

Who is Your Neighbor?

Saturday, April 13, 2024

8:30 am Registration, coffee
9:30 am Program, Meeting
11 am Guest Speakers
12 noon Lunch



Women of the ELCA Dairyland Conference Morning of Renewal

Central Lutheran Church
221 West Main St
Mondovi, WI

"He answered, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" Luke 10:27

The theme of our gathering, **"Who is Your Neighbor?"** is based on Luke 10:27. The mission of [Puentes/Bridges](#) is to build ties between the community that immigrates to work here and our rural and farming communities. Mercedes Falk and John Rosenow will provide background of how folks from Mexico and other Latin American countries started coming to work in area farms. You will hear stories of how farmers and immigrants' lives have both been enriched by the opportunity to work together, including a firsthand story from Roberto Tecpile. The book ["Milked,"](#) written by Wisconsin native Ruth Conniff, includes these stories.

All Women of the ELCA are encouraged to attend and bring a friend!! **Elections for coordinator, secretary and mission officer will be held so please designate a delegate from your church unit.** Give prayerful consideration to serving in one of these positions on the board.

Each unit is asked to send an offering payable to **"Women of the ELCA"** along with your registration. This will be used to help defray expenses for this event, and any remaining balance will be divided between the SWO and [Sleep in Heavenly Peace](#). In addition, donations of 60 x 80 quilts, and new twin-sized blankets, sheets, pillowcases, mattress pads and plastic mattress protectors will be received for Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

Registration fee is \$20.00 per person and due April 6, 2024. Because lunch will be catered, late registrations cannot be accepted. The caterer is The French Press, Eau Claire. Please send one registration form for your church and make checks **payable to WELCA**. Use the back of the form for additional registrants. Mail to: Karen Zuber, S12185 S Oak Rd, Eleva, WI 54738. Contact Karen with questions at 715-287-4747 or zubergirl.kz@gmail.com



Registration form (list additional registrants on the back).

Registration is due April 6, 2024. Late registrations cannot be accepted.

Registrations are transferrable, but not refundable.

Church:

Name:	Phone:
Name:	Phone:
Name:	Phone:
	Delegate \$
	Members at large \$
	Offering \$
	Total \$

Meet our presenters:

Mercedes Falk is the director of Puentes/Bridges, an organization that works to build bridges between the community that immigrates to work here and our rural and farming communities. She works with dairy farmers and their employees from Mexico to help them understand each other better through interpretation, trips to Mexico, and cultural understanding. She enjoys learning about all forms of agriculture and has a deep appreciation for the diversity that makes up our world.

John Rosenow operates a 600 cow dairy farm and a composting business that sells and distributes organic compost near Waumandee, Wisconsin, with his wife, Nettie and 20 employees. He is a cofounder of Puentes/Bridges and his advocacy work has been featured on the [PBS NewsHour](#), NPR Marketplace, and the BBC, among others. As an employer, John has discovered the importance of understanding cultures that differ from ours and has implemented many strategies that complement that difference to achieve success as a business.

Roberto Tecpile was born in the Mexican state of Veracruz. He came to the United States when he was 18 to help provide a better life for his family. He has worked in several different states since then and in a variety of jobs before landing on dairy farms in Wisconsin, where he has worked for the last ten years. He has spoken about his experiences at the University of Minnesota, UW-River Falls, UW-Eau Claire, local libraries, and several other community groups.