

## Congregations in Transition

As of January 8, 2018

### Recent Vacancies: (*Interim pastor has not yet begun*)

- Advent, Cedarburg (FT pastor)
- Ascension, Milwaukee (FT co-pastor)
- Peace, Burlington (PT pastor)
- Zion, Ashippun (PT pastor)

### Mission Exploration Process:

(no candidates received at this time) NOTE: "Transition Pastors" provide pastoral support and consistency to the congregation during a time of rostered minister transition, and do not lead a MET process. "Transition Consultants" help lead a MET process, and have limited pastoral leadership responsibilities. "Interim Pastors" provide pastoral support and lead a MET process.

- All People's Gathering (FT lead pastor) – Rev. Alexis Twito, PT transition consultant
- Cross, Ixonia (PT pastor) – Rev. James Stein, PT interim
- Good Shepherd Trinity, Milwaukee – ELCA/PCUSA (PT pastor) – pulpit supply
- House of Prayer, Franklin (FT pastor) – Rev. Kathy Brown, FT interim
- Lord of Life, Kenosha (FT associate pastor) – Rev. Cynthia Aasen, PT transition pastor
- Redeemer, Hartford (FT pastor) – Rev. Jon Breimeier, PT interim
- Redemption, Wauwatosa (PT pastor) – Rev. Maren Hooper, PT transition pastor
- Spirit Alive!, Kenosha (FT pastor) – Rev. Sue Ruehle, PT transition pastor
- St. Andrew, Sheboygan (PT pastor) – Rev. Paul Ihlenfeld, PT interim
- St. John, Brookfield (FT senior pastor) – Rev. Frank Janzow, PT transition consultant
- St. Luke, Slinger (FT pastor) – Rev. Steve Clingman, FT interim
- St. Mary, Kenosha (FT senior pastor) – Rev. John Holm, FT interim
- St. Paul, Milwaukee (PT pastor) – Rev. Jacob Werkheiser, PT transition pastor and Rev. Sandy Jacobs, PT transition consultant
- Trinity, South Milwaukee (FT pastor) – Rev. Michael Mueller, FT interim

### Ministry Site Profile (MSP) Posted:

- Fox Point, Fox Point (FT 2nd associate pastor)
- Journey in Faith, Racine (FT pastor)
- Holy Trinity, West Allis (FT pastor) – Rev. Dean Natterstad, FT interim
- Lake Park, Milwaukee (3/4 to FT Associate pastor)
- Mt. Pleasant, Racine (FT senior pastor) – Rev. Bill Mains, FT transition pastor
- St. Mark, Cudahy (PT pastor) – Rev. Ron Ballew, PT interim
- St. Paul, Kenosha (FT pastor) – Rev. Karen Pahl, FT interim
- Unity, Brookfield (3rd pastor) – Rev. Jennifer Carlson, FT transition pastor

### Candidate Names Submitted:

- Emaus, Racine (FT bi-lingual pastor)
- First United, Sheboygan (FT associate pastor)
- Our Savior's, Oconomowoc (FT Administration pastor) – Rev. Kimberly Jordan, FT transition pastor
- Our Savior's, Oconomowoc (FT Education pastor)

### Calls Extended:

- Church of the Resurrection, Pewaukee (FT pastor)
- Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Racine (FT pastor)

## Rostered Ministers in Transition

As of January 8, 2018

### Rostered Ministers Who Have Recently Changed Calls:

#### *Within the Greater Milwaukee Synod*

- Rev. Kathy Brown, from called pastor at Messiah, Twin Lakes to interim pastor at House of Prayer, Franklin

#### *From the Greater Milwaukee Synod*

- Rev. Matthew Lee, from called pastor to ecumenical ministry to the Presbyterian Church USA

### Rostered Ministers Recently Moved to On Leave from Call (OLC):

- Rev. Gabriel Marcano from called pastor at Emaus, Racine to OLC

### Rostered Ministers Recently Retired:

- Rev. Janis Kinens, from called pastor at Advent, Cedarburg to retirement
- Rev. James Bickel from Executive Director, Outreach for Hope to retirement

### Rostered Ministers Who Have Recently Died:

Rev. Andrew (Drew) Russell died on October 30, 2017. Services were held on Monday, November 6, 2017 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Waukesha with Rev. Andy Fetters presiding. Pastor Russell was retired from the Navy and served many years as a VA Chaplain. Please keep the Russell family, especially Pastor Russell's wife Vicki, and their children and grandchildren in your prayers.

## Congregational Reports

**Reminder:** All congregations are REQUIRED to submit their 2017 Congregational Reports (Forms A & C.)

Submit your reports online at the following link (scheduled to open shortly) - [www.elca.org/congregationreport](http://www.elca.org/congregationreport)

You will need your Congregational ID and password to complete your reports. Both were mailed to you by the ELCA a few weeks ago, or you can contact Phil Smith at the GMS offices at 414.671.1212.

**Deadline: February 15**

Notes from the Bishop - January 2018

## So, What Happens Now?

# Life Together Issue 6



As we turn the calendar page to a new year, I'm aware of the fact that many of my colleagues in the church, particularly those who spent significant time preparing for and participating in events that helped to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, are glad to see 2017 come to an end. Don't get me wrong; there were many wonderful events, highlighted for me with the October 31 prayer service at Ascension, at which the Roman Catholic and ELCA bishops from Wisconsin signed a Joint Statement, committing us to a life of common witness and service (read the text of the statement here: [goo.gl/FVBBNj](http://goo.gl/FVBBNj)).

Now that this anniversary year is behind us, what happens next? We could certainly move on to the next topic or theme, especially since our culture encourages us to move quickly to whatever is next, never lingering too long on any one idea. But what would it look like if we actually took the words of the Joint Statement seriously? What if we heeded the call for "all Lutheran and Catholic parishes and communities to be bold and creative, joyful and hopeful in their commitment to continue the great journey ahead of us." What would it look like if we seriously sought out partnerships with others, working together to "welcome the stranger, to come to the aid of those forced to flee because of war and persecution, and to defend the rights of refugees and those who seek asylum."

The divisions of our world that fall along racial, gender, economic, political, and religious fault lines are sharp, persistent, painful and, I believe, unnecessary. We need to remember, in the words of the Joint Statement, that "what unites us is greater than what divides us." I pray we can all find ways, this year and in the years to come, to build bridges, find partners, forge alliances, and to do whatever it takes to come together to confront the challenges of our world. I continue to urge you, in the words I shared on Reformation evening to, "plant a tree, help a neighbor, listen to a stranger, encourage a child, get to know someone and pray with someone and work with someone from a different racial, economic, political, or religious background. Do whatever you can do to build bridges, inspire hope, celebrate life, light a candle against the darkness, trusting that the God who made us and all of creation, the God in whose very flesh the wounds of the creation are most deeply felt, is the same God who will not rest until every act of justice, love, and faith are gathered together into a healing balm that will not only bring healing and hope to the nations, but to every single person on this planet."

Thanks for all you do to engage in God's mission,

Bishop Paul Erickson



[milwaukeeelca.org](http://milwaukeeelca.org)



# Together in Mission

February 10 - 8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.  
Mt. Zion Lutheran Church  
12012 West North Ave.  
Wauwatosa, WI 53226

We are, truly, Together in Mission in our Greater Milwaukee Synod! Called, gathered and sent in Jesus' name we journey together in God's work of love and reconciliation.

To celebrate and strengthen our partnership, we are gathering on Saturday, February 10, 2018 at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church for our Together in Mission event. Combining elements of last year's cluster assembly and the Lead & Learn event, our gathering is geared toward congregational leaders of all kinds, staff, and rostered leaders. We will dwell in God's Word, meet in mission clusters, and participate in workshops that engage our stories and questions in ministry.

## Workshop topics will include:

- Neighborhood Outreach: Listening and Engaging in our Communities
- Portico Benefits presentations for Rostered Leaders and for Congregational Leaders
  - Be Safe, Be Prepared: How to Survive an Active Shooter
  - Pastoral Transition and Call Process
- Beer, Bees, Bread & Beyond: Imagining New Ministry Edges
  - Effective Communication in the Parish
  - Conflict in the Congregation
  - Cross+Gen Ministry
  - Social Media

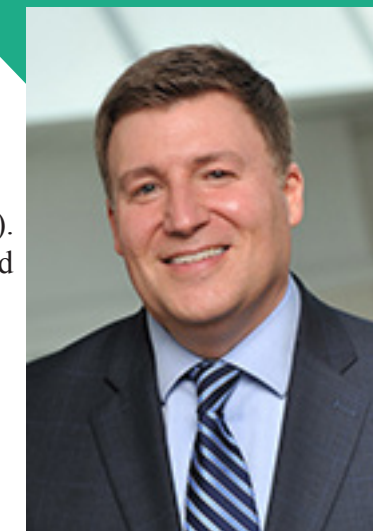
## Tentative Schedule:

8:30 – 9 a.m. Gathering & Coffee  
 9 – 9:45 a.m. Dwelling in the Word  
 10 – 11:15 a.m. Workshops - Morning Session  
 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Cluster Lunch Gatherings  
 1:15 – 2:30 p.m. Workshops - Afternoon Session  
 2:45 p.m. Closing

Register/learn more: [milwaukee-synod.org/event/together-in-mission](http://milwaukee-synod.org/event/together-in-mission)

## Welcome Timothy Larson, New Executive Director of Outreach for Hope

Outreach for Hope is pleased to welcome Timothy Larson as the new Executive Director of Outreach for Hope effective January 15, 2018. As Executive Director, Tim will be responsible for advancing the mission of Outreach for Hope with the Greater Milwaukee Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). He will build relationships with donors, administer grants, oversee the finances, and promote Outreach for Hope in the public and religious community of Southeastern Wisconsin.



Outreach for Hope's mission is to inspire donors to live and give generously by investing their gifts as a resource for transformation in Greater Milwaukee Synod ministries serving communities of poverty. Outreach for Hope granted \$350,000 last year and granted more than \$4.4 million in the past 21 years to support these ministries.

"Tim's experience at both raising and granting funds make him ideally suited to lead the work at Outreach for Hope," says Rev. Paul Erickson, Bishop of the Greater Milwaukee Synod. "When our donors look for ways to make a difference in the world, they will have a partner in Tim whose broad experience in philanthropy will enable them to have greater impact in the community."

Tim comes to Outreach for Hope following his tenure at the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, where he served as Vice President of Philanthropic Services. At the Foundation, he advised donors and helped to increase resources to support the needs of the greater Milwaukee's nonprofit organizations.

"I am excited to collaborate with Outreach for Hope's donors, board and staff to build on its legacy of philanthropic leadership to build strong vibrant ministries that will be centers of hope in the midst of communities challenged by poverty," said Larson.

Prior to his position at the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Tim served in leadership positions at Rush University Medical Center, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, Ronald McDonald House Charities and Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago. Tim is actively involved in community and professional organizations and has held leadership positions for the Partners in Philanthropic Planning and the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Tim also serves on the board of the Siebert Lutheran Foundation and on the advisory board for Outreach for Hope. Tim holds a MA in social service administration from the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration, a Master of Divinity from Meadville/Lombard Theological School, and a BA in religion from St. Olaf College. Tim is a member of Our Saviors Lutheran Church, Milwaukee.

Larson succeeds Outreach for Hope's Executive Director, Rev. Jim Bickel, who retired at the end of 2017.

## Upcoming Events ([milwaukee-synod.org/events](http://milwaukee-synod.org/events))



Lutheran Campus Ministry Chili Cook-Off  
January 27, 2018  
Mount Hope Lutheran Church



Exploring the Preaching Texts for Maundy Thursday/  
Good Friday/Easter (with Dr. Audrey West)  
March 1, 2018  
St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa



GMS Anti-Racism Retreat  
February 23-24, 2018  
Lutherdale



Clergy Spouse Retreat  
April 13-15, 2018  
Iron Mountain, MI



Synod Assembly 2018  
May 31 - June 2, 2018  
Country Springs Hotel and Conference Center