

Your **LINK** to the Ministry Resources of Northeastern Ohio

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NE Ohio Synod Resource Center

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Staffed Hours

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 8-4

Call or email ahead and recommended resources will be pulled for you to preview whenever you are able to visit. Not able to visit? Most items can be mailed.

Karen Kaufman,
Resource Specialist

Preparing for Reformation 500

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton at our synod assembly challenged congregations to study Luther's Small Catechism as we approach 2017. There are a variety of ways in which we can use these writings. Printing in the bulletin or by having people turn to the corresponding page in the back of the ELW, we can include a different portion of the Small Catechism with explanation in the worship service as part of the liturgy. For example using one article of the Apostle's Creed with explanation instead of the entire creed for three weeks in a row or the Lord's Prayer during Lent.

Connections: Faith and Life was written by Norma Cook Everist and Nelvin Vos to help adults connect the Small Catechism with today's world. Originally published in booklet format it is now a free download at www.wartburgseminary.edu/resources/connections-resource-congregations/

The site <http://smallcatechismbigideas.weebly.com> suggests ways to review the Small Catechism inter-generationally. The curriculum **Firelight: Most Certainly True** suggest activities for children that focus on the Small Catechism teachings.

For those adults who wish to expand their reading of Luther's writings beyond the catechism they can read and discuss his writings at <https://www.lutherreadingchallenge.org>

To view or share other ideas recognizing this event visit www.elca500.org

Saving \$\$\$'s

The Central Purchasing Office of the Diocese of Cleveland [www.cpodoc.org] provides savings in a variety of ways for non-profits in the Northeastern Ohio area. Their new partner that specializes in electricity and natural gas is LakePoint Energy. To learn more about potential savings email copies of last month's electric and natural gas bills to Jim Teresi (jim@cpodoc.org) to learn of potential savings or phone 440-717-9700 for more information.

When considering a new copier or furniture phone 866-746-7276 . They can provide name-brand quality equipment at significant savings.

Social Media
&
The Church

8/20 1:15-5 pm

For more information:
www.crlcbrecksville.org

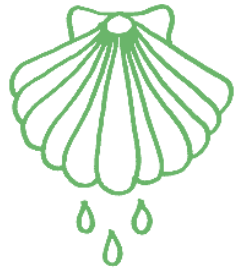
New Arrivals

All Hands In!: (Drumming the Biblical Narrative) is another way for teaching The Story. This is a great resource for a congregation with music leaders. Each of the ten stories includes a variety of activities to accommodate various ages, group sizes and abilities. Looking for a different approach to Christian Education or to transition to a new format? This curriculum is worth considering.

CoLaborate: is the new catechism curriculum from SparkHouse. The best way to learn more about this curriculum is to participate in a webinar found at www.augsburgfortress.org (held weekly at varying times). Full samples can be borrowed from the resource center or single samples can be viewed at www.wearesparkhouse.org. Each unit has 15 sessions. The units currently available are *Old Testament* and *Lutheran History & Catechism*. The units *New Testament* and *Lutheran Living* will complete the series. The curriculum provides 2-6 minute video clips for each session which may be used but is not required. Some of the clips you may find appropriate to use in other settings such as new member classes or Bible study introductions.

Baptism

With upcoming conversations about the connection between baptism and communion congregations may want to review the statement **The Use of the Means of Grace**, especially the portion on baptism. A downloadable copy is available at www.elca.org and it does include a study guide. Another resource to guide conversation **Table and Font: Who is Welcome to the Table** can also be downloaded from www.elca.org.



There are a variety of resources available to generate conversation regarding baptism:

Go Make Disciples: An Invitation to Baptismal Living contains “Water Life: A Bible study on Baptism and Water Images” that uses 16+ scripture passages. Host an art display on this theme to reinforce the learning.

Baptism: A User’s Guide by Martin Marty contains a discussion guide in the back of the book for each of the nine chapters.

Baptism: God’s Activity of Grace touches on the different aspects of baptism and also contains discussion questions in the back of the book for each of the five chapters.

No Greater Jewel: Thinking about Baptism with Luther by Kirsi Stjerna in brief chapters with discussion questions begins with “Why and How have Christians Baptized” and ends with “Considerations Today”.

Flowing Water Uncommon Birth: Christian Baptism in a Post-Christian Culture by Samuel Torvend prompts the reader to consider how they are living out their baptism. Six chapters, five with discussion questions aid in group discussions.

Washed and Welcome: A Baptism Sourcebook provides suggestions for ways to remind individuals of their baptism and how to support one another in baptismal living.

Check out our baptism display in the synod resource center this summer!

Stewardship Teams: A limited number of **Consecration Sunday Leaders** are available for congregations this fall. Contact the resource center 330-929-9020/ rc@neos-elca.org for more information.