

Evangelism Day January 22, 2014

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: Making the Unknown Known: Reaching Out to the Hmong People: Ben Schaefer and Nau Lee

All around us in America are different ethnic groups with diverse histories, cultures and religious backgrounds. The Hmong people are one such group that God has brought to our country. How can we share the word of Christ with them? What do we need to know to share the good news, which is brand new to most Hmong people? The apostle Paul made the “Unknown God” known to the Athenians by the Spirit’s power—and our Lord gives us the same opportunity with the Hmong people. We will discuss some history and culture of the Hmong people, and highlight the work among the Hmong of Manitowoc. Trinity Hmong Lutheran Church is one of the newest congregations in WELS, but it exists as part of the longest running Hmong ministry in our synod. Future pastors, teachers, and congregational leaders will see the beauty of these unique people in Christ and learn some lessons for cross-cultural outreach in a Midwestern parish.

Large Group Elective 2: Helping college students share their faith with other college students: Ken Brokmeier

Your best friend from high school did not come to MLC but instead is at a public university. They have contacted you wondering what to say because their current roommate has made the request to bring their boyfriend/girlfriend back to the room on their next date spend the night in the room. How do you tell them “No?” You begin dating someone who is not WELS (someone from work). At what point do you bring up the subject of Jesus/religion and how do you do so? We will plan to discuss these and other examples as we turn to God’s Word to discover how to share our faith with other college students.

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: Recognizing and developing mission strategies: Ed Schuppe

The Reality of Our World Today: A Post Modern Nation, A Post Christian World, The Rise of the "Religious Nones", The Millennials, and Narcissism - How then do we reach out to this world?

Elective 3: Digital Evangelism: Using Our Screens For Jesus: Martin Spriggs

Most people spend as much as 50% of their waking hours looking at a screen. What are we doing with that time? As full time ambassadors for Christ we have opportunities to live our faith and share it with other "screen watchers." Together we will look at different digital approaches to evangelism including blogs, social networks (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat), mobile apps, and websites that put Christ in the middle of our digital lives.

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 currently have 56 students and 5 are from member families. 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: Intro to Special Needs Ministry: (by Jesus Cares Ministries) Pastor Joel Gaertner, Pastor John Zeitler, Julie Luetke, Aaron Punke, Brittany Rue and Ali Fischer

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 an intellectual or developmental disability. These precious souls are an enormous mission field ripe for the gospel. This session will introduce you to a vast amount of resources available to assist you and your congregation in sharing the message of salvation through Jesus with people who have Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Information will also be provided on how you can get involved with this ministry while still in college.

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: Evangelism with my family: Pastor Timothy Smith

Some of the more difficult evangelism challenges we face are with friends and family members who are unchurched, of different denominations, agnostic, atheist, or hostile toward Christianity.