



## **This Month**

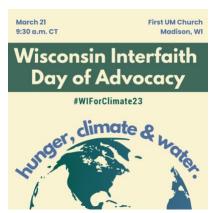
- Wednesday Noon Live
- Interfaith Advocacy Day
- LOPPW Budget Priorities
- Youth Advocacy Retreat



## **Wednesday Noon Live**

Interview with Julia Weibe, ELCA member and Bilingual FoodShare Outreach Specialist at Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin.

Extra benefits for FoodShare just ended. Hear about what this means, how public policies matter, and about Julia's personal story and faith journey.



Register Today! Join LOPPW and Faith in Place on March 21 at 9:30. Speakers will include Bob Lindmeier, senior chief meteorologist; Renew Wisconsin's Sam Dunaiski, Executive Director, and Beata Wierzba, Government Affairs Director; and Clean Wisconsin's Scott Laeser, Water Program Director. We'll also discuss how to talk to our legislators and together go to the capitol to advocate on the following:

**Energy Efficiency:** The governor's budget doubles the funding for Focus on Energy, a program that simultaneously decreases overall energy consumption, increases energy efficiency, and lowers the cost

of electricity, air conditioning, and heating bills. The program includes assisting people with low incomes.

- **PFAS Pollution:** The governor's budget includes \$106 million to help communities dealing with toxic PFAS pollution across the state. That funding would support community efforts to address drinking water polluted with PFAS, increase PFAS testing, and bolster the Department of Natural Resources to respond to the growing crisis.
- Adaptation to Climate Change: Require comprehensive plans developed by municipalities
  to address climate change, require that local hazard mitigation plans include consideration of
  climate change, and require communities throughout the state to include climate change
  impacts in their community health improvement assessment and plans.
- School Lunches for all and Healthy Meals initiative to fully fund school breakfasts and lunches for all children, ensuring they are prepared for the school day and experience less

anxiety about the source of their next meal. We also support incentivizing schools to support Wisconsin's farmers, food producers, and local economies by enhancing reimbursement for meals that include locally sourced foods.

Find the Agenda for Wisconsin Interfaith Day of Action on our <u>Registration Page</u>. We'll send more information to everyone who registers.

A BUDGET
A MORAL DOCUMENT.
WHAT WE FUND

is
WHAT WE VALUE.

**LOPPW's Budget Priorities** (we may add to some of the categories in our action alerts)

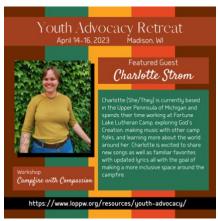
- 1. **Hunger:** School Lunches for all and Healthy Meals (mentioned above). Expand Medicaid under the federal Affordable Care Act by covering all low-income Wisconsin residents who earn incomes between 0 percent and 138 percent of the federal poverty level.
- 2. **Care for God's Creation:** Focus on Energy, PFAs pollution, adaptation plans to address climate change (all mentioned above).
- 3. **Immigration Reform:** Access to drivers' licenses for Wisconsin residents who are currently blocked due to their immigration status. This would help our immigrant neighbors, support farmers and other industries that depend on immigrant workers, and help to make our roads safer.
- 4. **Youth Justice:** Return 17 year old youth to the youth justice system. Currently all youth at age 17, regardless of their crime, are defaulted into the adult court system.

We will advocate on human trafficking bills outside of the state Budget

Look forward to action alerts, announcements about public hearings, and information about how to submit your comments about the budget.







## Sign up your group and/or ask youth to sign up for our April 14-16 Youth Advocacy Retreat!

Because of funding we have received, the cost is only \$75 for all of the programming, two nights in a hotel, and food. Please share widely. More information, including the schedule and registration page found here: loppw.org/resources/youth-advocacy/

Thank you for spending time with us.