



# the mission

THE NEWSLETTER OF EXTRAORDINARY LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

## Creative Ministry by LGBTQ Leaders

You've been supporting Proclaim members through your contributions. Now, we've created an easy way to invite Proclaim members to bring the Good News to your congregation.

We have Proclaim members all over the country. Some are full time pastors, others serve in chaplaincy or other specialized ministry. Some are in seminary or awaiting call. Why not invite a Proclaim member preach the next time you need pulpit supply in your congregation?

We've launched a new page on our website that allows you to see Proclaim members in your area that are available for pulpit supply. This is a great way to introduce your congregation to the ministry of ELM and Proclaim ministry leaders.

You support innovative projects like this through your gift to ELM. Thank you!



You support LGBTQ leaders like Cary Bass-Deschenes and the Rev. Jeanie Reardon



EXTRAORDINARY  
LUTHERAN  
MINISTRIES

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#### MISSION

*ELM affirms and supports LGBTQ  
Lutheran rostered leaders and those  
pursuing rostered leadership while  
engaging allied congregations and  
ministries to proclaim God's love  
and seek justice for all.*

## Welcome, Jeremy Posadas!

We joyfully welcome our newest Board Member, Dr. Jeremy Posadas, who will be serving in the role of Secretary. Jeremy has long worked in solidarity with Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries through his involvement with the LGBTQ justice movement in the ELCA. Jeremy was a leader in the grassroots efforts leading up to the 2009 ELCA Churchwide policy ending the ELCA's prohibition against blessing same-gender relationships and authorizing the ministry of people in them. Jeremy served in previous roles as Board Secretary of ReconcilingWorks (then called Lutherans Concerned/North America), as a member of Pastor Bradley Schmeling's legal defense team during his ecclesiastical trial and appeal, and especially as one of the chief drafters, organizers, and strategists on the Goodsoil Legislative Team, the group that coordinated grassroots efforts to change ELCA policies regarding same-gender relationships.



Dr. Jeremy Posadas serves as  
Secretary of the ELM Board

We celebrate Jeremy's gift for language and desire to organize for social change. In welcoming Jeremy to the ELM Board, we wanted to highlight a few of his contributions to the movement to open the ELCA's doors to all. Jeremy wrote the first legislative action taken anywhere in the ELCA following its 2005 refusal to end its discriminatory policies, and he drafted a resolution calling for the ELCA to receive ordained members of the ELM roster as ELCA pastors, which was eventually adopted by 15 synods with the support of hundreds of ELCA members. He says that one particularly gratifying accomplishment was helping craft the resolution helped reinstate St. Francis and First United as congregations of the ELCA.

"I have always admired ELM's commitment to empowering LGBTQ people doing transformative ministry NOW, and I am excited to be part of ELM as it brings that vision to even wider circles throughout the church," says Jeremy.

Raised in a fundamentalist Southern Baptist family of Filipino immigrants, Jeremy has been an ELCA member since middle school. He trained for justice-focused parish ministry at Union Theological Seminary NYC and at Trinity Lutheran Church of Manhattan (under the mentorship of Pastor Heidi Neumark). But in pursuing his PhD at Emory University, his vocation shifted to the ministry of justice-oriented teaching, and he is currently appointed to teach "critical theological studies" on the tenure-track at Austin College, a small liberal arts college an hour north of Dallas. His partner Kevin Lotz is the founding director of Trinity Place Shelter, a 10-bed transitional shelter in Manhattan for homeless LGBTQ youth, and a PhD student in social work at New York University.

## Thank you to Vance Blackfox, Bishop Guy Erwin, and Carolyn Schultz

ELM says a heartfelt thank you to three wonderful people who have completed their service on the ELM Board: Vance Blackfox, Carolyn Schultz, and Bp. Guy Erwin. These leaders provided insight, vision, and thoughtfulness in a variety of ways during their time of service. We're especially grateful to Vance who joined our board at a time when he was the sole person of color and who worked steadfastly to help us begin expanding the racial and ethnic diversity of our board. Thank you to all three of you for all you do for justice in our church and world.



*"As a Lutheran who is gay and seeking call, Proclaim affirms my place in the Church and helps me recognize the gifts I have to share with all God's people."*

*—Rev. David Engen*

# PROCLAIM

- + We have 150 members of Proclaim, publicly identified lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer Lutheran rostered leaders, seminarians and candidates
- + 45 ELCA synods are represented in Proclaim
- + 39 of our members are seminarians
- + Our community has tripled in size in the past 3 years and we are continuing to grow
- + 2 weeks ago, 8 of our members received assignments. These 8 join 13 other members of our community who are still awaiting first call, some after years of waiting.
- + 15 members of Proclaim are on internship this year and will be looking toward assignment next year.
- + God has indeed blessed our church with an abundance of gifts in these leaders! You support these leaders through your gift to ELM.

## Welcome to our newest members!

Gus Barnes - Seminarian, Wartburg Seminary

Rev. Jim Goodyear - Southeastern PA Synod

Amy Hanson - Seminarian on internship (Iliff School of Theology)

Julie Recher - First Call Candidate, Virginia Synod

Nancy Wichmann - Seminarian, Andover Newton Theological Seminary

Rev. Thad Fisher - Metro Chicago Synod

Rev. David Engen - seeking reinstatement, St Paul Area Synod

## New Calls

Rev. Jenny Mason - called to Light of the World Lutheran Church - Farmington, MN

Rev. Jason Glombicki - called to Wicker Park Lutheran, Chicago, IL

Rev. Cindy Crane - called to be the Director of the Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin

Rev. Paul Clark - called to be pastor at Fresno State University

Angela Joy Nelson - called to Christ our Emmanuel in Chatham, NY

Rev. Megan Rohrer - called to Grace Evangelical Lutheran in San Francisco, CA

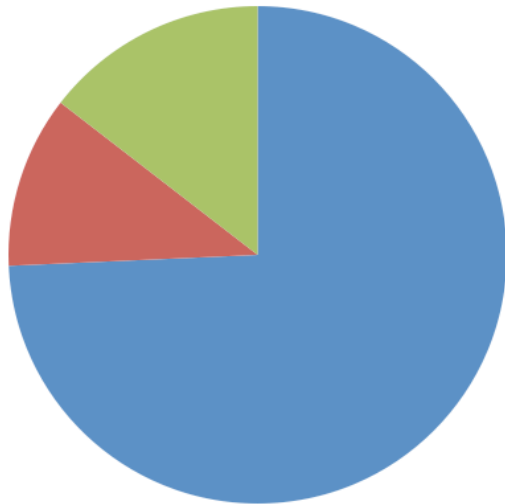
Rev. Beate Chun - called to St Francis Lutheran Church, San Francisco

Rev. Jen Rude - synodical call from Metro Chicago synod to Program Director at Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries

# 2013 in Review

We say thank you to all who make this ministry possible through your contributions!

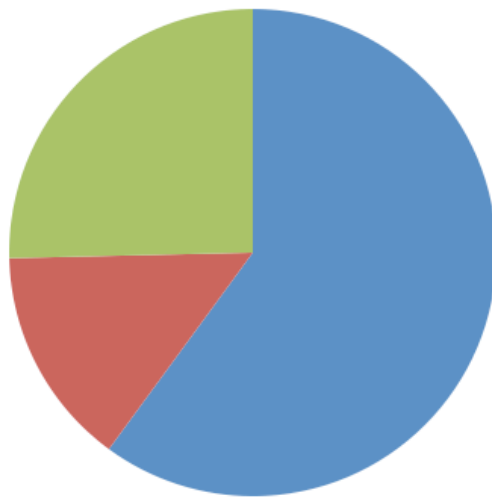
## 2013 Giving



- Families (451 giving \$161,434)
- Congregations (16 giving \$24,252)
- Foundations (2 giving \$31,590)

We also received \$24,500 in Proclaim retreat registration fees.

## Breakdown of 2013 Expenses



- Program (\$142,517)  
Proclaim, Candidacy Accompaniment, Ministry Engagement, Board Committees, Anti-Oppression Training, Proclaim Retreat, Jen's Time & Travel, Amalia's Time & Travel.
- Development (\$34,580)  
Amalia's Time & Travel, E-mail and website appeals, Donor database
- Administration (\$60,190)  
Communications & Outreach, ELM Board Meetings & Board Travel, Insurance, Graphic Design & Website Development, Office, Supplies, Amalia's Time & Travel.

We care deeply about how we steward your contributions and we are grateful for all we can accomplish with our budget of \$240,000. If you would like to review more detailed financial information, please contact Amalia.

**GIVE ONLINE or in the ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.**  
**Your gift supports LGBTQ leaders and their ministries.**