

There has been a great deal of fruitful Cross+Generational Ministry taking place over the past year in the Greater Milwaukee Synod. Many events have taken place, relationships built, and collaboration and support strengthened. Stephanie Luedtke, Director of Cross+Generational Ministry, spent her first six months in this position in close conversation with leaders of the Cross+Generational Ministry Core Leadership Team, Synod Staff, and other key synodical leaders, developing a set of long-term desired outcomes and goals around which to design all Cross+Generational events and activities.

Our events and activities are designed around the team's three-fold vision, to:

Engage congregations in Cross+Generational ministry

Equip leadership with tools, theory, and Lutheran theology for excellence in ministry

Empower youth and young adults to practice using their God-given gifts in service to the Church and the world

Below, you will find a summary of these outcomes and goals, designed around the three-fold vision, as well as a listing of the activities and events that have taken place since the 2014 Synod Assembly. Many thanks are owed for the hard work and faithful leadership of the Core Leadership Team of Dave Dringenburg, Atonement, Muskego; Amanda Juedes, Our Savior's, West Bend; Andy Fetters, St. Mark's, Waukesha; Jonathan Barker, North Cape, Franksville; Carolyn Karl, Kingo, Shorewood; and Krista Zimmerman, Mt. Pleasant, Racine.

Cross+Generational Ministry 5-Year Outcomes

- Congregational leadership (rostered, lay professional, and volunteer) will be conversant in cross+generational language and ideology, and will be familiar with research behind the movement to this new model.
- Congregational and synodical leaders will recognize the value and power of lay leadership of all varieties, will be able to access resources to find the best fit for ministry hires, and will be familiar with training and support resources.
- Congregations will be filled with faith-formers: families, singles, and couples equipped for vital faith formation in the home.
- Leaders will be equipped to do ministry in the 21st century with theological, cultural, leadership, and relational tools, and will recognize a robust community of resources within and outside of the GMS.
- A strong network of effective coaches and mentors in Cross+Generational methods and theory will have developed.
- The Greater Milwaukee Synod will be comprised of leading mentors and role models for Cross+Generational ministry throughout the ELCA and beyond.
- Children, youth, and young adults will be empowered as leaders, as a matter of course, and will not require quotas to ensure their full participation in the life of the church.

Cross+Generational Ministry 5-Year Actionable Goals

Engage

- Train core Cross+Generational Ministry Network leaders to coach congregations in principals and to provide practical implementation suggestions
- Choose congregations to work closely with to vision and implement Cross +Generational goals
- Provide congregations with tools for training singles, couples, and families to be faith formers in their homes
- Network with and provide mentorship to synods and congregations outside of the GMS to understand and implement Cross+Generational principals

Equip

- Organize and implement yearly (or twice yearly) practical Cross+Generational ministry workshops
- Create and curate a robust storehouse of digital faith formation resources, including current scholarship and practical resources for ministry
- Support current ministry leaders, including rostered, lay, and volunteers with educational opportunities
- Support current lay professionals within their congregations of employment and synod-wide

Empower

- Develop a Youth Leadership Organization aimed at developing leadership skills and supporting youth as leaders in the church
- Work closely with campus ministry and key congregations to develop effective young adult ministry
- Increase synod-wide events available for a variety of age-groups to utilize skills of Leadership participants and provide fellowship and formations opportunities and support for families and young people
- Create a Cross+Generational summer training institute (modeled after LA-TX Gulf Coast and Southeastern Synod)

Cross+Generational Ministry 2014-2015 Activity

- 8 Cross+Generational Ministry Network Meetings, attended by leaders from 30 congregations and 4 other ministry organizations (Lutherdale, Siebert, Body and Soul, and Campus Ministry). These meetings cover a variety of topics with broad

appeal, including: An Overview of the Generations, The Missional Church, Self Care Practice, The Model of Accompaniment, and Social Media in Ministry

- Meetings with leadership teams of six congregations to address a variety of ministry goals.
- Development of the Waukesha Area Emerging Adults Cooperative under the leadership of a team of Waukesha County ministry leaders, and consulting by Rozella White, ELCA Director of Young Adult Ministry.
- Worship Techniques and Tools Workshop, attended by leaders from 20 congregations, including four from outside the synod.
- Attendance of leaders of five of our congregations at a national conference on Cross+Generational Ministry, at which Stephanie Luedtke presented.
- GMS World AIDS Day commemoration, in collaboration with congregations and other synodical ministries.
- SWAG, attended by youth and leaders of 15 congregations, as well as representatives from Campus Ministry, RIC, Anti-Racism, and Meru Diocese Partnership. Possibly the most racially and economically diverse synodical offering all year.
- Nomination of a youth representative, Jack Walch, to Synod Council.
- Attendance of two youth, Sarah Muller and Maggie Papka, and one leader, Kerstin Hedlund at the ELCA Youth Leadership Summit.