

Evangelism Day: January 21, 2009

“For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.” Acts 4:20

WORSHIP SERVICE: 8:30 – 9:15 a.m. All assemble in the chapel.

Preacher: Rev. Tim Soukup

Pastor Timothy Soukup graduated from Northwestern College in May of 1984. He is a 1988 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. His first divine call was to Malawi, Africa where he spent 7 years serving as a missionary for the Lutheran Church of Central Africa. In April of 1996 Pastor Tim accepted a divine call to serve as Pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church in San Antonio, Texas. He has served this parish now, by God's grace, for 12 years. Pastor Tim and his wife Gretchen have three children Amber, Kelsey and Mitchell.

Liturgist: *Pastor John Boeder*

Section Divisions:

- Group A: Freshmen, sections 1-3 and Sophomores, sections 1-3
- Group B: Freshmen, sections 4-6 and Sophomores, sections 4-6
- Group C: Freshmen, sections 7-9 and Sophomores, sections 7-9
- Group D: Juniors, sections 1-3 and Seniors, sections 1-3
- Group E: Juniors, sections 4-6 and Seniors, sections 4-6
- Group F: Juniors, sections 7-9 and Seniors, sections 7-9
- Group G: Fifth year, section 1
- Group H: Fifth year, section 2

Key Note Address:

For groups C, F, and H (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors, sections 7-9, and Fifth Year, section 2): 9:30 – 10:25 a.m.

For groups A,D, and G (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors, Sections 1-3, and Fifth Year, section 1): 10:35 – 11:30 a.m.

For groups B and E (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors, sections 4-6): 1:50 – 2:45 p.m.

Speaker: Pastor Paul Kelm

OUTREACH + EVANGELISM = MISSION

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION – Pastor Paul Kelm

Paul Kelm is the father of three and grandfather of five. His wife Lynne, a DMLC grad, teaches at Fox Valley Lutheran High School. He is a 1970 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary and received a Dr. of Ministry degree from Concordia, St. Louis in 2002. Paul has been a home mission developer in New England, a campus pastor at UW-Madison, dean of students and professor at Wisconsin Lutheran College, administrator for WELS Evangelism and Adult Discipleship, church consultant for the WELS, and discipleship pastor at St. Mark in De Pere, WI. He was a contributing editor for The Northwestern Lutheran for nearly ten years and a speaker on the syndicated radio program "Message from the Master" for nearly twenty years.

WORKSHOP LEADERS (DEVELOPERS ARE LISTED FIRST)

Freshmen

Workshop 1 – Building Bridges (relationships); Small Talk & Listening Skills

Sharing God's Word starts with building a relationship with a prospect. When trust is built, people are more willing to discuss personal matters. It all starts with Small Talk. Did you find yourself a little timid among strangers? Do you shy away from mingling in unfamiliar settings? This session will help you to speak to anyone, at anytime, about anything. Learn to read body language and improve social skills.

For Group B (sections 4-6): 9:30 – 10:25 a.m.

For Group C (sections 7-9): 10:35 – 11:30 a.m.

For Group A (sections 1-3): 1:50 – 2:45 p.m.

John Wiederhold: John Wiederhold is a volunteer recruiter for the WELS Kingdom Workers. John is responsible for World Mission recruitment. In addition, John has experience in training layworkers for outreach. His past experience in marketing and sales for IBM has helped him hone his "People Skills." He teaches a course on basic people skills that includes the importance of "small talk" skills and reading body language.

Rev. Richard Warnecke: Pastor Richard H Warnecke graduated from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in 1984. He served as a tutor for two years at Michigan Lutheran Seminary, teaching Old Testament and religion and German. He was reassigned in 1986 to Panama City, FL, to do exploratory mission work. He served as pastor there until 1999. He accepted a call to WELS Kingdom Workers as Administrator of Faith In action, the Home Mission volunteer program for WELS laity. He also has served on the WELS Youth Discipleship Commission for eight years and before that he served as South Atlantic Youth Discipleship chairman for 10 years. He served on the International Youth Rally Planning Committee for 9 years. He has served as the Outreach pastor at Christ Lutheran Church in Pewaukee, WI since May 2008.

Rev. Jim Skorzewski: Rev. Jim Skorzewski (Pastor Ski): Pastor Skorzewski graduated from the seminary in 1998 and served a congregation in Miami, Florida for four years until he became the associate pastor at St. Marcus. The church added Pastor Skorzewski in 2002, to assist in building a bridge with the children and families from our school. He also started Sunday Night Worship at St. Marcus which targeted college aged young adults. In September Pastor Skorzewski accepted a Call to start a new congregation from scratch in the Fox Valley area. That congregation's name is The CORE and will begin worship in April.

Workshop 2 – Starting a Spiritual Conversation

“Be Prepared” is direction that the Apostle Peter gives us about witnessing. In this workshop we will prepare ourselves for approaching people and broaching the subject of Jesus. We will discuss ideas for getting a conversation started with an unchurched person and how to turn the conversation to talking about Jesus. Studying some of God’s promises will give us the confidence to start and continue spiritual conversations.

For Group A (sections 1-3): 9:30 – 10:25 a.m.

For Group B (sections 4-6): 10:35 – 11:30 a.m.

For Group C (sections 7-9): 1:50 -- 2:45 p.m.

Rev. Michael Hintz: Pastor Michael Hintz has served as the administrator for the WELS Commission on Evangelism since 2002. Prior to this position, he served as a parish pastor in Kenosha, WI and South Bend, IN, and as a missionary to Malawi, Africa. He received ministerial training at Northwestern Prep (1966-70), Northwestern College (1970-74), and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (1974-1978). Mike and his wife Julie, a graduate of Dr. Martin Luther College, were married in June of 1978. They are blessed with four adult children: Angela, Christopher, Paul, and Rachel.

Rev. Earle Treptow: Pastor Earle Treptow was assigned in 1993 to serve as an exploratory pastor in the suburbs of Vancouver, British Columbia. After four years of working towards the establishment of a mission congregation there, he accepted the call to serve as Director of Admissions for the Pastoral Studies program at Martin Luther College, serving in that role from August, 1997 to October 2002. At that time, he moved to Zion in Denver, where he has the privilege of serving a congregation of 470+ souls. He has also been blessed to teach on two occasions at the seminary of one of our sister church bodies in Nigeria, Africa. He served on the Commission on Parish Schools from 2003 to 2007. He currently serves on the Synodical Council as the Pastor-at-Large.

Rev. Wayne Schulz: Pastor Wayne Schulz has served congregations in Aberdeen and Rapid City, South Dakota, for 23 years. During those years he was on the District Mission Board, the Home Mission Board, and he served as District President for four years. He was also a member of the Joint Hymnal Commission that produced Christian Worship and he chaired the committee for Christian Worship: Occasional Services. Since 1989 he has been a mission counselor for the Western Wisconsin, Minnesota, Northern Wisconsin, and Dakota-Montana Districts. For the last ten years he has also been privileged to work with Schools of Outreach all across the nation and in Canada and he is part of the editorial board for Mission Connection.

Sophomores

Workshop 1 – Preparing a Personal Witness

This workshop will explore the scriptural warrant for preparing a personal Christian witness, often called a “testimonial.” What are the benefits of such an approach to evangelism? What are the pitfalls to avoid? How can we find opportunities to tell others how much Jesus has done for us—and for them? What makes for an effective personal witness? Class participants will be given the opportunity to prepare their own personal testimony and also the opportunity to share that message with others.

For Group B (sections 4-6): 9:30 – 10:25 a.m.

For Group C (sections 7-9): 10:35– 11:30 a.m.

For Group A (sections 1-3): 1:50– 2:45 p.m.

Rev. David Valleskey: Rev. Valleskey is a graduate of Michigan Lutheran Seminary, Northwestern College, and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. He was assigned in 1962 to St. Paul, Livingston, Montana. He accepted a call in 1965 to start a congregation (Apostles Lutheran Church) in San Jose, California. He left San Jose in 1984 upon accepting a call to serve as professor of New Testament and Pastoral Theology, with emphasis in evangelism, at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. He served as vice-president of the Seminary from 1985—1996, and as president from 1996—2004. He continued to teach courses in evangelism and the Pastoral Epistles during his presidency. He retired in 2004 and lives in San Marcos, California, with his wife Janice. In his retirement he is serving as chairman of the Humanitarian Aid Committee of the Board for World Missions. The Valleskeys have three married daughters, all of whom have been or are involved in the WELS teaching ministry. They have ten grandchildren.

Prof. Phil Leyrer: Prof. Phil Leyrer is a 1980 graduate of Dr. Martin Luther College. Prof. Leyrer has served on the faculties of Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School and Lakeside Lutheran High School and as the Minister of Discipleship at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Middleton, WI. In 2000 he came to MLC where he teaches in the English Division and serves in the administration. He has had the privilege of serving on the Evangelism Committee in a previous congregation and on the Western Wisconsin District’s Evangelism Commission.

Prof. Lawrence Olson: Prof. Lawrence Olson was the pastor of Peace Ev. Lutheran Church in Loves Park, IL, from 1983 to 1993. Since that time he has been a professor at Martin Luther College in New Ulm, MN, where he directs the Staff Ministry Program. He also directs the Congregational Assistant Program, which trains individuals to serve as assistants in ministry in their own congregations. Other service to the church has included membership on the National Board of Christian Life Resources, the Wisconsin Lutheran College Board of Regents, and the WELS commission on Youth Discipleship. He was a member and chairman of the Western Wisconsin District Commission on Evangelism. In addition, he served as the chairman for several national conventions for the WELS, two dealing with evangelism and one dealing with Sunday School. From 1989 through 1991 he served two-thirds time as a Parish consultant for the WELS Board for Parish Services, a role that he continues to fill on a part-time basis.

Workshop 2 – Various Witness Methods: Bible Story, Using a tract, Give an Answer, Come & See

More than One Way to Speak of Jesus—In this workshop the student participants will be the teachers, and the leader will be there to learn. Students will be exposed to a wide variety of methods and philosophies for communicating the Word of Christ. They will be asked to respond to these ideas and evaluate which might be most effective in the contexts in which they live and learn.

For Group A (sections 1-3): 9:30 – 10:25 a.m.

For Group B (sections 4-6): 10:35– 11:30 a.m.

For Group C (sections 7-9): 1:50– 2:45 p.m.

Prof. Mark Paustian: Prof. Mark Paustian was assigned out of seminary to an “exploratory outreach mission field” in Rockford, IL, where he served for 12 ½ years, through the first building project of “New Life Evangelical Lutheran Church.” He has since published two books addressed to the questions that seekers and skeptics often ask Christians, titled, *Prepared to Answer* and *More Prepared to Answer*.

Rev. Jeff Limpert : Rev. Jeffrey Limpert has served the following congregations: Trinity—Town of Berlin, Merrill, WI.; Abiding Faith—Pinehurst, TX.; Christ the King—Crockett, TX, and Christ Our Rock—Rochester, MN 1996 to the present. He has served on the South Central District Evangelism Commission, South Central Mission Board, Early Childhood Ministries Task Force for BHM and Parish Schools and as chairman of the Minnesota District Evangelism Commission from 1997 to 2008. He currently serves on the Minnesota District Mission Board.

Rev. Roger Knepprath: Rev. Roger Knepprath began his evangelism training in the inner city of Milwaukee as a senior vicar for Jerusalem congregation. It was used extensively in a growing parish area between Milwaukee and Chicago and in the downtown of Canada’s Capitol, Ottawa, ON. He has served as pastor in Redwood Falls, MN. He currently serves as the pastor of St. Paul’s in North Mankato. One of his present responsibilities at St. Paul’s, North Mankato, is outreach, and he is willing to provide anyone who wants experience in outreach the opportunity to get it.

Juniors

Workshop 1 – Christian Leadership

Will you be a leader? Volumes have been written on the topic of leadership. But what is biblical leadership? What does it mean that “leadership has less to do with position and more to do with disposition?” This workshop will answer these questions and others as you contemplate your future as a leader.

For Group E (sections 4-6): 9:30 – 10:25 a.m.

For Group F (sections 7- 9) 10:35– 11:30 a.m.

For Group D (sections 1-3) 1:50 – 2:45 p.m.

Rev. James Mattek: Rev. James Mattek is currently CEO of Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Service, Inc. He oversees a nursing home, assisted living facility and an independent retirement facility. He

also oversees a team of WELS counselors, which includes 2 PhD psychologists, as well as Ministry Support Services which serves WELS clergy with their personal, mental and spiritual issues. WLCFS is also developing a family ministry program called "Faith Stepping Stones" and a teen program called "Peer Leadership Training". He served Immanuel of Findlay, OH for the first 17 years of his ministry. He then served for five years as pastor at Trinity, Watertown, WI. He served the WELS as chairman of the Governing Board at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary and as a member of the Board for Ministerial Education. He is married with four children..

Principal Paul Hartwig: Principal Paul Hartwig has served Fox Valley Lutheran High School in various capacities since 1979. He was a teacher and coach for the first six years, and then was the assistant principal until accepting the Call to be principal in 1991. Prior to FVL, he was a tutor/coach at one of the prep schools, and then Immanuel, Greenville's Minister of Education and first principal of a school he started there in the 1970's. He serves on our synod's Commission for Parish Schools, is an associate consultant for Parish Assistance and a consultant for the Forward with Lutheran Schools program. He also serves as an MLC adjunct professor for their Leadership Series and as an adjunct professor for Concordia University (WI) in the educational leadership program. He is past-president of both the WELS Association of Lutheran Educators and the Association of Lutheran High Schools. He is married (wife Carie) and the father of four adult children.

Rick Loewen: Rick Loewen is married and has three adult children. He served as a police officer for twenty years. During that time he was in patrol, narcotics, vice and homicide. He left the police force after receiving a divine call to serve in youth and family ministry at our mission on the White Mountain Apache reservation. Rick left there to serve WLCFS for seven years. He currently is in a new ministry called CrossTrain Ministries. Crosstrain ministries is a subsidiary of Crosswalk Church in Phoenix, AZ. Rick works with Crosswalk in leadership development of both called and lay members of the congregation. Rick also serves the Apache Christian Training School as one their professors. Rick continues to work with many of our Lutheran high schools with a program called Peer Leadership. Rick is certified as a staff minister. He has a degree from Concordia University in Family Life Education. He also has academic training in chemical dependency counseling and law enforcement.

Workshop 2 – Facilitating Change in a Congregation/School to do (more) Outreach

The world in which we are carrying out the Lord's work has changed. Many WELS congregations have plateaued and declined. How do we help our congregations and schools to make changes necessary to reach more people with the Gospel. This unit discusses the things you need to know and understand to facilitate the changes needed to become a missional church or school.

For Group D (sections 1-3): 9:30 -- 10:25 a.m.

For Group E (sections 4-6): 10:35– 11:30a.m.

For Group F (sections 7-9): 1:50 -- 2:45 p.m.

Greg Schmill: Greg Schmill has been a WELS teacher and administrator for twenty-nine years, having served eight years as principal and upper grade teacher at Mt. Olive in Delano, Minnesota, and five years as principal and upper grade teacher at King of Kings in Maitland, Florida. He has also served as a teacher, guidance director, and assistant principal at Manitowoc Lutheran High School for fourteen years. After serving several years as a part-time consultant with FWLS, he now is called as the synod's full-time *Forward with Lutheran Schools* educational consultant. In this call he works with congregations of the WELS to begin and strengthen preschools, daycares, elementary schools, and area Lutheran high schools.

Rev. Elton Stroh: Pastor Stroh was assigned from the seminary to start a new congregation in Kansas City, MO and served there for seven years. He then became the senior pastor of Peace, Sun Prairie, WI and served in that capacity for seventeen years, during which a preschool and elementary school were launched. While at Sun Prairie he was served by WELS Parish Assistance (PA), after which a second ministry site was developed in the same community. After consulting with churches on a part-time basis, he accepted a full-time consultant call in 2001 and became the director of Parish Assistance in 2006. About 475 churches and schools have now been served by PA, some requesting PA's consulting services more than once.

Rev. Bruce Becker: Rev. Bruce Becker has served as a Lutheran high school teacher, an exploratory home missionary in New York, lead pastor of a large congregation in Wisconsin, administrator for both WELS Adult Discipleship and WELS Parish Services, and a part-time parish consultant. As Parish Services administrator he is currently responsible for coordinating the ministry of WELS Evangelism, Worship, Youth Discipleship, Parish Schools, Adult Discipleship, Special Ministries, and Parish Assistance. He also conducts leadership training for WELS leaders all across the synod.

Seniors

Workshop 1 – Welcoming People to Our Churches and Schools

Ideally, all guests and visitors at our churches and schools would have an interest in learning about what we believe, and we would immediately enroll them in a basic doctrine course so they can learn about what Jesus has done for all and have the certainty of eternal life. Then we would move them into deeper Bible study so they could grow in the various aspects of Christian living. But the reality is that guests and visitors, especially worship guests and visitors, come for a variety of reasons. How do we maintain the integrity of Lutheran worship in our churches and Lutheran education in our schools while also making guests and visitors feel welcome? This workshop is designed to address that issue.

For Group E (sections 4-6): 9:30 – 10:25 a.m.

For Group F (sections 7-9): 10:35 – 11:30 a.m.

For Group D (sections 1-3): 1:50-- 2:45 p.m.

Rev. James Huebner

Pastor James Huebner served as an undergraduate tutor at Northwestern Prep and for two years as a graduate tutor at Michigan Lutheran Seminary. He has served as the pastor of Grace Lutheran church since 1982. From 1989 to 1991, Pastor Huebner joined with two others to launch a pilot project in church consulting which led to the WELS Parish Assistance program. In 1986, he was elected to be the District coordinator for Evangelism in the Southeastern Wisconsin District and served as the chairman of the WELS Commission on Evangelism chairman from 1991 to 2007. Since 1992, he has served as the 1st Vice-President of the Southeastern Wisconsin District and was elected to serve as the 2nd Vice-President of the WELS in 2007.

Steve Granberg: Steve Granberg began his ministry with his assignment to Pilgrim in Minneapolis in 1986. He served there for eight years, the last six of which were as principal. He then served as principal at Apostles in San Jose for ten years. Both Pilgrim and Apostles utilize their schools as outreach tools, and both strive to connect with people in their neighborhood and community. He is currently in his fifth year of service as principal at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School in Jackson, Wisconsin. He serves as a Parish Assistance consultant from time to time, and he also serves as a member of our synod's Commission on Parish Schools. He is coauthor of the school ministry planning booklet *Positioning Lutheran Schools for Outreach*.

Jim Brandt: Jim Brandt was born in the Midwest, and is married with three sons. His wife, Kathy, teaches at Pilgrim Lutheran School in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, where they make their family home. He serves as administrator for the WELS Commission on Parish Schools, and is a 1985 graduate of Dr. Martin Luther College. He received a master's degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh in 1995. Jim spent 17 years in parish education, serving as teacher, principal, and school system administrator for Lutheran schools in Wisconsin, California, and Illinois. His most recent parish call was principal of St. Mark's Lutheran School in Citrus Heights, CA. Jim's service to WELS includes five years as a member of the Committee for India Missions. He is coauthor of the school ministry planning booklet *Positioning Lutheran Schools for Outreach*.

Workshop 2 – Strategies for Congregations and Schools to Reach the Un-churched

Our Strategies Workshop begins with the understanding that the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us saving faith in our Savior and has also put into our hearts a longing to share him with others, especially those who live in our community. We understand that choosing not to reach the lost and un-churched is not an option for believers. Participants will be given tools to assess the community, so that they might understand the people living near them. We will discuss a number of tools that congregations and school might use to make connections with their un-churched neighbors (a list with more ideas will also be distributed). Finally, participants will work as teams to develop specific real life approaches to the New Ulm community which they will seek to carry out during the remainder of the school year.

For Group D (sections 1-3): 9:30 – 10:25 a.m.

For Group E (sections 4-6): 10:35 – 11:30 a.m.

For Group F (sections 7-9): 1:50 – 2:45 p.m.

Rev. Mark Birkholz: In the summer of 1983 he began exploratory mission work with a "core" of six families in the NE suburbs of Denver. That effort eventually blossomed into a congregation of 500 souls that helped to "spin off" two daughter congregations. Along the way the way the congregation was very much involved with starting up Rocky Mountain Lutheran High School--RMLHS met in Lord of Life's facilities during its first academic year. The congregation also began its own pre-school and elementary school, both of which have attracted significant numbers of unchurched families. In 2006 he accepted a call to work with the members of Grace Lutheran Church in Grenada. Part of that call involved laying the foundation for a Lutheran elementary school. In the fall of 2007 he accepted a call to serve as a mission counselor in four of the synod's thirteen mission districts.

Rev. Joel Schulz: Pastor Joel Schulz was assigned to plant a mission church in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, in 1999. Today he is the pastor of that mission church: Cross of Life. The church is run out of the homes of his family and others, and they gather for worship in the local school gym. He serves on the District Mission Board and the Evangelism Commission for the North Atlantic District.

Fifth Year

Workshop One: Equipping Others for Sharing their Faith

God willing, you will soon be called to be full-time gospel ministers, spiritual leaders in the Christian congregation. Part of your leadership involves helping, encouraging, and training God's saints to share their faith with others. What will your equipping of others for evangelism look like? What skills and qualities will you be looking for in yourself and in the people you are training? This workshop has as its goal to inform and encourage you in this vital part of public gospel ministry.

For Group G: 1:50 – 2:45 p.m.

For Group H: 10:35-11:30 a.m.

Prof. Daniel Leyrer is a 1985 graduate of Northwestern College and a 1989 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. After serving in mission settings in Salem, Oregon, and Marietta, Ohio, Prof. Leyrer was called to serve at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in 1998. A teacher of New Testament and Pastoral Theology, Prof. Leyrer has responsibility for formal evangelism instruction at the Seminary.

Prof. Leyrer serves the church at large as chairman of the WELS Congregational Assistant Program; advisor to WELS Commission on Evangelism; member of WELS Communication Services Commission; and theological editor of *Forward In Christ* magazine.

In 1986 Prof. Leyrer was married to his wife Leah. The Lord has blessed them with three daughters

Workshop 2: Fostering a Christian Worldview in a Post-Christian Culture

For Group G: 9:30 – 10:25 a.m.

For Group H: 1:50 – 2:45 p.m.

Rev. Donn Dobberstein serves Our Savior's, Port Orange, FL, where over 60% of the members come from non-WELS backgrounds. He is a member of the WELS Commission on Evangelism and is on the staff that conducts weekend Schools of Outreach.

"FOSTERING A CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW IN A POST-CHRISTIAN CULTURE:

Alarming ideas are gripping our culture. "Political correctness" is seeping into the head of the average person on the very streets Christ is calling us to proclaim him. This workshop is meant to help students understand the climate and culture they are stepping into, and instill an urgency to unleash the ageless gospel as sufficient alone!

Electives:

For Groups D, E, F, G and H: 11:40 – 12:40 a.m.

For Groups A, B, and C: 12:40 – 1:40 p.m.

Lunch for groups A,B, and C is from 11:40 a.m to 12:40 p.m. For groups D,E,F, G and H, lunch is from 12:40 to 1:40 p.m. During lunch hour, you are invited to visit the displays set up in the commons area of the student union. These displays will also be available for viewing in the afternoon and evening.

Students and faculty may go to one elective.

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

Henry Tyson was born and raised in Great Britain. He emigrated to the United States in 1990 to attend Northwestern University in Chicago. After three years teaching in public schools in the Chicagoland area, Henry accepted the call to serve at Assistant Principal at St. Marcus Lutheran School in Milwaukee. Since accepting that call in 2001, Henry has served as Associate Principal and Principal and he is currently the Superintendent of St. Marcus. Saint Marcus Lutheran School serves 340 students, 85% of whom participate in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program.

Evangelism and the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program

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: Perspectives of a Public School Teacher: Carolee Alfred

Carolee Alfred grew up in Bloomington, Minnesota and attended Bloomington Lutheran School and St. Croix Lutheran High School. She attended Bethany Lutheran College and received her teaching degree in 1990 from Mankato State University. She spent two years teaching in Elko, Nevada. She currently teaches first grade at GFW Elementary in Gibbon, MN. She has taught there since 1992.

What is it like inside the walls of a public school?

Probably very similar to the experiences you have or will have in our own WELS schools...MINUS one very important thing. How do you incorporate the one essential item into your everyday teaching? We will try to answer this question by looking at an average day in the public school classroom

Elective 3: Work in a multi-cultural setting: Midori Yamaki.

Minori Yamaki graduated from MLC in 2002 and was assigned to St. Matthew's in Niles, IL, a suburb located northwest of Chicago. It is a multicultural community. "My first assignment was to teach English preschool and kindergarten. I had students from 14 different cultures in my classroom! I began a morning Japanese preschool program. God continues to bless my ministry. The Japanese program has expanded to two sessions!"

God has a perfect plan for you.

Encouragement that God will use you in the way He knows best! There are many times in life when it could be easy to feel like things are not working out for you, or like you simply aren't that important. This presentation will remind you that God can use you in unexpected ways---in His way.

Elective 4: Responding to homosexuals: Rev. Tom Trapp

Rev. Tom Trapp is the WELS campus pastor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and has served in campus ministry for over 30 years. Students from many different faiths and races attend Wisconsin Lutheran Chapel each week. "It's like preaching on Mars Hill every Sunday and Wednesday," he says. The mission fields are white in Madison and people are responding to God's life-changing Word at the Chapel. In February, 2006 a new 26,000 sq. ft. Chapel-Student Center was dedicated and intentionally designed to do outreach to the neighborhood students (American and international). Every month hundreds of students (many not of our faith) make use of our new facility, pick up free Bibles, seek counsel and biblical guidance. Pastor Trapp has written articles for Forward in Christ, Meditations, church conferences and served on the WELS Campus Ministry Committee for ten years.

"How To Share Christ With A Person Living a Homosexual Lifestyle"

Hear a live interview with a WELS member who left the homosexual Lifestyle and found peace in Christ. She will share ways to communicate Christ with Christian and non-Christian classmates, friends, co-workers and relatives who are struggling with this temptation. A Q&A time is scheduled and biblical resource materials will be available.

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

Rev. Ross Stelljes is a 1989 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. He served for two years as a tutor at Northwestern College. He then served for four years at a dual parish: Zion, Hokah, MN and Immanuel, La Crescent, MN. An exploratory outreach Call led him to Littleton, CO for the next 12 years, where he was privileged to experience many evangelism opportunities during the start-up of Living Savior Lutheran Church. Since March of 2007 he has served as admissions counselor here at MLC.

Evangelism in Times of Crisis

“God moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform” (CW 420:1). This includes times of crisis, which often prove to be wonderful evangelism opportunities. Come listen to several real-life stories that demonstrate this truth—stories of personal crises in the lives of members, prospective members, and even called workers. See how God used these crises to open doors for gospel witnessing, all in his own perfect timing.

Elective 6: Evangelism Flops: Profs. Sellnow, Doug Lange, Paustian

Evangelism Flops: What to learn from them-- a panel discussion

For the past three years, a panel of MLC professors has been telling tales of “evangelism flops” from their days in mission ministry. Their shared experience demonstrates that doing the work of an evangelist is humbling and often deeply frustrating. In addition to hearing vignettes and perspectives about the difficulties of evangelism work, participants in this elective will have opportunity to engage the panelists with questions

Panelists

All three panelists are current MLC professors, who are drawing upon their prior experience in evangelism-oriented church work.

Douglas Lange

Prof. Lange was the first pastor of a new mission in Russellville AR. Various strategies were used to bring the church’s message to others. The church members in Russellville decided to do construction of their church building by themselves, becoming a springboard for the synod’s program of "Builders for Christ." As pastor, Lange was a

literal "circuit rider," helping start congregations in several Arkansas cities, as well as serving as vacancy pastor in Little Rock for about a year.

Mark Paustian

Prof. Paustian was assigned out of seminary to an "exploratory outreach mission field" in Rockford IL, where he served for 12½ years, through the first building project of "New Life Evangelical Lutheran Church." He has since published two books addressed to the questions that seekers and skeptics often ask Christians, titled, *Prepared to Answer* and *MORE Prepared to Answer*.

David Sellnow

Prof. Sellnow led congregational evangelism during his vicarship in Houston TX and did inner-city outreach as part-time vicar at St. Marcus and Garden Homes churches in Milwaukee WI. He labored as an exploratory missionary in Owasso OK (a suburb of Tulsa), and then served a mission-oriented congregation and campus ministry in Lubbock TX.

Elective 7: Using early childhood Ministries/Preschools for Evangelism: Dana Leyrer, Rev. Steven Pagels

Dana Leyrer is a 1995 graduate of Dr. Martin Luther College. She began teaching at Atonement Lutheran in Milwaukee, 5th grade for the first year and 3rd grade for the next three years. In 2000 she accepted a Call to teach Kindergarten at St. John's Lutheran School in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. Her husband, David, also teaches 6th grade at St. John's. The Leyrer family resides in Wauwatosa and have 4 children.

Rev. Steven J. Pagels was born in Cibecue, Arizona where his father served as a missionary on the Apache Indian reservation. He attended Northwestern Preparatory School (90) and Northwestern College (94), and he has been serving as the outreach pastor at St. John, Wauwatosa, WI since he graduated from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in 1999. Last June he was elected to be the Commission on Evangelism Coordinator of the Southeastern Wisconsin District. Pastor Pagels is married to Shannon, and they are the proud parents of Claire (3rd grade) and Greta (1st grade).

Developing a Harvest Strategy from Preschool to School

Many WELS congregations have developed strong early childhood programs, but they find it difficult to help young families make the transition from the preschool to the elementary school. Come and learn what one congregation is doing to bridge that gap and also how to develop an effective harvest strategy from your preschool to your school.

Elective 8: Evangelism in the Spanish Language

Seth Haakenson serves as Pastor for Hispanic Ministry at Risen Savior Lutheran Church on Milwaukee's northwest side. Prior to his work at Risen Savior he served as a Vicar in Puerto Rico and as a Missionary to the Dominican Republic. His childhood was spent growing up eleven blocks from the Arizona-Mexican border in a small town called Douglas. It was there that he attended public high school. His ministerial training took place at Martin Luther College from which he graduated in 2000 and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary from which he graduated in 2004. Pastor Haakenson's current area of focus involves establishing a new Spanish speaking congregation within an already established English speaking congregation.

DOING EVANGELISM IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE: What can you expect when your neighborhood requires it?

This presentation will highlight the pitfalls and God-given successes of reaching out to the Hispanic community around Risen Savior Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI. Doing evangelism in our own English language is hard enough work. Now try it in a foreign language without a core group of people to start from. What are some of the obstacles you will face when working in a secondary language? More importantly, what are the joys? Come and listen to first hand experiences from one pastor still working at figuring it all out. While at times frustrating, at other times exhilarating, and yet at all times humbling, this is one area of ministry within the United States that won't be going away any time soon.

Elective 9: Hope Schools of Milwaukee: Jamie Luehring

Jamie Luehring is the principal of HOPE Christian School, a member of HOPE Christian Schools, a network of Lutheran, college preparatory schools in Milwaukee's central city. HOPE has grown from serving just under 50 students in 2002 to over 550 students today. Prior to serving at HOPE, Jamie served as principal and teacher at St. Paul, Riverside, CA, (one of the fastest growing schools in the synod at the time) for 5 years and Our Savior, Grafton, WI for 3 years. He graduated from Martin Luther College in 1999 and received his Master's degree in Educational Administration in 2007 from Concordia University Wisconsin. Jamie is married (wife Rachel) with 2 young children.

“Urban Transformation Through Gospel Action: The Story of the HOPE Schools”

Learn about principles and practices to inspire and transform children and families living in poverty through the activity of the Gospel. We will focus primarily on issues related to education, but will discuss the broader implications of living the Gospel in our interaction with families who are battling through difficult circumstances.

Elective 10: Worship and Evangelism: Rev. Mark Bitter

Rev. Mark Bitter served two years as a graduate tutor at Northwestern Preparatory School. He served as associate pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in South Milwaukee, WI, and as a mission pastor at Crown of Life Lutheran Church in New Orleans, LA. From 1985-1990 he left the parish ministry to serve as the Dean of Students at Northwestern Preparatory School. In 1990 Pastor Bitter accepted a call from the South Central District Mission Board to do exploratory work in The Woodlands, TX. For the past 18 years he has been the pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in The Woodlands. In the South Central district he has served as District Worship Coordinator, and as First and Second Vice President. Since 1999 he has served as the chairman of the WELS Commission on Worship and a member of the WELS Board for Parish Services, of which he is currently vice chairman. In his community Pastor Bitter has been the president of the Board of Directors of The Woodlands Symphony Orchestra for the past 6 years.

Worship and Evangelism

Many church shoppers make their decision about a church based on what happens in the sanctuary on Sunday morning. Evangelism has been placed on the doorstep of worship.

That leaves WELS churches between a rock and a hard place. Or does it?

Imagine visiting a church where each one of the worshipers is wrapped up in the worship, where the person next to you is confessing his sinfulness, and you can tell that he's not just reciting words, where fathers and mothers are taking to heart the precious promises of God, and their faces are beaming because of the good news, where children are listening intently, where people are singing with all their hearts, and you can tell that what they are doing means the world to them. Would you go back to a church like that?

Guests may not understand everything we do in worship. They may not understand the meaning of a hymn or the significance of the Lord's Supper, but they know joy when they see it. And they also know what it means when they see others seeking the face of God, while I'm seeking the face of my wristwatch. Whether or not the guest in the pew next to me comes back next Sunday might strongly depend on the impression I give. This elective will focus on encouraging genuine and compelling worship

Elective 11: Gospel Outreach to people with developmental disabilities. Steve Balza.

Steve Balza has been involved with outreach to individuals with disabilities for nearly 10 years. He helped start a Jesus Cares Ministry in the Twin Cities, assisted in the development of The Lutheran Home Association's Summer Ministry Experience program, volunteers as a special needs camp counselor, and is involved in our local Jesus Cares Ministry in New Ulm. A 1993 DMLC graduate who taught in both WELS and ELS schools, Steve is currently serving as the Director of Alumni Relations here at MLC. As moderator, he will introduce others who are involved with this work and each will share their expertise and experience.

Gospel Outreach to People with Developmental Disabilities

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 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 12: Youth work at the Lighthouse Youth Center: Jim Buske

Pastor James Buske serves as the executive director of Lighthouse Youth Center, a mission outreach to unchurched youth ages 10-18. God has blessed LYC with over 200 youth making use of the facility in the first year. Seventy youths have attended at least one worship service and six have been baptized! LYC will celebrate an attendance milestone: Total attendance 10,000 in 32 months. 10, 000 Gospel opportunities! God is so good!

Lighthouse Youth Center—The Next Generation in Youth Ministry Outreach

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 non-profit 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 13: Witnessing as a way of life. Pastor Tim Soukup

Pastor Timothy Soukup graduated from Northwestern College in May of 1984. He is a 1988 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. His first divine call was to Malawi, Africa where he spent 7 years serving as a missionary for the Lutheran Church of Central Africa. In April of 1996 Pastor Tim accepted a divine call to serve as Pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church in San Antonio, Texas. He has served this parish now, by God’s grace, for 12 years. Pastor Tim and his wife Gretchen have three children Amber, Kelsey and Mitchell.

Witnessing As A Way Of Life

"Witnessing As A Way Of Life" is the elective that Pastor Tim will be presenting based primarily off of 1 Peter 3:15-18. Too often we see evangelism as an event, something to practice now and then on someone at the opportune time. Simon Peter, the bulky fisherman, learned a different perspective. He teaches us how to be free to be in love with Jesus! We hope to learn from him that witnessing isn't one thing we do but rather the one thing we do - always ready to speak for Christ out of adoration for Him.

SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY AFTER 2:45 P.M.

Meeting between advisors and advisees: 2:55– 3:15. Advisors and advisees will meet to discuss the events of the day and consider ways to apply what was learned. Questions for discussion will be supplied.

A block schedule for the day is printed on the bottom of the page.

8:30 – 9:15	Opening Worship		
9:30– 10:25	Workshop 2 for Groups A,D, G	Workshop 1 for Groups B & E	Keynote address for Groups C, F, H
10:35– 11:30	Keynote address for Groups A,D,G	Workshop 2 for Groups B & E	Workshop 1 for Groups C, F, H
11:40 – 12:40	Lunch for Groups A, B, C Visit Displays		Electives for Groups D, E, F , G and H
12:40– 1:40	Electives for Groups A, B, C		Lunch for Groups D, E, F,G, and H Visit Displays
1:50 – 2:45	Workshop 1 for Groups A,D,G	Keynote address for Groups B & E	Workshop 2 for Groups C,F, H
2:55 – 3:15	Advisors and advisees meet in small groups to discuss the events of the day and consider ways to apply the information.		