



**Northwestern Minnesota Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

June 5, 2014

Dear Friends in Christ,

Enclosed you'll find information regarding a new venture for our synod—***Fostering Vibrant Faith***. This multi-year effort, approved at last month's synod assembly, is designed to help congregations pass on Christian faith to all the children God has entrusted to our care.

At the heart of ***Fostering Vibrant Faith*** is the conviction that congregations' most critical work is to equip caring adults (parents, grandparents, godparents, etc.) to exercise their vocation in homes and other circles of care, fulfilling the promises they make to the newly baptized in the rite of Holy Baptism.

Please share the enclosed information with your Congregation Council and other congregational leadership groups responsible for passing on Christian Faith to the next generation. Please ask your key congregational leaders to learn and pray about ***Fostering Vibrant Faith***—and to consider ways to get your congregation involved as an *Immersed*, *Involved* or *Inquiring* congregation (as those terms are used in the enclosed information packet).

Then please fill out and return the enclosed ***Fostering Vibrant Faith*** response form to the NW MN Synod, Concordia College, Moorhead, MN 56562 as soon as possible. Vibrant Faith Training Events—nine of them!—will be offered throughout our synod, starting in September. Now's the time to get on board!

If you have questions that aren't addressed in the enclosed information packet, please contact me at [Wohlrabe@cord.edu](mailto:Wohlrabe@cord.edu) or call me at 218.299.3019. We want your congregation to make an informed, faithful decision about how you will be part of ***Fostering Vibrant Faith***.

*"O Christ, yourself a child within an earthly home,  
With heart still undefiled to full adulthood come:  
Our children bless in ev'ry place  
That they may all behold your face  
And, knowing you, may grow in grace." ELW 640*

Your brother in Christ,

Lawrence R. Wohlrabe  
Bishop, Northwestern Minnesota Synod

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