



Chancery Bulletin - Vol. 9, No. 9.1. | September 3, 2024

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Officials

The Most Reverend Gerard W. Battersby, D.D., Bishop of La Crosse, makes the following announcement:

The Reverend **Woodrow H. Pace** has submitted his letter of resignation from the Office of Vicar for Clergy, and it has been accepted, effective August 30, 2024. He will retain his appointment as Director of the Mission Office while he is placed on a medical leave of absence.

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Chancery Office

Chancellor Very Rev. William Dhein – 608.791.2655 | wdhein@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Events

As of Sept. 3

Wednesday, September 4	
6:00pm	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish Father and Son Banquet - Richland Center
Saturday, September 7	
6:00pm	Immaculate Conception Parish Pizza Saturday - Eau Claire
Sunday, September 8	
9:00am	St. Mary's Assumption Parish Fall Festival - Durand
10:30am	St. Mary Parish Fall Festival - Colby
11:00am	St. John the Baptist Parish Fall Festival - Cooks Valley
1:00pm	In Honor of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Rudolph
Thursday, September 12	
11:00am	Mary, Mother of the Church Parish Chicken-Que - La Crosse
Saturday, September 14	
4:00pm	St. Joseph Parish Fall Festival - Menomonie - Sept. 14-15
5:00pm	St. Mary Parish Festival - Richland Center
Sunday, September 15	
10:00am	Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Fall Festival - Mondovi
11:00am	St. Joseph Parish Fall Festival - Prescott
2:00pm	St. Peter Parish Miscarriage, Infant or Child Loss Memorial Service - Tilden
Tuesday, September 17	
The Gift of the Stigmata Mass - La Crosse	
Wednesday, September 18	
Rural Life Day - Lone Rock - 10am	
Thursday, September 19	
1:00pm	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton PCCW Rummage Sale - Holmen - Aug. 19-20
Saturday, September 21	
3:00pm	Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe Scott Turkington Organ Recital - La Crosse
Sunday, September 22	
9:00am	St. Paul Parish Fall Festival - Bloomer
11:00am	St. John the Apostle Parish Fall Dinner - Whitehall
11:00am	St. James Parish Charcoal Chicken Dinner - Vesper
Tuesday, September 24	
10:00am	Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe 10th Annual Homeschool Kickoff - Creating a Homestead - La Crosse
Friday, September 27	
Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend - Sept. 27-29	
6:00am	St. Andrew's Cranfest Breakfast - Warrens - Sept. 27-29
Saturday, September 28	
12:00am	Annual Appeal Kickoff Weekend 1
Sunday, September 29	
Annual Appeal Kickoff Weekend 1	
Friday, October 4	
Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi, secondary patron of the Diocese	

To have your parish events listed on the diocesan calendar, diolc.org/calendar, and Catholic Life magazine, please email datebook@diolc.org. Make sure you include the following details: date, beginning/ending times, event location, description, menu and cost, etc. If you have any questions, please call Pam Willer at 608.788.1524 for more information.

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Office for Catechesis & Evangelization

Director: Ann Lankford – 608.791.2658 | alankford@diolc.org

National Eucharistic Congress: Parish Small Group Series:

The National Eucharistic Congress was a Catholic experience unlike any other, with a historic outpouring of God's grace. More than 60,000 participants of our Catholic family gathered to experience profound, personal renewal through the power of Christ's love. You are invited to enter this Eucharistic Congress by experiencing the evening sessions in the context of a small group at your parish. There will be seven sessions, 90 minutes each, featuring compelling parts of keynote presentations and testimonies, along with inspiring aspects of adoration and praise and worship music from the major sessions. Session 1 is available here:

diolc.org/eucharist/parishioners. An additional session will be added weekly.

For Your Parish Bulletin:

A Minute with Jesus: We Respond with Thanksgiving after Receiving Jesus in Holy Communion

Through the power of the Holy Spirit and the words of Jesus repeated by the priest, a miracle happens at every Mass. The substance of the bread and wine becomes the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus, even though the bread and wine still look the same. When we receive Jesus, we want to thank Him for this incredible Gift. Then we can speak with Him about anything that is on our hearts. We also want to listen to what He might say to us in the quiet of our hearts.

Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, I believe in you. Jesus, I hope in You. Jesus, I want to love You with all my heart. Jesus, I thank You for having come to dwell in me as I receive You in Holy Communion. I welcome You into my heart, embracing Your presence and asking You to "crowd out" whatever might be there that is not of You. And I desire to give You full reign as my Lord, my Savior and my King. Thank You for giving Your life for me on the Cross, loving me this much and allowing me to receive You into my heart in this present moment. And now that You are so close to me, please help me love You more and more and serve You by loving the people around me. Amen. Visit diolc.org/deeper for a downloadable Prayer Card with this prayer.

This week, read Psalm 107:1. "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!"

Bulletin editors: For upcoming weeks of proclamations (or prior weeks) entitled *A Minute with Jesus*, click here: diolc.org/eucharist/learn.

Catechetical Leader Information:

DRE, CRE, Youth Ministry Calendar 2024-2025

A calendar for catechetical leaders is available for download here:

diolc.org/catechesis/catechetical-leaders-info

Restore the Roots—September:

The Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman produces "Restore the Roots, Cultivating Your Domestic Church," a monthly "Liturgical Living Initiative" distributed to interested parishioners.

The September issue is available [here](#) for your review. If you would like to bring this to your parish(es), please email Natalie Elskamp at restoretherootslax@gmail.com.

(Reminder) New Catechetical Leader Training | Sept. 13, from 9 am - 3:30 pm | Holy Cross Diocesan Center

New DREs, CREs and Youth Ministers are asked to attend a day of formation on Friday, Sept. 15th. The registration form is available here with further details:

diolc.org/catechesis/catechetical-leaders-info

(Reminder) Certification Form for attending Saturday, Aug. 17, 2024:

For those who attended “A Day with Bishop Battersby to Prepare for Fall,” please complete the form found [here](#) and place it in your certification folder. Note: Catechetical leaders are to earn 12 hours of credit per year and catechists are to earn six hours per year. The preferred means of earning certification is Franciscan at Home online learning. The content in the parish catechetical leader track and catechist track is directly related to our specific mission. The spiritual life of the learner is the foundation of each workshop. For directions to register for FREE, click here: diolc.org/catechesis/catechetical-leaders-info

(Reminder) Catechetical Sunday:

This year, Catechetical Sunday is Sunday, Sept. 15th. The theme is “Lord, when did we see You hungry?” The theme reflects our call to missionary discipleship. Our times cry out for this kind of holiness, one inflamed by the ardent determination to bring as many of our brothers and sisters as possible to Christ. Click the link for further resources in English and Spanish, visit usccb.org/committees/evangelization-catechesis/lord-when-did-we-see-you-hungry

For a Commissioning Service from the USCCB, visit:

usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/catechesis/catechetical-sunday/commissioning-service.

Parents are truly the primary catechists of their children. They prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. On Catechetical Sunday, we not only highlight the work of catechists in parishes and schools, but we also commend parents and guardians and encourage them to take seriously their role of making their Catholic households a place where faith is passed on to the next generation. This is why the rite of blessing of catechists used on Catechetical Sunday includes an optional blessing of parents and guardians.

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Office for Communications

Director: Erik Archer– 608.791.2661 | earcher@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Consecrated Life

Director: Sr. Donna Krzmarzick, ISSM – 608.791.2690 | dkrzmarzick@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for the Diaconate

Director: Deacon Robert Riedl – 608.791.2665 | rriedl@diolclergy.org

(Reminder) Please Save These Dates:

- Deacon and Wives Evening of Reflection
 - 4 pm - Thursday, September 12, 2024
 - Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe – La Crosse, WI
- Fall ministry Days
 - October 21-22, 2024
- Diaconal Discernment Retreat
 - Dec. 6-7, 2024
 - St. Anthony's Retreat Center – Marathon, WI
 - Please recruit in your parishes!
 - Offer to speak in neighboring parishes in your deanery that don't have a deacon.
- Bi-Annual Deacon and Wives Retreat
 - Feb. 21-23 at St. Anthony's Retreat Center – Marathon, WI
 - Friday evening dinner to Sunday lunch
 - Retreat leader – Msgr. David Kunz

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Office for Marriage & Family Life

Director: Christopher Rogers – 608.791.2659 | crogers@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Ministries

Director: Christopher Ruff – 608.791.0161 | cruff@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Missions

Director: Fr. Woodrow Pace – 608.791.2676 | wpace@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Sacred Worship

Director: Christopher Carstens – 608.791.0161 | ccarstens@diolc.org

Calendar Advisories:

All Souls' Day and the Immaculate Conception

From the Bishops Committee on the Liturgy *Newsletter*, Nov. 2023: The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) falls on a Saturday in 2024. On Friday evening, All Saints Day is celebrated at the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours. However, for pastoral reasons where it is the custom, Evening Prayer II of All Saints may be followed by Evening Prayer for the Dead. On Saturday evening, priests should anticipate the Mass of the 31st Sunday of Ordinary Time at normally scheduled anticipated Masses, though the Mass of All Souls' Day may be used outside that usual schedule. At the Hours, Evening Prayer I of the 31st Sunday of Ordinary Time is used in individual recitation, though Evening Prayer for the Dead may be used in celebrations with the people.

Since Dec. 8 is the Second Sunday of Advent, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is transferred to Monday, Dec. 9; however, the obligation to attend Mass does not transfer. While Funeral Masses are not normally permitted on this day (since it is usually a Holy Day of Obligation), they may take place this year since Immaculate Conception is not a day of precept (General Instruction of the Roman Missal, no. 380). The Optional Memorial of St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin, Dec. 9, is omitted.

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Office for Safe Environment

Director: Teresa Brown – 608.791.2679 | tbrown@diolc.org

I want to thank every parish and school that has prioritized Safe Environment before another school / CCD year starts. From Aug. 12 to 22, I traveled more than 1500 miles visiting schools and parishes and entered hundreds of background checks. Keep up the great work!

Upcoming Safe Environment dates and locations:

Sept. 8 at noon Annunciation of the BVM – Viroqua

Sept. 10 6pm Zoom Training – the link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89824764576?pwd=b5JgZn5lKOvWH9iQ2H6HkdrsLUbLEd.1>

Sept. 11 at 6:30 pm St. Joseph - St. Joseph Ridge

Oct. 20 at 9:00 am St. Mary - Coon Valley

If you would like onsite or Zoom Safe Environment training at your parish or school, contact Teresa with a date and time at 608.791.2679 or tbrown@diolc.org

“Family is not an important thing. It’s everything.” – Michael J. Fox



Office for Catholic Schools

Superintendent: Thomas Reichenbacher – 608.788.7707 | treichenbacher@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Social Concerns

Director: Christopher Ruff – 608.791.0161 | cruff@diolc.org

(Reminder) For Your Parish Bulletin:

Attend Rural Life Day | Sept. 18, from 10 am-2 pm | Schmidt Family Farm in Lone Rock:



All are invited to Join hundreds of the faithful for the 43rd Annual Rural Life Day at the Schmidt Family Farm on Wednesday, Sept. 18 from 10 am-2 pm at 29281 Fairview Rd. in Lone Rock. Bishop Battersby will celebrate Mass at 10 am, after



which he will present awards recognizing parishioners and farm families and bless animals, crops and machinery. Lunch will be served. Join us as we joyfully thank God for the food that sustains our lives, the land on which it is grown and the dedicated families who farm it. Learn more at diolc.org/rural-life or scan the QR code to the right.

For Parish Bulletins in La Crosse and the Surrounding Area:

Pro-Life Witness – Join 40 Days for Life campaign in La Crosse:



40 DAYS FOR LIFE

From Sept. 25 to Nov. 3, you are invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – to stand and peacefully pray at a particular hour during a 40-day vigil on the sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood at 1201 Caledonia St., La Crosse. For more information and to sign up, please get in touch with Marie Allen by visiting 40daysforlife.com/en/lacrosse or scanning the QR code to the right. The 40 Days for Life opening rally will be held at 4 pm on Sunday, Sept. 15, at Northside Community Church, 1300 Caledonia St., La Crosse. Topic: Post-abortion ministries in our area. All are welcome!



(Reminder) Pastors and Parish Respect Life Representatives:

Get ready for October, Respect Life Month:

Respect Life Month (and Respect Life Sunday on Oct. 6) will be more critical than ever in today’s cultural and political climate. Visit the USCCB website, respectlife.org, for posters, bulletin reflections, homily helps, intercessions, prayers, action guides, and much more.

Pastors, Deacons, Parish Social Concerns Representatives:

Are Your Social Ministry Initiatives listed in the [Directory](#)?

To effectively address the social concerns within our diocese, we are requesting all parishes to review their current social ministry initiatives, including any charitable outreach or social advocacy programs. If these initiatives are not already listed in the diocesan [Directory of Parish Social Ministry Initiatives](#), or if updating is needed, the pastor or someone authorized by him is asked to take a moment to complete and submit [this form](#) for each organization/resource.

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Office for Stewardship & Development

Director: Jeff Reiter – 608.791.2653 | jreiter@diolc.org

Update: 2024-2025 Diocesan Annual Appeal:

"For We are God's Co-workers"

Sign-up for Parish Kickoff Weekend and supplies adjustment is now open at:

forms.gle/961BvTmKZYeU4ve46.

On Aug. 28, 2024, all Pastors should have received an email with the Annual Report Statistical Information as submitted for Catholic School Children and # of Envelope Holders. Any reconciliations must be returned to the Stewardship Office by Noon on Friday, Sept. 13, 2024. At the end of the business day, Friday, Sept. 13, 2024, the Diocesan Annual Appeal Allocations will be emailed to the Pastors. If your pastor has not received the reconciliation email, please have them check their spam/junk folder. If it is still not found, please contact Jeff Reiter at jreiter@diolc.org

We continue to add materials and other resources to the appeal portal, appeal.diolc.org. You can review the Bishop's first letter, Annual Appeal Prayer, updated Parish Manual, Logo, and Prayers of the Faithful, emphasizing the Diocesan Annual Appeal. More are coming almost daily.

In the upcoming days, we will add signup forms for the kickoff weekends and updates for parish material orders. We will add the materials as soon as they become available. If your parish wishes to include a letter from the parish priest or council, please submit it to the Stewardship Office at least three weeks before your planned kickoff. The earlier, the better.

(Reminder) DAA Theme and Thoughts:

This year's theme will focus on what Bishop Battersby calls a "turning toward mission: the Mission of Jesus."

This year's theme is rooted in 1 Corinthians 3:9: "For We are God's Co-Workers." The theme highlights the collaborative relationship between God and us, the faithful, in building His kingdom. This verse emphasizes several critical aspects of practicing our faith as Catholics. It enables us to fulfill our baptismal call to holiness and bring Christ's love to the world, especially those most in need. As we prepare the launch of this year's Diocesan Annual Appeal, the thoughts below will help you focus on how your ministry encourages:

- **Trusting in God's Providence:** The Church calls us to have a profound trust in God's providence and plan for creation. Pope Benedict XVI states, "A Christian who lets himself be guided and gradually shaped by the faith of the Church, in spite of his weaknesses,

limitations, and difficulties, becomes like a window open to the light of the living God." This trust enables us to cooperate faithfully with God's work.

- **Participating in God's Mission:** Called to participate in God's mission on earth through baptism, 1 Corinthians 3:9 underscores the idea that every believer has a role in spreading the Gospel and building up the Church.
- **Collaborating with Divine Grace:** The concept of being co-workers with God implies that we work alongside Divine Grace. While God initiates and sustains the work, human cooperation is essential. God's grace and our free will are complimentary.
- **Uniting as a Community:** This verse also highlights the importance of unity and teamwork. We are to support and uplift each other in our spiritual journeys and service to the Church.
- **Servicing via our Vocation:** Every one of us has a vocation, whether to the priesthood, religious life, marriage, or single life. We are to view our daily work and duties as part of our collaboration with God.
- **Stewarding our Gifts:** As children of God, we are to be good stewards of His creation and our gifts of time, talents, and treasure, as well as encouraging and helping others to be good stewards of their time, talents, and treasures. Stewardship involves evangelizing the Gospel's good news and recognizing our role as collaborators with God in the unfolding and protecting of creation. As Pope Paul VI affirms, "To evangelize is the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her most profound identity." The faithful carry out this mission by using their gifts to bring the Good News to the world.

In summary, [1 Corinthians 3:9](#), "*For We are God's Co-Workers*," reminds us that our faith calls us to a life of trust in God, zeal for the Church's evangelical mission, and profound love and care for the poor by actively participating in God's work enthusiastically, fostering a sense of purpose, community, and responsibility in our spiritual and everyday lives.

(Reminder) Planned Giving – Leaving a Legacy, Wills, Bequest, and Endowments:

Planned Giving Bulletin Ads: We have several bulletin ads available for download on the appeal portal appeal.diolc.org/

We have been entrusted with precious treasures passed down from our ancestors, and it's our responsibility to ensure that future generations can also enjoy the splendor and reverence of a well-maintained parish. One way to achieve this is by utilizing the capital campaign and providing the parishioners with information on endowments, trusts, and bequests.

Our estate planning guide can help save hundreds of dollars in legal and financial estate planning costs. We have mailed out several hundred copies per individual request, and each Parish has received a copy. Please feel free to contact our office for additional copies.

Visit diolclegacy.org, our Planned Giving website, to find calculators and more information, sign up for a newsletter, and request specific estate planning guides and information. Our website also provides instructions on doing an IRA rollover, creating donor-advised funds (DAF), beneficiary designations, and stock transfers. diolclegacy.org/?pageID=5

Please contact Jeff Reiter at jreiter@diolc.org for more information on legacy giving, presentations or ads for your Parish bulletin.

Stewardship Bulletin Reflections for Weekends:

- 09/08/2024
diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/09.08.24-stewardship-bulletin-announcements.pdf
- 09/15/2024
diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/09.15.24-stewardship-bulletin-announcements.pdf
- 09/22/2024
diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/09.22.24-stewardship-bulletin-announcements.pdf
- 09/29/2024
diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/09.29.24-stewardship-bulletin-announcements.pdf

Stewardship Homily Reflections:

Stewardship reflections for your homily development:

- For Weeks 09/08/24 - 09/29/24
diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Homily-Guide-09.03.24.pdf

Weekly Stewardship Quotes (shorter bulletin reflections):

- July - September 2024
diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Stewardship-Bulletin-Reflections-July-September-2024.docx
 - Spanish Version
diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Stewardship-Bulletin-Reflections-July-September-2024-Spanish.docx
- October - December 2024
diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Stewardship-Bulletin-Reflections-Fall-2024-English.docx
 - Spanish Version
diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Stewardship-Bulletin-Reflections-Fall-2024-Spanish.docx

Weekly Stewardship Prayers of the Faithful:

- July - September 2024
diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Prayers-of-the-Faithful-July-September-2024.docx
 - Spanish Version
diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Prayers-of-the-Faithful-July-September-2024-Spanish.docx
- October - December 2024
diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Prayers-of-the-Faithful-Fall-2024-English.docx
 - Spanish Version
diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Prayers-of-the-Faithful-Fall-2024-Spanish.docx



Office for Temporalities

Diocesan Finance Officer: James Reider – 608.791.2668 | jreider@diolc.org

DIOLC 2024 Summer Parish Finance Webinar, Tuesday, Sept. 10th, 9:00 am – 11:30 am:

The Office for Temporalities is hosting the summer parish finance webinar. We will be using ZOOM as our hosting platform. Registration is required. [Click here](#) to register. There will be only one session, which will be recorded and posted to diolc.org/temporalities/ following the Sept. 10th session. Parish Finance Contacts, Finance Council Chairpersons, Parish Administrative Assistants and Secretaries, Pastors, and other parish staff are welcome to attend. Registration is required to receive the meeting link. The webinar will last about 2.5 hours. You can access the agenda by [clicking here](#).

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Office for Vocations

Director of Vocation Recruitment: Fr. Nate Kuhn – 608.791.2666 | nkuhn@diolc.org

Please Include the Following Intercession for Vocations for your Sunday Prayers of the Faithful:

Let us pray for the development of all vocations in the Church, especially for an increase in priestly vocations for the Diocese of La Crosse from our parishes.

Consider Adding a Vocations Paragraph to Your Parish Bulletin:

Below is an example – they will be changed each week. Feel free to use any or all of them.

What Are You Looking For?

The first question that Jesus asks in John's Gospel is, "What are you looking for?" He is speaking to John's disciples as they follow after Him, desiring to know who Jesus is and what His mission is all about. After the disciples respond, Jesus instructs them, "Come and you will see!" Whether we hear it or not, Jesus asks you that same question. What are YOU looking for? So often, we find ourselves searching, not knowing exactly where to go or what to do in life. We seek things that will hopefully fill the emptiness and longing that we have in our hearts, but nothing seems to satisfy us.

The real answer to this can be found in Jesus' response as He invites each of us to follow after Him, to get to know Him and to follow the path He has placed before us. For some men, that path is an extraordinary invitation to walk in Jesus' footsteps as a priest. If you or someone you know is interested in discovering more about this call to the priesthood, please get in touch with me: Fr. Nate Kuhn, Director of Vocational Recruitment for the Diocese of La Crosse, 3710 East Ave. S. PO Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602; or by phone at: 608.791.2667. God bless you!

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Office for Vicar for Clergy

Administrative Assistant: Renee' Deters Orth – 608.791.2652 | rorth@diolc.org

Save the Date:

The Fall Ministry Conference is planned for Oct. 21-22, 2024. More information will follow shortly.

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Office for Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Director: Christopher Rogers – 608.791.2659 | crogers@diolc.org

No items this week.

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