



NFCLYO



Niagara Frontier Conference Lutheran Youth Organization
Upstate New York Synod, ELCA

A ministry supported by Lutheran Charities of WNY & St. John's Lutheran Home for Children

Whats Up @ NFCLYO

The monthly newsletter of the NFCLYO
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NFCLYO 2009 Winter Day Out Fun in the snow February 8

We had so much fun tubing in near-zero degree cold we thought we'd do it again! Come join us for an afternoon of snow tubing fun, followed by an all-you-can-eat pizza & wings dinner, topped off by some awesome worship!

It all takes place on **Sunday, February 8 from 2:30-8 pm at Colden Tubing Company in Glenwood. \$20 per person (\$2 less than 2008!)** gets you three hours of unlimited tubing, dinner, worship and great times with friends old and new.

This event is open to all in grades 6-12 and their adult chaperones (1 adult needed for every 9 youth attending in your church group). There is an adult chaperone dinner-only option for \$10 per person. Check out the [Winter Day Out page](#) for more info, event flyer, ticket order and registration forms and more! **Deadline for ordering your group tickets is Friday, January 30.**



LCLC 2009 Winter Retreats Senior High Retreat a blast 4th-8th Grade Retreat in March

42 senior high youth (very large by winter retreat standards) came to LCLC the weekend of January 2-4 for the annual Senior High Winter Retreat. All had an amazing time in the snow, by the fire, playing, learning, having conversations, and of course all of the other stuff LCLC is known for. Check out the pictures from this year's

NFC Youth Ministry Network AM Fill-Up



NFCYMnet AM Fill-Up

Monthly gatherings continue

Are you a youth worker (volunteer or paid), a pastor, or

retreat by [clicking here](#).

LCLC's 4th-8th Grade Winter Retreat is coming March 6-8! More fun in the snow, small groups, worship, and so much more! Go to www.lclcelca.org or call (716) 386-4125 for details and registration forms.

Ed Kinkel Scholarship Awarded

Congratulations to **Ashley Rohl from St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Eggertsville**, who is the recipient of the 2009 St. John's Lutheran Home for Children Edward G. Kinkel Memorial Scholarship! Many thanks to all that applied. Ashley will be presented the scholarship at a dinner in April.

are interested in finding support for your church's youth ministry program? Come join us with the NFC Youth Ministry Network to pray, talk, get ideas and connect with others just like you!

Our next meeting is an AM Fill-Up at 8:30 am on Saturday, January 24 at Panera Bread on Niagara Falls Blvd. in Amherst (just south of I-290 Exit 3/3A).

Call Rick for more info and to RSVP by January 23 at (716) 465-1321 or email at rick@nfclyo.org.

Can't make this NFC Youth Ministry Network gathering? Here's our other gathering dates for Spring 2009:

- Tuesday, February 24, 8:30 am: Amy's Place, Main St., Buffalo (near UB)
- Thursday, March 19, 7:30 pm: Tim Horton's, Union Rd., West Seneca (just south of the 400 Exit)
- Saturday, April 18, 8:30 am: Panera Bread, South Transit Rd., Lockport
- Saturday, May 9: Attend Youth Specialties One Day seminar in Hamburg (see below for details)

Niagara Falls Gathering moved to 2010

Planning and event set-up kicking up a gear

A large-scale senior high youth gathering at Niagara Falls is starting to take shape after a re-grouping, now planned for March 12-14, 2010! It involves big-name bands, speakers, small group times, service projects, touring the falls, invading a local hotel, and tons of other exciting opportunities! Hundreds of youth from across the Synod and beyond are expected to come...and we need YOU to help us plan and pray and help make this huge event one to remember!

Because this is a youth gathering, youth have a vital part in planning and leading this event! If you want to get involved - youth or adult - plan on being there...everyone from across the Synod is welcome to take part. Call Rick Mollenkopf-Grill (716) 465-1321 or email at rick@nfclyo.org if you have any questions or want to talk about getting involved!

Our planning meeting schedule goes like this:

- Tuesday, January 27, 7 pm: Amherst Lutheran Church
- Saturday, February 7, 10 am: location TBD
- Tuesday, February 24, 7 pm: Amherst Lutheran Church
- Friday, March 13: during Volleyball Marathon
- Thursday, March 26, 7 pm: location TBD
- Saturday, April 4, 10 am: location TBD
- Tuesday, April 21, 7 pm: Amherst Lutheran Church
- Saturday, May 2, 10 am: location TBD
- Tuesday, May 19, 7 pm: Amherst Lutheran Church

Souper Bowl of Caring

Make a difference February 1

You've heard of Super Bowl Sunday, but have you heard of "Souper" Bowl Sunday? It's a nationwide event that hundreds of churches take part in to raise funds all at once for a charity of their choice. It's a fundraising event calling attention to hunger in our communities. You can get materials to coordinate and promote your event, and you get to choose the charity your fundraiser benefits! Go to www.souperbowl.org now to get the scoop (pun intended) and take part in this well-known, easy to do event!



2009 NFCLYO Volleyball Marathon

It's back! March 13-14!



An overnight of volleyball insanity! Be sure your church group is there and has a team for this popular annual event. **The NFCLYO 2009 Volleyball Marathon is on Friday-Saturday, March 13-14 from 8 pm to 8 am at Daemen College in Amherst.** A volleyball tournament, worship, movies, games, food and more will be a part of it. Tickets are \$15 per person (same cost as 2008...adult chaperones are FREE!) and any and all donations you can gather. **Help make a difference and raise money for Lutheran Charities of WNY!** This year we introduce a new "trophy": for the top fund-raising team, in addition to the top-scoring team!

This event is for grades 6-12. Go to the [Volleyball Marathon page](#) now to download the ticket order and registration forms, the player donation collection form, get more info and see last year's pictures. **The deadline for ordering tickets is March 4...so start collecting money for Lutheran Charities, get your teams formed, start practicing, and be there for what promises to be another great event!!!**

The CORE Team

Now booking for 2009!

CORE is an excited, faith-centered team of youth that reaches out to youth and others in need, bringing God's love and word to everyone.

What core can do for your church:

- Visit during Sunday worship times, giving temple talks about youth ministry in the NFCLYO, CORE and LCLC and making a connection to your church's Lutheran Charities campaign.
- Visit youth groups and confirmation classes, witnessing their faith to their peers, showing them that their faith matters! We do this through games, mixers, discussions, worship, Bible devotions, and more (we even do Confirmation retreats!).
- Give your church a look at youth ministry and get them fired up about it to support not only the NFCLYO and LCLC but YOUR CHURCH...from a YOUTH perspective!

CORE does this and more! If your church or youth group is interested in a CORE visit, call Rick Mollenkopf-Grill, the



CORE advisor at (716) 683-8972, or email at rick@nfclyo.org!



YS One Day

Youth worker training seminar May 9

One of the most intimidating parts of leading students towards Jesus is the responsibility of helping them understand and interact with the Bible. But it doesn't have to be that way. At YS One Day you'll get the tools, insight, and resources to help you make the Bible more accessible for your students while helping you to experience the Bible for yourself in new ways as well. During YS One Day, you will receive tangible takeaways you can implement tomorrow. Come on Saturday, use it on Sunday.

YS One Day is a seminar by Youth Specialties, and it comes to our area on Saturday, May 9 from 8:15 am to 2:30 pm at the Wesleyan Church of Hamburg (McKinley Pkwy., south of the Big Tree intersection with routes 20 and 20A). The cost is \$45 per person if we register as a NFCLYO group. If you are interested, contact Rick at (716) 465-1321 or rick@nfclyo.org by April 15.

REMINDER: New NFCLYO Registration Policy now in effect

All events now on an advance group-ticket system

The NFCLYO is beginning a ticketing system starting with the 2009 Winter Day Out (February 8). Groups planning on going to this and all future events can buy tickets for their group much the same way you would buy tickets for a sporting event.

There will no longer be RSVP's taken for attendance estimates, and all tickets will have to be purchased in advance and in full by the deadline given for an event. There will also be no refunds given for purchased tickets (except in emergencies).

Thank you for understanding the switch to this system...it will ensure that no one is unnecessarily turned away from events in the future.

The NFCLYO is going strong into 2009! If your church is hosting a youth event that you want to open up to everyone to come, the NFCLYO is a great way to promote it. Just give us the details and we'll get the word out!

If you are on our quarterly mailing list, look for our next newsletter in that format in your mailbox within the next week. If you would like to get it, email rick@nfclyo.org with your mailing address and we'll be glad to add you.

Have a great month! The next Whats Up @ NFCLYO will be coming by January 31!

Rick Mollenkopf-Grill
Niagara Frontier Conference Lutheran Youth Organization

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