



# Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod [www.mnosynod.org](http://www.mnosynod.org)

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## ATTENTION: YOUTH LEADERS, CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS AND PASTORS

### Included in this packet are:

- 1) A poster for the MNO Synod FALL YOUTH RETREAT at Luther Village, October 9-12, 2009
- 2) Registration forms for participants and leaders (*photocopy as needed*)
- 3) An information page for participants/parents (*photocopy as needed*)

## INFORMATION OF WHAT'S HAPPENING

- a) *You've asked for it, in order to have more time to promote the retreat after Labour Day, and to have less burnout for the leaders. We've trying it this fall – combining the Jr. High and Sr. High Retreats into **ONE Fall Retreat**. Judging by the combined numbers of both retreats in the past two years, we should be able to accommodate everyone. However, **THERE IS A LIMIT OF 80 BEDS**, so we encourage early registrations.*
- b) *A **New Hope – The Gospel According to Luke (Skywalker)** is this year's theme. Our presenters, Troy Miller and Daniel Jordan, are major fans of Star Wars episodes and will use clips from these movies to illustrate faith and life concepts from Luke's Gospel. Junior and Senior High discussion groups will be formed to help the discussions to be age appropriate for your youth. Add opportunities to play in God's creation, make new friends, and sing with Prairie Fire, our Synod youth band, and you know this is an event that should not be missed.*
- c) *A **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary time capsule** will be buried at this year's fall retreat. (2009 marks the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Thanksgiving youth retreat and thus the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this retreat – we had that confused last year) Bring with you church newsletters, bulletins, pictures, or perhaps make a DVD telling about your youth group in 2009 to put into the time capsule. Think also about what you may want to say to youth in 2019, when the time capsule gets opened for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.*
- d) *A **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Thanksgiving Retreat Reunion** is being planned separately, but will intersect with this retreat on Saturday afternoon/evening, as well as for the Sunday service and the time capsule. This should provide an exciting opportunity for our youth to experience firsthand that they are part of a long standing event in our Synod.*

## HERE'S WHAT WE NEED YOU TO DO (IN CHECKLIST FORMAT)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Hang the poster** in a prominent place.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Promote this among your youth (Grade 7-12) and parents both now and as school begins in the fall.** Talk it up on Sundays, at youth group, through your bulletin/newsletter, and through individual/parent contact by meeting/telephone/email.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Make available** sufficient quantities of the registration forms and the information page for youth/parents. These can also be downloaded ([www.mnosynod.org](http://www.mnosynod.org)) and attached to an email.

\_\_\_\_\_ **SECURE LEADERS. A leader MUST register/attend with your youth.** Leaders are expected to participate fully in the retreat activities, beginning with a brief orientation for leaders on Friday evening upon arrival. The Synod abides by the ELCIC Policy for the Protection of Children, Youth and other Vulnerable People (Read the Introduction and Policy at [www.elcic.ca](http://www.elcic.ca) ) This means that you need to send **a male leader for male youth** (ratio of 1 for up to 8 youth) and **a female leader for female youth** (same ratio). To assist in making this happen, congregations are invited to coordinate with each other, or through Larry Ulrich at the Synod office ([lulrich@elcic.ca](mailto:lulrich@elcic.ca)). Junior leaders from a congregation (age 19-20) are permitted in order to fill the male/female quota of leadership, as long as at least one leader from each congregation is 21 or over.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Police Records Check** - All leaders are required to have **a current one** (*must be dated after October 1, 2007*). PLEASE INCLUDE a photocopy with the leader registration.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Gather registration forms (on or before September 30).** Email Debbie Beyer ([dbeyer@elcic.ca](mailto:dbeyer@elcic.ca)) with your numbers **on or before September 30** and send/drop off completed forms (*all registration fees included*) to:

**Debbie Beyer, Registrar**  
**MNO Synod, 201-3657 Roblin Blvd.**  
**Winnipeg, MB R3R 0E2**

For more information, don't hesitate to call Larry Ulrich, Assistant to the Bishop for Youth Ministry (889-3760) (email [lulrich@elcic.ca](mailto:lulrich@elcic.ca) )

Thanks for all the ways that you assist the MNO Youth Ministry Committee to promote this and help to keep youth ministry strong in our Synod.