

# WHAT MATTERS . . . . . June 9, 2020

*News from Your Synod and Ministry Partners*

South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA/6401 Odana Rd./Suite 20/Madison, WI 53719/(608)270-0201/www.scsw-elca.org

**NEW SYNOD ASSEMBLY DATE ANNOUNCED! SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2020 IS OUR NEW DATE**



## **SYNOD ASSEMBLY TO BE HELD VIA A 12-SITE VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ALL CONGREGATIONS WHO HAVE OFFERED TO SERVE AS HOST SITES WILL BE NOTIFIED BY THURSDAY WITH CONFIRMATION THAT YOUR SITE HAS BEEN SELECTED. AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA WEBINAR WITH DEACON VICKI HANRAHAN AND BISHOP ROGNES IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO ASSURE YOUR COMFORT WITH YOUR ROLE.**

In the meantime, information was emailed to all congregations today and one hard copy will be mailed to congregations on Wednesday.

Even if you were registered for the May 1 & 2 assembly, you will need to register for the new assembly. All prior registrations were cancelled and monies reimbursed. There will be a new fee of \$25 for early bird registration and \$30 after that day has passed that you will need to pay.

Please pay attention to the email from our office and to the hard copy mailing that you will receive this week. Many things will be different for this videoconference assembly. Not the least of which that we will gather at 12 distinct hosting locations with no more than 50 at each location. These are unprecedented times with new procedures and timelines to follow. Registration is now open. See your registration materials for details. As we are sure you will have many questions, [reading this information first will answer many of those](#), but as ever, if you have questions, contact Deacon Vicki Hanrahan at (608) 270-0201.

We look forward to this day when we will gather to do the work of the church: Elect a bishop, elect synod leadership, vote on resolutions, participate in a contemplative, non-singing worship, and celebrate our shared mission in Christ.



**Bishop Nominee Forums – Meet Our Four Bishop Nominees!**  
**THIS COMING MONDAY, JUNE 15 IS THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING QUESTIONS FOR THE NOMINEES TO ANSWER AT THE NEXT FORUM!**

The first forum was recorded and is available to view from the synod website:

<https://scsw-elca.org/2020bishopelection/>

In random order:



Rev. Naomi  
Garber



Rev. Joy  
Mortensen-Wiebe



Rev. Stacie  
Fidlar



Rev. Ramie  
Bakken

**SUBMIT A QUESTION(S) TO BE ANSWERED BY NOMINEES FOR BISHOP AT OUR FINAL NOMINEE FORUM**  
**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING: JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup>**

The next forum will be available for viewing on Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. You are invited to submit questions to be answered by our four nominees. The deadline for submission is June 15<sup>th</sup>. There are two ways to submit your questions:

- 1) Using a form on our website:  
<https://bit.ly/NomineeForumQuestions>
- 2) Emailing Executive Administrative Assistant to the Bishop, Robyn Zimmerman at [robynz@scsw-elca.org](mailto:robynz@scsw-elca.org)



## 2020 Bishop Election



All documents and videos can be found on the synod website.

<https://scsw-elca.org/2020bishopelection/>



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

**GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE HEARING**

**JUNE 23 – 6:00 – 9:00 pm**

Discussing climate change at this time in our history is not about piling upon us more depressing news, but finding a turning point. Will the response to the recent murder

of George Floyd that black leaders and their allies and those striving to become allies create a historic moment of change? Will we learn from the pandemic more about how interdependent we are to increase our love for our neighbor? Will we open our senses to the horizons that are appearing for the first time in years in several cities where pollution has otherwise blocked our vision?

Climate change also brings attention to inequities, both racial and economic. Within the United States, low-income communities in both urban and rural areas will be most quickly and profoundly impacted by climate change, according to the Fourth National Climate Assessment. Those communities already have higher rates of health issues. Environmental disasters caused by climate change will exacerbate existing inequalities. And, of course, eventually everyone will be impacted if we do not intervene with more of a plan now.

At this time in Wisconsin, we have a special opportunity to learn, offer input, and support amplifying valuable efforts with a statewide plan. The Governor's Task Force on Climate Change will hold its first public hearing on June 23. For our full LOPPW Press

Release: [http://www.thewheelerreport.com/wheeler\\_docs/files/060520lopp.pdf](http://www.thewheelerreport.com/wheeler_docs/files/060520lopp.pdf)

Website for the Governor's Task Force on Climate Change with hearing dates, subcommittee meeting dates, and more information:

[https://climatechange.wi.gov/Pages/MeetingPublicHearingMaterial.aspx?fbclid=IwAR3zZb7PU4WXAHO6x41aAcDuvV5Zd1d\\_hsSjEvzBHSKhvemaGCuljoK5lk](https://climatechange.wi.gov/Pages/MeetingPublicHearingMaterial.aspx?fbclid=IwAR3zZb7PU4WXAHO6x41aAcDuvV5Zd1d_hsSjEvzBHSKhvemaGCuljoK5lk)

**Consider joining our new intern, Evan Sidon and Director Rev. Cindy Crane in dialogue as we approach the hearings.** We are hoping that as many Wisconsinites will be at the virtual hearings as possible. If you are interested in connecting with us before the hearings to help prepare, just let us know by contacting [cindyc@loppw.org](mailto:cindyc@loppw.org)

**Public Health Orders For All Counties**

**– Dane County –  
Re-Opening Phases**



This is the most up-to-date Public Health order for Dane County. Churches in Dane County should pay close attention to sections 2 and 4 of this order.

[https://publichealthmdc.com/documents/2020-05-22\\_Order\\_3.pdf](https://publichealthmdc.com/documents/2020-05-22_Order_3.pdf)

**Non-Dane County Congregations - Find Your County's Health Department Page – Links Can be Found On Synod Website**

Our congregations cover 13 counties in South-Central Wisconsin. Please check your county's public health orders. **For a link to your county's health department, see page 8 of this document posted to the synod website:** <https://scsw-elca.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/SCSWCoVID19.pdf>



## Holy Currencies Webinars – “Stewardship 365”

July 22 & 29 Webinars – 6:00 pm

The SCSW is sponsoring two Webinar orientation sessions on Holy Currencies with the Rev. Eric Law, founder, and director of the Kaleidoscope Institute. This was the information you would have received at the synod's LEAD conference so instead of waiting another year, we are bringing this opportunity to you now!

This first two sessions are free of charge. In order to participate we encourage you to register by July 8<sup>th</sup> ( Please attend both sessions). Below you will find an overview of the course. For more information contact the desk of the DEM and Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Walter Baires at 608-270-0201 or email him at:

[walterb@scsw-elca.org](mailto:walterb@scsw-elca.org)

**Stewardship65** is an on-line curriculum that empowers local congregations to expand their vision of stewardship beyond money to include the currencies of relationship, truth, wellness, gracious leadership, time and place. In this uncertain time of the Covid-19 pandemic, it is even more important for our congregations to learn and explore how to maximize their stewardship movement to include these holy currencies moving from maintenance to mission, from scarcity to abundance and from fear to grace.

### Overview of the course:

- The church team or individual begins the course by participating in an Orientation - two online training (July 22 and 29, please attend both).
- Participants from the Orientation may decide to take the full course by forming a team and signs up for additional six 1.5-hour webinars over the next period of time covering the six holy currencies. See tuition below.
- In between webinars, the church team completes homework assignments in order to deepen the understanding of each currency, including presenting 7 pledge cards covering different the holy currencies to the congregation.
- The church team creates a stewardship365 action plan incorporating learning, processes, and tools for the coming months or year.

(Go to [www.stewardship365.org](http://www.stewardship365.org) for more information.)

**Tuition:** Participating congregations are asked to give a GracEconomic donation between \$300 and \$1,000 per congregation team of 5 members.

## SYNOD OFFICE AND STAFF UPDATE

Now that some offices and businesses are cautiously opening, Synod staff will be in the office occasionally, as there is need, but will continue to work remotely when that is workable. As has been the case, calls to the synod office are picked up live, and routed to other staff, whether they are in the office or working remotely. Staff is also easily accessible by [email](#). Meetings that were held in the synod office before the pandemic will continue to be held via Zoom, not in the office. Cleaning protocols will be in place for staff and anyone who needs to stop in. The statistics regarding spread of the virus continue to rise, and practicing caution is still advisable. Other in-person synod events are being evaluated on a case-by-case basis (updated May 26, 2020).

## JOIN US EACH TUESDAY AT 2:00 PM FOR CONVERSATIONS WITH THE BISHOP, ROSTERED MINISTERS & LAITY

As things are rapidly changing during this time of the pandemic, the bishop is leading conversations with rostered ministers and lay

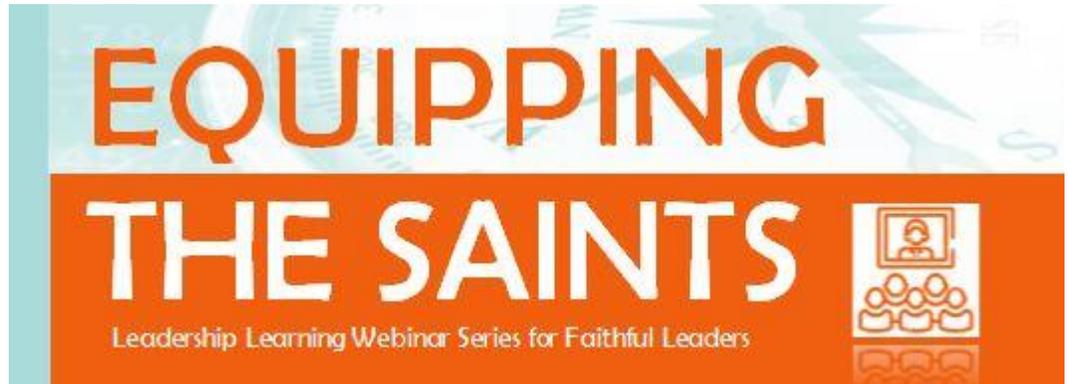
leaders of our synod and creating space for us to share ideas and ask questions of the bishop and of each other. Each week we will continue conversation about re-opening our churches, but we will also invite conversation about topics of interest to you. Next week's topic will be up to you.

Feel free to send your suggestions for topics or specific questions to Deacon Vicki Hanrahan, Assistant to the Bishop for Synodical Life at [vickih@scsw-elca.org](mailto:vickih@scsw-elca.org)

Rostered Ministers will receive the link to the webinar each week from Robyn Zimmerman. Lay leaders should email Robyn for the link: [robynz@scsw-elca.org](mailto:robynz@scsw-elca.org)

**Webinars Are Recorded:** Whether you were on the call and would like to review the information shared, or you were unable to attend today, the recordings are available on the synod website.

<https://scsw-elca.org/healthresources/webinars/>



## Pastors and Deacons –We Encourage You to Make Use of Sermons and to Share Resources

In these chaotic times during the pandemic, we encourage you to take a weekend off by utilizing sermons that have been prepared in advance. Here are a couple excellent choices:

**If you missed Bishop Eaton's sermon, here are links:**

To download the video: <https://bit.ly/EatonTrinity2020> Video with Spanish subtitles: [https://youtu.be/-Wb8Zahl\\_RY](https://youtu.be/-Wb8Zahl_RY) Worship resources for Holy Trinity Sunday: <https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Reso...> Transcript of sermon: <https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Reso...> Transcript of sermon (Spanish): <https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Reso...>



**Bishop Rogness** – Bishop Rogness prepares a weekly message that follows the lectionary. These are posted to the synod website on a weekly basis, except for June 7, when use of Bishop Eaton's sermon is encouraged. Use them as you wish. Some pastors are using them when they need a break and we wholeheartedly encourage this! They can be downloaded with ease from the Connected Community page of our website: <https://scsw-elca.org/community/>

**Messages from fellow pastors and deacons in our synod** – some pastors are sharing their taped sermons with congregations who are currently using supply or have a part-time interim. We encourage this type of sharing as well. We are church together!



## EMANUEL 9 DAY OF REPENTANCE – June 17, 2020 (or the Sunday After)

In 2019, as a result of grassroots organizing, the ELCA Churchwide Assembly adopted a resolution to establish June 17 as “**Emanuel 9 Day of Repentance**,” commemorating the martyrdom of Pickney, Graham-Hurd, Jackson, Lance, Middleton-Doctor, Sanders, Simmons,

Coleman-Singleton and Thompson. The resolution calls for worship resources and deepening conversations with the African Methodist Episcopal Church on matters of racism and white supremacy. It was adopted alongside another resolution condemning white supremacy and racist rhetoric, and in the context of the ELCA's public apology articulated in the “Declaration of the ELCA to People of African Descent.”

The synod's racial equity team invites you to use the resources provided by the ELCA in creative ways to raise awareness and to commemorate this day on June 17 (or the weekend after), whether we worship in person or via electronic means.



First, you may wish to become better informed by reading this overview provided by the ELCA, “An Overview of Ecumenical Relations between the African Methodist Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.” It provides insight to the journey the ELCA has taken to come to this place in our understanding.

[https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Ecumenical\\_Relations\\_Emanuel\\_Nine\\_Commemoration.pdf?\\_ga=2.114616964.2026109940.1590436226-556277034.1583787802](https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Ecumenical_Relations_Emanuel_Nine_Commemoration.pdf?_ga=2.114616964.2026109940.1590436226-556277034.1583787802)

**Also provided are ELCA created resources available for your use. This page on the ELCA website is rich with resources and useful information to share in your settings.**

<https://elca.org/EmanuelNine>

# Cultivating Generous Congregations –

**This Thursday, June 11, 3:00 pm**

Is your congregation struggling financially? Compared to a year ago, many ELCA congregations have seen a decline in total revenue. While the pandemic does not stop ministry outside the walls of our congregations, for some, it is having an impact on financial contributions. This means both regular giving and fundraising efforts. And yet, there are congregations that have maintained or increased their giving. How do these congregations continue to be generous?



For more than a year, the ELCA has been focusing on cultivating generous congregations. Rev. Larry Strenge and his Lake Institute trained team have worked with more than a hundred ELCA congregations. This has led to three strategies – recognizing the impact of negative influences (i.e., the pandemic, scarcity thinking), cultivating generosity leaders and developing a culture of generosity in your congregation and households.

Join Rev. Larry Strenge for a webinar to talk about these three strategies and how congregations can be proactive in nurturing generosity. This Zoom meeting will be on

**Thursday, June 11, at 3:00 PM CDT**

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3199415281>

Meeting ID: 319 941 5281

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,3199415281# US (Chicago)

+14702509358,,3199415281# US (Atlanta)

**All Rostered Ministers and lay leaders are invited. This session will be recorded and made available. If you are unable to attend on June 11, simply notify [Neil.Bullock@elca.org](mailto:Neil.Bullock@elca.org) and a link will be provided.**

We look forward to you joining us for this conversation. Please bring your questions.



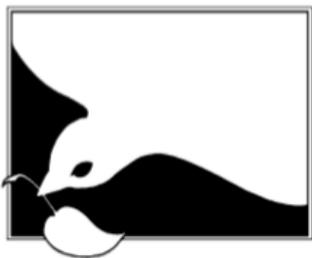
**Are you able to help us out with devotion or prayer for our synod weekly worship service?**

We have changed our worship every Thursday at noon a little bit during this time of social distancing. We would love to see all the different Pastors, Deacons, Seminarians, and Lay Leaders in Congregations of the synod lead us in a devotion and prayer time. This time is all up to you, you can make it your own. The only requirement is we would like to add some prayers to whatever prayers you would be doing. Robyn

Zimmerman on our staff will forward to you the names of people to pray for the week you are scheduled.

Robyn will set up a zoom meeting to help you record your devotion or you can send her a video that we can access. She would love to fill the next month. You can sign up at the link below. Please call the office with any questions at (608) 270-0201. Thank you for all you do! <https://signup.com/go/NQMwNNG>

**Thank you to Pastor Jim Hearne (Barneveld Lutheran) for sharing joy and reminding us that God is with us until the end of time.**



## Lombard Mennonite Peace Center Is Offering Mediation Skills Training Via Webinar

The Lombard Mennonite Peace Center will offer four sessions of *Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders* this year between August and November on the following weeks: August 3-7, August 31-September 4, October 5-9, and November 16-20, 2020. Early-birds registrants can receive a **\$200 discount**. To learn more, please consult this [MSTI brochure](#). To register online for any of our events, go to <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/720852>. With questions or concerns, please contact our office at 630-627-0507 or [Admin@LMPeaceCenter.org](mailto:Admin@LMPeaceCenter.org)

## ZOOM TRAININGS BY SYNOD STAFF, ROBYN ZIMMERMAN – Every Friday at 9:30 am Anyone who wants to learn how to conduct and set up meetings via Zoom is invited.



Since folks are still logging on to Zoom trainings with Robyn, she will continue to hold them on Friday mornings at 9:30 am. These are for anyone who would like to get more comfortable with setting up and sitting on Zoom meetings.



### FRIDAYS AT 9:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/376722052>

Meeting ID: 376 722 052



**Congregational Newsletter Editors - please include this text in your newsletters!**

### **WHAT MATTERS - Stay Connected To Synod Happenings, News, & Events!**

Grow in your faith and leadership! Stay connected to exciting events and stories of our faith in action in our synod! To sign up for synod news, please email Assistant to the Bishop for Synodical Life, Deacon Vicki Hanrahan at



[vickih@scsw-elca.org](mailto:vickih@scsw-elca.org) to be added to "What Matters."

**Please also add a link to the synod website to your website:**  
[www.scsw-elca.org](http://www.scsw-elca.org)

## **Positions in the Synod**

**We are happy to help promote your positions. Please submit 100 words or less to Deacon Vicki Hanrahan, Synod Communicator, email: [vickih@scsw-elca.org](mailto:vickih@scsw-elca.org). Please notify Deacon Vicki when the position has been filled so that we can keep this list current. Thanks!**

### **Youth & Education Coordinator – New Life (Madison)**

New Life Church on the east side of Madison (Cottage Grove Rd.) is looking for a three quarter-time position to oversee all youth and education ministries of its growing congregation. New Life is a vibrant and non-traditional community that highly values its welcome to all. This position will be responsible for youth activities and education, as well as assist the pastor with adult education offerings. Salary range is \$33,000-38,000 depending on experience and qualification. Please contact Pastor Heather Hayward at [pastor.newlifelc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pastor.newlifelc@sbcglobal.net) for more information and to submit an application. (06/09/20)

### **Financial Manager – Part-Time – Madison**

Lake Edge Lutheran Church is seeking a part-time financial manager responsible for the financial management of the church with an average of 15 hrs/wk, \$20/hr. Position entails interesting work with a chance to be of service to a faith community involved in social justice. Benefits include pro-rated holidays, vacation, sick time and a flexible schedule. No health or retirement benefits are included. A minimum 2 year accounting degree and 2 years accounting experience, including use of accounting software with accounts payable, accounts receivable and financial statement preparation. Please submit cover letter and resume to [dalednet@aol.com](mailto:dalednet@aol.com). (5/26/20)

### **Church Administrator – Part-time – West Koshkonong (Stoughton)**

West Koshkonong Lutheran Church in rural Stoughton is seeking applications for a 16-20 hour per week administrator. This outgoing, ambitious, and forward-thinking person will report directly to Pastor Eric Bakken. Pay will commensurate with experience and skills. We are seeking a person to coordinate weekly and monthly publications, working with financial statements and budgets, scheduling, handling correspondence, phone calls and more. Knowledge of Microsoft, spreadsheets and basic computer skills. Training on church based software will be available. Please submit resume to both [wkoffice@tds.net](mailto:wkoffice@tds.net) & [mmbarth@charter.net](mailto:mmbarth@charter.net). (03/30/20)

### **Choir Director – Bethlehem (Portage)**

Bethlehem Lutheran Church is looking to fill our part-time Choir Director position. The ideal candidate would be able to lead the choir, as well as play the organ for worship services, funerals and weddings, and lead the Praise Band. Previous experience preferred to include the ability to motivate choir members, read music and conduct; knowledge of liturgical flow and connection to worship; piano experience strongly preferred. Part-time September through May. Please send resume to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, W8267 Hwy 33 E, Portage. (03/11/20)

### **Program Director – Preschool - Good Shepherd (Madison)**

This position is responsible for our state-licensed locations in both Madison and Verona. The Director is responsible for the school's management, operations, planning and implementation of preschool curriculum. Responsibilities include supervision and hiring of staff, licensing renewal, working with the church accountant, developing balanced budget and ordering supplies. Director will also teach as needed in the classrooms. Salaried position totaling 30 hours a week year-round. Must be at least 21 years of age, familiar with state licensing rules, have a Registry certificate or Educator's license to verify education, meet qualifications outlined in WI Licensing Rules DCF 251, certified in CPR, Child CPR, AED and Shaken Baby Syndrome prevention

training and pass a health and fingerprint check. This position will start on June 1, 2020. Please send applications to Director of Administration Rick Blum at [rblum@gslcwi.com](mailto:rblum@gslcwi.com). (04/04/20)

### **Wisconsin Council of Churches Employment Opportunities**

<https://www.wichurches.org/resources/employment-opportunities/>

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#### **Future Synod Gatherings/Meetings/Events:**

- June 11 – Diakonia Zoom Class – Faith in the North American Context (Will Layton)
- June 12 – Zoom Training with Robyn Zimmerman
- June 15 – Deadline for Submitting Questions for Bishop Nominee Forum
- June 16 – Equipping the Saints Conversation With Bishop Rogness (Webinar)
- June 17 – Emanuel Nine Day of Repentance
- June 17 – Equipping the Saints Webinar “What to Pack When You’re Not Going Anywhere!” with Jennifer Prinz, Portico Benefit Services
- June 19 – Zoom Training with Robyn Zimmerman
- June 23 – Equipping the Saints Conversation with Bishop Rogness (Webinar)
- June 24 – Synod Council Zoom Meeting
- June 26 – Zoom Training with Robyn Zimmerman
- June 29/30 – Bishop Nominee Forum Video Available
- June 30 – Equipping the Saints Conversation with Bishop Rogness (Webinar)
- July 22 – Holy Currencies Webinar with Eric Law
- July 29 – Holy Currencies Webinar with Eric Law
- August 1 – Synod Assembly & Bishop Election Videoconference**
- September 21 – Keeping the Faith: Empowering Faith Communities to Recognize & Respond to Child Abuse – Madison Christian Community (Madison)



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#### **Prayers**

##### **Youth and Family Ministry Team:**

- Jason Xiong, Lake Edge, Madison, WI
- Henry Elling, Bethel Lutheran, Madison, WI

##### **Synod Seminary Student:**

- Laura Jasiczek, Laura is at the very beginning of the path to become a pastor. She will be attending Wartburg Seminary in the fall.

##### **Pastors and Congregations in our Synod:**

- Rev. Peder Johanson, Pastor and Members of Bethlehem Lutheran, Brodhead, WI
- Rev. Kathy Jacobson, Pastor and Members of Bethlehem Lutheran, Edmund, WI

##### **Neighboring Synods:**

- Bishop Sue Briner, the Staff, and the congregations of the Southwestern Texas Synod

**Churchwide Partners:**

- Tracey DePasquale, LUTHERAN ADVOCACY MINISTRY IN PENNSYLVANIA
- Bea Moorehead, TEXAS IMPACT

*We give thanks at this time for the ministry of those who celebrate their anniversary of Ordination during this coming week:*

- Rev. Thomas Wagner, June 10, 1973, Retired Pastor, Washburn, WI  
[backenwadger@gmail.com](mailto:backenwadger@gmail.com)
- Rev. Larry Froemming, June 10, 1979, Supply Plus Pastor, Luther Valley, Beloit, WI  
[larry.froemming@gmail.com](mailto:larry.froemming@gmail.com)
- Rev. Karl Otto, June 12, 1974, Retired Pastor, Supply Pastor, Elkhorn, WI  
[drkarlotto@aol.com](mailto:drkarlotto@aol.com)
- Rev. Gilbert Splett, June 12, 1960, Retired Pastor, Madison, WI,  
[gilbert.splett@yahoo.com](mailto:gilbert.splett@yahoo.com)
- Rev. Kristi Ursin, June 12, 2011, Pastor of St. Peter Lutheran, Fennimore, WI,  
[kayaklover54@gmail.com](mailto:kayaklover54@gmail.com)
- Rev. Dr. Dennis R. Creswell, June 13, 1976, Retired Pastor, Madison, WI,  
[dennis.creswell@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.creswell@gmail.com)
- Deacon Muriel Arms, June 13, 1984, Retired Pastor, Inver Grove Heights, MN,  
[muriel.arms@gmail.com](mailto:muriel.arms@gmail.com)
- Rev. Joe Brosious, June 13, 2013, Pastor of Good Shepherd Madison & Verona, WI,  
[joebrosious@gmail.com](mailto:joebrosious@gmail.com)

**May these leaders continue to be blessed for service.**



**Updates on Congregations in the Call Process and Rostered Leader Updates**

Call process and roster changes are updated on the synod website monthly. Please keep these congregations and rostered leaders in your prayers.

**Link:** <http://scsw-elca.org/resources/callprocess/>

Like Us on Facebook and you'll share in awesome ministry by congregations in your synod, share great ideas and be inspired with selected scripture from your synod staff. **South-Central Synod of Wisconsin**



Remember, when you see this symbol, this is a news item that should be put in your congregational newsletters! Thanks for your partnership.



Congregations can feel free to reprint these pages for your congregational use. Reprint permission provided by: South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA – 6401 Odana Road, Suite 20, Madison, WI 53719. Please reference as seen in Synod e-news, "What Matters" in your reprint. Questions can be directed to Deacon Hanrahan at the synod office: (608) 270-0201 or [vickih@scsw-elca.org](mailto:vickih@scsw-elca.org)

Share your news. If you have something you would like considered for publication in What Matters, send it to Communications & Event Manager, Deacon Vicki Hanrahan, at [vickih@scsw-elca.org](mailto:vickih@scsw-elca.org).

Visit our website: [www.scsw-elca.org](http://www.scsw-elca.org)



*Following Jesus, who commanded his followers, 'Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another,' and believing that all persons are created in the image of God, the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA, strives to be fully inclusive for all. This synod welcomes people of every race, background, age, political affiliation, economic and social status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and mental and physical ability, while striving to enable all people to participate fully in the life and work of the church and its expressions.*

## SYNOD STAFF AND OFFICE COVERAGE ADJUSTMENTS

Now that some offices and businesses are cautiously opening, Synod staff will be in the office occasionally, as there is need, but will continue to work remotely when that is workable. As has been the case, calls to the synod office are picked up live, and routed to other staff, whether they are in the office or working remotely. Staff is also easily accessible by [email](#). Our main line (608) 270-0201 will be forwarded to Robyn Zimmerman, Executive Administrative Assistant, who will either answer "live" or will retrieve voice mails and forward them to the appropriate staff person. We are reachable via email as well.

Bishop Peter Rogness – [peterr@scsw-elca.org](mailto:peterr@scsw-elca.org)

Pastoral Care, Congregational Care

Rev. Steve Kottke – [stevek@scsw-elca.org](mailto:stevek@scsw-elca.org)

Mobility & Transitions, Care of Congregations

Deacon Vicki Hanrahan – [vickih@scsw-elca.org](mailto:vickih@scsw-elca.org)

What Matters, Events, Pandemic Resources, Equipping

Robyn Zimmerman – [robynz@scsw-elca.org](mailto:robynz@scsw-elca.org)

Candidacy, Appointments, Zoom Meeting Assistance

Rev. Walter Baires – [walterb@scsw-elca.org](mailto:walterb@scsw-elca.org)

Faithful Innovations, Mission, Stewardship, Latino Ministries

Jason Xiong – [jasonx@scsw-elca.org](mailto:jasonx@scsw-elca.org)

Assistance with Streaming Technologies, Webmaster