



Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod 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 8-11, 2010
- 2) Registration forms for participants and leaders (*photocopy as needed*)
- 3) An information page for participants/parents (*photocopy as needed*)

INFORMATION ON WHAT'S HAPPENING

- a) *This packet is coming a bit later this year, in order to make certain that it won't get shelved because of all the preparations to go to London for the Youth Gathering. Last year, we experimented with combining the Jr. High and Sr. High Retreats into **ONE Fall Retreat**, and that is what we are doing again this year. While we had no trouble accommodating everyone last year, **THERE IS A LIMIT OF 80 BEDS**, so please don't wait until the last minute to get in your registrations.*
- b) ***Mission is our theme** – Members of the MNO Synod who have recently returned from a Mission Exposure trip to our Companion Synod Church in the Cameroon will lead this year's participants on a "mission trip" simulation of their own. The goals for the retreat are:*
 - To better understand what Mission means in today's world
 - To raise the profile of our Cameroon Companion relationship with youth in MNO
 - To connect the mission stories of our leaders to the everyday lives of our young people

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 before 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) 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) 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). 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, 2008*). PLEASE INCLUDE a photocopy with the leader registration, unless the Synod office has a copy because you have recently provided one for the Bus Trip to the Youth Gathering.

_____ **Gather registration forms (on or before September 26)**. Email Debbie Beyer (dbeyer@elcic.ca) with your numbers **on or before September 27** 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)

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.