



NORTH AMERICAN  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

## *How can we help? & What is happening in Youth and Family Ministry?*



### **Would you like to host a Faith Formation Festival in your area?**

The goal of a Faith Formation Festival is to strengthen, encourage, and equip anyone working with or related to young people. We invite speakers on a variety of topics that you identify as areas highly in need of instruction from a Biblical perspective. Once topics are chosen, each Faith Formation Festival is structured, to meet the needs of your Mission District or Mission Region. Faith Formation Festivals can be one or two-day events.

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### **Individual Speaking Engagements with Churches**

*Need someone to help energize or begin your youth-focused ministry?*

*By Zoom or in person we can help!*

The two most popular topics are “Safeguarding Vulnerable Members of our Congregations” and “We have no kids. How do we do youth, children, and family ministry?” But there are other topics Pastor Teresa could cover or she will find someone else with the knowledge required to cover the topic.

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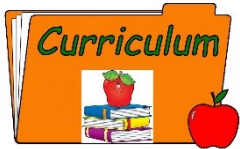


### **Educating Parents**

Along with speaking to various groups in the church, speaking engagements can be specifically designed for parents as well. Currently, the topic of mental health in our young people has been quite popular, but many different topics could be offered.



## Discerning Curriculum



Are you confused trying to choose a curriculum for Sunday School, Youth Group, VBS, Confirmation, or Something else? Every church is different and has different needs. Please reach out if you need help choosing.

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## On-line Learning Opportunities for Leaders



Recent opportunities have included a 4-week Mental Health Bible Study that leaders could then take back to lead in their youth groups, and a workshop by Laura Langhoff Arndt, the author of "The Art of Teaching Confirmation". Watch for and sign up for more offerings in the future.

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## Hosting a Youth Gathering in your mission district or region?

Pastor Teresa is available to assist churches and mission districts in planning their local youth gatherings. She is also available to come to speak or to find the right speaker for the topic you wish to cover.

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## Holy Families Resources

There is a new tab called "Leaders Resources", where pastors and other leaders can share the resources, they have created in the area of Youth and Family Ministry. Since curriculum can be a huge expense, especially for small churches, please check out this resource. Also, if you have anything to share that you have written, please contact Pastor Teresa. Check it out at: <https://www.holyfamilytime.com/>

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## Solid Rock Day Camp Manual

Melanie Corn, Youth and Family Specialist for the NALC has developed a manual for mission districts detailing how to put together their own 5-day day camp program. This program is geared toward elementary-aged children, in it college-age counselors go to a different church each week to lead camp activities and bible study and build relationships with the kids. To get an electronic copy of this manual please email: [families@thenalc.org](mailto:families@thenalc.org) or [mcorn@stplchapin.com](mailto:mcorn@stplchapin.com)



## NALC On-line Confirmation Classes

Is your church currently without a pastor? Or do you only have 1 or 2 youth? Online Confirmation Classes will again be offered in the fall. Weekly from mid-September until mid-May. – Two year program.

The students will be expected to work with mentors in their congregation and help with worship activities. Our curriculum is quite traditional with the focus on the Bible, the Small Catechism, prayer, and Christian living. In addition, we will be building some fun and wonderful relationships! We plan to be flexible enough that students can join our NALC program if a pastoral vacancy occurs in their home congregation, or that students can shift from the online program back to their home congregation when the congregation is able to again offer confirmation.

We are currently offering Wednesday evenings run by Rev. Mark Braaten (NALC Southern Area Assistant to the Bishop) and other supporting pastors and Thursday evenings run by Rev. Teresa Peters (NALC Director of Youth and Family Ministry) again with other supporting pastors.

We are asking people to register by August 21 to aid us in our planning. We expect that we will be offering a number of groups this fall as we expect more students to be joining.

For more information, or to sign up, please contact either Pastor Mark at [southernaab@thenalc.org](mailto:southernaab@thenalc.org) or Pastor Teresa Peters at [tpeters@thenalc.org](mailto:tpeters@thenalc.org) We will also both be available to talk at Luther Week in Oklahoma.

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## NALC Young Adult Gathering "The Cross: where Word and Witness Meet."

*Sponsored by the Canadian Mission District*

May 5th to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 -- Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada -- Young Adults ages 18 to 28  
\$50 per participant, plus personal travel to Winnipeg -- Only 16 spots available

This is a week-long gathering where young adults from all over the continent will gather to study the Word and Witness together. The 2024 participants will be doing mission work in inner-city Winnipeg. Winnipeg is a city with almost 850,000 people, and we will be ministering to the physical and social needs of the most vulnerable as well as being a Witness for Christ and the Gospel during the day and studying the Word together in the evenings.

To Apply:

Email Pastor Teresa Peters: [tpeters@thenalc.org](mailto:tpeters@thenalc.org)



## Continental Youth Gathering – “We Belong”

<https://thenalc.org/cyg/>

July 1st to 4th 2024 -- St. John’s Lutheran Church in Boerne, Texas.

This is a 4-day gathering that provides opportunities for NALC youth to grow in faith and relationship with others as the body of Christ. It is designed to be a time to worship together, study God’s Word, be equipped through large and small group sessions, reach out to the community through mission events, and engage in fellowship and fun.

### Who can attend?

Youth Ages 12 – 18 can attend as Youth Participants

Young adults ages 19 – 24 can attend as Leaders in Training

Adults 25 and older can attend as Team Leaders (1 Leader for a maximum of 7 youth)

### Price of the Gathering?

Youth and Team Leaders \$250

Leaders in Training \$175

### What does this include?

This includes 3 lunches, 3 dinners, transportation to and from recommended hotels, 2 excursions, 1 mission event, and all activities at the church.

### Why are we having this gathering?

Because WE BELONG! We belong to CHRIST. We belong to the CHURCH. We belong to the COMMUNITY. We belong to EACH OTHER. WE BELONG!

**REGISTRATION OPENS IN OCTOBER!**

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