



## COME FEAST

# 2013 WESTERN NORTH DAKOTA SYNOD LUTHERAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION GATHERING

OCTOBER 17-19, 2013

Grand International Inn, Minot ND

*“for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing. I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” Matthew 25:35-36*

### SPECIAL GUESTS

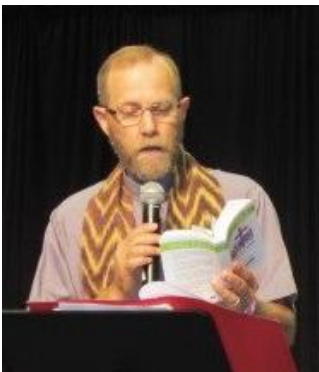
#### Tony Memmel, featured artist



A lifelong member of Ascension Lutheran Church, Waukesha, Wis., Tony Memmel performed at the 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans. A songwriter and performer with unique charisma and creativity, he was born missing his left forearm and taught himself to play the guitar, piano and harmonica. But, Memmel is not one to try to sell you on his handicap alone. His

music most definitely stands on its own. Memmel was selected as a Grand-Prize winner in a Counting Crows cover contest by The Counting Crows themselves, and was recently honored to take first place in a prestigious singer-songwriter competition, in Boston. He’s sold several thousand CD’s and t-shirts, out of his trusty brown leather suitcase, to a growing national fan-base.

#### Bishop Mark Narum, Synod Bishop



Rev. Mark Narum serves as Bishop of the Western North Dakota Synod. He cares deeply about helping Lutherans in our synod engage in God’s mission of sharing Christ’s love with our communities, through service, words, and actions. Mark will preach at our opening worship.

#### The GLUE, Worship Band



Staff from our synod’s 4 Bible Camps will lead us in worship and opening music each day.

#### Justin Rabbach, ELCA World Hunger



Justin Rabbach serves as the Youth Group Organizer for ELCA World Hunger. He lives in Chicago, IL, and travels throughout the country sharing stories about how our church is at work feeding the hungry around the world and exciting and equipping young adults in the ELCA to work for justice and make a difference locally & globally.

#### Rev. Paul Schauer, large group presenter



Pastor Paul has served as pastor of Sunne Lutheran Church, rural Wilton, for 21 years. He has a passion for local and global missions, youth ministry, hiking, backpacking, gardening, reading,

cooking, travel, humor, and most recently, skydiving. Paul is the proud dad of Emma, Eric, Cory, and Joey. This is Paul’s 24th synod LYO gathering. He will take us on an adventure to the Central African Republic, a place near to his heart, to share how God is at work through the church in a place very different than our own.

#### Rev. Ken Nelson, Chaplain



Pastor Ken serves as senior pastor at First Lutheran in Minot. He is married to Marcella, and they have 3 daughters, Johanna Grace, Else-Marie and Ingrid Anne. Ken’s passions in ministry are preaching, teaching the Bible, and finding new ways to connect people to Jesus Christ through worship, study, service and prayer.

## WORSHIP OFFERINGS

Two cash offerings will be received during the Gathering:

- 1) Offerings from both worship services will go to our **four Bible Camps in the Western North Dakota synod**.
- 2) A special offering will also be taken for **ELCA World Hunger**. Bring your dollars to compete in some special games to raise funds for this important ministry.

## \*IN-KIND OFFERING

Two ministries serving those who are hungry or homeless in the Minot area have been identified as recipients of In-kind offerings from our gathering: the **Lord's Cupboard** and the **Minot Area Homeless Coalition**. Participants are invited to bring the requested items to donate to these important ministries as a way of saying "Thank You" to our host community.

**The Minot Area Homeless Coalition** provides a variety of services to those in need including but are not limited to: Rent/Deposit assistance, Utility assistance, Transportation assistance, Emergency Medication assistance, Identification assistance and Temporary. Emergency Shelter/Food.

**Requested items include:** Fleece Fabric to be made into tie-blankets.

**The Lord's Cupboard** provides a variety of services to the Minot community. Each month families receive groceries prepared for them based on their family needs, then every week they can stop by and pick from their "grocery store shelves". It's more than handing out food though, the people who volunteer there know the people who come in. They take the time to talk with them, find out about them, to pray with them, or just give them a friendly hug. They also co-sponsor the backpack buddies program with Minot State University which provide backpacks of food for school children who may go hungry over the weekend.

**Requested items include:**

toilet paper, paper towels, blankets, non-perishable food items for the "grocery store", and donations of kid friendly foods (single serving mac'n'cheese, easy to open can food, granola bars, fruit snacks, etc.)

## SERVANT EVENT

**Community-based projects.** Participants will be assigned service projects at a variety of sites throughout the Minot Community on Friday afternoon. If you are traveling with another group, please be sure to indicate that on your registration so you can be assigned projects in the same vicinity. If your site assignment includes any special instructions, these will be e-mailed to the primary adult advisor for your group.

## ACTION TRACKS

Participants can participate in 2 "Action Track" sessions each night of the gathering. Participation in the action tracks is expected. We'll have a great mix of activities to choose from, from informational sessions, to interactive sessions that will require you to get up and MOVE! A list of Action tracks will be posted on the Gathering website shortly before the gathering.

## TALENT NIGHT & GALLERY

The LYO Board will host a Talent Night, on Friday, featuring the talent gathering participants. A limited number of spots will be available and filled in the order forms are received at the event. All genres of entertainment are encouraged-poetry, song, dance, video, skits, music. Anyone interested in showcasing their visual art (photography, paintings, etc.) are encouraged to bring those to be displayed in the Spirit Garage.

## NIGHTLIFE

Participants will be able to select from a variety of options each evening during NightLife. This is a time for fun and fellowship, and a chance to get to know youth from around the synod.

### THURSDAY NIGHT Options:

Warm up your voices for **Karaoke!**

Play the African game that's taking our synod by storm - **Gaga Ball Tournament**

**Costume Contest!** – Choose a theme and get your group to dress up around a common theme. Prizes will be awarded!

**World Hunger Activities** – Join in fun activities to learn more about the lives of others and how you can work to alleviate hunger around the world

**Mixers, Games & More . . .**

### FRIDAY NIGHT Options:

**Tony Memmel LIVE! in Concert** – Special Guest Tony Memmel will lead music during each of our large group sessions and be featured in a concert on Friday evening.

**The options below will be available following the concert:**

**Four Square Tournament** – The tradition continues!

**Mixers, Games and More . . .**

**Bowling** – X-treme bowling is hosted each Friday night at North Hill Bowl which is located next door to the Grand International Inn. Open bowling is also available Thursday until 11 PM. If your group is interested in coordinating a bowling outing, contact North Hill Bowl for prices and info 701-852-4108.

**A special thanks to ELCA World Hunger! Our LYO Board received a 2013 Hunger Education Grant to help fund some of the activities, speakers and guest musician, and provided materials for our special focus on world hunger.**

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE:

You will find a link at:

[www.wndsynod.org](http://www.wndsynod.org)

### REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS:

- Registration should be completed by congregation group.
- When you open the registration link, you will be asked to enter the primary adult advisor for your group. Please enter this information first, then you will be able to add up to 30 additional participants (youth and adult). If you need to register more than 30 participants, please submit a second registration under another adult advisor's name. **Please remember, ELCA policy requires a 7:1 ratio of youth per advisor.** One advisor is required for every 7 youth. Advisors must be at least 21 years of age or employed by the congregation whose group they are traveling with.
- You will be asked to provide room assignments on the registration form. The lodging cost is included in the cost of registration. If you request special accommodations such as a single room there will be an additional fee.
- Please include a t-shirt size for each member of your group.
- Once you have completed your registration, please **print the confirmation e-mail and mail it along with a check** made out to "WND Lutheran Youth Organization" to:

**WND LYO GATHERING  
PO Box 370  
Bismarck, ND 58502**

### REGISTRATION FEE: \$150.00 per person.

- (All adult advisors are required to pay the registration fee.)
- A **late fee of \$10/person** should be included with registrations postmarked after September 30 2013. **We need to confirm hotel rooms by October 5. Please let us know by that date!**

*Phone registrations will **NOT** be accepted. If you need assistance, please contact Beth Anderson at 701-223-5312 or [beth@wndsynod.org](mailto:beth@wndsynod.org).*

## NECESSARY FORMS:

*The following forms must be brought by the advisor to the Gathering:*

### Code of Conduct Form

- Complete 1 form per participant.
- Please read and discuss this with your LYO Gathering group. **Each participant, adult and youth, must sign the Code of Conduct and bring it to the Gathering.**
- The adult advisor may bring a copy with them to the Gathering for reference and further discussion as a group. Copies may also be given to youth and/or their parents for their information. **BREAKING THE CODE OF CONDUCT AT THE GATHERING CAN RESULT IN BEING SENT HOME, AT PARENTAL OR INDIVIDUAL EXPENSE.**

### Medical Form

- Complete 1 form per participant
- **ADULT ADVISORS – PLEASE KEEP THESE WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES.**

## HOUSING

- During the Gathering, registrants will be housed **TWO OR FOUR** per hotel room. Adult advisors will be housed in rooms with other adult advisors. Female youth will stay with other female youth and male youth with other male youth. The only exception is a parent may request to stay with their child. You will be asked to provide room assignments on the registration form. If you request special accommodations such as a single room there will be an additional fee.

*If you are traveling with another group, please indicate that on your registration form to assist in making housing assignments.*

## Meals

**The following meals will be provided during the Gathering:**

|          |                    |
|----------|--------------------|
| Thursday | Dinner             |
| Friday   | Breakfast & Dinner |
| Saturday | Breakfast          |

*Friday and Saturday lunches will not be provided as part of the gathering. Any other snacks or pizza that may be ordered in will be at the expense of the individual(s).*

## WND LYO SYNOD CONVENTION AND VOTING MEMBERS

The LYO holds its conference elections and annual synod convention during the annual Youth Gathering. Each congregation is asked to designate two youth as voting members, one male and one female.

### **ELECTIONS:**

- **There is no campaigning of any kind.**
- Each congregation is asked to select 2 representatives to serve as voting members. These two voting members may participate in the election of conference representatives and board officers. Each congregation will receive 2 wristbands at registration to designate their voting members.
- If a youth is interested in any of the offices, please have them fill out the nomination form and bring it to the gathering. These elections are open to youth members of ELCA congregations of the Western North Dakota Synod who are in the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grades **ONLY**. Candidates must commit to attending four meetings per year for two years.

### **CONFERENCE ELECTIONS:**

Gathering participants break out in smaller groups on Friday morning in order to convene their Conference Election. Each Conference has a youth representative on the WND Synod LYO Board. That person is the convener of the Conference Election. Each conference also has an adult advisor to the WND LYO Board; that person is elected at the fall gathering of their respective conference. A complete list of conference representatives, adult and youth, is attached. The terms are two years, and are open to youth between the ages of 14-18 and/or in grades 9-11 who are members of ELCA congregations in your respective conferences. **This year, elections will be held for representatives from the East Missouri, Lonetree, and Western Prairie.**

### **SYNOD CONVENTION:**

**Elections will be held for vice president and treasurer on Friday.** Voting members from each congregation may cast ballots for the vice president and treasurer elections at the times noted on the schedule. Members must have their wristbands to cast their ballot. Ballot stations will be set up in the back of the gathering space.

## POLICIES OF THE WND LYO GATHERING

- Age:** Participants must be in ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) – twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade in the current school year.
- 7:1 Groups:** All participants must register as part of a 7:1 group. For every 7 youth there must be one Adult Advisor, an individual who is at least 21 years of age or employed by the congregation whose youth they are supervising.
- All Gathering participants will wear a Gathering Identification Wristband throughout the duration of the Gathering.** Entrance to all Gathering events is gained by wearing the wristband. A replacement fee of \$10 is needed for a new wristband.
- Refunds:** \$100 of the \$150 registration will be refunded if requested by September 30, if the request is made in writing to the registrar. (\$50 is non-refundable.) **NO REFUNDS AFTER September 30.**
- Substitutions:** Participant names may be substituted, if done so in writing and submitted to the registrar by October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Hotel Services:** Phone calls and room service or other hotel service charges are not included in Gathering registration costs and therefore are the responsibility of the occupants of the rooms, and must be paid before checking out. **NOTE:** Our covenant includes that all Gathering participants will interact with hotel staff in a positive and polite manner, as well as with all other hotel guests.
- Adult Leaders:** Please plan to participate in the Gathering schedule. Adult Leaders are expected to assist Gathering staff and planners, as well as hotel staff, in keeping our youth involved in the scheduled activities of the Gathering, and interacting with their group in a leadership capacity.
- Male and female youth** cannot be in a hotel room with doors closed without an adult advisor chaperoning them.



## **POSITION DESCRIPTIONS FOR LYO BOARD OFFICERS & CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVES**

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

The synod LYO vice president is elected to a two-year term on the WND Synod LYO Board, serving the first year as vice president then transitioning into a second year serving as president of the Western North Dakota Synod LYO Board.

Expectations of the Vice President:

- Encourage all youth of the synod to grow in their faith and participate in the life of the congregation, synod, and wider church
- Encourage and support all LYO Board members
- Acts in the absence of the president, assuming the responsibilities of the president
- Supports the president by accepting duties and responsibilities assigned.
- Assist in the planning and promotion of the annual WND Synod LYO Gathering.
- Attend all meetings of the LYO Board (usually 3 times per year, and the fall gathering)

Expectations of the President:

- Encourage all youth of the synod to grow in their faith and participate in the life of the congregation, synod, and wider church
- Encourage and support all LYO Board members
- Preside over all meetings of the WND Synod LYO Board and business meetings of the gathering
- Work with Board advisor to prepare agendas for all meetings of the LYO Board
- Represent the WND Synod LYO Board at functions of the synod and the ELCA, such as the Western North Dakota Synod Assembly, synod council meetings, and national gatherings of synod youth organization presidents.
- Submit reports to the WND Synod Assembly and the WND Synod Council.
- Attend all meetings of the LYO Board (usually 3 times per year, and the fall gathering)

### **TREASURER**

The synod LYO secretary is elected to a two-year term on the WND Synod LYO Board.

Expectations of the Treasurer

- Encourage all youth of the synod to grow in their faith and participate in the life of the congregation, synod, and wider church
- Encourage and support all LYO Board members
- Report on the financial activity of the Western North Dakota Lutheran Youth Organization.
- Assist in the planning and promotion of the annual WND Synod LYO Gathering.
- Attend all meetings of the LYO Board (usually 3 times per year, and the fall gathering)

### **CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVE**

Conference Representatives are elected to a two-year term on the WND Synod LYO Board.

Expectations of Conference Representatives:

- Encourage all youth of the synod to grow in their faith and participate in the life of the congregation, synod, and wider church.
- Encourage and support all LYO Board members.
- Assist in the planning and promotion of the annual WND Synod LYO Gathering.
- Communicate with the congregations of their respective conference,
  - Encourage congregations in their support of youth in ministry in their communities.
  - Encourage congregations to participate in synod and national youth events.
  - Promote the annual gathering within their conference.
- Attend all meetings of the LYO Board (usually 3 times per year, and the fall gathering)

# **CODE OF CONDUCT**

**WND LYO GATHERING  
OCTOBER 17-19, 2013– Minot, ND**

As a participant of the Western North Dakota Synod Lutheran Youth Organization Gathering, I agree to:

- **exhibit the conduct and behavior** of one who follows Jesus Christ.
- **Participate** in all scheduled events.
- **Abide by curfew** times and respect others' rights to quiet, at stated quiet times.
- **Show respect** for myself and all other participants of this event as well as the facility we use, the people who work there, and the community that is hosting us.
- **NOT to bring or use alcohol or other non-prescribed drugs** including tobacco products.
- **Not to bring any weapons of any kind** to the event.
- **Not to use offensive language.**
- **Not to engage in sexual activity.**
- **Follow the open door policy** which states that if either gender who are attending the youth gathering visit friends in their room during free time, the door to the room must be left open and all roommates must agree to the visitor being there.
- **Keep my cell phone on silent** during all activities of the event.
- **Have Fun!**

A warning will be given for breaking the covenant about:

Respecting others    Curfew    Participation in the event    Language    Open door policy

The participant will be sent home and/or suspended from future synodical events for repeatedly breaking the covenant items above or the following:

Illegal Drugs, alcohol or tobacco products                      Sexual activity

Western North Dakota Lutheran Youth Organization Board and Adult Advisors have the final say in the interpretation and enforcement of the Code of Conduct. If a participant is to be sent home, he or she will be financially responsible for any costs incurred.

Participant's name \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

**I recognize that I am joining the Christian Family and Community. I agree to abide by this Code of Conduct Covenant while I am a member of this community. I understand that if I break this covenant, I may be sent home at my parents' expense.**

Participant's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parental/Guardian signature ( if participant is registered as a youth participant):

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**Turn this form in at registration. Please keep a copy for yourself and your youth.**

**WESTERN NORTH DAKOTA SYNOD LUTHERAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION GATHERING  
OCTOBER 17-19, 2013 – Grand International Inn, Minot**

**MEDICAL RELEASE FORM**

While every attempt is made to make the Western North Dakota Synod Lutheran Youth Organization Gathering a safe and fun experience, there is always the chance that participants will need medical care. Accidents can and do happen.

**This completed form (one for each participant) must be with the adult advisor at all times.**

**Participant's Name** \_\_\_\_\_

As parent/guardian of the above named minor, I hereby grant permission for my son/daughter to participate in the **2013 Western North Dakota Synod LYO Gathering**, in **Minot, ND** held **October 17-19, 2013**.

I also grant permission for any adult chaperone with our group or event coordinators to take whatever steps may be necessary to obtain emergency care as warranted for the well being of my son/daughter. These steps may include but are not limited to the following;

- Attempts to contact a parent or guardian
- Attempts to contact youth's physician
- Seek medical examination/ treatment for injuries/ condition by medical professional

Name of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
(This person will be notified if parent/guardian is unavailable.)

Home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Insurance Company Number \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Insurance Policy Number \_\_\_\_\_ Group Number (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Policy Holder \_\_\_\_\_ Policy Holder's Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Medications being taken/dosage/frequency: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List ALL Allergies (food/meds/pets/etc.): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date of last Tetanus shot \_\_\_\_\_

List any special dietary needs \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please state any additional health, emotional or other conditions of which we should be aware \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**My signature below indicates that I understand and agree to the policy and terms listed above and agree that any expenses incurred in necessary emergency or other medical treatment will be borne solely by the youth's medical coverage and/or family. I will not hold any leader or organization liable for any injury or accident.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature (if participant is under 18)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date