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LUTHERAN
OFFICE
FOR PUBLIC
POLICY
in Wisconsin



Included in this Month's Updates

Both sides of the Medicaid Expansion Debate

In-depth interview with Donna Friedsam of the Institute for Research on Poverty

Hunger Advocacy Fellowship - Thank you to Kyle

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New resource on Juvenile Justice

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Medicaid Expansion
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Bishop Elizabeth Eaton's Response to the DACA Ruling

Event Opportunities

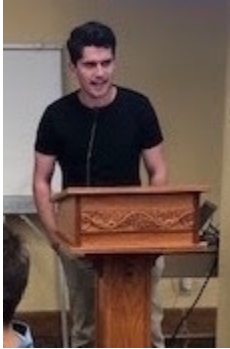
Advocacy Summer School
Taking a Faithful Stance for Racial Equity - Vigil and Webinar



Both sides of the Medicaid Expansion Debate - In-Depth with Donna Friedsam

Distinguished Researcher and Health Policy Programs Director Donna Friedsam of the Institute for Research on Poverty at UW-Madison explores both sides of the debate on Medicaid expansion. Take just under 17

minutes to gain important information and insight. This is significant especially as we explore a federal Medicaid expansion bill. The Medicaid Saves Lives Act would extend Medicaid to the individuals who would have qualified under the expansion in the 12 states that have refused the federal dollars. Wisconsin is one of those states. [Video](#)



Hunger Advocacy Fellowship - Thank you to Kyle

We have been blessed to have Kyle Minden with us since last September under the ELCA Hunger Advocacy Fellowship program. A generous grant from ELCA World Hunger has provided funding for Kyle and two other fellows in the country to work full-time with benefits for 12 months. What Kyle has accomplished in one year has been truly impressive. We look forward to seeing where God leads Kyle to serve in the future!

Words from Kyle: Hello advocates, I have been extremely fortunate to have spent the last year working at the Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin. In this role I have worked with many of you on fighting childhood hunger, addressing the needs of our documented and undocumented neighbors, working to protect God's creation, and advocating on behalf of young people caught in our state's justice system. In all of these roles, I have met passionate advocates who use their faith as a call to action, and I want to thank you for your continued involvement in and support of this important ministry.

In this role I have learned that, as faith-based advocates, we are uniquely positioned to be bridge-builders in this divisive climate. I have also found that because we speak from deep faith values, we already have a powerful narrative and message. Finally, this position has helped me develop my own faith, and I have also discovered my voice in communicating how my relationship with God shapes my world view and how my faith connects to what I believe about justice. After my time at LOPP, I will be heading to the University of Wisconsin Law School, where I hope to become an attorney that continues to stand up for peace, justice, and care for all of God's creation. As a final parting word, I ask that all of you continue to remain diligent and have faith that your advocacy efforts will bear fruit, as the "arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice." Thank you and so long, Kyle Minden

New Resource! Kyle took major leadership in starting/reviving a Raise the Age coalition to return 17-year old youth to the juvenile justice system. He leaves with us this excellent new resource on juvenile justice. We recommend

you take time with the full report:

See the entire policy report here: [LOPPW Youth Justice Report](#)

See the one-pager here: [YJ in WI One-Page](#)



Actions to take while Congress is in Recess

We encourage you to contact your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators while they are back in district on any issue of interest to you. LOPPW is focusing on the Child Tax Credit and the Medicaid Saves Lives Act and have sent out an email with

information and talking points on each. Here are the PDFs:

[Child Tax Credit – August Action & Poster](#)

A one-page small poster and one-page large poster have been added to our [resource page](#). Spanish versions coming soon.

[Medicaid Saves Lives Act – August Action](#)

Also use video interview with Donna Friedsam of the Institute for Research on Poverty with with link at the top of this email.

Both PDFs include information on contacting our congressional leaders.

Also consider training at [ELCA Advocacy Summer School!](#) See info under Event Opportunities below.



[Bishop Elizabeth Eaton's Response to the DACA Ruling](#)

Event Opportunities

A banner for "Advocacy Summer School" with a purple background and yellow sunburst graphics. It lists the schedule as "Wednesdays from 2-2:45 EDT" and provides a list of topics for August and September. The topics include "What is Faith-Based Advocacy?", "How do I approach policy makers?", "How do I use media for impact?", "Let's talk: About the Holy Land", and "Let's talk: About Immigration". It also mentions that sessions are 30 minutes long with a 15-minute Q&A.

ADVOCACY SUMMER SCHOOL

Offered by **advocacy**
in collaboration with ELCA Peace Not Walls

Wednesdays from 2-2:45 EDT

AUGUST	//	WHAT IS FAITH-BASED ADVOCACY?	Pick 1 or dip into all 5 skill-building and issue-informing virtual sessions. Each presented in 30 minutes followed by an optional 15 minute Q&A.
AUGUST	//	HOW DO I APPROACH POLICY MAKERS?	
AUGUST	//	HOW DO I USE MEDIA FOR IMPACT?	
SEPTEMBER	//	LET'S TALK: ABOUT THE HOLY LAND	
SEPTEMBER	//	LET'S TALK: ABOUT IMMIGRATION	

Hear from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and advocacy leaders active with federal and state policy makers for a reflection on "What is faith-based advocacy?" in the first of our

30-minute (plus a bonus 15 minute Q&A time) coming up on Aug. 11. Register for this (<https://bit.ly/1F-ELCAAdvocacySummerSchool>) and any other session from links provided on this page's Events - or glance over the overview from our Peace Not Walls collaborators: [Blogs](#)

Taking a Faithful Stance for Racial Equity on August 9 at 6 pm - 7:30 pm at the State Capitol. Vigil for racial equity. See more info [here](#).

Taking a Faithful Stance for Equity on August 16 at 6:30 on Zoom: Join in the conversation, meet fellow advocates in your area, learn a little more from the experts in our midst, hear about each others' good work and organize for action. Register [here](#).

Thank you for taking time with us.

God's blessings,

Team LOPPW