Notes from the Bishop
Continued from Front Page

• Worship. One of the highlights of the assembly is the opportunity to worship daily. These services are open to the public, and you don’t need to register to attend. All services take place in the Ballroom on the first floor of the Wisconsin Center:
  • Monday, August 5, 3 p.m.
  • Tuesday, August 6, 11 a.m.
  • Wednesday, August 7, 11 a.m.
  • Thursday, August 8, 11 a.m.
  • Friday, August 9, 11 a.m.
  • Saturday, August 10, 8:30 a.m.

• Visit. One-day visitor passes are available on site for $20, allowing access to the plenary hall to observe the sessions. Meals are not included.

• Prayer vigil. The Greater Milwaukee Synod is co-sponsoring a process and prayer vigil for immigration with the AMMPARO network of the ELCA (elca.org/AMMPARO) on Wednesday, August 7. We will depart from the Wisconsin Center after worship at noon, walk to the local US Citizenship and Immigration Services office at 310 E. Knapp Street, and partake in a brief prayer vigil for immigrants and refugees. Feel free to walk with us or simply meet us at the USCIS office. We will then walk in procession back to the Wisconsin Center, returning by 1:30 pm.

Thank you for all of the ways that you are helping to make this assembly a wonderful and powerful experience.

Upcoming Events

Churchwide Assembly (ewa19.org) August 5-10, 2019 Wisconsin Center, Milwaukee
One People of God: Events for Strengthening Our Walk With Our LGBTQIA- Siblings September 23-24, 2019 Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa
Fall Leadership Conference October 14-16, 2019 The Abbey Resort, Lake Geneva
Together in Mission February 15, 2020 St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa
Navigating Boundaries for Healthy Leadership September 17, 2019 Martin Luther Church, Milwaukee
Lutheran World Relief Box Car Loading October 12, 2019 12th Street and Mt. Vernon
Crossroads Anti-Racism Training October 24-26, 2019 St. Mary’s Lutheran Church, Kenosha
Synod Assembly 2020 May 29-30, 2020 Italian Community Center, Milwaukee

More information: milwaukee synod.org/events
Registration is now open for all THREE Family Bike Rides!

On Saturday, September 7, you have the opportunity to participate in one of THREE Family Bike Rides supporting Outreach for Hope!

Choose from Waukesha County, Ozaukee County, and now Racine/Kenosha County bike ride sites. You can choose to ride as an individual, with your family, volunteer to help, or help to fundraise as a “Virtual Rider.”

Join hundreds of your fellow Greater Milwaukee Synod members (and others) for a pleasant bike fall ride on some of the most beautiful trails in Southeastern Wisconsin, while supporting Outreach for Hope and the ministries it supports in low income areas throughout Milwaukee, Racine and Kenosha.

**September 23 and 21, 2019**
**Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa**

**Presenter:** Austen Hartke

Austen Hartke is the author of *Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians*, a book on theology and personal narratives published by Westminster John Knox Press in 2018. He is also the creator of the YouTube series *Transgender and Christian*, which seeks to understand, interpret, and share parts of the Bible that relate to gender identity and the lives of transgender individuals. Austen is a graduate of Luther Seminary’s Master of Arts program in Old Testament/Hebrew Bible Studies, and is the winner of the 20H John Milton Prize Old Testament Writing from the same institution. He has spoken at conferences all over the country, including events for The Reformation Project, Gender Spectrum, Wild Goose, Q Christian Fellowship, the Philadelphia Transgender Health Conference, and the Why Christian Conference. Currently Austen is a 2019 Bush Foundation Fellow, and is researching best practices for rural churches that are interested in becoming LGBTQIA+-affirming.

**Event Sessions & Schedule**

*Please know that events are open to everyone, but some events are focused to a particular audience.*

**Monday, September 23**

- **6:30-8 p.m.** Exploring Gender Diversity in Biblical and Modern Contexts

**Tuesday, September 24**

- **10-11:30 a.m.** The “Clobber Texts”
  - For Lay and Rostered Leaders
  - Lunch
  - 12-2 p.m. The “Afirming Texts”
  - For Lay and Rostered Leaders
  - 2:30-3:30 p.m. LGBTQIA+ and Youth
  - For Cross-Gen Directors, Youth Directors & Youth/Family Pastors

- **6:30-8:30 p.m.** LGBTQIA+ and the Call Process
  - For Synod Staff, Synod Council, Interim Pastors, and all who are interested

**Tuesday, September 24**

- **2:30-3:30 p.m.** LGBTQIA+ and the Call Process
  - For Synod Staff, Synod Council, Interim Pastors, and all who are interested

**Registration** is requested in order for us to prepare space and hospitality, but there is no cost for any of these events. This event is sponsored by the Greater Milwaukee Synod’s Reconciling in Christ Ministry Team.

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**One People of God**

**Strengthening our Walk with our LGBTQIA+ Siblings**

**Calls Extended (7 – started the new calls)**

- **All People’s Church, Milwaukee** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Lindsey Bredelmann
- **Ray Shores, Whitefish Bay** (PT pastor) – Rev. Sarah Holton
- **Holy Cross, Menomonee Falls** (two 4 TIME associate pastors) – Rev. Sara Yoo and Rev. Ben Forst
- **Grace, Kenosha** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Jonathan Barker
- **Journey in Faith, Racine** (PT pastor) – Rev. Allison Johnson
- **Redeemer, Hartford** (PT pastor) – Rev. Ada Matusz
- **Redeemer, Racine** (PT pastor) – Rev. Dr. Harland Stephens
- **Spirit Alive, Kenosha** (PT or FT pastor) – Rev. Cynthia Lauen, PT transition pastor
- **St. Mark, Galesby** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Tom Talbot

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**Congregations and Ministers in Transition**

**as of July 24, 2019**

**Congregations and Ministers in Transition**

**Recent Vacancies: Note:** PACT stands for Pastors Accompanying Congregations in Transition. A PACT includes the following types of positions: "Interim Pastors" provide pastoral support, and lead a MFT process. "Transition Pastors" provide pastoral support, and lead a MFT process. "Transition Consultants" help lead a MFT process, and have limited pastoral support responsibilities. "Bridge Pastors" offer short term pastoral support until an interim or a called pastor begins. "Consistent Supply Pastors" cover weekly worship for an extended period of time and have limited additional pastoral responsibilities

**PT – part time**
**FT – full time**

**Vacancy covered by supply pastor**
- **Asmussen, Milwaukee** (bi-lingual co-pastor)

**Vacancy covered by PACT**
- **Our Saviors, West Bend (senior pastor)** – Rev. Paul Hirschfeld, PT interim pastor

**Mission Exploration Team (MFT) process (preparation for completing an MFT)**

- **Adoration, Greenfield** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Debra Toelke, PT interim pastor
- **Bethlehem, Muskego** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Dean Willick, PT interim pastor
- **Capitol Drive, Milwaukee** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Bill Mann, PT bridge pastor
- **Christ the King, Delafield** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Jim Holmberg, PT interim pastor
- **Emanuel, Racine** (pastor, bi-lingual) – supply pastors for Spanish language service
- **Good Shepherd Trinity (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Carol Jeamette, PT transition consultant**
- **Incorporation, Milwaukee** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Vicki Watkins, PT bridge pastor
- **Living Christ, Germantown** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Nunnie Mercier, PT interim pastor
- **Lord of Life, Kenosha** (senior pastor) – vacancy covered by current leadership
- **Lutheran Church of the Great Spirit, Milwaukee** (PT solo pastor) – supply pastors
- **Luther Memorial, West Allis** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Frank Maxwell, PT interim pastor
- **Messiah, Twin Lakes** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Melody Brink, PT interim pastor
- **Mt. Hope, West Allis** (senior pastor) – Rev. Michael Mueller, PT interim pastor
- **Our Savior’s, Milwaukee** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. John Holm, transition consultant
- **Redemption, Wauwatosa** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Alexander Jacobs, PT transition pastor
- **Spirit of Peace, Milwaukee** (PT solo pastor) – supply pastors
- **St. Paul, Kenosha** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Cindy Aasen, PT interim pastor
- **Verona, Mukwonago** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. David Patterson, PT interim pastor

**Ministry Site Profile (MSP) Posted:**

- **Bethel, Muskego** (PT pastor) – supply preacher
- **Christ the Servant, Waukesha** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Steve Cimplan, PT interim pastor
- **North Cape, Franklinville** (deacon for YFM) – Rev. Karl John Bone, PT bridge pastor
- **St. Luke, Waukesha** (PT Associate pastor) – Rev. Elizabeth Barnes, PT transition pastor

**Candidate Name: A Submitted to Call Committee:**

- **House of Prayer, Franklin** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Kelly Brown, PT interim pastor
- **Advocate, Cedarburg** (PT pastorate) – Rev. John Holm, PT transition pastor
- **St. Zion, Wauwatosa** (PT solo pastor) – Rev. Josh Graber, PT interim pastor
- **Peace, Burlington** (PT pastor) – Rev. Sue Bixler, PT bridge pastor

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**Congregations in Transition**

**Rostered Ministers in Transition**

Rostered Ministers Who Have Recently Changed Calls:

- To the Greater Milwaukee Synod
  - Rev. Lindsey Bredelmann, from candidate for call, to called pastor at All People’s Church, Milwaukee
  - Rev. Allison Johnson, from candidate for call, to called pastor at Journey in Faith, Racine
  - Rev. Sarah Holton, from SE Pennsylvania Synod, to called pastor at Ray Shores, Whitefish Bay
  - Rev. Mary Willis, from candidate for reinstatement to the roster, to PT called pastor at Emanuel, Racine
  - Rev. Jessica Aasen, to the Northwestern Wisconsin Synod to called associate pastor at Holy Cross, Menomonee Falls
  - Rev. Sara Yoo, from Southeast Washington Synod to called associate pastor at Holy Cross, Menomonee Falls
  - Within the Greater Milwaukee Synod
    - Rev. Jonathan Baires, from term called pastor at Grace, Kenosha to called pastor at Grace, Kenosha
    - Rev. Ada Matusz, from term called associate pastor at All People’s Church, Milwaukee to called pastor at Redeemer, Hartford
    - Rev. Dr. Harland Stephens, from two year term called pastor at Redeemer, Racine to one year term call pastor at Redeemer, Racine
    - Rev. Tim Talbot, from called pastor at Spirit of Peace, Milwaukee to called pastor at St. Marks, Galesby
    - From the Greater Milwaukee Synod
      - Rev. Walter Baires, from co-pastor at Ascension, Milwaukee to the South Central Synod of WI as the synod’s Director for Evangelical Mission
      - Rev. Carol Baumgartner, from OUT, interim ministry in the South Central Synod of WI
      - Rev. Darin Weible, from called senior pastor at Our Saviors, West Bend to interim ministry in the South Central Synod of WI

Rostered Ministers Recently Retired

- Rev. Molly Lovelace, from ELCA retirement

Remembering Rostered Ministers Who Have Recently Died:

- The Rev. Justin “Joe” L. Silvius entered the Church Triumphant on May 18, 2019, at age 86. After serving four calls in Iowa and Michigan, he came to the Greater Milwaukee Synod in 1981 to serve Grace UMC in Brookfield from 1981-1991, and then St Mark’s in Kenosha from 1991 until his retirement in 1997. A Celebration of Life service took place on Wednesday, May 29th, at Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church, Racine. We give thanks to God for the life and ministry of Rev. Silvius and we commend him into God’s eternal care. A full obituary is available at https://www.angelforden.com/obituaries