

Evangelism Day: January 23, 2013
Theme: "There still is room." Luke 14:22

WORSHIP SERVICE: 8:30 – 9:15 a.m.

All assemble in the chapel.

Large Group Electives: 9:30 – 10:25 a.m., 10:35 – 11:30 a.m., and 1:50 – 2:45 p.m.

Large Group Elective 1: Worship and Evangelism: Jonathan Schroeder

Does the way we worship help or hinder outreach? How does the outreach ministry of the congregation impact its worship life? What role does the school have in worship and outreach? How can we help move unchurched families from school attendance to worship attendance? This session will explore these questions as we look at the intersection between worship and outreach in congregational life.

Large Group Elective 2: Reaching out with the Gospel to Mormons: Mark Cares

Principles for witnessing to Mormons will be presented against the backdrop of the outreach campaign TILM conducted this past summer in Provo, Utah. Samples of the TV ads and other media will be shown. Stories of those going door to door, including some MLC students and staff, will illustrate both the great need and the great joy of speaking the truth in love to Mormons. Information will be shared about the campaign planned for June 2013 in Salt Lake City and how students and staff can become involved.

Large Group Elective 3: Reaching out with the Gospel to Muslims: Pieter Reid

There are more and more Muslims in both large cities and also smaller towns across America. What is my attitude toward them? "Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5). "God so loved the world..." and "God so loved the Muslim world..." Both statements are true. How do I develop the attitude of Jesus? I need to distinguish between the threat of Islam, and showing care and concern for the soul of the individual Muslim. As a future congregational leader, teacher, or pastor, how can I not only encourage outreach, but also cross-cultural outreach, and outreach to Muslims?

Small Electives: 11:40 a.m. - 12:40 p.m. and 12:40 - 1:40 p.m.

Elective 1: Evangelism and the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program: Henry Tyson

During a time of significant decline in enrollment in WELS grade schools, the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP) is affording incredible growth in enrollment in WELS schools in the city of Milwaukee. What is the MPCP? What are the opportunities and pitfalls that it presents? Is MPCP an effective instrument of evangelism and, if so, how can it be most fully exploited? This elective will address these issues and others relating to effective outreach through WELS schools.

Elective 2: Time of Grace Ministry, Supercharge Your Church's In-Reach & Outreach: Bruce Becker

"Time of Grace is just a television ministry." Or is it? More and more WELS leaders are discovering that Time of Grace can supercharge their ministry to both their own members and to the people in their communities through outreach. There are people within the church and outside the church who will benefit from a congregation having Time of Grace as a collaborative outreach partner. Come and hear how churches, schools, and missions around the world are leveraging Time of Grace's video, audio, print, Web, and social media resources to reach more and more people with the good news of Jesus Christ. From this elective, you will take with you seven key strategies that you can use in your future calling as a pastor, teacher, staff minister, or world missionary.

Elective 3: Work in a Multicultural Setting: Minori Yamaki

God has a perfect plan for you: You know this since he sent his Son to take your sins away and to offer you the free gift of heaven. Still, there are times when you may feel like things are not working out for you, or that you simply are not that important. This presentation is designed to both remind you that God can use you in unexpected ways and to encourage you that God will use you in the way he knows best.

Elective 4: Sharing Christ with Someone Living a Homosexual Lifestyle: Pastor Tom Trapp & Suzie Neas

How do you communicate Christ with Christian and non-Christian friends, classmates, co-workers, and relatives who struggle with homosexuality? Hear from someone who left the homosexual lifestyle and found peace with Christ.

Elective 5: Evangelism in Times of Crisis: Prof. Ross Stelljes

"God moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform" (CW 420:1), including during times of crisis. Listen to real-life stories of personal crises in the lives of members, prospective members, and called workers, and see how God used these crises to open doors for gospel witnessing.

Elective 6: Outside Looking In: Witnessing to Unbelievers: Jill McKinley

Jill will tell the story of how she became a WELS Christian and discuss her experiences with evangelism both before and after her conversion. You will hear a unique perspective on the keys to reaching people with a personalized message of Christ's love and salvation.

Elective 7: Using early childhood Ministries/Preschools for Evangelism: Matt Brown and Barb Noon

At Beautiful Savior the preschool continues to be a big part of the outreach plan. We work to connect the congregation to the preschool and introduce our preschool families to God's Word through our congregation. Our preschool staff recognizes that serving many non-member families brings different challenges and opportunities. We have two pastors who strive to get to know the parents and children who come to our preschool. This workshop will look at some practical ways pastors, directors, and teachers can work together to use the preschool and early childhood ministries as an outreach arm of the congregation. We will share some experiences and talk about ways the Lord has opened doors to share the Gospel.

Elective 8: Evangelism in the Spanish Language: Dan Schmidt

Pastor Dan Schmidt has had the unique opportunity to start a mission from the ground up in Southwest Detroit in a neighborhood called Mexican Town. Come and learn how to share the love of Jesus with your Spanish speaking neighbors from his triumphs and mistakes. Discuss different outreach ideas such as English as a Second Language (ESL), food pantries, substance abuse counseling and more.

Elective 9: Sharing Jesus with People Who Have Developmental Disabilities: Julie Luetke, Mike Hennig, Aaron Punke, & Pastor John Zeitler

In a fast-paced world where Scripture study and worship attendance are often shoved aside, a large segment of our population is yearning for such opportunities and is eager to become part of a faith community. It is estimated that about 1.5% of Americans (4,500,000) have a developmental disability. These precious souls are an enormous mission field ripe for the gospel. This session will provide information on how you can get involved with this ministry and will introduce you to a vast amount of resources available to assist you and your congregation in finding these people and sharing the message of salvation through Jesus with them.

Elective 10: Youth Work at the Lighthouse Youth Center: Pastor Jim Buske

Struggling to reach out to your teens and unchurched youth? Is your congregation looking for its place in the community? Then check out what a new ministry in the northwest corner of Milwaukee is doing to make connections with its community and youth. Lighthouse Youth Center is a nonprofit mission outreach that is a “beacon for Christ” as it links inner-city youth with their Savior. It’s a safe, structured place for youth to gather, have fun, meet new people, receive Christian mentorship, and build a relationship with Jesus!

Elective 11: Outreach to Family Members or through Small Groups: David Hochmuth

“Let none hear you idly saying, ‘There is nothing I can do. . . .’” Whether I am an adult convert or a child of many generations of Christians, each of us has the same command from Jesus, “Go and make disciples” Learn about using small home Bible study or fellowship groups as a conducive environment for sharing Christ with friends, family, or neighbors. Even if we have few unchurched contacts, we can play an important role in helping others bring friends and family to “see” Jesus.

Elective 12: Using Technology for Outreach: Joseph Du Fore

From Photoshop to Twitter, and the Blogosphere to iPad apps, this world is up to its eyeballs in techno sophistication. If you are older than two, chances are you have been, and will continue to be, exposed to technology, cyber media, and digital information. More and more people use technology to get and convey their information. This sectional is designed to help you tap into these new technologies and learn about digitally communicating with a purpose: sharing the gospel. If people are using WEB 2.0 resources to absorb information, why not help them absorb the most important information around –the Word.

Elective 13: Urban Education: High Expectations. High Rewards: Jennifer Mueller

Soon and very soon, each and every one of you will be serving a congregation. Are you excited? I hope so. Little did I know that being a called worker was going to be this difficult, challenging, and rewarding. Before you know it, you will be meeting people you never thought you would

Elective 14: Worship Impact for Outreach and Retention: Bryan Gerlach

“If you really care about the lost or the youth, you need to . . . [fill in the blank].” Various myths or half-truths are connected to the intersection of worship, outreach, and member retention. We will explore some of these in light of recent data from both inside and outside WELS. The goal is to fortify confidence in a Lutheran worship practice that grows from theological roots, strengthens the parish, and builds synodical unity.

Elective 15: Prison and Jail Ministry: Phil Merten

Visiting Jesus in prison - When Jesus said, “I was in prison and you visited me”, he was making it clear how closely he identifies with incarcerated criminals. Throughout his three years of ministry before he himself was arrested and executed, he formed his strongest connections with criminals, even calling some of them to be his apostles. What happens when we follow his lead, and open up our evangelism focus to include the men and women who can’t seem to keep their lives in line with the laws of God and man? In this workshop we’ll discuss what attitudes and assumptions need to change to make this happen, and how this ultimately makes for a more Bible-based and grace-oriented ministry.

Elective 16: Christian Aid and Relief: Robert Hein

WELS Christian Aid and Relief responds on behalf of WELS members to help people suffering from natural disasters and medical emergencies, such as earthquakes, hurricanes, and floods. See firsthand how we seek to personalize our efforts, working with volunteers from local congregations and world missions to reflect Christ’s love to people in need and also to build bridges to proclaim the Gospel. When disaster strikes, learn how you can involve your people and your congregation in relief efforts to your own community, which will also enable you to share with them your hope in Christ. This past year we also funded \$295,000 of humanitarian aid projects which assist our world missions in reaching out the people of their community. Projects include medical clinics and home based care, food assistance, digging boreholes, literacy classes, and community center outreach. Come along on a video tour to see the many exciting ways in which humanitarian aid projects are opening doors for us to spread the Gospel in Africa, Russia, India, Nepal, Mexico, Haiti, and Pakistan.