

May 2020 Wednesday Noon Live Supplement

Next Stimulus Bill

Now is the time to lift our voices for a new stimulus bill that will take major, additional steps to protect people from COVID-19, assist those who were largely or entirely left out of the laws passed so far, and help prevent the economic harm from getting even worse — and they must keep those measures in place until the economy has fully recovered. This is a key moment in history to help our whole society and for the length of time necessary.

Note this paper from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities: “Larger, Longer-Lasting Increases in Federal Medicaid Funding Needed to Protect Coverage.” The document includes a letter with bipartisan support from all the governors: [Document](#)

Whether or not you responded to the earlier ELCA Office of Advocacy’s action alert inviting us to write our own messages, please consider responding to our new one, lifting your voice again or for the first time on this action. Submit as is or with your edits: [Action Alert](#)

Safer at Home Order in the Wisconsin Supreme Court

The safer-at-home order was extended by the Department of Health Services Secretary-designee Andrea Palm to May 26 at the governor’s direction. Republican leaders then filed a lawsuit with the Supreme Court demanding that the state lift the order.

There have been some stunning statements from the Supreme Court including a comment that State Supreme Court Justice Rebecca Bradley made comparing Japanese-American internment during WWII to being sheltered at home in Wisconsin. Assistant Attorney General Colin Roth responded that “the state Constitution allows the Legislature to enact statutes to protect public health, “and that is exactly what the Legislature has done.” State law created by the Legislature, he said, gives the Department of Health Services the authority “to do whatever is necessary to combat a novel, deadly, communicable disease like the one we’re facing today.” –WUWM

LOPPW supported Safer at Home and sent a letter of support with the signature of all bishops to an attorney via Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice to be used in an amicus. The Wisconsin Supreme Court accepted the amicus.

[LOPPW Letter](#) or look for Letter to WI Supreme Court on this [page](#).

[Amicus](#)

Voting

[LOPPW Press Release on Voting on April 7](#)

What to Watch for Coming Soon

- Statewide/UP Participatory Zoom Meeting organized by LOPPW and moderated by Roger Willer from ELCA Office of the Presiding Bishop to discuss the draft of the new social message, Government and Civic Engagement: Discipleship in a Democracy. The deadline to comment is the end of May so this will be coming up very soon and will include all six synods.
- Webinar on who is not safe at home