

WHAT MATTERS July 7, 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



Holy Currencies Webinars

With Eric Law – “Stewardship 365”

July 22 & 29 Webinars – 6:00 pm

These are free webinars, but a free-will donation is appreciated and encouraged.

Stewardship365 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.

This first two sessions are free of charge. In order to participate we encourage you to register by July 14th (Please attend both sessions). Following is 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

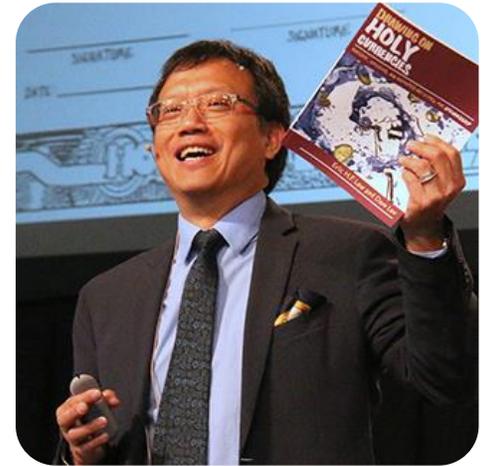
Free will donations should be made payable to: SCSW with Stewardship 365 in the memo and mailed to the synod office by July 30: South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA/6401 Odana Road/Suite 20/Madison, WI 53719 or Text GIVE to: (608) 571-1576 & Select Stewardship 365

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.



Rev. Dr. Eric Law,
Speaker and Author of
"Holy Currencies: 6
Blessings for Sustainable
Missional Ministries

To Register, call Robyn Zimmerman at the synod office: 608/270-0201 by July 14





CONVERSATIONS WITH BISHOP ROGNES, ROSTERED MINISTERS & LAITY – EVERY TUESDAY AT 2:00 PM – NEXT ONE IS JULY 14

Bishop Rogness 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 returning to in person worship and alternatives, but we will also invite conversation about topics of interest to you.

QUESTIONS:

We accept questions during the call, but those sent in advance do get special attention. Send your specific questions to Deacon Vicki Hanrahan, Assistant to the Bishop for Synodical Life at vickih@scsw-elca.org by noon on Monday. Have a topic you would like covered? Send that idea as well!

Rostered Ministers receive the link to the webinar via an email from Robyn Zimmerman. Laity 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 are unable to attend, the recordings are available on the synod website.

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



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



**UPDATE AS OF JULY 6 - SYNOD ASSEMBLY
DATE IS CHANGED TO SATURDAY, AUGUST 29**

Due to the latest orders for mass gatherings, we will conduct this assembly totally via videoconference. All voting members will log in remotely. Please read the letter below from Bishop Rogness & Synod Vice President, Jane Cahill Wolfgram explaining the change.

Dear Partners in Ministry,

As many of you know the City of Madison and Dane County Health Department issued a public health order last week which, among other things, limits meetings and mass gatherings to 10 or fewer people. The Synod Council gave the authority to the Executive Committee to determine how to proceed with the 2020 Synod Assembly as circumstances change following the June Council Meeting.

The Executive Committee met this morning and determined that the best way to protect the health and safety of the Assembly participants and assure that a legitimate Bishop Election can be held would be to hold an fully remote video conference, one in which each voting member is connected individually to the proceedings. In order to provide sufficient time to plan for this new format, the Assembly will be moved to the alternative date, **August 29th**.

We know that there have been many changes to the plans for the 2020 Assembly to accommodate the impacts of Covid-19 and we apologize for any inconvenience this has caused. However, we believe that by changing the format to a full online format we will be able to proceed without additional interruption.

The Bishop Election Task Force will meet to work out the details which will be communicated to you as further planning is put in place.

We want to thank you for your support and cooperation during these very unusual circumstances. Please know how much your assistance has been appreciated.

Sincerely,

Bishop Peter Rogness

Jane Cahill Wolfgram, VP

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

Visitors are invited to view the live stream. More information on that is forthcoming.

Please continue to register if you haven't already and pay online or mail your check into the synod office by August 14. We will need your email address in order to send you updates and helpful information on participating in the videoconference.

We will also publish an alternative drop off process for the Global Health Ministry Kit in-gathering. Please watch What Matters each week for further updates.



Bishop Nominee Forum #2 Available For Viewing! Have You Met Our Four Bishop Nominees?

The first and second forums were recorded and as of yesterday, both are now available to view from the synod website:

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

Nominees answered the questions that you submitted. It was an enlightening and interesting conversation. A big Thank you to our nominees! They also answered in writing 9 additional questions that were submitted and that we did not have time to address during the forum.

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/>

PREVENTING THE NEXT PANDEMIC: URGENCY FOR A PLANETARY HEALTH APPROACH

July 21 | 7pm | Online Event

Login Link Available Here: www.bethel-madison.org/c4c

Connect online to a special video event sponsored by Bethel's Caring for Creation and Caring for Social Justice groups. The centerpiece is an encore presentation of Professor Jonathan Patz's brilliant 2020 Earth Day talk that links two urgent global concerns: the threats to human health from viral pandemics and environmental degradation. As relevant now as it was in April, the presentation will be hosted live by two members of Bethel's re-opening task force, Craig Gjerde and Greg Moses, who will also respond to viewers' questions after the video presentation. This event will occur this week only in lieu of Pastor Mike's usual Tuesday Fireside Chat.



UW-Madison Professor **Jonathan Patz**, a co-recipient of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize, is one of the world's leading authorities on public health, especially its relation to environmental and climate change.

Plagues and pandemics are not only part of our culture – they are caused by it. Viral diseases like Ebola, HIV-AIDS, Dengue fever and now COVID-19 originate in animal hosts but spill over to and spread among humans when environmental factors align. These factors include urbanization, international travel, pollution, and land-use and climate changes. Restoring planetary health will reduce the risk of future pandemics and benefit human health in many ways.



312 Wisconsin Ave, Madison WI
608.257.3577 | bethel-madison.org

Caring for Creation (C4C)
www.bethel-madison.org/caring-creation

Caring for Social Justice (C4SJ)
www.bethel-madison.org/caring-social-justice





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

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.

Public Health Orders For All Counties

– Dane County – Re-Opening Phases



Find the most up-to-date Public Health order for Dane County and associated details about the new requirement for wearing masks.

<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>

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



Sugar Creek Bible Camp's **ANNUAL QUILT and ANTIQUE AUCTION**

CRAFT FAIR, 5K TRAIL RUN - FUN WALK

SATURDAY - SEPT 12, 2020

5K TRAIL RUN and FUN WALK: 8:00 a.m.—registration, 9:00—start
COUNTRY STORE: 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.
CRAFT FAIR: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
QUILT and ANTIQUE AUCTION: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Beautiful Quilts, Antiques, Sports Memorabilia – Packers, Brewers, etc.,
Crafts, Furniture, Paintings, Gift Baskets & so much more!

Great BBQ pork lunch, homemade pies, potato salad, delicious treats

Country Store will be open with a wide variety of rummage items!

Silent Auction for Gift Themed Baskets until 1pm.

Craft Fair featuring the best of our local Artisans runs throughout the day!

**Come enjoy a beautiful day and help support the
ministries of Sugar Creek Bible Camp!**

Sugar Creek Bible Camp

13141 Sugar Creek Bible Camp Rd. Ferryville, WI 54628

Phone: 608-734-3113 E-mail: camp@sgrcreek.org

www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org

Please contact the camp if you have quality items to donate or if you have questions.



Thank you to Rev. Cindy Crane, Director of Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin for sharing this devotional moment with us.

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>

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)

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)

Wisconsin Council of Churches Employment Opportunities

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

Future Synod Gatherings/Meetings/Events:

- July 14 Equipping the Saints Webinar with Bishop Rogness
 - July 21 Equipping the Saints Webinar with Bishop Rogness
 - July 22 Holy Currencies Webinar with Eric Law
 - July 28 Equipping the Saints Webinar with Bishop Rogness
 - 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.
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Prayers

Youth and Family Ministry Team:

- Jeff Thompson, Lutherdale Bible Camp, Elkhorn, WI
- Debbie Wethal, East Koshkonong, Cambridge, WI

Pastors and Congregations in our Synod:

- Rev. Erik Jelinik, Pastor and Members of Central Lutheran, Edgerton WI
- Rev. Sue Beadle, Pastor and Members of Christ Lutheran Church, DeForest, WI

Neighboring Synods:

- Bishop Jeff Clements, the Staff, and the congregations of the Northern Illinois Synod

Churchwide Partners:

- Mr. John D Sundquist, Executive Director, Lutheran Men in Mission at the ELCA Lutheran Center, Chicago, IL
- Deacon Mark D Burkhardt, National Lutheran Campus Ministry Inc. at the ELCA Lutheran Center, Chicago, IL

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

- Rev. Peter Rogness, Interim Bishop, July 08, 1973, Serving as Interim Bishop of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, peterr@scsw-elca.org
- Rev. James Melvin, July 08, 1990, Retired Pastor, Janesville, WI revjmel@aol.com
- Deacon Laurine Skrenes, July 11, 1977, Retired Deacon, Sun Prairie, WI
- Rev. Ramie Bakken, July 13, 2003, ELCA Call, Region 5 Candidacy Leadership Manager, Cambridge, WI, ramie.bakken@elca.org
- Rev. Kathy Jacobson, July 13, 2003, Pastor of Peace Lutheran Cobb, WI, Bethlehem, Edmund, WI & Castle Rock Lutheran, Fennimore, WI, katbadger79@gmail.com
- Rev. Larry Pinnow, July 14, 1963, Retired Pastor, Madison, WI larry.pinnow@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

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

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