Synod News for Upper Susquehanna Leaders

HEADWATERS

October 14, 2020

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News

Meeting Guidelines

The synod office has put together some guidelines for meetings in these pandemic times, particular annual meetings of congregations. Click here to see the document: https://www.uss-ela.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Guidance-for-meetings.pdf

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-ela.org/bi-weekly-zoom-instructions/

Weekly Online Gathering for ELCA Leaders

In Jesus, God leaves all the comfort of heaven to join the suffering here on earth. Jesus enters the world as a refugee -- a brown-skinned Palestinian Jew from Nazareth, where people said “nothing good could come.” He joined the marginalized, even to the point of his execution -- absorbing all the pain, violence, and evil of the world and putting death on display -- to subvert it with love. Now we are called to follow Jesus -- and to lean into the pain, to draw near to the suffering. As the compelling forces of our world are about avoiding pain and discomfort, the gravity of the Gospel calls us into the pain, and into the trenches. Too often our biggest problem in the church is not a compassion problem, it is a proximity problem. In this conversation, we will talk about what it looks like to become proximate, to stay near to those who suffer, knowing that if we are near to them, we are near to God.

Today at 2:00 p.m. Eastern it's Shane Claiborne!

Shane Claiborne is a prominent speaker, activist, and best-selling author. Shane worked with Mother Teresa in Calcutta, and founded The Simple Way in Philadelphia. He heads up Red Letter Christians, a movement of folks who are committed to living "as if Jesus meant the things he said." Shane is a champion for grace, which has led him to jail advocating for the homeless, and to places like Iraq and Afghanistan to stand against war. Now grace fuels his passion to end the death penalty and help stop gun violence. Shane’s books include Jesus for President, Red Letter Revolution, Common Prayer, Follow Me to Freedom, Jesus, Bombs and Ice Cream, Becoming the Answer to Our Prayers, Executing Grace, his classic The Irresistible Revolution, and his newest book, Beating Guns. He has been featured in a number of films including “Another World Is Possible” and “Ordinary Radicals.” His books have been translated into more than a dozen languages. Shane speaks over one hundred times a year, nationally and internationally. His work has appeared in Esquire, SPIN, Christianity Today, TIME, and The Wall Street
Journal, and he has been on everything from Fox News and Al Jazeera to CNN and NPR. He’s given academic lectures at Harvard, Princeton, Liberty, Duke, and Notre Dame. Shane speaks regularly at denominational gatherings, festivals, and conferences around the globe.

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

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 – whoever 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://loomnetwork.wufoo.com/forms/m2zy1t1ow6ol/

PUC Enhances Utility Protections

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today adopted a series of enhanced consumer protections intended to safeguard families and small businesses who are struggling financially because of the COVID-19 pandemic – and also established a framework for future discussions about utility assistance and economic recovery.


Prayers

For the following congregations in our synod and their pastors:

- St. Peter, Kramer (Pastor Vickie Brown)
- Trinity, McClure (Pastor Lisa Schuster)
- Trinity, Oak Grove (Pastor Gretchen Johanson)
- Trinity, Point Township (Pastor Mary Peterhaesen)
- St. Mark's, Williamsport (Pastor Brian Vasey)
- St. Michael, Cogan Station (Vicar Carol Johnson)

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.

- 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

Effective Transitional Leadership

If you are serving as a leader of an organization during a transition, this course is designed for you! More than ever, leaders of faith communities and organizations need skills to navigate these days of turmoil and change. Effective Transitional Leadership is a virtual workshop designed to teach and apply the essential skills needed to be an effective transitional leader. In these times, executive leaders must understand the opportunities transition creates for organizations and faith communities. This workshop covers the essential characteristics of this specialized work and strategies to support those engaged in it. “The workshop is a PRIMER for those who are new to transitional leadership and a REFRESHER for those transitional practitioners seeking to update their skills.”

TWO CLASSES TO CHOOSE FROM: OCTOBER 20, 21, 27, 28, 2020 1:30 to 4:30 Each Day Eastern Time DECEMBER 2-3, 2020 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Each Day Eastern Time
AFFORDABLE PRICING: TUITION: $365 CURRENT IMN MEMBER TUITION: $249.00
CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

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://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwulugqrzosG9BKC3Ap5UW24HW8MygML8q6

Continuing Education

- Check out the latest offerings from the Stevenson School for Ministry here:
  https://dioceseepca.org/ssfm/
- Check out the latest offerings from the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center of their course and webinars at https://impeacecenter.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://immediu.org/

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