



Children, Youth, & Family (CYF) Resources

Minneapolis Area Synod/Saint Paul Area Synod
CYF Leadership Team

FACEBOOK GROUPS and EMAIL NEWSLETTERS

- **ELCA Youth Ministry Network**
- **ELCA Youth Ministry Network - Region 3**
- **Twin Cities ELCA**
- **Twin Cities CYF ELCA**
- **Saint Paul Area Synod Email Updates** | Fill out your information under "Stay Updated!"
- **Minneapolis Area Synod Email Newsletter** | Fill out your information under "Keep in Touch"

NETWORKS

- **Children's Ministry Gathering** | 2nd Monday of the month at 1 p.m. Some sessions in person, some on Zoom. Support each other and exchange ideas. Contact Rachelle Gill at rgill@easter.org. or Julie Vagle at juliev@trinitylonglake.org.
- **Youth Ministry Gathering** | 2nd Tuesdays at 3 p.m. | Contact Josh Svenulski at josh@christusvictor.org
- **Eastern Suburbs Network** | Contact Beth at bhamen@saintandrews.org
- **Bloomington Youth Workers Network** | Contact Sarah Maslowski at smaslowski@ststephen.net.
- **Western Suburbs Network** | Contact Elizabeth Pedersen at elizabethp@lordoflife.org.
- Peer Groups | Small groups for support and accountability. Contact John Hulden at j.hulden@mpls-synod.org.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY RESOURCES

- **ELCA Children's Ministry**
- **Faith Inkubators** | Killing Sunday School
- **First Look & 252 Kids** | Orange Curriculum
- **Go Fish** | VBS
- **Jesus Storybook Bible**
- **Manna & Mercy**
- **New Directions for Holy Questions: Progressive Christian Theology for Families** | book by Anita Peebles and Claire Brown
- **Ordinary Blessings for Families** | book by Meta Herrick Carlson

- **Parent Cue**
- **Sparkhouse Family Resources**
 - Whirl
 - Holy Moly
 - Frolic
- **Spirit & Truth** | Publishing-Narrative Lectionary Curriculum
- **Spill the Beans** | Narrative Lectionary
- **The Bible Project**
- **Veggie Tales** | Movies
- **What's in the Bible** with Buck Denver

CONFIRMATION MINISTRY

- **Coffee Talks**
- **Collaborate** | Confirmation ministry
- **Freaks & Geeks Bible Studies**
- **Here We Stand** | Confirmation curriculum
- **Mentorship**
- **Pay it Forward** | Movie
- **Reform** | Confirmation curriculum
- **Science for Youth Ministry** | Four-week series
- **Simon Birch**
- **The Ultimate Camp Resource** | For camp people... by camp people
- **Youth Ministry Great Games**

HIGH SCHOOL

- **Animate Curriculum**
- **Augsburg Youth Theology Institute**
- **Baking Nights** | Team building through cooking
- **Beloved Teen Group** | queergracecommunity.com
- **Caffeine series**
- **Can I Ask** | Book resource
- **Echo The Story** | Curriculum
- **Faith, Science, & Youth Leadership** | Environmental learning
- **Half Truths** | Book resource
- **Holy Hoops Youth Basketball League** | Twin Cities churches
- **Interfaith Bridge Building** | Experience through Augsburg University
- **Interfaith Action** | Learning opportunities and various programs in St. Paul
- **Locked in a Room** | Escape Room for groups
- **Lock & Key Escape Rooms** | Escape Room for groups (discounts for churches)
- **MEA Getaway** | October long weekend for students

- **Orange XP3**
- **Peer Ministry**
- **Vertical Endeavors** | Climbing wall
- **Wade in the Water** | Free curriculum on water justice actions and resources
- **Wired Word**

CAMPS, MISSION TRIPS & RETREATS

- **Appalachia Service Project** | Mission trips
- **Base Camp** | Rock climbing, archery, high ropes (St. Paul, MN)
- **Camp Emmaus** | Retreats & camp (Menahga, MN)
- **Camp Friendship/Camp Courage** | High ropes & retreats (Annandale, MN)
- **Camp Ihduhapi** | Retreats (Loretto, MN)
- **Camp Victory** | Retreat center (Zumbro Falls, MN)
- **Center for Student Missions** | Mission trips
- **Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp** | Retreats & camp (Lakeside, MT)
- **Green Lake Lutheran Ministries** | Retreats & camp (Spicer, MN)
- **Group Mission Trips** | Workcamps
- **Gustavus Adolphus College** | Confirmation retreats (St. Peter, MN)
- **Heifer Ranch** | Mission trips
- **Interfaith @ Augsburg** | Retreats
- **Luther Crest** | Retreats & camp (Alexandria, MN)
- **Lutheran Outdoor Ministries**
- **Lutheran Outdoors South Dakota** | Retreats & camp
- **Moonlight Madness** | Overnight “lock-out” in Twin Cities in the Fall & Spring. For more information, contact the Rev. David Wrightsman at revw2@msn.com.
- **Next Step Ministries** | Mission trips
- **Praying Pelicans Missions** | Mission trips
- **Rainbow Trail** | Backpacking trip (Hillside, CO)
- **Serve Boldly** | Mission trips
- **Service Learning Camps** | Mission trips
- **Sky Ranch** | Retreats & camp
- **Urban Immersion** | Retreat experience
- **Urban Plunge** | Experience
- **Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry** | Retreats & camp (Northeastern MN)
- **WAPO** | Retreats (Amery, WI)
- **Youthworks** | Mission trips

GENERAL INFORMATION

- **The Bible for Normal People** | podcast
- **Buffer** | Social Media Scheduling
- **Building Faith** | e-newsletter from Virginia Theological Seminary
- **Canva** | Graphic design
- **Cherish All Children** | Safeguarding God's Children
- **Christian Education Network of the ELCA** | Supporting lifelong faith formation in the home and congregation
- **Disability Ministry Action Team** | ELCA churchwide resources for supporting children, youth, families, and adults with disabilities
- **Eco-Faith** | An earth-keeping initiative of the Minneapolis Area Synod
- **ELCA Churchwide offices**
- **Faith Lens** | ELCA weekly Bible study
- **FCA** | Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- **FlockNote** | Email and texting app designed for churches
- **Go Weekly** | Subscription
- **Lutheran Summer Music** | Residential music academy for students grade 8 – 12
- **Martin's List** | Open source ideas, need a membership to ELCA Network
- **Mental Health First Aid**
- **Ministry Lab** | Faith Formation Resource Center at United Seminary in St. Paul
- **National Youth Gathering** | ELCA Youth Gathering, happens every 3 years
- **Ordinary Blessings** | book by Meta Herrick Carlson
- **Reconciling Works** | Advocacy for the acceptance, full participation, and liberation of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions within the Lutheran Church
- **Remind** | Social media communication
- **Resource Center for Churches** | Pay to become a member for resources
- **Riverside Innovation Hub** | Young adult innovation for congregations, led by Augsburg University
- **Sustainable Youth Ministry** | book by Mark DeVries
- **Youth Ministry Land** | Plethora of resources for Twin Cities groups
- **Youth Service Bureau** | Mental health info, counseling, transitional housing

CONTINUING EDUCATION

- **ConNext** | Ecumenical progressive children's ministry
- **Cross+Gen Life** | Focus on cross+generational ministry in the church and the home
- **E-Formation** | Practicing ministry in a digital world
- **Extravaganza** | Long weekend continuing education for ELCA CYF peeps
- **Faith Forward** | Reimagine Children's and Youth Ministry - Annual conference in Chicago
- **Hazelden** | Youth and addiction conference in November
- **Intergenerate Conference** | Focus on intergenerational ministry
- **Luther Seminary** | Various conferences and courses

- **Kairos** | Continuing education for ministry professionals
- **Orange Conference**
- **Recharge** | Half-day event specifically for CYF volunteers and leaders around the Twin Cities
- **Skill Share** |Administrative skills training
- **Vibrant Faith** | Training & resources
- **Youth Leadership** | Certificate in children or youth ministry, workshops