



EXTRAORDINARY
LUTHERAN
MINISTRIES

the • mission

THE NEWSLETTER OF EXTRAORDINARY LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

Proclaim Member Elected ELCA Bishop!

The Reverend Dr. R. Guy Erwin was elected bishop of the Southwest California Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) on May 31, 2013. Bishop-elect Erwin is the first publicly-identified gay and first Native American bishop in the history of the ELCA.

Erwin is a member of Proclaim, the professional association of 130 Lutheran pastors, rostered lay leaders and seminarians who publicly identify as LGBTQ. Proclaim is a program of Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries. Bishop-elect Erwin also currently serves on the ELM Board of Directors. Erwin and his partner, Rob Flynn, are members of St. Matthew's in North Hollywood, CA.



Bishop Elect: The Rev. Dr. R. Guy Erwin.
Photo by Rev. Rustin Comer.

Proclaim Retreat: Life changing experience

The 2013 Proclaim Retreat took place April 12-15, 2013. Proclaim, the professional community for LGBTQ Lutheran pastors, rostered lay leaders and seminarians, currently has 130 members. Each year, the Proclaim community gathers for a time of renewal, community building, and professional development.

A reflection from the retreat:

"The Proclaim retreat is one of the places I feel the most me...a place where my queerness, my faith, and my vocation can live and breathe together most freely." (Pastor Jen Rude, Chicago Night Ministry)



Photo by Emily Ann Garcia

You support this work through your contributions to Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries. Every dollar makes experiences like the Proclaim retreat a reality—and in turn you are affecting ministry throughout the church. Thank you to our wonderful supporters for their investment in these leaders.



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MISSION

*expanding ministry opportunities
for publicly-identified LGBTQ
Lutheran rostered leaders who are
changing the church and society
through their ministry*

continued from page 1

THANK YOU! Thank you for St. Paul Lutheran Church of Oakland and University Lutheran Chapel in Berkeley for hosting the Welcome Center, which gave weary travelers a place to get refreshed and wait for the shuttle to our retreat. We felt lavished upon! Thank you to the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation and, the ELCA Office of Racial Justice Ministries for providing support for Proclaim and the retreat. Thank you to St. Paul Lutheran (Oakland) and First United Lutheran of San Francisco and other individuals for contributing towards retreat scholarships.

NEW VIDEO SHOWS YOUR SUPPORT

ELM Today" is a 6 minute video telling the stories of seminarians, pastors, and church leaders about the work of Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries. It's a great way to learn about and share the work of ELM!

We received a grant from the St. Francis Lutheran Church Endowment in San Francisco for this project. We invite you to share this video with friends, family & congregations. This is an excellent tool for congregations and other individuals and groups who want to learn about ELM or are asking the question: "Do we still need ELM?"

SEE IT HERE: www.elm.org

About the Interns You're Supporting

ELM is currently supporting four LGBTQ seminary interns. All are members of Proclaim. There is a growing need for supporting interns & finding more congregations that are healthy sites for LGBTQ interns.

Rachel Anderson, Lord of Mercy Lutheran Church, Sparks, NV:

This grant provides support for Rachel's internship at Lord of Mercy Lutheran Church. This is the 2nd Proclaim intern that has served the congregation. Rachel is a student at Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia and originally from Newington, Connecticut. The internship supervisor is Pastor Mary Lou Petitjean.

Moose Flores, House for All Sinners & Saints, Denver, CO:

This grant provides support for Moose Flores internship and housing at House for All Sinners & Saints. This is the third intern that House for All Sinners & Saints has ever hosted. Moose is a student at Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. Moose has a background in camp ministry from the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center in Oregon, IL. Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber will be the internship supervisor.

Rachel Knoke, Lutheran Church of Christ the King, Tacoma, WA:

This grant provides support for Rachel's internship at Lutheran Church of Christ the King. Rachel is a student at Luther Seminary, because of this grant Rachel will be able to receive a modest stipend during the year. This is a new internship site and Pastor Mohr will be the internship supervisor.

Carolina Glauster, Lutheran Church of the Cross, Victoria, Canada:

This grant provides support for Carolina's internship at Lutheran Church of the Cross. Carolina is a student at the University of Chicago Divinity School, an affiliate student at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. Carolina also serves as a Communications representative on the Proclaim team. She and her partner Emily are looking forward to the big move from Chicago back to Carolina's home country of Canada this summer. This grant supports the additional cost of having an intern from the United States. Pastor Lyle McKenzie will be the internship supervisor.



Carolina Glauster

Great Grant News!

We've recently received word of two grants to support our work. Part of the reason these foundations and endowments are eager to provide funding is because of the strong support we have from donors like you.

Philip R. Knutson Endowment at St. Olaf College. This endowment was created by the family and friends of Phil Knutson, a beloved pastor and servant who was deeply devoted to education and discussion of relevant social issues facing Christians. Our grant from the Knutson endowment will fund Proclaim outreach and help support the 2014 Proclaim retreat.

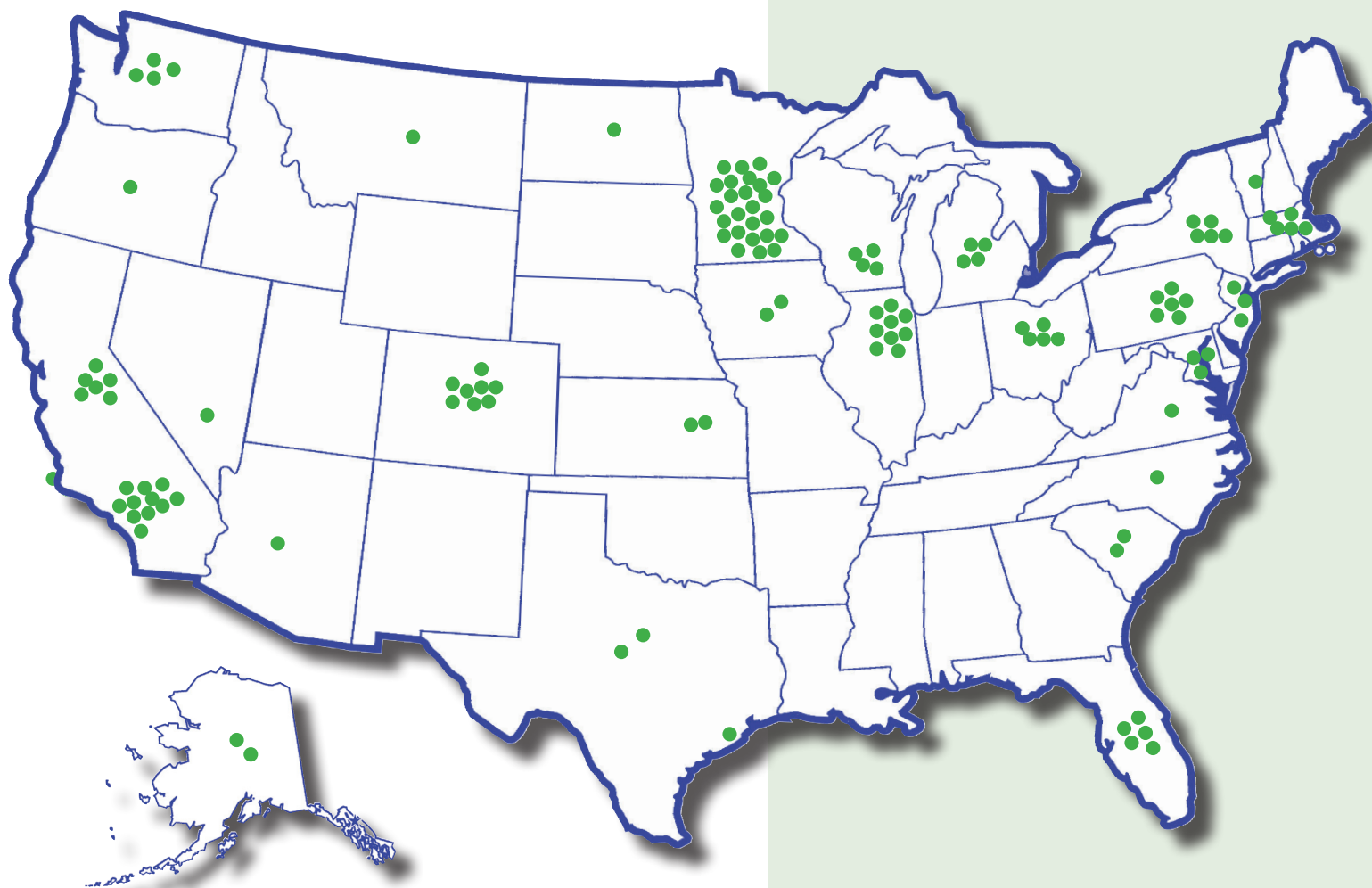
Advent Lutheran Mission Fund. The Mission Fund at Advent Lutheran Church on the Upper West Side of Manhattan helps support a variety of ministries throughout the church. Our grant from Advent Lutheran will support the launch of our new Ministry Engagement program.

We are so grateful for these much needed resources to support our ministry.



PROCLAIM

Proclaim is on the Map!



Each dot represents the home synod for one person in Proclaim



Your gifts support the Proclaim Retreat. The group blesses Pieter Oberholzer, member of Proclaim and the historic ELM Roster, who is retiring from ministry. Photo by Emily Ann Garcia.

YOU ARE A BLESSING

We feel steeped in abundance with a growing number of LGBTQ people finding their place in this church and bringing their gifts to more ministry sites across the church. We are grateful for strong leaders, open congregations, and, most of all, for your encouragement and support for our ministry. Your contributions make it possible for us to accomplish this work - you are the part of the church that is saying YES to these leaders and congregations, while many others still say NO or NOT YET. We rely on your support and we are so grateful for it. Thank you for any support you can send, and please encourage your friends, colleagues, and others to learn about and support ELM and these leaders. Thank you!

Amalia

ELM is now eligible for Thrivent Choice® dollars!

It's official! We're in the catalog. Thrivent members who have Choice Dollars to designate can direct them to ELM. This is a wonderful new way to increase your support for our growing ministry. Please consider designating your 2013 Choice dollars to ELM. You can learn more on our website, or contact us.

Every dollar helps. Thank you for sending in a gift or making a gift online today at www.elm.org