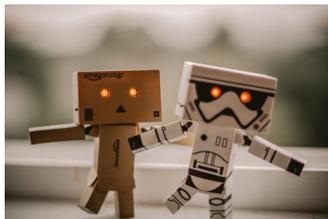


We Need a Translator!

by Pr. Brett Jenkins, Lutheran CORE Board Member

Twenty two years ago I started in ministry as a full-time youth minister. I was twenty six years old and looked the part; I had a passion for Jesus, I played guitar, was willing to get down on the floor to chat with the youth... and I had way more hair than I do now. I was never exactly cool, but I still knew what cool looked like. I understood and remembered in my bones what it felt like to face all the trials that accompany being 12-21 years old.

No more... and it's not just me or people in my age group. My wife's research assistant of 25 tells her that she doesn't understand undergraduates anymore, let alone high school and middle school students. They seem to possess a language all their own, and that language changes faster than anyone even a few years older can account for.



Digital immigrants and digital natives, Fortnite, Post Malone, #ByeByeBikini, Yanny vs. Laurel, Childish Gambino, 13 Reasons Why, Amino Apps, Sick Boy, Black Mirror, Anti-Heroes... if most of these words seem foreign to you, join the club of which I'm president. I know I need to connect with the youth in my life and ministry who understand the world to which these terms belong, but to be honest, I'm not sure I have the time — or ability — to make the leap.

The Culture Translator

A few months ago I came across a youth ministry resource called *The Culture Translator*. Headed up by a group of thoughtful and engaged younger Evangelicals, this weekly email to my inbox gives me a couple of highlights of what's happening in teen culture that week so I am not completely in the dark and out of touch. As with any resource, you are not going to agree with everything you read there, but their thoughtful, even-handed, non-reactionary approach to a teen culture that appears to me at times (as a 48-year-old) to range from simply frenetic to downright disturbing is extremely helpful. Their parent ministry Axis also offers pamphlets and downloadable video curricula for congregational or family use.

I have found these resources to be enormously helpful as I minister both to teens and to their parents. I would encourage you to check them out at <https://axis.org> whether you are a pastor, parent, grandparent, or just someone who loves the kids in your congregation.

COME TO CHICAGO FOR ENCUENTRO 2018

by Pr. Keith Forni, Lutheran CORE Board Member

Encuentro (Encounter) 2018 will again be hosted by Saint Timothy Lutheran Church- ELCA, 2101 North Kildare Avenue in Chicago's Hermosa neighborhood, gathered around the theme "Fight the Good Fight of Faith / Pelea la Buena Batalla de la Fe," 1 Timothy 6:12.

The Inter-Lutheran Hispanic-Latino / Bilingual Ministry resourcing event, sponsored annually by Lutheran CORE, will take place Friday, October 12, 2018.

Featured presentations will focus on Neighborhood Ministry, Advent-Christmas Celebrations including Las Posadas, Liturgical Spanish 101. The "Misa Panamericana" will be celebrated with Mariachi musicians.

Featured speakers include:

- The Rev. Samuel Nieva, Sr. Pastor, Iglesia Luterana Pueblo de Dios
- Attorney Mary Campbell, ELCA Program Director Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities (AMMPARO)
- Professor Marco Kempff, Centro de Estudios Hispanos, Concordia Seminary
- The Rev. Keith Forni, Pastor, STS, First & Santa Cruz, The Joliet City Center Lutheran Parish, Joliet IL
- The Rev. Dennis Nelson, Director, Lutheran CORE, Scottsdale AZ:
- The Rev. Myrta Robles, retired ELCA pastor active with St. Timothy's ministry

Contact:

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Encuentro Convener*

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