



# Updates from the Synod

February 2026

This monthly insert is just one way to stay connected with what's going on in the Northwestern Minnesota Synod. You'll find highlights of recent news, upcoming events, and ways our synod is walking together in ministry. We hope it helps you see the bigger picture of how God is at work through the Northwestern Minnesota Synod.



## Upcoming Events



**February 2-March 20**  
Online Boundaries Training  
**February 9**  
Treasurer 101: Stewardship Zoom  
**February 12** |  
Giving Hearts Day  
**February 18** |  
Ash Wednesday  
**February 24-March 17** |  
Online Anti-Racism Book Read



**March 6**  
In-Person Boundaries & Anti-Racism Training  
**March 9-11**  
Senior Pastor Retreat  
**March 21**  
The Great NWMN Synod Get Together  
**March 29**  
Palm Sunday



## Discernment and Calling

The synod continues to walk with individuals discerning calls to ordained and lay leadership. If you or someone you know is sensing a call, resources and conversation partners are available through the synod office.



# GIVING HEARTS DAY

**Mark your calendars for  
Giving Hearts Day!**

On February 12, our synod will join many local organizations in this regional day of generosity.



# From the Bishop's Desk

Beloved siblings in Christ,

As we move through these winter weeks together, I am mindful of the many pressures and uncertainties facing our communities and our world. In moments like these, the church is called not to look away, but to remain rooted in Christ's love and to show up for one another with compassion, courage, and hope. Thank you for the faithful ways you continue to serve, pray, and care for your neighbors. May God strengthen you for the work you are doing, often quietly and faithfully, for the sake of the gospel.

Grace and peace,  
Bishop Bill



## Resource of the Month



## Prayer Requests

### A Word of Hope from Minnesota Bishops and Bishop Curry

The Minnesota bishops recently released a video featuring the ELCA Presiding Bishop Yahiel Curry, offering a message of hope, faith, and love for the church and our communities. In a time marked by uncertainty and division, this resource invites reflection on how we are called to live as neighbors rooted in God's love.

We invite congregations and leaders to share prayer requests with the synod and to hold the ministries, leaders, and communities of our synod in prayer. Your prayers sustain our shared work and deepen our connection to one another.

view the video here:



## Synod Staff

- Pr. Bill Tesch** | Bishop
- Pr. Genelle Netland** | Associate to Bishop for Leadership
- Pr. Rebel Hurd** | Associate to Bishop for Mission / D.E.M.
- Pr. Keith Pearson** | Minister for Generosity
- Morgan Olson** | Communications & Events
- Rachel Haun** | Office Administrator

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