News

New Seminary President

The Wartburg Theological Seminary Board of Directors, as recommended by the Presidential Search Committee, is pleased to announce the unanimous election of the Rev. Dr. Kristin Johnston Largen '97 as the next President of our beloved institution, beginning February 1, 2021. Dr. Largen currently serves in a dual role as Professor of Systematic Theology at United Lutheran Seminary (Gettysburg & Philadelphia) and Associate Dean of Religious and Spiritual Life/College Chaplain at Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA. An accomplished scholar and proven administrator, the Presidential Search Committee, chaired by the Rev. Michael Carlson '04, is both enthusiastic and confident in the Rev. Dr. Kristin Johnston Largen in her acceptance of this new call.

Read More here

Next Zoom: November 4

The next monthly Zoom meeting with the bishop will take place at 11:00 a.m. THERE IS A NEW LOGIN LINK SO PLEASE USE THIS ONE NEXT TIME! Here’s the login information:
https://www.uss-elca.org/bi-weekly-zoom-instructions/

Weekly Online Gathering for ELCA Leaders

“Be the Best Neighbor” is one of six essential strategies that will help young people discover and love your church. This Wednesday, we will be meeting Emily, a college student from Minnesota, and Hope, a high school youth from Chicago, who are actively engaged in their neighborhoods. Given the pain and brokenness around us, there are times when evil needs to be called out, challenged, and overcome. We will hear these young people’s stories of the work they are doing because of their church. As you prepare for our Growing Young coaching session this month, ask yourself, “Who is my neighbor? And how am I or my congregation intentionally training young people to be the best neighbors?”

https://wp.me/p9Gqgm-1kk

ELCA Hunger Grants

Download this newsletter at https://www.uss-elca.org/headwaters/

Milestones

With thanks to God for their ministry, we celebrate with these children of God the anniversaries of their ordination or consecration (listed in multiples of five only):

None this week

Conference Meetings

Buffalo Valley: First Thursday of the month, 9:00 a.m., Site TBA

Juniata Valley: The third Thursday of the month at 10:00 to noon with lunch following, Site TBA

Middle Creek: Second Wednesday of month, 10:00 a.m., Site TBA
As you have experienced firsthand, the past several months have been extremely taxing on church ministries as we navigate the pandemic and its impact on communities. In response to COVID-19 and the increasing need for direct support of communities facing hunger, ELCA World Hunger officially launched Daily Bread Matching Grants this past spring. Two hundred congregational feeding ministries from around the country received access to tools for online fundraising and an accompanying grant. Altogether, participating congregations raised more than double the total amount awarded in grants! With gratitude for the strong positive response by participants and donors to the ELCA’s COVID-19 Response Fund, ELCA World Hunger is happy to announce another round of Daily Bread Matching Grants taking place this fall! The application is open now, with more than 300 Daily Bread Matching Grants available for ELCA congregations on a first-come, first-served basis. The fundraising event will take place in November. If your congregation has already benefited from a Daily Bread Matching Grant, please share this opportunity with a neighbor or partner congregation! Visit ELCA.org/dailybread to learn more and apply.

A New Pandemic Fundraiser for CML: Run4Camp 5K on All Saints Day

Camp Mount Luther invites you to be part of a fundraiser for camp that is being sponsored by Lutheran Outdoor Ministries. Sixteen Lutheran camps from across the country, including CML, are looking for folks to run/walk/rollerblade/bike/ski/wheelchair (whatever!) on Sunday, November 1, 2020. You will enter with a $25 registration fee and then you can also get at least five sponsors for your 5K with all proceeds going to Camp Mount Luther. This is also a fundraiser for the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries organization as Camp Mount Luther has paid an entry fee to be part of this event. Your friends, family, colleagues, neighbors -- whomever you identify -- will fill out a form and they will then be directed to make a gift to your camp. The one form for ALL CAMPS & RETREAT CENTERS will make this whole thing go smoothly. Promise. Every single nickel pledged/given in support of YOU will go directly to Camp Mount Luther. Then, during your 5K on November 1, you will send a selfie of yourself while you are out on the road, or the trail, or wherever. And there are plans to have a virtual finish line as well. Be part of this exciting new opportunity for LOM and Camp Mount Luther! To sign up as a 5k'er, visit https://lomnetwork.wufoo.com/forms/mi2zyf11lw6ol/

Prayers

For the following congregations in our synod and their pastors:

- St. Paul, Middle Creek Dam (Interim Pastor Bob Doll)
- Zion, Kratzerville (Pastor Rick White)
- St. John, Unityville (Interim Pastor Cinda Brucker)
- Christ United, Catawissa (Pastor Karen Minnick-Sadler)
- Zion, Hemdon (Interim Pastor Jane Compton)
- Zion, Renova (Vicar Dutch Ricker)

We randomly list congregations from our synod each time in Headwaters.

Links

Tithe.ly Technology Webinar

On Oct. 22, Tithe.ly will hold an exclusive webinar for ELCA congregations to learn about
exciting innovations in church technology. Tithe.ly is an ELCA preferred vendor offering a family of online tools to help increase giving, manage congregational membership data and engage members throughout the week. Featuring online, mobile and text giving options, Tithe.ly has expanded its product line to offer websites, church management software and apps to ELCA congregations at a low cost. Learn more by joining us for a webinar.

Topics include:

- How to use messaging to boost member engagement.
- Website enhancements to give your congregation a bigger impact online.
- A simple tool to help members stay connected to your congregation and to introduce more people to your sermons.

Thursday, Oct. 22, at 3:30 p.m. EDT - Register here: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2HSizpoXQ9u7JNdVS_fa1g

Freedom of a Christian

You are invited to a 3-seminar series on The Freedom of a Christian, presented by the ELCA Wittenberg Center. The dates are as follows:

Session 1: Wednesday, October 28, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.
Session 2: Thursday, October 29, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.
Session 3: Friday, October 30, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

Register at https://ue02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwufuqqrzosG9BKC3Ap5UN24HW8MyqM8q6

Continuing Education

- Check out the latest offerings from the Stevenson School for Ministry here: https://diocesepca.org/ssfm/
- Check out the latest offerings from the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center of their course and webinars at https://lmpeacecenter.org/
  Only a few dates remaining in 2020 - organize a group and save money!
- Check out the latest offerings of the Interim Ministry Network here: https://imnedu.org/

Free Fuller Access

Sign up now for free access to FULLER Formation through October 2020

Due to the extraordinary circumstances around COVID-19, until November 1, 2020 we are offering FULLER Formation for FREE to new users who would like to use our resources to grow in faith or serve their faith community. Create an account and gain immediate access to our 60+ FULLER Formation resources on topics such as discipleship, hope, and spiritual practices. No subscription required until November 1, 2020.

FULLER Formation includes:

- Access to your library of guided lessons on multiple devices, wherever you are
- 28 topics (and growing) related to Christian formation
- New lessons released every month!

https://formation.fuller.edu/

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