, 2018- **Men's Retreat** Camp Chrystalis TX

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

Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry

"EVENSONG": a Celebration of Campus Ministry in Omaha

What: A Reception with Silent Auction and Holden Evening Prayer with special music by students, bell choir, and an combined community choir.

Who: YOU!!! And all Omaha area ELCA congregations and friends of Omaha Metro Campus Ministry

Where: Augustana Lutheran Church, 3647 Lafayette Ave, Omaha

When: Sunday, April 15, 3:00 – 5:00

Why: To inform and celebrate Omaha College Ministry to Metro Congregations and raise funds to support this important ministry. How can your congregation support this ministry and event: Help us get the word out, have members of your choir participate in the combined choir (the choir will practice from 3:00 to 3:45 the day of the event.), donate a gift basket for the Silent Auction, and come celebrate!

For information, contact Pastor Jim Holthus at 218-760-2028 or at loomn@hotmail.com.

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



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

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!

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