Outreach for Hope Family Ride Run Walk Donation Deadline is 10/31!

Thank you to all those who supported the 15th annual Outreach for Hope Family Ride Run Walk by donating, fundraising, or joining us in person on Saturday, Sept. 24! We hope you enjoyed the chance to be in fellowship with the community of OFH supporters.

This event is Outreach for Hope's largest annual fundraiser. By the time donations close on Monday, Oct. 31 at 11:59 pm, we hope to raise $165K for grants to ELCA Lutheran congregations and ministries in neighborhoods where many face income insecurity, so that our Synod continues to be a presence for the Gospel in these places.

OUTREACH FOR HOPE

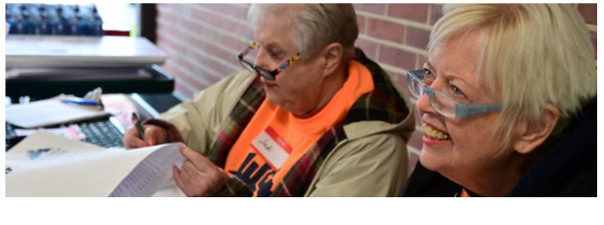
2022 FAMILY RIDE RUN WALK

Together in Hope

Here's how you can help us reach the finish line...

- **DONATE ONLINE:** Visit https://tinyurl.com/OFHRRW2022 to make an online donation to the event itself, or an individual or team fundraiser.
- **DONATE BY MAIL:** Mail your donation to PO Box 341695, Milwaukee WI 53234 (with checks made payable to Outreach for Hope).

Thank you to all who have made a gift so far, and who are planning to do so soon! We are Church, together!!



Greater Milwaukee Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

LIFE TOGETHER | FALL 2022

Notes from the Bishop

As I begin my second term as bishop of this marvelous synod, there are a number of things I'm grateful for and looking forward to. I'm grateful for all the words and prayers of support and encouragement as we engage in the holy and hard work before us; I'm grateful for the privilege of working with a highly skilled and dedicated staff on the synod team; and, I'm grateful for the ways that our congregations and leaders are committed to walking and working together as we live into the future that God has in store for us. I look forward to exploring with all of you what it means to be faithful to the God of resurrection hope in the midst of so many challenges and opportunities.

One of the commitments we have made as a synod is to deepen and expand our work of becoming a more authentically diverse and fully inclusive church. This is a road that I never expect us to complete, but we need to continually ask ourselves, "What is our next most faithful step?" Our next steps will be guided by the work of our Authentic Diversity Audit, being conducted by the associates at Gold Enterprises, LLC. **An important step in this journey will be a synod-wide survey that will be open from October 10 through October 30 (https://tinyurl.com/GmsDiversitySurvey).** We hope that synod leaders and participants from all ages, backgrounds, and perspectives will take the time to complete this survey; the results will only be helpful if we have robust participation. This survey will give shape to the focus group conversations that will take place in the coming months, and the results of these conversations will be incorporated into a strategic planning process that will point us in the right direction in the coming years.

Our Together in Mission event will provide an important opportunity to receive some of the initial findings of this work and to give feedback on the initial draft of the strategic plan; please mark your calendars for **Saturday, January 28, 2023**, and we look forward to welcoming several members of Gold Enterprises at this event.

We are also making progress on filling the new staff position, the Assistant to the Bishop for Authentic Diversity and Leadership, and we may be able to welcome this new member of the synod staff team in the coming months. This person will help to guide and encourage us, and hold us accountable, as we continue on the path of growth and change, embracing the hard and holy work before us.

I'm grateful for the chance to do this work with you, and I look forward to all the ways that we will be blessed as we deconstruct the systems and patterns of behavior that have prevented us from recognizing and celebrating the amazing diversity of God's new creation.

In Christ,

Bishop Paul Erickson

COMPLETE THE DIVERSITY SURVEY

- **Online in English or Spanish** at https://tinyurl.com/GmsDiversitySurvey
- **Request a paper copy** by contacting our office

P O Box 341695
Milwaukee, WI 53234

414-671-1212

office@gmselca.org

milwaukeesynod.org

@MilwaukeeSynod

Equipping the Saints Strengthens the Work of Lutheran Campus Ministry

One of the two primary initiatives of the *Equipping the Saints* mission appeal is Leadership, with Lutheran Campus Ministry designated as one of the recipients of Leadership funds. The first ETS Leadership grant to LCM was made earlier this year. Additional funds will be directed toward planned giving and other fundraising efforts. This will ensure that Campus Ministry remains a strong and significant partner in raising up the next generation of leaders and sending them into the world empowered to serve for justice, hope, and peace.

For over 60 years, the Greater Milwaukee Synod has taken the church to campus to meet young adults at a transitional time in life, and campus ministry has created relationships with God, other people of faith, and inner gifts and strengths that have carried people through a lifetime. **As the world rapidly changes and young adults live with so much uncertainty about the future, the deep connections campus ministry provides are needed more than ever** to make sure many more generations of young people can find the faith and hope they need to bring faith and hope to the world!

The congregational portion of the *Equipping the Saints* Campaign is underway now. Thank you to the congregations who have already participated, and we look forward to those who are ready to learn more! **Congregations are not being asked to give through their budgets.** Instead, congregations are asked to share the story of the campaign and invite your members to make a gift if they so desire.

To learn the steps for your congregation to participate, contact Joyce Caldwell at joyce.caldwell@gmselca.org. Most congregations choose to participate sometime in the January to June timeframe after their own stewardship efforts have concluded.

Learn more and get involved at equippingthesaintsgms.org

Testimonies from a recent LCM Alumni Reunion about the impact of Lutheran Campus Ministry:

"When life was falling apart around me, it was the community of peers and friends living with me at The Corner House that helped care for me. I can never give back more than Lutheran Campus Ministry gave me."

"The gifts I bring to my life and my job were formed through the opportunities for leadership as a peer minister. I would not be where I am in life without LCM."

"Lutheran Campus Ministry at Marquette provided me with a pastor and friends and experiences of ministry that changed my life."

Additions to Mobility List
July 1 - October 4

full list at milwaukeesynod.org/congregations-in-transition

New Congregations in Transition

Atonement, Muskego (FT lead pastor) – CALL extended

Galilee, Pewaukee (FT pastor) – in interim

Grace, Grafton (FT solo pastor) – MSP posted

Holy Cross, Menomonee Falls (FT associate pastor) – names received

Living Christ, Germantown (FT solo pastor) – CALL extended

Lord of Life, Kenosha (FT solo pastor) – CALL extended

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Racine (FT senior pastor) – in interim

Mt Pleasant, Racine (PT associate pastor) – in interim

Our Savior's, Oconomowoc (FT associate pastor) – MSP posted

St Luke, Sheboygan Falls (PT-FT solo pastor) – MSP posted

New Change of Status for Rostered Ministers

Rev. Lynn Erickson from synod call to interim ministry at Atonement, Muskego to synod call to interim ministry at Holy Trinity, West Allis

Rev. Jay Ford, from called pastor at Galilee, Pewaukee to retirement

Rev. Larry Harpster, from OLC to synod call to interim ministry at All Saints, Wales

Rev. Doug Krekling, from OLC to retirement

Rev. Charles (Chip) Lutz, from candidate to called pastor at Lord of Life, Kenosha

Rev. Jim Lynch, from called pastor at Lakeside, Kenosha to retirement

Rev. Karen Pahl, from called senior pastor at LCR, Racine to synod call to interim ministry at Mt Olive, Mukwonago

Rev. Sheila Rawn, from OLC to synod call to interim ministry at Mt Pleasant, Racine

Rev. Jess Short, from bridge pastor at Holy Cross, Menomonee Falls to called pastor at Living Christ, Germantown

Rev. Gene Talley, from South Central Synod to called pastor at Atonement, Muskego

Rev. Krista Zimmerman, from called associate pastor at Mt Pleasant, Racine to OLC

Remembering Rostered Ministers Who Have Died

Rev. Marvin Oechler died on Wednesday, August 17, 2022. He was ordained in 1961 and served for 4.5 years in Two Rivers, WI at Calvary Lutheran Church, and 29.5 years in Kenosha, WI at St Paul's Lutheran Church. He retired in 1995 and stayed active in the Kenosha community and the Greater Milwaukee Synod ever since. A full obituary can be found at kenoshafuneralhome.com/obituaries/marvin-oechler/2127. Please continue to keep Rev. Oechler's family, friends and community in prayer as they grieve his loss. *Trusting in the promise of new life in Christ, now and always. May light perpetual shine upon Rev. Oechler.*

OTHER EVENTS THIS FALL

"I'm Curious About..." - Always Reforming: How New Things Start in the Church: 10/25, 6:30-7:30pm on Zoom

2022 First Call Event: 11/13-15 at St. Anthony Spirituality Center

"I'm Curious About..." - Topic TBD: 11/29, 6:30-7:30pm on Zoom

milwaukeesynod.org/events