**Transitions**

as of July 12, 2018

**Rostered Ministers in Transition**

- Rev. Joshua Graber, from Northeastern Ohio Synod, to synod call to interim ministry at St Zion, Wauwatosa
- Rev. Alisa Kretzmann Farrar, from candidate for Word and Sacrament Ministry, to called pastor at Lake Park, Milwaukee
- Rev. Janine Natterstad, from candidate for Word and Sacrament Ministry, to called pastor at Baltzer, Mukwonago
- Rev. Joshua Stibb, from Nebraska Synod, to called pastor at Our Savior, Oconomowoc
- Rev. Joseph Wilkinson, from candidate for Word and Sacrament Ministry, to called pastor at Christ Our Savior, Sussex

**Ministers Who Have Recently Changed Calls**

- Rev. Dean Wilhelmsen, from term call pastor at Bethlehem, Muskego (while serving as a contract pastor at Bethlehem, Muskego)
- Rev. Angela Khabeb, from called pastor at Ascension, Waukesha to Minneapolis
- Rev. Joshua Stibb, from Nebraska Synod, to called pastor at Ascension, Waukesha to Minneapolis
- Rev. Frank Janzow, from PT transition pastor to called pastor at St John, Brookfield
- Rev. Steve Clingman, from FT interim pastor to called pastor at St Luke, Waukesha

**Recent Vacancy**

- Rev. Adam Moreno, from Lord of Life, Kenosha (FT associate pastor) – Rev. Adam Moreno
- Rev. Kevin Kretzmann Farrar, from Atonement, Muskego (FT associate pastor) – Rev. Kevin Kretzmann Farrar
- Rev. Bill Mains, from Mt Zion, Wauwatosa (FT senior pastor) – Rev. Bill Mains, FT interim pastor
- Rev. Adam Moreno, from St Paul, Kenosha (FT interim pastor) – Rev. Adam Moreno
- Rev. David Rebey, from Redemption, Wauwatosa (FT pastor) – Intern David Rebey, supervised by Rev. Matthew Hacker
- Rev. Carol Jeunnette, from Peace, Burlington (PT pastor) – Rev. Carol Jeunnette, PT transition consultant
- Rev. Frank Janzow, from St John, Brookfield (PT 3rd pastor) – Rev. Frank Janzow, PT transition pastor
- Rev. Dean Wilhelmsen, from All People’s Church (PT 3rd co-pastor) – Rev. Dean Wilhelmsen, PT transition pastor
- Rev. Bill Mains, from Mt Zion, Wauwatosa (FT pastor) – Intern Bill Mains, PT transition pastor
- Rev. Anna Blecker, from Mt Zion, Wauwatosa (FT associate pastor) – Rev. Anna Blecker
- Rev. Dean Wilhelmsen, from All People’s Church (PT pastor) – Rev. Dean Wilhelmsen, PT transition pastor
- Rev. Matthew Hacker, from Redemption, Wauwatosa (PT pastor) – Rev. Matthew Hacker
- Rev. Debra Trakel, from Advent, Cedarburg (PT pastor) – Rev. Debra Trakel, PT transition pastor
- Rev. Carol Jeunnette, from Peace, Burlington (PT pastor) – Rev. Carol Jeunnette, PT transition pastor
- Rev. Frank Janzow, from St John, Brookfield (PT 3rd pastor) – Rev. Frank Janzow, PT transition pastor
- Rev. Matt Smith, from Trinity, South Milwaukee (PT interim pastor) – Rev. Matt Smith
- Rev. Mathew Hacker, from Trinity, South Milwaukee (PT interim pastor) – Rev. Mathew Hacker
- Rev. Anna Blecker, from Mt Zion, Wauwatosa (PT transition pastor) – Rev. Anna Blecker
- Rev. Adam Moreno, from Lord of Life, Kenosha (PT associate pastor) – Rev. Adam Moreno
- Rev. Matthew Hacker, from Trinity, South Milwaukee (PT interim pastor) – Rev. Mathew Hacker
- Rev. Dean Wilhelmsen, from All People’s Church (PT pastor) – Rev. Dean Wilhelmsen

**Mission Moment/ Stewardship Snippet**

- "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not of yourselves, it is the gift of God. For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Everything’s about to change. Everything. -- Bishop Paul Erickson"

**Energized, Connected, Hopeful**

Energized, connected, hopeful. These are the words that describe how I hope folks will feel when they are leaving an event or activity sponsored by the Greater Milwaukee Synod. We began to ask how true this is at the conclusion of our Together in Mission event and the synod assembly, and I thought it might be helpful to expand a bit on why we are asking this.

To put it simply, I’m not as interested in the information we may have to present or the decisions we may make together as I am in what will happen next. When we gather as members of the synod, coming from 121 congregations, 3 new ministries and 2 campus ministries, we are indeed the church. The work of the church, however, does not only take place when we gather; it needs to be lived out in our homes, communities, schools, and workplaces. There is a rhythm to our life together: we gather, we experience life together in Christian community, and then we are sent into the world, agents of love and reconciliation.

I’m firmly convinced that the effectiveness of our witness and mission is directly related to our entering that mission field feeling energized, connected, and hopeful. Do we have a sense that God’s energy is alive and well and moving in our midst? Do we feel connected, that we are not alone as we engage the long and difficult path of discipleship? Do we have hope that God is indeed among us, that our labors for the Lord are not in vain?

This is how I felt when I left the ELCA Youth Gathering a few weeks ago. Over 30,000 people gathered for five days in Houston under the theme “This Changes Everything.” The theme text was Ephesians 2:8: “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.” We spent the days in interactive learning, service projects, and in a day of worship and community building as a synod. In the evening, we all gathered in the NRG stadium for amazing music and powerful speakers, exploring how accepting God’s radical grace and accepting everything, I’m so grateful to all who helped make this event happen, especially the synod leaders, chaperones, pastors and congregations, and all those who participated in the many fundraisers so that over 500 people from CMS could attend. The next Youth Gathering is in 2023 in Minneapolis, and I hope we have another large presence from our synod. I hope folks guess that most, if not all, of those who went were also feeling energized, connected, and hopeful. I would encourage those of you who know people who attended to ask them how it went, and then get ready to welcome and make room for their passion, their gifts, and their energy.

In truth, this is how I hope people leave every event that takes place in our congregations: worship, study, service, and yes, even meetings. Are we energized, connected, and hopeful? Do we believe that are accepted and loved just as we are? Do we understand that we have a calling, a purpose in the world, to spread the good news of God’s grace, mercy, and justice in everything we do and say? If we do, then get ready: everything’s about to change. Everything. — Bishop Paul Erickson
Mission Moment

Together In Mission: Year-Round Resourcing

In 2017, we began the Together in Mission event, which brings us together to explore ministry questions and gain resources for our work. We have now created a Facebook group by the same name to continue this work year-round! It is a place for resource-sharing and tapping the collective wisdom of the talented people in our synod. It is open to rostered and lay leaders of every stripe. Try it out as a place to share and invite creative feedback from others! Just search Facebook for “Together In Mission: Year-Round Resourcing” and click “join group” to be a part of this crowd-sourcing group!

Stewardship Snippet

As some of us begin to think about a Fall Stewardship campaign, consider identifying 4-5 individuals in your congregation who have a powerful story to tell of a time when the ministries of your congregation made an impact in their lives. Then, schedule these individuals for temple talks leading up to your fall stewardship drive. Hearing stories of the impact made helps us all remember the ways God uses our humble efforts and collective gifts to change the world with Love. If you would like to schedule a stewardship consultation with your congregation’s planning team, contact Matthew Short, Assistant to the Bishop for Evangelical Planning at 414-316-3026 or matt.short@gmleca.org.

Two Amazing Events

Pastor Alexia Salvatierra will be our featured speaker at the Fall Theological Conference in Green Lake, September 23-25.

Becoming the Body of Christ: Organizing faith communities to embody justice, reconciliation, and hope

Blending a biblical and theological framework with practical tools, Pastor Alexia Salvatierra will lead us in exploring how we can use the gift of faith-rooted community organizing to more fully embrace our calling and let the power of the Gospel transform our relationships in our congregations and communities. She is the author with Dr. Peter Helfzel of Faith-Rooted Organizing: Mobilizing the Church in Service to the World and founder of the Faith-Rooted Organizing UnNetwork. She is a Lutheran Pastor with over 40 years of experience in community ministry, including church-based service and community development programs, congregation and community organizing, and legislative advocacy.

Getting the Message Out is a one-day event on Saturday, October 6 to explore effective communication in our congregations. Scott Vaughan, our leader for the day, is a professional public speaker, combining straightforward thinking, story-telling, humor and common sense to help church leaders better understand communication in today’s culture. Scott will lead us through three conversations:

- Understanding People: How to Reach Those Who May Think Differently about Church
- The Changing Winds of Communication: Embracing Change or Drifting Behind
- Every Member a Greeter: How to Be Ready When People Get the Message and Show Up

Getting the Message Out is for leaders, staff, and communicators of all kinds who want to grow their capacity to connect with people inside and outside of their congregation.

Schedule

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Arrival &amp; Coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Devotion</td>
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<td>9:10 a.m.</td>
<td>Session 1: Understanding People: How to reach those who may think differently about Church</td>
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<td>10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>Noon</td>
<td>Session 2: The Changing Winds of Communication: Embracing Change or Drifting Behind</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Lunch (boxed or BYOL)</td>
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<td>12:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Session 3: Every Member a Greeter: How to Be Ready When People Get the Message and Show Up</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:10 p.m.</td>
<td>Q &amp; A with Scott Vaughan</td>
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The Fall Theological Conference and Getting the Message Out are open to rostered and lay leaders in our synod. For further information or to register, please visit milwaukeeysynod.org/events.

Synod Assembly 2018 Overview

Evaluation Responses

Thank you to all who shared their thoughts on Synod Assembly 2018. We appreciate it and will be using your feedback as we plan for Synod Assembly 2019.

The online registration process before assembly was clear.

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Registration and/or check in at the event was well organized.

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The worship service was meaningful.

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The breakpoint sessions on Friday (Curiosity, Courage, Compassion) were engaging.

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The Global Cafe on Friday night was an enjoyable experience.

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The Country Springs facilities were accommodating.

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The food provided was excellent.

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I am feeling more energized than when I arrived.

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I am feeling more connected than when I arrived.

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I am feeling more hopeful than when I arrived.

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Upcoming Events

September 8
OFF Family Bike Rides
Dousman and Grafton
All day
More information: milwaukeeysynod.org/events

September 23-25
Fall Theological Conference
Green Lake Conference Center
6 p.m. on the 23rd - noon on the 25th

October 6
Getting the Message Out
King of Glory Lutheran Church
8:15 a.m. - 3 p.m.

More information: milwaukeeysynod.org/events