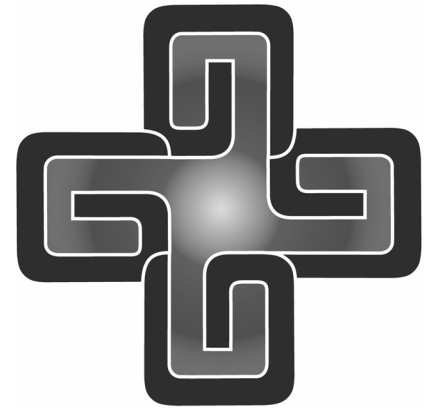




Upstate New York Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**A REPORT  
FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE  
2017 Fall Conference Assembly**



GROUNDING IN CHRIST JESUS  
GROWING IN OUR WITNESS  
GIVING OF OUR BOUNTY  
GRACED FOR THE WORLD

**Celebrating the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation**

Across our synod Lutherans are celebrating with music, theological learning, conversation and prayer in a variety of ways, including gathering with our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters. Join a celebration. [Note – this list shares the events we are aware of; we are sure there are others.]

- Lutheran † Roman Catholic Gatherings
  - ◇ **Saturday, Oct. 21**—St. Mary's Southside Parish, 224 Franklin St, Elmira, NY 14904 - Joint Lutheran and Roman Catholic Service, Please call [607-734-8669](tel:607-734-8669) for details. All are welcome to attend. No RSVP is necessary
  - ◇ **Sunday, Oct. 22**—worship with Bishop Edward Scharfenberger and Bishop John Macholz leading the liturgy.
  - ◇ **Sunday, Oct. 22** – St. Luke Lutheran, Ithaca, Benedictine monk and Roman Catholic priest will sit for conversation in our Adult Forum and preach for the 10:45am worship service.
  - ◇ **Sunday, Oct. 29** Lutherans in the Genesee Finger Lakes Conference gather for "A Service of Word and Prayer, 7:00pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Rochester; Bishop Salvatore Matano and Bishop John Macholz presiding.
  - ◇ **Wednesday, Nov. 8, 7:00 – 8:30 pm**, Lutheran Church of the Atonement, 1900 Westfall Rd., Rochester. Rev. Norma Malfatti and Dr. Kelly reflect on what Lutherans and Catholics have learned from each since the beginning of the Reformation and offer suggestions about ways we can be God's Church together despite differences that still divide us.
- Central Crossroads Conference –
  - ◇ **Saturday, Oct. 21, 9:30am – 2:30pm** - Learning at the Crossroads, Good Shepherd Lutheran, Fayetteville, the story behind the music of the *Symphonia Reformation Celebration*. 9:30 - 2:30. \$10 includes lunch. Julie Grindle presenting.
  - ◇ **Sunday, Oct. 29, 2:30pm** - *Symphonia Reformation Celebration*, St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, Montgomery & Fayette Sts, Syracuse, featuring Bach's Cantata No. 80 (*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*) and Mendelssohn's *Reformation Symphony*
- Hudson Mohawk Conference –
  - ◇ **Tuesday, Oct. 31, 12 noon**—Rev. Jo Page presents a talk on the new biography of Luther, *Luther, Renegade and Prophet*, by Lyndal Roper; Albany Public Library, 161 Washington Ave., Albany. The book is described as "a smart, accessible, authoritative biography of one of the most dynamic figures in European history," by British author, Hilary Mantel.
- Niagara Frontier Conference –
  - ◇ **Sunday, Oct. 29** – St. Timothy, Grand Island – Reformation lessons and carols with Luther skit.
  - ◇ **Sunday, Nov. 5, 3:00pm** - St. Paul's Lutheran Church Zion of Niagara Falls and Messiah Lutheran of Lewiston will be sponsoring a service at Zion Lutheran Church, 10th and Michigan Streets in Niagara Falls. Refreshments will follow.
- Southern Tier Conference
  - ◇ **Saturday, Oct. 28, morning** – St. Luke Lutheran, Ithaca, Reformation scholar Carter Lindberg will lead morning session on images of the Reformation. **Sunday, Oct. 29, 9:30** Adult Forum - Lindberg facilitates discussion re social welfare impacts of Luther's theology; and preaches at 10:45 am service. At 2:00 pm a tour Reformation artifacts at the Cornell library.
  - ◇ **Sunday, Oct. 29, 3:00pm** - Bethany Lutheran Church, 256 S. Walnut St., Elmira, NY 14904, 3pm Reformation Service with dinner to follow. Please RSVP to [607-734-8669](tel:607-734-8669). Service showcases various styles of Lutheran liturgy through history.



## Rev. David W. Preisinger Retires from Synod Staff

After serving faithfully for over 25 years, on April 30, 2017 Rev. David W. Preisinger retired from his position as Assistant to the Bishop. Over the years his role evolved as the Church and Synod changed; serving first as the full time Mission Director (now DEM) and later as a half -time Assistant to the Bishop. In 2010 his full time position became part time in conjunction with a part-time call as Pastor to Holy Spirit Lutheran Church in Albany. He continues to serve at Holy Spirit, Albany.

Pr. Dave was ordained in 1978 by Bishop Rudolph Ressemeyer at First Lutheran Church in Washington, D.C. He entered the Upstate New York Synod in 1982 having accepted a call to St. Paul's, Syracuse where he served until 1988 and accepted a call to Our Saviour, Utica. In 1992 he accepted a joint call as Mission Director (until 2008) and Assistant to the Bishop. At that time, he became a member of Good Shepherd, Glenville.

During the time Pr. Dave was on staff he also served on many committees and teams: At Large Member of Albany Maritime Ministry; Regional Renewal Team East; World Hunger Task Force; Anti-Racism Team; Global Mission Team; the Candidacy Team and the Transitions Team. He also chaired the Synod's Congregational Development Team, served on the Board of Directors for Lutheran Statewide Advocacy and chaired CRTC to name a very few.

Pr. Preisinger wants people to come to know Christ and his love in their lives. Those on synod staff and in the congregations of the Upstate New York Synod have learned this first-hand. He brought wisdom, experience, humor and caring to everything in Christ's name while on synod staff.

The appropriate statement here should be how much we on synod staff miss him. The fact is he's only a phone call away and he does answer our calls. Every now and then we need his expertise, his memory and his humor. He continues to be a disciple of Christ and of the synod and we are delighted that we've had the pleasure to work with him, thankful for his years of service and grateful to him for sharing his love of Christ with us.

### The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bishop John Macholz Golf Outing

was held on Monday, July 24 at Shadow Lake Golf and Racquet Club in Penfield, NY. With 64 golfers, more than 30 lawn sign sponsors and businesses and 81 diners, e raised just over \$10,000 for the



Bishop's Appeal to support the Synod's Seminary Debt Assistance Fund for new pastors rostered in our synod dealing with large student loans. This is more than twice last year's event.

Prizes were awarded to the lowest scoring teams, longest drive, closest to the pin - for men and women!

Next year's outing will be held on Monday, August 20, 2018. Mark your calendars now to join us, sponsor a sign or just send in a donation. Thanks to all of this year's participants and volunteers!

### Celebrate Campus Ministry



Congregations across the synod are invited to join in celebrating Campus Ministry Sunday. How can Campus Ministries connect with youth in our congregations as they plan for college? How do congregations stay connected with their students that head off to college? What are the best ways to reach out to the young adults on our campuses who do not know Jesus Christ and his church? How can congregations more readily engage with Campus Ministry? These are just some of the questions to consider learning about this ministry.

While October 1<sup>st</sup> was designated as Campus Ministry Sunday, congregations can choose any Sunday to learn more about this important mission work. The goal is a sharing of this amazing ministry in our midst. Resources are available on the synod website including prayers, bulletin inserts and a newsletter piece as well as information on how to arrange for students to join you in your congregation to share their faith experiences while studying. Contact one of our ministries to invite a student to your congregation or to learn about ways you can get involved.