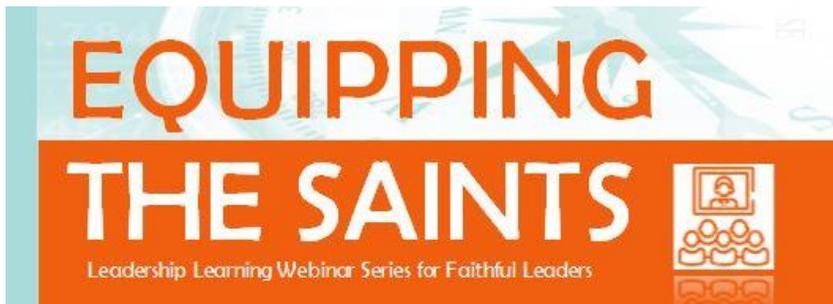




NEXT WEEK, OUR WEEKLY WEBINAR WITH BISHOP ROGNESS WILL TAKE PLACE ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 1 AT 2:00 PM (Not Tuesday Next Week) JOIN IN THE CONVERSATION ABOUT THE RECENT PROTESTS AND WHAT IT MEANS TO RESPOND AS CHRISTIANS

We will be joined by special guest, the Honorable Rev. Everett D. Mitchell.



Coping with the pandemic, trying to chart life ahead for our parishes and get a broader frame of reference for how our congregations are dealing with things we are facing has been our topic of conversation at these weekly meetings, but next week, we are going to organize our conversation around the topic of racism. We will spend the hour in conversation with **Rev. Dr. Everett D. Mitchell** as we continue to unravel our reactions to the killing of George Floyd and the resulting upheaval from that. One of the names we hear most in this part of the synod as we talk about leaders in the community is Everett D. Mitchell who is a judge but is also an AME pastor of Christ the Solid Rock Baptist Church. Dr. Mitchell will bring a helpful perspective for our conversation. Bishop Rogness has been in conversation with him and as he is in the courtroom on Tuesdays, so for this week only, we have switched our time to Wednesday at 2:00 pm.

The Honorable Rev. Everett Mitchell is very passionate about community engagement and social justice. A graduate of Morehouse College, Mitchell also holds a master's degree in theology and divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary and a Juris Doctor from the University of Wisconsin Law School. In 2016, Mitchell became the third elected African-American Dane County Circuit Court judge in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin. Previously, Mitchell served as associate director of the Madison Area Urban Ministry from 2004-2010 where he worked extensively with restorative justice programs for ex-offenders. As a restorative justice coordinator with Madison-area Urban Ministry, he and his team developed a system so men and women who return from prison would have a residence, employment, support, treatment and education.

Send Your Question to Bishop Rogness - If you have a question you would like to see addressed during this conversation about racism, please send it to Bishop Rogness by tomorrow afternoon. peterr@scsw-elca.org

To Register: Rostered Ministers will receive the link to the webinar from Robyn Zimmerman. Lay leaders should email Robyn for the link: 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/>

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2020 - REGISTER BY MIDNIGHT JUNE 30 AND SAVE!



SYNOD ASSEMBLY TO BE HELD VIA A 12-SITE VIDEOCONFERENCE

ALL CONGREGATIONS WHO HAVE OFFERED TO SERVE AS HOST SITES WERE NOTIFIED AND AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 1 AT 7:00 PM. See an email from Deacon Hanrahan that was emailed today to all pastors and technicians at each of the sites.

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 was sent to pastors in congregations. 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.

Registration is for Voting Members Only: <https://bit.ly/NewSCSWAssembly2020>

Early Bird Registration Closes next Tuesday midnight, June 30 – register now and save!



Bishop Nominee Forums Have You Met Our Four Bishop Nominees?

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

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

The next forum will be recorded and available for viewing on Monday, June 29. Nominees will answer the questions that you submitted. It should be an interesting conversation!

Nominees for Bishop In random order:



Rev. Stacie
Fidlar



Rev. Joy
Mortensen-Wiebe



Rev. Ramie
Bakken



Rev. Naomi
Garber

2020 Bishop Election



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

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



More than ever, Campus Ministry needs your help.

This year, with the uncertainty of what form instruction will take in the fall given the COVID-19 crisis, it is especially important that you help us to minister to the young adults that your congregation is sending to college. It is possible that our facilities will not be open and that we will be meeting through virtual means. During this difficult time, it is even more important for young adults to be connected with a faith community and find ways to connect with their peers.

This critical need is why Lutheran Campus Ministry has once again organized a Campus Connect Project, which seeks to gather the names of college students from each and every congregation in our synod. On your behalf, we will share your students' information with the campus ministry staff at whatever school they attend. We have a former student helping us with this task - LCM alum and seminarian Leah will be reaching out and available to help you with this important project this summer.

As you know, campus ministry sites do not receive any kind of enrollment information from the schools we serve, and this means that the only way we can reach out to your college students is to ask you to provide their information for us.

We can't do this without you! Please make a plan now to connect your students to campus ministry. You can submit this information online - follow the link at www.lcmmadison.org - or email [the completed form](mailto:the_completed_form) to student@lcmmadison.org. Please provide as much information as you can for all of your college students (not just incoming freshmen). We also have a [reproducible insert](#) if you'd like to publish a way for members to do this themselves. If you have any questions, please contact us at student@lcmmadison.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. We are in phase 2.

<https://publichealthmdc.com/coronavirus/forward-dane/requirements>

Non-Dane County Congregations - 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>



Take a Break While Inviting Your Congregation to Hear the Gospel From Another Voice!

Bishop Rogness – Bishop Rogness prepares a weekly message that follows the lectionary. These are posted to the synod website on a weekly basis. 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!

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

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. Don't be shy! She is happy to help you.

FRIDAYS AT 9:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

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

Meeting ID: 376 722 052





Holy Currencies Webinars – “Stewardship 365”

July 22 & 29 Webinars – 6:00 pm – These are free webinars, but a free-will donation is appreciated and encouraged

- To Register, call Robyn at the synod office: 608/270-0201 by July 20

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 8th (Please attend both sessions). Below you will find and 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

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 for more information.)

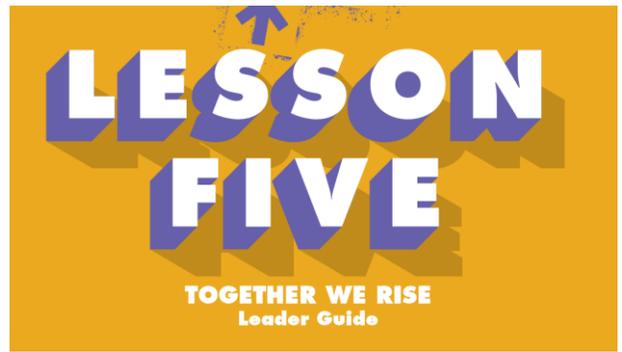
Tuition for full course: Participating congregations are asked to give a GracEconomic donation between \$300 and \$1,000 per congregation team of 5 members.

Free will donations should be made payable to: SCSW with **Stewardship 365 in the memo** and mailed to the synod office by July 30: South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA/6401 Odana Road/Suite 20/Madison, WI 53719 or Text **GIVE** to: **(608) 571-1576 & Select Stewardship 365**

Racial Justice Lesson For Youth

Are you looking for a racial justice lesson to use with your youth group or church council? One of our Getting Ready lessons from the 2015 Gathering is filled with activities, lessons and factoids pertaining to prejudice, bias and racism (overt and covert).

You can find it on the Youth Gathering page of our website: <https://scsw-elca.org/elcayg2021/> and also as a PDF link here: <https://scsw-elca.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/RacialEquityLesson.pdf>.



Our neighbors are struggling with hunger more than ever!

Consider signing up to pack Care Boxes* for Second Harvest Food Bank to help meet the need as we continue to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Care Box volunteer shifts are available for volunteers 12 years & above** and are currently available through next Saturday afternoon, June 27.

Your volunteer shift will be well organized and safe with attention to face masks, proper distancing, and frequent cleaning including high touch surfaces.

Additional shifts will be added in the days to come. For all the details and to sign up, click the button below. You are very welcome to share this opportunity with others.

*Care Boxes will be distributed to our neighbors in need by partner food pantries, shelters, meal sites, etc. as well as through our mobile pantry program. **Volunteers 12-15 years must be accompanied by an adult. **SIGN UP TODAY:** <https://www.secondharvestmadison.org/volunteer/care-box-assembly-volunteer-opportunity>

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

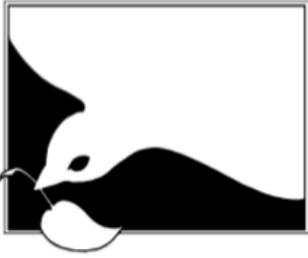
We have changed our worship every Thursday at noon a little bit during this time of social distancing. We would love to see all the different Pastors, Deacons, Seminarians, and Lay Leaders in Congregations of the synod lead us in a devotion and prayer time. This time is all up to you, you can make it 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.



Thank you to Rev. Nick Utphall, Advent/Madison Christian Community for sharing your message!

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>

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



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 to be added to "What Matters."

Please also add a link to the synod website to your website:
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. Please notify Deacon Vicki when the position has been filled so that we can keep this list current. Thanks!

Office Manager – St. John (Reedsburg)

St John Lutheran Church in Reedsburg, WI is looking for a manager skilled in church office supervision and general accounting. This person will organize and maintain St John operational and financial systems, produce and manage reports for church leaders and boards, and supervise support staff. The position is 30 hours, Mon.-Thurs. 8- 5 pm, with some benefits. Contact Pastor Paula Harris for more information, pastorpaula@sjrdb.com or (608) 524-4516. To apply, send resume and references. St John is located at 307 6th St, Reedsburg, WI 53959 (06/23/20)

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 for more information and to submit an application. (06/09/20)

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 & 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@gsclwi.com. (04/04/20)

Wisconsin Council of Churches Employment Opportunities

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

Future Synod Gatherings/Meetings/Events:

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 26 – ___ Zoom Training with Robyn Zimmerman

June 27 – Synod Council Zoom Meeting

June 29/30 – ___ Bishop Nominee Forum Video Available

June 30 – July 1 – ___ Equipping the Saints ~~Conversation with~~ Webinar w/ Bishop Rogness (Webinar) & Guest, Rev. Dr. Everett D. Mitchell

July 1 – ___ Informational Webinar with Assembly Remote Host Sites

July 3 – ___ Synod office closed in observance of Independence Day

July 12 – ___ Dry Run Synod Assembly Remote Host Sites

July 22 – ___ Holy Currencies Webinar with Eric Law

July 29 – ___ Holy Currencies Webinar with Eric Law

August 1 – ___ Synod Assembly & Bishop Election Videoconference

Sept 17 – ___ Retired Rostered Gathering at St John’s Lutheran, Oregon. 9:30 - noon.

Sept 21 – ___ Keeping the Faith: Empowering Faith Communities to Recognize & Respond to Child Abuse – Webinar - Madison Christian Community (Madison)

Nov 19 – ___ Retired Rostered Gathering at St John’s Lutheran, Oregon. 9:30 - noon.



Prayers

Youth and Family Ministry Team:

- Lisa Lee, St. Matthew New Life, Madison, WI

- Brenda Martin, Evangelical Lutheran, Mount Horeb, WI

Pastors and Congregations in our Synod:

- Pastor Tim Knipfer, Pastor and Members of Bristol Lutheran, Sun Prairie WI
- Rev Rebecca Ninke, Pastor and Members of Brooklyn Lutheran, Brooklyn, WI

Neighboring Synods:

- Bishop Michael L Burk, the Staff, and the congregations of the Northwest Washington Synod

Churchwide Partners:

- President and CEO: Ms. Siri Gadbois, Educational & Institutional Insurance Administrators, Inc.
- Executive Director: Ms Corey E Newman, Evangelical Lutheran Education Association

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

- The Rev. Sally Williams, June 24, 2006, Pastor at St John's Lutheran, Prairie du Sac, WI
sally@stjohnssaukprairie.org
- The Rev Richard Thickpenny, June 24, 1973, Contract Visitation Pastor of Grace Lutheran, Monroe, WI
randrthickpenny@yahoo.com ,
- Rev. Gary Stangland, June 25, 1972,, Retired Pastor, Sturgeon Bay, WI gjstangland@charter.net
- Deacon Susan Lux, June 25, 2003, Retired Deacon, Sun Prairie, WI, luxsue21@gmail.com
- Rev. Julie Krahn, June 27, 1993, Interim Pastor of Bonnet Prairie, Rio, WI, jakrahn.1230@gmail.com
- Rev. John Mix, June 27, 2017, Retired Pastor, Madison, WI, jmix4peace@hotmail.com
- Rev. Thomas Dowling, June 27, 2010, Pastor at Williams Bay, Williams Bay, WI,
thomasdowling98@yahoo.com
- Rev. J Gary Hein., June 27, 1971, Retired Pastor, Verona, WI gar224@aol.com
- Rev. Kalen Barkholtz, June 27, 2010, Christ, Sharon, WI kbarkholtz@yahoo.com
- Rev. Paula Geister-Jones, June 27, 1982, Pastor of Christ Lutheran, Stoughton, WI
pastorpaula@clcstoughton.org
- Rev. Ronald Massen, June 28, 1959, Retired Pastor, Brodhead, WI ryvon60@icloud.com
- Rev. Michael Rahlf, June 28, 2014, Pastor of Good Shepherd, Janesville, WI mjrahlf@aol.com
- Rev. Robert Kosky, Jr., June 28, 1997, Pastor of St. Paul, Waterloo, WI, pastorrobb@frontier.com
- Rev. Jeffrey VandenHeuvel, June 28, 1986, Pastor of Messiah, Madison, WI
jeffvandenheuvel@gmail.com
- Rev. Shelley Nelson, June 29, 1997, Pastor of Adams Lutheran, Argyle, WI duelingpreachers@gmail.com
- Rev. Jerald Wendt, June 30, 1963, Retired Pastor, Whitewater, WI, yiconmain@sbcglobal.net

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

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.

Visit our website: 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:peter@scsw-elca.org)

Pastoral Care, Congregational Care

Rev. Steve Kottke – stevek@scsw-elca.org

Mobility & Transitions, Care of Congregations

Deacon Vicki Hanrahan – vickih@scsw-elca.org

What Matters, Events, Pandemic Resources, Equipping

Robyn Zimmerman – robynz@scsw-elca.org

Candidacy, Appointments, Zoom Meeting Assistance

Rev. Walter Baires – walterb@scsw-elca.org

Faithful Innovations, Mission, Stewardship, Latino Ministries

Jason Xiong – jasonx@scsw-elca.org

Assistance with Streaming Technologies, Webmaster