



# 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  
Issue No. 31  
February 2009

### 2009 NFCLYO Volleyball Marathon

It's back! March 13-14!

# VOLLEYBALL

# 20



# 09

# MARATHON

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!!!**



### **LCLC 2009 Winter Retreats** **4th-8th Grade Retreat March 6-8**

LCLC's 4th-8th Grade Winter Retreat is coming March 6-8! Fun in the snow, small groups, worship, and so much more! Go to [www.lclcelca.org](http://www.lclcelca.org) or call (716) 386-4125 for details and registration forms. Deadline to register is February 23.

### **NFCLYO 30-Hour Famime** **Weekend of April 3-4**

The weekend of April 3-4 is NFCLYO's 30-Hour Famime weekend. 30-Hour Famime is just that...an event designed for your group to experience and learn about hunger-related issues in a 30-hour timespan. Go to [www.30hourfamime.org](http://www.30hourfamime.org) to learn about how your group can get involved and have your own 30-hour famine event at your church this weekend.

OR...Zion Lutheran Church in Clarence Center is opening their doors to host this event for any one or any group interested in joining the NFCLYO and Zion all in one place. You can come join us at Zion from 8 am to 2 pm Friday-Saturday, April 3-4 for activities, games, sleep (believe us, you'll need it!), and learning about all of the serious issues surrounding hunger...and what you can do about it. We'll end with a feast at noon Saturday.

While there is no cost for this event, we ask that any group attending send along enough adult chaperones to supervise your youth (1 adult for every 9 youth). Find out more by contacting either Rick at [rick@nfclyo.org](mailto:rick@nfclyo.org) or (716) 465-1321 or Kristen Arends at (716) 741-2656 or at [faithformation@roadrunner.com](mailto:faithformation@roadrunner.com).

### **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 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! January's gathering was a great group...come be a part of it in February!

**Our next meeting is an AM Fill-Up at 8:30 am on Tuesday, February 24 at Amy's Place, on Main St. in Buffalo near UB South Campus.**

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

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

- 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)

## NFCLYO 2009 Winter Day Out highlights

Wow! We went from 48 who attended Winter Day Out in 2008 (this event's first year) to 91 this year! All those people came to Colden Tubing Company on February 8 (several groups attended an NFCLYO event for the first time in a long time!) for some very fast tubing, an excellent dinner and a moving worship service to wrap up the day. Thank you to all that came and make this event the rousing success that it was, and be on the lookout for pictures on nfclyo.org coming later in the month.



## 2010 Niagara Falls Gathering

**Planning is back on! Be a part of it!**

We are rolling along with planning for the 2010 Niagara Falls Youth Gathering! Look for a major announcement regarding this event coming in March!!!

We still could use your gifts, time and input to make this event one for the ages! If you want to get involved - youth or adult - join our planning team. Everyone from across the Synod is welcome to take part. Call Rick Mollenkopf-Grill (716) 465-1321 or email at [rick@nfclyo.org](mailto:rick@nfclyo.org) if you have any questions or want to talk about getting involved!

Our planning meeting schedule rolls on like this:

Tuesday, February 24, 7 pm: Amherst Lutheran Church

Friday, March 13: during Volleyball Marathon

Thursday, March 26, 6 pm: site visit to Crowne Plaza Hotel and Niagara Falls Conference Center! Come see where the event will take place!

Saturday, April 4, 10 am: location TBD

Tuesday, April 21, 7 pm: Amherst Lutheran Church

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 has begun initiating a ticketing system for people attending events. 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. (They're coming fast and furious so far...but this will be the last mailing until May.) If you would like to get it, email [rick@nfclyo.org](mailto: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 March 1!

Rick Mollenkopf-Grill  
Niagara Frontier Conference Lutheran Youth Organization

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