

??...DID YOU KNOW THAT...??

July 13, 2017

Please use these ministry blurbs in your church bulletins and/or newsletters. Thank you for your partnership in the gospel ministry. May God bless your ministry abundantly.

Pastor Bob Dealey, DEM

Coordinator of Communications & Networking

Central/Southern Illinois Synod/ELCA

DID YOU KNOW THAT.....

- Offerings are still being remitted for this year's Pedal for a Purpose for Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI)? As of July 10th, we have received \$57,243.52 for LSSI's "Prisoner and Family Ministry" and "Children's Community Services" programs. We have surpassed our goal by 14.5%. Thank you for your generous support!
- Your congregation can get 20 free books from Augsburg Fortress for hosting a Reformation 500 Bookstore at your church? Contact bookstore@augburgfortress.org for details and to sign up by August 15, 2017.



- The ELCA Church Council will receive a proposed social message on human rights at its November 2017 meeting? To read a copy of the draft and to provide input to online questions, visit www.ELCA.org/socialmessages. Please respond by August 31, 2017.
- The Women and Justice: One in Christ Task Force is preparing a draft of a social statement on gender justice this fall? Congregational members may respond to the draft by visiting www.ELCA.org/womenandjustice. Please respond by August 31, 2017.



- There are currently 15 two-point parishes with the Central/Southern Illinois Synod and one two-point parish that is shared with the Southeastern Iowa Synod? In addition, there are 14 congregations that share their ministry through a geographical parish. Nearly 36% of all synod congregations are involved in shared ministry with another congregation.
- You can visit www.ELCA.org/Resources to find a plethora of free downloadable resources that your congregation can use? Resources are organized alphabetically by topic and there are more than 57 topics, including: Congregational Based Organizing; Global Mission; Legal; Mission Planning; Stewardship; Worship; and Youth Ministry to name a few.



- According to a 2016 study, the ELCA anticipates that from 2016 to 2019, there will be 842 persons ordained? At the same time, the ELCA anticipates that 1,711 pastors will retire.
- The ELCA Archives in Chicago collects congregational histories, special bulletins, biographical information, photographs, positive reference copies of congregational records on microfilm and for storage, original camera negatives? Other items are accepted on a selective basis. Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, IA serves as the Region 5 archival center.



For more information about the ELCA, visit www.elca.org

For more information about the Central/Southern Illinois Synod, visit www.csis-elca.org