

Strengthening the Christian family according to God's design in Holy Scripture continues to be a significant challenge in ministry. The changing values, lifestyles, and priorities espoused in present-day society put tremendous pressure on individuals and families, husbands and wives, as well as parents and children.

Gathering Christian families around Word and Sacrament where they receive the tremendous blessings God has for His people in His Son, Jesus Christ, continues to be the goal toward which the Michigan District strives; that District congregations may be resourced for ministry so that the lives of many be blessed both now and in eternity.

Inside you will find examples of these resources available through the Michigan District office. May God richly bless your congregation's ministry to families.

### Family Ministries ...

Building homes and relationships where faith in Christ is nurtured and shared in congregations and beyond;

and ...

Encouraging and resourcing ministry to, by, and with children, youth, and adults.

### For More Information:

Please contact Rev. Galan D. Walther  
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Family Ministries



**Michigan District**

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
*People of Hope ... Vigorously Making Known the Love of Christ*

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# Family Ministries



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## CONGREGATIONS

### RESOURCES

Trained consultants are available to congregations for consulting in ministry with:

- CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
- CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
- CONFIRMATION
- BIBLE CLASSES
- SUNDAY SCHOOL
- VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
- YOUTH MINISTRY
- YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY
- PRE-MARRIAGE
- MARRIAGE
- FAMILY MINISTRY
- MEN'S MINISTRY
- WOMEN'S MINISTRY
- SENIOR MINISTRY

Resources are available in the above ministry areas upon request.

## DISTRICT SPONSORED EVENTS

### CHILDREN

- **CONSULTATION:**  
Trained consultants are available to meet with staff boards or volunteers regarding evaluation or planning of the congregation's ministry with children.
- **CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS:**  
At various times, training events are offered for those involved in ministry with children.

### YOUTH

- **JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GATHERING:**  
An annual event for youth entering grades 7-9 held in Frankenmuth.
- **SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GATHERING:**  
A triennial event for youth entering grades 9-12, and recent high school graduates, held on Mackinac Island.
- **NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING:**  
A triennial event for youth entering grades 9-12 around the country and throughout the world.
- **LYF—LUTHERAN YOUTH FELLOWSHIP:**  
An LCMS resource to support youth ministry and leadership skill development in teenagers.
- **CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS:**  
At various times, training events are offered for those involved in ministry with youth.

### FAMILY

- **FAMILY FRIENDLY PARTNERS NETWORK:**  
A three-year fee-based process guided by Ben Freudenburg of Concordia University Ann Arbor to enhance family ministry at the congregation level.
- **LUTHERAN ADULT GATHERING:**  
A biennial event for adults held on Mackinac Island.
- **FAMILY CONNECTIONS:**  
Meets quarterly at Concordia University Ann Arbor, connecting Family Life students at CUAA and those working in family ministry in our congregations.
- **CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS:**  
By request, training events are offered for those involved in ministry with adults and families.

### SPECIAL FRIENDS CAMP

A five-day summer overnight camp for mentally handicapped adults age 18 years and older. These events take place at Camp Copneconic, a YMCA camp in Fenton, MI. Three purposes of these events are to:

- Share Christ.
- Provide an experience campers do not usually encounter the rest of the year.
- Give relief to the camper's caregivers.