

# The Means of Grace



APRIL 28, 2024

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 3:12-14)

The way I figure it, when I see someone running, they are running for one of two reasons:

1. Something or someone is chasing them.
2. They are running toward a goal.

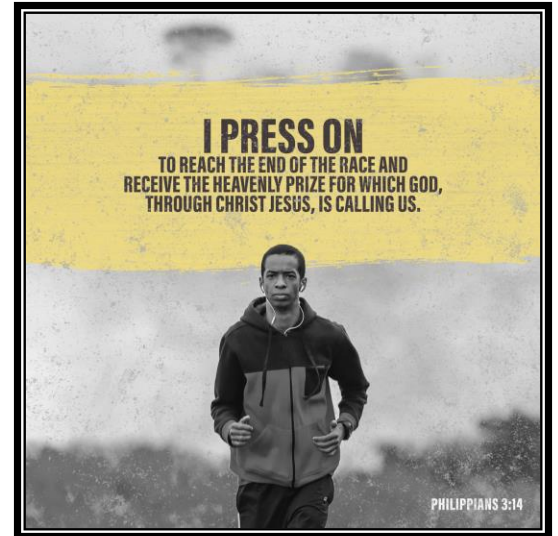
While we might not all be runners in a physical sense, we are all running a spiritual race, and our reason for running is the same: Something is chasing us, or we are running toward a goal.

Why do you run? That's really the important question. As Christians, sometimes it feels as though we are running for our lives! Sin and temptation follow us. Death pursues us. Satan attacks us. **"Forget all that!"** Paul says. That's not why you're running! He says, **"Forget what is behind."**

In fact, when the devil keeps asking you to look in the past, there's something in the future he doesn't want you to see! Forget what is behind, but don't forget what is ahead. **"Strain toward what is ahead!"**

C.S. Lewis once likened the "strain" of human life and God's use of adversity in our lives to walking a dog. He said, "If, while walking your dog, it gets its leash wrapped around a pole and tries to continue running forward, it will only tighten the leash more. Moving forward has now become a strain. The master shares the same intention with the dog, but the master understands better than the dog where he really needs to go and takes an action precisely opposite to that of the dog's will to unwrap the leash from the pole... and that's adversity! It is in this way that God uses adversity in our lives and why we **'strain toward what is ahead.'**"

And what is ahead? Why are we running? Well, it's not what we are running from, but rather it's all about what we are running to: the goal. Running not in fear, but rather in joyful anticipation **"to win the prize that God has called me heavenward. Not that we have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at our goal, but we press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me"** (Philippians 3:12). That is the glorious end of our race! It's not always easy, but our destination is secure. Jesus has already won the race for us. The outcome has already been determined, and nothing can change it. You just stay in the race. You just keep running, however hard it may be, Jesus will make sure you win the prize for which God has called me heavenward





**Sunday**            **April 28, 2024 Easter 5**  
**Flowers:**        **Charlene Clark**  
**Comm. Prep.** **Jensen**  
9:30 AM            WORSHIP with HOLY COMMUNION  
10:30 AM          FELLOWSHIP  
11:00 AM          Sunday School  
11:15 AM          Bible Study

**Monday**           **April 29, 2024**

**Tuesday**         **April 30, 2024**  
8:00 AM           7-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation  
3:30 PM            Worship Committee  
3:30 PM            Staff Meeting GLS

**Wednesday**    **May 1, 2024**  
8:00 AM           Individual Confirmation  
8:30 AM           Chapel-Pastor Bitter  
9:00 AM           7-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation  
6:00 PM           Google Bible Study Meeting

**Thursday**        **May 2, 2024**  
8:00 AM           5-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation

**Friday**            **May 3, 2024**  
8:00 AM           7-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation  
9:20 AM           PK Jesus Circle  
Afternoon Member Visits

**Saturday**         **May 4, 2024**  
9:00 AM           Confirmation

**Sunday**            **May 5, 2024 Easter 6**

**Flowers:**  
9:30 AM            Worship  
10:30 AM          FELLOWSHIP  
11:00 AM          Sunday School  
11:15 AM          Bible Study  
6:00 PM            Basketball

#### **IN PRAYER**

**Randy Jensen** has now improved enough to continue his recovery at Good Samaritan hospital in the rehabilitation program for the next 3 weeks.

**Haydens, Swobodas, Redfords** – All friends of the Tanners who continue to battle cancer (Haydens), a serious injured in a baseball (Swobodas), and an emergency appendectomy (Redford). We pray for strength and healing.

# Grace Church Financial Update



***“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing... If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. – John 15***

We are One Together in ministry. Jesus is the Vine and we are the branches and connected to him we will produce much! In fact, connected to Him all things are possible!

**The approved budget:** Our Grace budget for the fiscal year 2023-2024 is set at **\$490,000** which calls for weekly gifts of **\$9423**. Last week’s gifts totaled **\$19,514**. (This included a special gifts of \$16,000)

**Year to date:** As of last week, the total amount of gifts we should have reached is **\$405,192**. However, at week 43, the amount in gifts we have received for the Lord's ministry is **\$338,594**.

**Shortfall:** Currently, there is a gap of **\$66,598** between the amount received and the amount budgeted.

*We are grateful for the gifts of love that God’s people have brought! This past week in addition to our weekly gifts several members have approached our leadership at Grace and have committed to make gifts to the Lord that will cover the shortfall and address some of our additional expenses! We praise God for moving the hearts of his people to express their love for Christ in such a generous manner!*

**Weekly Gifts:** It’s important to note that while our budget shortfall will be covered we still have an approved budget which requires **weekly gifts of \$9423**. We pray that every member at Grace is moved by their love for the Lord to give as generously and faithfully as He has enable each to do. The Apostle Paul encouraged the church with these words **“Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver. God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will overflow in every good work... You will be made rich in every way so that you may be generous in every way, which produces thanksgiving to God through us. (1 Corinthians 9:7-8,11)**

## **Additional expenses:**

- At the moment it would appear that our insurance will not cover the total cost of the school restoration from this winter’s pipe burst and water damage.
- We are also in dire need of roof repair at the school.
- The demolition cost and fees for the properties next to school have greatly exceeded the bid that PMG gave to us.

Grace Ministry has been blessed with many financial miracles for many years. God is good! We pray that God's children will give generously and joyfully according to His will. We are One Together in ministry.



# Sunday SCHOOL

**ROOTED IN GOD'S WORD**  
*Growing in Faith Together*

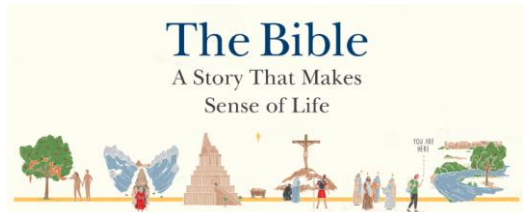
## Sundays at 11:00 AM

Please plan on joining us after worship on Sundays for Bible Class and Sunday for every age! Following worship each Sunday we will continue to offer our refreshments & fellowship AND we will be adding to our opportunity for fellowship by offering Bible Class and Sunday School from 11:00 – 11:45. Please, plan to join us! Sunday School will be offered for kids Preschool – 8<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in helping teach... please contact Pastor Bitter or Craig Baker.



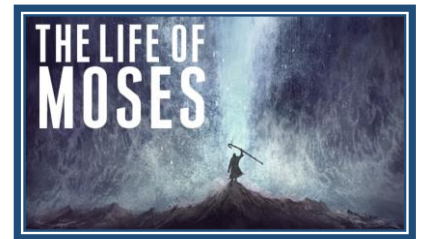
## Sundays at 11:15 AM

Please plan on joining us after worship on Sundays for Bible Class as we continue our study of the Story of Scripture. Teens to adults!



## Wednesdays at 6:00 PM

Please plan on joining us on Wednesdays by clicking on to our Google Meet study. This fall we will begin a new study on the story of Moses. Join us as we discover the ways that God graciously equips us to bless others.



## Saturdays at 9:00 AM

We are beginning our Confirmation Classes for students who are not able to attend during the week at GLS. This class is especially for 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> graders but younger students are also welcome to attend.



## Saturday

Men's breakfast and bible study! Bring your sons! Once a month we will plan to meet again for bible study and breakfast at 8:00 AM at the SCHOOL! Please let Pastor Bitter know if you'd be interested in attending or helping organize.



## Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study

Childcare will be provided. Come spend some time in God's Word together!



# Sisters in Faith ♦ Sisters in Christ



## **NEW – Women's Bible Study!**

**Our Sisters in Faith – Our Sisters in Christ – Our Sisters in Scripture**  
Seeing God's strength and faithfulness in the lives of women.

**At Grace Lutheran School**

*Childcare will be provided at Grace School by teens*

# What's Happening @Grace

## Weekly Fellowship Food & Drinks



**THANK YOU** to those who have been so faithful in providing all the goodness we enjoy after worship! Please consider contributing and supporting the goodness we enjoy after worship each Sunday! Your gifts are appreciated!

## Mowing! – The grass needs to be cut every week!

We need to cut it again every week. Please consider signing up for spring and summer lawn care. The lawn at church needs you... can you sign up for a weekend to cut? **THANK YOU** to those who have been so faithful in taking care of the church property and making it beautiful!



## Weekly Cleaning! – The church needs cleaning every week!



Please consider signing up for spring and summer church cleaning. The church building needs to be cleaned each week and we could use your help! **THANK YOU** to those who have been so faithful in cleaning the Lord's house and making it ready for worship!

## Altar Flowers – Every week!

Please consider signing up for bringing altar flowers for our Sunday Worship. **We need flowers every week!** Signup sheet is located in the Fellowship Hall on the north facing wall.



**PLEASE CONSIDER SIGNING UP TO HELP. WE NEED YOU**



# THE MARY MARTHA GROUP



## SOMETHING NEW- GRACE MARKETPLACE BOARD

Mary and Martha group has sponsored a new bulletin board called Grace Marketplace. The purpose is to give GLC members a place to post items they wish to sell/give that they no longer need. MM will take the responsibility of managing the board. The guidelines are posted on the board. You may post an item with a small photo or a good description on a notice no larger than 3x5 ins. The contact info will be a phone # with the person's last name. At the top of the notice please place the date posted. Notices will remain on the board no longer than 1 month or until removed by the owner.



## GERMAN PRETZELS

Mary and Martha ladies will be making German Pretzels May 9 and May 10. If you have an Electric Mixer and would like to learn to make them, please talk to either Sara Hehr or Linda Bern to sign up.



# Supporting Our Neighborhood Foodbank – April 2024

Mainspring Foodbank appreciates your continued support.

In March we donated 20 lbs. of food and 10 lbs. of clothing.

For **April**, please continue to donate basic food items, focusing on:

- **Peanut butter & jelly**
- **Canned protein** (tuna, chicken, & beef)

If you are doing any spring cleaning, please consider donating any unwanted clothing to Mainspring.

Remember the clothing should be clean and in good condition. Especially appreciated items are:

- **Men's clothing** (all sizes, clean & in good condition)
- **Brand-new socks** (all sizes)

You may bring your donations anytime. Mary & Martha will then deliver the donated items by the end of April. There are baskets in the fellowship hall to place your food donations as well as clothing items.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call or text Leann Breza, (360) 921-6673.

Mainspring Foodbank most-needed foods: (please **no expired items or opened packages**):

- ✓ Canned proteins like tuna, chili, salmon, ham
- ✓ Soup
- ✓ Rice
- ✓ Cooking oil
- ✓ Peanut butter
- ✓ Cup of noodles
- ✓ Canned vegetables
- ✓ Canned stew
- ✓ Canned fish
- ✓ Canned beans
- ✓ Pasta (all varieties)
- ✓ Pasta sauce
- ✓ Instant oatmeal
- ✓ Instant potatoes
- ✓ Shelf stable milk
- ✓ Juice
- ✓ Condiments
- ✓ Fruit snacks
- ✓ Crackers
- ✓ Sugar free snacks
- ✓ Snacks for high school students



## MAINSRING

### April Items:

- Brand-new socks (all sizes)
- Men's clothing in good condition



# AT GRACE SCHOOL



## The Eagle Message Grace Lutheran School DECLARE *His* PRAISES

April 23, 2024

### Chapel Service at 8:30 on Wednesday

We will have our weekly school-wide **Chapel Service** on Wednesday morning at **8:30**. Mr. Eternick will lead our worship this week. An offering envelope is being sent home for your child's mission offering.

We will support mission work at **Peridot-Our Savior's Lutheran School** on the San Carlos Apache Reservation in Arizona for the *Second Semester*. Your gifts will help ministry at the school to reach more children and their families with the gospel. <http://www.poscrusaders.org/> Offerings gathered so far total \$368.23. Thank you.



### Final Day for Fundraiser FRIDAY APRIL 26

Pastor Paul Bourman (Theo's dad) ran in an ultra-race this past Friday to help raise funds for GLS. You can still donate or pledge a dollar amount for each loop that Pastor Bourman ran. To make a pledge, please click this link <https://pledgeit.org/running-the-extra-mile-for-grace-lutheran-school>

**The CLASSROOM that donates/pledges the most MONEY will get a pizza party with Pastor Bourman!**

So far, the **Kindergarten** classroom has collected the most money!! The **STUDENT** who guesses how many **MILES** Pastor Bourman ran will get a gift card! **Donations/Pledges can be made through Friday April 26.** Donations can also be brought to the school office - cash, or checks made out to "Working Eagles". Thank you!

### Financial Aid applications are available

The time frame to apply for financial aid for the 2024-2025 school year continues **through May 15, 2024**. If you would like to apply for financial aid, please fill out the application (**attached**) and submit the form **with your most recent 1040 tax form**. In order to process your financial aid application, **you MUST include the 1040 form and be current with your tuition payments**. If you have any questions, please contact our Board of Education Chairman Josh Luplow or Financial Aid Chairman Dan Paschke at [financialaid@grace-wels.net](mailto:financialaid@grace-wels.net).

Families will be informed of the Board of Education/Grace Lutheran Church voters decisions regarding financial aid by **June 30**.



### K-8 students sing on Sunday May 5

The K - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be singing two songs at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Hillsboro on **Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>** for their 10:00 worship service. Members at Beautiful Savior include current GLS students Owen & Gwen Setniker, as well as GLS alumni, and alumni parents and supporters. A map to Beautiful Savior will be sent home next week.



### Hot Lunch THIS Friday April 26

This month's Hot Lunch will be served **THIS Friday, April 26**. The meal will include Chicken, Rice, Coleslaw, Bananas, Rolls and Dessert. Cost is \$5 per person. You can pay with EXACT cash or checks made out to: *Working Eagles*.



The **May calendar** is **attached**. Please make note of the end of the year activities this month.

## Fundraising Totals!



Over \$5000 raised!

Over \$4000 raised!

Many thanks to Noelle Leitzke and Paul Bourman for all their time and effort in putting together these fundraising events for Grace School! Thank You!

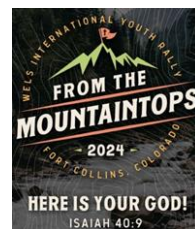
## GRACE SCHOOL RESTORATION & REPAIR PROGRESS NOW THE WORK BEGINS!

Many thanks to everyone who has commitment time and talents and money to help us begin to restore the school following the water pipe break this winter. We encourage everyone to look for opportunities to volunteer to help in the coming months.



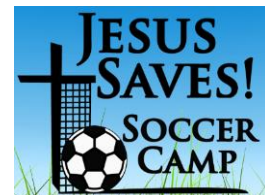
## FOR THE OREGON CIRCUIT!

**International Youth Rally** June 25-28 at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO



**Hillsboro Hops WELS Day** June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 PM. Please register at <https://hopeintigard.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2279558>

**Grace Soccer Camp** May 28<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>. Evenings at Grace School  
Free! Preschool – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Registration coming soon!



**Family Festival!** Saturday, August 10. Location to be determined. A gathering for the whole circuit. Music. Entertainment. Family fun for everyone!

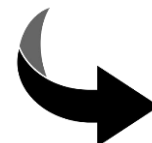
## CANYONVIEW SILVERTON IS BACK... OREGON BIBLE CAMP!



Lutheran Bible Camp returns to beautiful Camp Canyonview in Silverton June 23-28. This is a wonderful opportunity for children going into grade 4-12 to make new Christian friends and spend time with old ones. Daily devotions, Bible studies, and the example of Christian adults will help feed and nurture the faith. Crafts, outdoor skills, sports, swimming, and other activities from the crazed mind of Pastor Tembreull provide fun for everyone and opportunities to build friendship and teamwork.

Details on costs and registration dates will soon follow but mark your calendars and make your plans today! If you have any questions call or email Pastor Tembreull: [pastor@corvallislutherans.org](mailto:pastor@corvallislutherans.org) or 541.231.6189. You can also follow Lutheran Bible Camp-Oregon on Facebook.

**PLEASE LOOK ON THE NEXT PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION**



# Registration is open! Lutheran Bible Camp June 23-28

Lutheran Bible Camp is for young men and women who will be going into the 4<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades next school year (fall 2024).

**Early Registration:** April 21-May20- \$315

**Registration:** May 21-June 10- \$325

**Late Registration:** June 11-22- \$335

Registration includes three professionally prepared meals a day, room and board, and camp facilities.

Drop off will be on June 23, from 4:00-5:00PM

Closing Service and pick up June 28: 6:30 PM

Registration is online. You may use the QR code to find the registration site, find it on the Lutheran Bible Camp – Oregon on Facebook page or go to [trinityeugene.org/bible-camp-registration](http://trinityeugene.org/bible-camp-registration). Please like and follow our Facebook page for information and updates.

## Questions:

Pastor Luke Tembreull: 5412316189

[pastor@corvallislutherans.org](mailto:pastor@corvallislutherans.org)

Pastor Mark Swanson: 9206096204

[mdws89@gmail.com](mailto:mdws89@gmail.com)



Checks can be made out to "Lutheran Bible Camp" and mailed to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 2685 NW 13<sup>th</sup> St., Corvallis, OR 97330

## About Lutheran Bible Camp:

This year our theme is: **Safe on|the Rock**

As our lives in this world can seem unstable and uncertain, we can always rest secure on the solid rock, our unchanging God.

- Our goal is to encourage young people in their faith, build Christian character, and make Christian friends in a safe environment, while having as much fun as we can manage.
- This camp is overseen by WELS pastors and supervised by pastors, teachers, and members of the Wisconsin Synod and Evangelical Lutheran Churches of Oregon and SW Washington.
- All meals are professionally prepared and served buffet or family style so that everyone gets enough to eat. (Special diets will be accommodated with advanced notice.)
- We sleep in cabins divided by age. (The girls will bunk across the river from the boys.) You will bring your own bedding (sleeping bag/pillow) Bathrooms and showers are near all cabins.
- Our primary activity each day will be Bible Study and open discussion. We will also enjoy various crafts and activities. In the afternoon we play sports, swim, and explore the creek. After dinner, the whole camp joins in activities, and the evening ends with a devotion and campfire songs. (Campfire dependent on fire danger.)

Lutheran Bible Camp is run entirely by volunteers; however, facility costs are unavoidable. It is our goal that no one is kept from camp due to costs. If costs are the reason a child cannot attend our camp, please email Pastor [Tembreull](mailto:Tembreull) for financial assistance.



**Evergreen Calls:**

- Emily Muir *ACCEPTED* call to Lakeside Lutheran High School, Wisconsin
- Ryan Schmeling, ELHS *HOLDING* call to MLC, New Ulm, MN
- Brent & Lacey Sorn (Parkland / ELHS) *RETURNED* calls to Apostles, San Jose, CA
- Joseph Schmudlach ELHS *HOLDING* call to Onalaska Lutheran High School, WI

**Pacific Northwest District Convention – June 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Location:** Evergreen Lutheran High School at 7306 Waller Road East, Tacoma, WA 98443.

**Presentation / Theme** — Rejoice! The Christian's Battle Cry. Prof. Joel Russow of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary will present on three areas of strengthening relationships and extending Christlike love to lonely and hurting hearts. "In this world you will have trouble." We live in a world of death, mourning, crying, and pain. The bruising troubles of this life and the heavy barrage of the devil's attacks leave hearts, relationships, and homes lonely and hurting. But Jesus also said, "Take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

**Lay Delegate Attendance and Credentials** — "Each congregation of the district shall be represented by a lay delegate, who shall be certified to the secretary of the district by his congregation" At this biennial convention each congregation seats one male lay delegate to represent your church and to vote. For that reason we ask that you would provide your delegate the proper materials and the credentials (Online Delegate Form) from the congregation they represent.

**District Dues** — Since "all expenses of the district convention... shall be paid by the membership of the district" your dues help cover convention expenses and provide modest travel equalization subsidy for those serving in the outer regions of our large district, as well as provide counseling for our called workers in the PNW.

**Report to the Twelve Districts** - Each congregation will receive one printed copy of the report by late May. A full electronic version will be available online in the first week of May. Please review the online material before the convention, so you are informed on discussions that may take place at the convention. Additionally, Floor Committees are being assembled to divide up the RTTD for summary and celebration at the convention.

**Elections** – Positions on the presidium and within the district be elected at this convention. This year, we have the privilege of electing our next District President following President Steinbrenner's move to Wisconsin.

## FROM THE WELS

The number of vacancies for pastor, teacher, and staff minister positions continues to present a real challenge for congregations throughout our synod. At the direction of last summer's synod convention, a special task force has been formed to study the issue of enrollment at our synodical schools and bring recommendations regarding how we can encourage more young people to prepare for the public ministry.



Thankfully, we are approaching the month of May when some relief will be provided for the vacancy situation. The Conference of Presidents will be meeting as the synod's Assignment Committee to assign teacher and staff minister candidates from Martin Luther College (MLC), New Ulm, Minn., and to assign pastoral candidates at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (WLS), Mequon, Wis., to their first calls.

**This year at MLC**, 145 candidates will be available for assignment. Some of those will be teachers who will be assigned to their first calls; others who were assigned for one year last year will either be permanently assigned to the call in which they are now serving or be re-assigned to new locations. Thirty-seven of the candidates are restricted in where they can serve due to marriage or other circumstances. Many of these will be assigned in May; others will receive assignments in the weeks and months after call day. **CALL DAY IS MAY 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**At WLS**, 27 men will be assigned as pastors. Most of those will serve in parishes; several will be assigned to one-year calls in one of our ministerial education schools as tutors. The Assignment Committee, with the input of the seminary, will also assign 40 men as vicars in congregations throughout our synod. Many of those will be assigned as "Vicars in Mission" to home mission congregations. **CALL DAY IS MAY 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

**Assignment days** at MLC and WLS are joyful days—joyful for the young men and women who learn where God will have them serve in the ministry and joyful for the members of the synod who see God keeping his promise to send workers into his harvest field. Keep giving thanks to God for these gifts to his church and keep praying that God will provide even more workers in the years to come.

**Board for Home Missions:** The BHM met on April 18-19 to review and evaluate new mission requests. It is with great joy that we can report that the request to start **a new mission in Bend, Oregon was approved by the BHM.** This means that a pastor will be call from the field or requested from the Seminary to lead this new mission effort.

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Each week we will highlight ministry reports in the WELS annual report:

Stay informed  
all year through  
these WELS  
news sources



**WELS CONNECTION**  
monthly video

Get Connected.  
Get Together.



**TOGETHER**  
weekly e-news + video updates



**FORWARD IN CHRIST**  
monthly magazine

Learn more at  
[wels.net/news-media](https://wels.net/news-media)



## Support Services

### MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN GIVING

WELS Ministry of Christian Giving works on behalf of the Conference of Presidents, assisting with gathering Congregation Mission Offerings (CMO) and encouraging direct gifts to WELS through mailed appeals, coordination of special offerings, and WELS Christian giving counselors.

We praise God that Congregation Mission Offerings have set new records each year since 2019 and as of this writing, 2023 is also looking to finish with strong congregational offerings.

In 2023, the Ministry of Christian Giving worked with Martin Luther College to promote competency-based education, a program that provides training to second-career teachers. We rejoice that \$581,000 was given through November.

WELS Ministry of Christian Giving is working with WELS Home Missions on the effort to plant 100 new home mission churches and enhance 75 existing ministries from 2023–2033. From July 2021 through November 2023, 1,587 individuals and groups have offered 2,285 gifts/commitments totaling \$2.76 million. Christian Giving is also working with Luther Preparatory School on a capital campaign to build a new music center on the Watertown, Wis., campus.

In fiscal year 2023 Christian giving counselors made thousands of contacts with WELS donors and helped them arrange 202 major gifts and expectancies totaling \$40.5 million. Visit [wels.net/givingcounselors](https://wels.net/givingcounselors) to find your giving counselor and receive free, confidential assistance with offering a gift to WELS.



### PLANNING FOR 175TH ANNIVERSARY UNDERWAY

The 175th anniversary of the founding of the Wisconsin Synod will occur in 2025. A WELS 175th Anniversary Planning Committee began meeting in January 2023 to discuss and carry out plans to help WELS celebrate this milestone of God's grace. Two major projects are being planned—a new pictorial history of WELS and an accompanying video. All WELS members are invited to submit historical photos (such as the one above) for consideration in these projects. Submissions can be made at [wels.net/175-photos](https://wels.net/175-photos). Watch for more information about anniversary projects and events at [welshistoricalinstitute.org](https://welshistoricalinstitute.org).

Pictured is the dedication of the new seminary campus in Thiensville (now Mequon), Wis., on Aug. 18, 1929. The service was one of the largest gatherings of WELS members in history with more than 10,000 people estimated to have attended.

### DID YOU KNOW?

You can find information about WELS churches, schools, called workers, and WELS-affiliated ministries at [yearbook.wels.net](https://yearbook.wels.net). WELS Technology maintains a database that allows for this comprehensive look-up service. Wondering where the closest WELS church is in a particular city? Visit [yearbook.wels.net](https://yearbook.wels.net) and choose "Organizations."

# Two Summer Conferences To Attend!

WELSWORSHIPCONFERENCE.NET

## 2024 National Conference on Worship, Music, and the Arts

*Sing a New Song to the Lord*

July 30–August 2

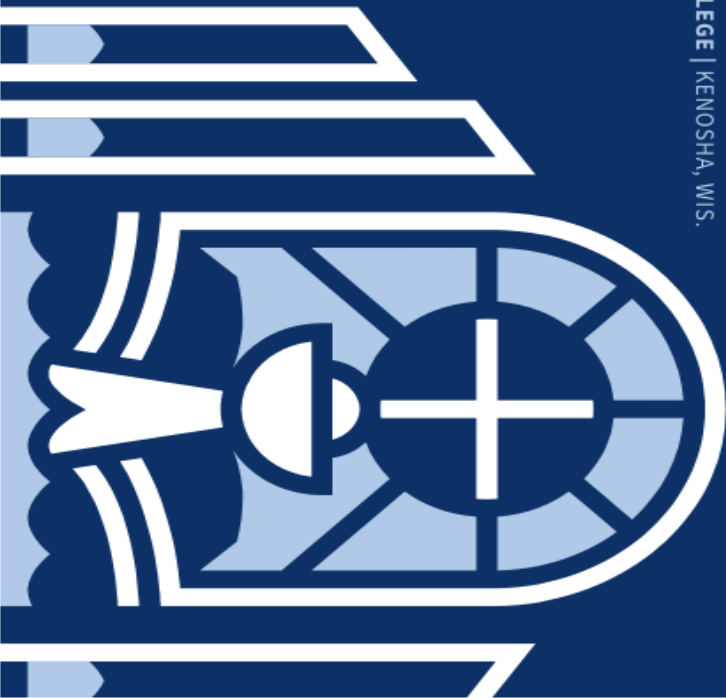
CARTHAGE COLLEGE | KENOSHA, WIS.

### CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- 50+ presentations
- Plenary address: "Lutheran Worship: What Now?" by Rev. Jonathan Bauer
- Vendors offering music, art, instruments, and professional services to congregations and individuals
- Concerts and recitals
- Keyboard and choral reading sessions on new repertoire
- Festival Choir (with full orchestra), high school Honor Choir (with full orchestra), and Children's Choir



**REGISTER**  
EARLY-BIRD RATE  
UNTIL APRIL 30  
REGULAR RATE  
AFTER MAY 1



REGISTRATION RUNS THROUGH MAY 31  
\$150 EARLY-BIRD RATE UNTIL APRIL 30  
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## WELS WOMEN'S MINISTRY CONFERENCE JULY 28-30, 2024 THE INGLESIDE HOTEL · PEWAUKEE, WIS.

The foundation for the conference is Luke's account of the spread of the kingdom of God through God's chosen apostles and everyday believers. Learn from these early Christians how you too can be emboldened and empowered by the Holy Spirit to spread the Word!

### WHO IS THIS CONFERENCE FOR?

Everyone! This conference is for any woman who is passionate about the spread of the Good News of Jesus in our world today, no matter her age and background. New to the faith or seasoned, married or single, this conference will encourage, equip, and empower you in your walk of faith.

### CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Four inspiring keynotes and a wide variety of breakout
- ✓ In-depth spiritual growth sessions
- ✓ Uplifting worship and devotions
- ✓ Delicious meals, snacks, and refreshments
- ✓ Ample opportunities to connect and network
- ✓ Ministry displays with helpful resources
- ✓ Curated marketplace of WELS women-owned shops
- ✓ Northwestern Publishing House bookstore

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# DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK OF EASTER 5 2024

**Sunday** Acts 16:11-13

- Why is it that Paul is in Philippi? Acts 16:6-10
- What kind of city was Philippi? What is the implication that it is a roman colony?
- Where did Paul and his companions go on the Sabbath? Why not to the synagogue?

**Monday** Acts 16:14-16

- Who was at the river having a prayer session?
- What was the name of one woman and what was her business?
- How did Lydia react to the word spoken by the Apostle and why?
- What can we learn from this episode about doing mission work?

**Tuesday** 1 John 3:18-23

- Why does John call his readers “little children”? What makes believers like little children?
- Discuss the phrase in “deed and in truth”.
- What is the truth and how to we become “of the truth”?
- How does the truth overcome our guilt which condemns us?
- If there is no condemnation in our hearts what must be there?
- How does this give us confidence before God?

**Wednesday** 1 John 3:23-24

- What two-fold “command” does God give us?
- How do we abide in God and he in us?
- What does the spirit work in us so that we know that God lives in us?
- Why are these words so comforting and confidence building for us?

**Thursday** John 15:1-2

- What agricultural picture does Jesus use to make some important points?
- Who is the spiritual vine? Who is the gardener? Who are the branches?
- What is expected from branches? What happens if they do live up to expectations?
- How does God prune the branches, us?




**Friday** John 15:3-6

- What makes disciples clean? Why is this Important?
- How alone can we bear fruits of faith, that is, do good works which please God?
- What makes God’s people bear fruit?
- What can we do spiritually when not connected to Jesus by faith?
- What happens to branches which do not bear fruit?

**Saturday** John 15:7-8

- What wonderful confidence is expressed in verse 7?
- What do we do for the Father by our good works?
- What do we prove by doing Good works?
- Do good works save us? Why is it vital for us to do good works?
- What do we show by our good works? James 2:14-26

# Grace April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 8:00 AM 7-8 Confirmation	<b>3</b> 8:00 AM Indv Confirm 8:30 AM Chapel 9:00 AM 7-8 Confirmation 6:00 PM Google Meet Bible Class	<b>4</b> 8:00 AM 5-5 Confirmation	<b>5</b> 8:00 AM 7-8 Confirmation 9:20 AM PK Jesus Cir.  Afternoon Member Visits	<b>6</b> 9:00 AM Confirmation
<b>7</b> <i>Easter 2</i> 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship 11:00 Sunday Sch 11:15 Bible Study	<b>8</b> 	<b>9</b> 8:00 AM 7-8 Confirmation 10:00 AM Mary Martha 3:30 PM Staff Meeting	<b>10</b> 8:00 AM Indv Confirm 8:30 AM Chapel 9:00 AM 7-8 Confirmation 3:30 AM Staff Mtg. 6:00 PM Google Meet Bible Class Bend Meeting	<b>11</b> 8:00 AM 5-5 Confirmation 6:30 PM GLS Board of Education	<b>12</b> 8:00 AM 7-8 Confirmation 9:20 AM PK Jesus Cir.  Afternoon Member Visits	<b>13</b> 9:00 AM Confirmation 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study
<b>14</b> <i>Easter 3</i> 9:30 Worship Communion 10:30 Fellowship 11:00 Sunday Sch 11:15 Bible Study	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 10:00 AM Circuit Meeting Trinity, Eugene	<b>17</b> 8:00 AM Indv Confirm 8:30 AM Chapel 9:00 AM 7-8 Confirmation 6:00 PM Google Meet Bible Class	<b>18</b> 8:00 AM 5-5 Confirmation 6:30 PM Church Council Leadership Meeting	<b>19</b> 8:00 AM 7-8 Confirmation 9:20 AM PK Jesus Cir.  Afternoon Member Visits	<b>20</b> 9:00 AM Confirmation Erda Krieder Memorial
<b>21</b> <i>Easter 4</i> 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship 11:00 Sunday Sch 11:15 Bible Study	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 8:00 AM 7-8 Confirmation 6:30 PM Elders	<b>24</b> 8:00 AM Indv Confirm 8:30 AM Chapel 9:00 AM 7-8 Confirmation 6:00 PM Google Meet Bible Class  Bend Meeting	<b>25</b> 8:00 AM 5-5 Confirmation	<b>26</b> 8:00 AM 7-8 Confirmation 9:20 AM PK Jesus Cir.  Afternoon Member Visits	<b>27</b> 9:00 AM Confirmation 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study  LWMS Rally Grace Church
<b>28</b> <i>Easter 5</i> 9:30 Worship Communion 10:30 Fellowship 11:00 Sunday Sch 11:15 Bible Study	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 8:00 AM 7-8 Confirmation 3:30 PM Worship Comm	