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# ed. network

A reproducible networking newsletter for the Christian Education Ministries of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, ELCA, to equip, empower, and encourage believers of all ages to develop their relationship with God and neighbor through faith development and discipleship.

## WHAT IS . . . ?

Many churches have introduced or are preparing to introduce our new *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* resource. For many people, both young and old, this can be an intimidating and overwhelming prospect. Faith formers everywhere – parents and Christian education volunteers – can help children (and adults) become familiar with these items in their churches so that all may learn the “language” that God’s people use when they talk about where they worship:



As you are teaching your younger students about worship, look at the book *Every Day and Sunday Too*, by Gail Ramshaw (available from Augsburg Fortress). This delightfully illustrated book shows how worship occurs throughout our lives in everything we do, including on Sunday.

**Narthex:** Entrance hall of a church building.

**Nave:** From the Latin for “ship;” the section of a church building between the narthex and the chancel where the congregation gathers for worship.

**Pew/Chairs:** The seating arrangement for worshippers.



**Aisles:** Area that allows for the congregation to enter and be seated in the nave, processions, and the proclamation of the word in the midst of the gathered congregation.

**Chancel:** Elevated area in front of the nave where altar and pulpit are located.

**Sanctuary:** The section of the chancel in which the altar is located.

**Altar:** Table in chancel used for celebration of Holy Communion.



**Altar Rail:** Railing enclosing chancel at which people kneel to receive Holy Communion.

**Pulpit:** Raised reading desk in chancel from which the sermon is delivered.

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*If you are like me, I was thrust into the position of knowing more about church libraries. In fact, I was not even aware that church libraries fell under the responsibility of Christian Education. Therefore, I am going to write a series of articles that document my journey through the maze of information on church libraries. Consider this article as Libraries 101!*

Where should I start? The answer to this question became obvious when I received a publication entitled, Libraries Alive, a publication of the National Church Library Association. In this publication, it referenced a website: [www.churchlibraries.org](http://www.churchlibraries.org) and it contained a wealth of information.

The recommended starting point is to join the National Church Libraries Association, (NCLA). The website makes it very easy to join and you can enroll your church for a very nominal fee. On the first page of the website is the following quote, *"It is not enough to merely know we have church libraries; we must transform them into libraries that truly are alive. NCLA helps us do that."* One of the benefits of joining is that you receive a copy of *A Handbook for Church Librarians* and a subscription to the publication mentioned above. The handbook contains everything you need to know to create, organize, and manage a successful church library. The periodical brings you new information on church libraries and it contains book reviews. Make it your objective to create a church library or resource center which is truly alive.



(FIND ... Continued)

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**Lectern:** Reading stand in chancel from which lessons are read.

**Paraments:** Cloth hanging of various liturgical colors used to adorn the altar, pulpit, and lectern.

**Baptismal Font:**

Bowl and stand to hold water and generally located at the entrance of the nave, and symbolizes our entrance, through baptism, into the Church of God.



**Paschal Candle:** A large decorative candle which is symbolic of Christ's forty days on earth after his Resurrection.

**Altar Candles:** Candles symbolize Christ as the Light of the world (John 8: 12; 12: 46) and are usually placed on the altar.

**Cross:** The central object of the altar area and symbolizes Christ's sacrifice for our redemption.

**Chalice/Cup:** Cup used for administration of wine in Holy Communion.



**Paten/Plate:** Plate used to hold bread during the distribution of Holy Communion.

(Excerpts from *The Altar Guild, A Guide for the Ministry of Liturgical Preparations*)