



Best Sunday School Ever

La Crosse Area Synod Assembly 2015

Now What?

Bishop Jim Arends, La Crosse Area Synod

How do we Walk the Word in parish life? How do we raise up ideas in our home congregations? How do we build up our congregations' ministries with those in need? How do we take our congregations further into understanding root causes of hunger, poverty, criminal justice issues and more? Let's talk with the Bishop.



The Church and Immigration: The Big Picture, Specific Opportunities, The Church's Response

Rev. Dr. Stephen Bouman, ELCA Exec. Director, Congregational and Synodical Mission

Please join Stephen Bouman as he gives insight to ways our church is working to engage the issues of refugee children migrating from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.

Gracious Conversations About Difficult Issues

Rev. Scott Anderson, Executive Director, Wisconsin Council of Churches

In this workshop we will draw upon the work of Parker Palmer and the Wisconsin Council of Churches' *Season of Civility*, following the protests in Madison in 2011. Participants will learn about the tools of civic dialogue and have the opportunity to practice them.



Back to the Basics, With a Food Truck

Rev. Margaret Kelly, MSW

Learn how a little new start in St. Paul, Minn., built relationships and followed the Holy Spirit. God is calling you to be in the world, too! Learn how public health and liberation theology can come together in your neighborhoods. Imagine the possibilities as we ask questions about our neighborhoods and remember the basics of our tradition.

Doing Advocacy as People of Faith

Rev. Cindy Crane, Lutheran Office for Public Policy-Wisconsin & Bridget Crave, LOPPW Advisory Council, member First Lutheran, Onalaska

Public policies make a huge difference in our lives. Discuss doing advocacy for just policies as Lutherans and the relationship between justification and justice. Explore ways your church can build an advocacy ministry to accompany your valuable outreach work.

**LUTHERAN
OFFICE
FOR PUBLIC
POLICY**
in Wisconsin



White Privilege: What is It and Why does It Matter?

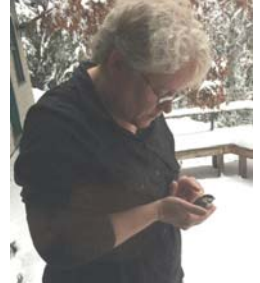
Sam Scinta, publisher, author, educator and community activist

Join Sam Scinta for an interactive conversation about white privilege, its historical basis and its presence in society today, at both the national and the local levels. Through this informative session, consciousness and awareness of the topic will be developed in a supportive and constructive environment. In the process, the group will work collaboratively to develop an ongoing commitment to social change and understanding.

Water Ethics

Joanne Richmond, Ethics professor, Western Technical College

As an instructor of Ethics, Joanne Richmond will introduce three ethical approaches to responding to the water crisis facing our world. Students will be guided through a scriptural analysis of each approach.



Caring for Creation: Faithful Tools for Dealing with Difficult Issues

Mary Minette, Director, ELCA Environmental Education and Advocacy

Care for God's creation is a central theme in Scripture, rooted in the theology of Martin Luther, and the subject of an ELCA social policy statements. Often care for God's earth is seen in conflict with economic interests: from fracking to protecting clean water, communities can divide between a desire to protect God's creation and a need to ensure economic sustainability and job creation. Come explore the biblical foundations for creation care and examples of how communities facing conflicts between care of creation and economic growth have used scripture and shared faith and values to pray, learn and discern together and find a way forward on tough issues.



God, Hunger, and the Coulee Region

Rev. David Bersagel, World Hunger Subcommittee Chair

Discover in Scripture God's work to provide food for all. Celebrate the success of Domestic Hunger Grants in the Coulee Region. Take home ideas to support the ELCA World Hunger Appeal in your congregation.



Walk Across the Water: Songs for Living Faith

Ray Makeever, Assembly Musician

After 40 years of doing so, I am still happiest when standing with my guitar before a group of people who really want to sing, who love to hear each other sing, and whose spirits are lifted as they make music together about God's presence in their lives and in their hopes for a just and peaceful world. If you are one of these people, please join me for this sing-a-long workshop.

We Refuse to be Enemies

Beth Moore, Dir. of Tour Planning, Friends of Tent of Nations, North America

Come hear about the witness of the Lutheran, Palestinian Nasser family's creative and persistent work for peace and justice through the Tent of Nations farm near Bethlehem. Ask about the complexities of the Middle East conflict and hear how you and your congregation can follow Jesus' call to non-violent actions for peace.

