

Ministry Link

AN EMAIL MINISTRY OF



Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
Lutherans Together: Loving God, Loving Neighbor

SEPA Partner Ministry News and Events **Week of September 28, 2026**

NEW! One more! A final webinar offering from Portico Benefits for Annual Enrollment 2027

Join the Portico Regional Reps for a webinar covering need to know information for annual enrollment and helpful contextual information about the Portico bundle of benefits (health insurance, retirement plan, disability insurance and survivor benefits). This webinar is designed for both plan members and sponsoring organizations (employers).

Thursday, October 8th at 2:00 pm eastern

We will meet via ZOOM. Register here:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/eYuJugE7RpWXujGDEFHVGw>

You will receive an email with information to attend once you register.

(This webinar will not be recorded).

Annual enrollment for sponsoring organizations is October 1-14, 2026.

Annual enrollment for plan members begins in waves starting on October 19, 2026.

NEW! Your Feedback Needed: “Homelessness: A Renewal of Commitment” Social Message

All ELCA members are invited to share feedback on draft revisions to the social message “Homelessness: A Renewal of Commitment,” first adopted in 1990. At the request of the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the ELCA Church Council authorized a reconsideration for possible substantive revision of a section of the social message.

Visit [ELCA.org/homelessness](https://www.elca.org/homelessness) to read the draft reconsidered social message and to submit your feedback via a survey before Nov. 30. Feedback, questions and concerns can also be sent to DraftSocialMessage@ELCA.org

NEW! Spiritual First Aid for Intergenerational Trauma

Presented by Jamie Aten, PhD

Sponsored by the Lutheran Faith Community Nurse Association

October 13, 2026

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Registration fee: \$30 for LFCNA members/\$50 for non-members

[REGISTER](#)
[MORE INFORMATION](#)

Spiritual First Aid is a practical, peer to peer framework for providing spiritual and emotional care from mild stress to mass trauma. In this two-hour session, participants will learn the core Spiritual First Aid approach of Triage, Care, and Refer while exploring how the effects of trauma can sometimes extend across generations.

NEW! Care for Creation: A Resource for Reflection & Discussion

from the Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin

God calls us to courageous action on behalf of creation and our neighbors. In this way, care for creation is a matter of faith, stewardship, and love.

The Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin invites you to reflect on these issues and consider *how public policy and elected leaders can contribute to the flourishing of God's creation*.

We have created a [new one-page resource](#) with questions for reflection and discussion.

Enrollment Open for Lutheran Summer Music 2027

Youth musicians in grades 8-12 are invited to Lutheran Summer Music (LSM) 2027 at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN! LSM is the nation's premier faith-based music academy for high school students. Churches from around the country send students to LSM for an unforgettable summer of musical growth and connections in faith and community. Students work with nationally recognized faculty and gather daily to share musical gifts in worship. Academy offerings include large ensembles (band, choir, orchestra), chamber music, private lessons, and electives like handbells, intro to the pipe organ, jazz, musical theatre, composition, conducting, church music, and more. Churches are encouraged to nominate students, and students can apply now through December 1 for a Priority Enrollment \$100 discount.

LSM Program Overview: LSMacademy.org/program

Nominate Students: LSMacademy.org/nominate

National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools: September 30

The ELCA has committed to observe the National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools each year on or near September 30, inviting all congregations and ministries to participate through prayer, education, and visible signs like wearing orange shirts as an act of solidarity and lament. This remembrance is part of a broader, faith-shaped work of truth-seeking, repentance, and healing for the church's role in boarding schools, trusting that Christ calls us to stand with survivors and Indigenous communities in justice and reconciliation.

[ELCA Resources](#)

[ELCA Prayer Service](#)

[Order an Orange Shirt](#)

**Center of Addiction and Faith Presents Free Webinar
"Why We're Always Working Upstream: A New Story of Drugs for Faith Communities"**

September 30

1:00 PM on Zoom

If you've spent years helping people in crisis, fighting apathy, and combating stigma, but feel like you are always fighting an uphill battle, you're not alone. The webinar presenter Rev. Timothy McMahan King will make the case that faith communities have developed powerful resources for responding to addiction but have been missing the foundation that makes that work sustainable: a theology of what drugs are actually for.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Register Now! Lay Eucharistic Visitor Training

Eucharistic Visitors are members of the congregation who are selected by their pastor and trained to bring the communion meal from worship to ill and homebound members of their congregation who are unable to attend service.

Lutheran Congregational Service's training ministry engages learners in the Biblical and theological background of the Sacrament of Holy Communion and teaches potential Eucharistic Visitors about visitation and administration of the sacrament.

Saturday, October 10, 2026

9:30 am-4:00 pm

St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Sellersville PA

Saturday, October 24, 2026

9:30 am-4:00 pm

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Kingston PA

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Klezmer Benefit Concert for Ukraine's Children October 11, 2026

3:00 pm

KleinLife JCC

10100 Jamison Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19116

A joyful, life-affirming afternoon of klezmer and Ukrainian music with Kommuna Lux, the acclaimed ensemble from Odesa, Ukraine—and help bring food, safety, counseling, hope, and comfort to Ukraine's children of war. Proceeds support Common Man for Ukraine's humanitarian aid and trauma-counseling retreats in Poland for Ukrainian children who have lost a parent. Iryna Mazur, Honorary Consul of Ukraine in Philadelphia, will open the program. This is an interfaith, non-partisan humanitarian event, and everyone is welcome.

A reception is included, casual attire is welcome, and plenty of free parking is available. Tickets are \$36 in advance. Complimentary registration is available for refugees, recent immigrants, students, and anyone for whom price is an obstacle.

MORE INFORMATION

Applications Opening Soon

ELCA World Hunger: Daily Bread Grants

ELCA World Hunger Daily Bread grants provide daily bread for neighbors experiencing hunger while also serving as a catalyst for garnering additional financial support. Daily Bread grant funding is available in the form of one-time \$500 grant and is meant to supplement existing public serving food-based ministries. **The application window is October 1 - 21, 2026!**

LEARN MORE AND APPLY

ReconcilingWorks Monthly Bible Study

ReconcilingWorks is starting a monthly online Bible Study, meeting every third Thursday of the month, led by a rostered leader. Upcoming dates include **October 15**, November 19 and December 17. The Zoom link will be emailed to registrants two days in advance. The text for the study is for the Sunday 10 days after the Zoom gathering. Sermon notes will also be available on the website. **Learn more and register.**

Reconciling Works: Lutherans for Full Participation advocates for the welcome, inclusion and equity of LGBTQIA Lutherans in all aspects of the life of their Church, congregation, and community. The study is free to participate, as is a **book club** series.

Equipping the Church to Dismantle White Supremacy: A 5-part Webinar Series

In partnership with the ELCA Strategy for Authentic Diversity, the Albert “Pete” Pero, Jr. and Cheryl Stewart Pero Center for Intersectionality Studies at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, and the ELCA Association of White Lutherans for Racial Justice, presents a 5-part webinar series running May 12, 2026 - January 12, 2027 surrounding the topic of equipping the church to dismantle white supremacy. Register for these remaining webinars:

- **Webinar 4: November 10**
Now is the Time: Living into our Church’s Declarations and Statements
- **Webinar 5: January 12**
Commemorating the Emmanuel Nine and George Floyd: Sacred Memory as Call to Action

[REGISTER](#)