

Large Group Electives

Large Group Elective 1: Worship and Evangelism: Jonathan Schroeder

Large Group Elective 2: Evangelism to the Children of Mexico: John Kramer

By combining humanitarian aid and gospel outreach, Mission to the Children (MttC) evangelizes to parents by ministering to the needs of their children. Great Commission work in Mexico is simple; everyone can participate. What are you going to say, and equally important, how are you going to say it?

Large Group Elective 3: Using Medical Work to Reach People with the Gospel: Jason Paltzer

In areas with limited resources, gospel ministry is often combined with health and humanitarian projects. Is this combination helpful and necessary? What complexities does this arrangement cause?

Regular Electives

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. 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?

Elective 2: Perspectives of a Public School Teacher: Carolee Alfred

What is it like inside the walls of a public school? How do you incorporate the one essential item into your everyday teaching? Find out by looking at an average day in the public school classroom.

Elective 3: Work in a Multi-Cultural Setting: Minori Yamaki

God has a perfect plan for you. Sometimes you feel like things are not working out for you, or like you simply are not that important. God can use you in unexpected ways—in His way. Be encouraged 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. 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: Dana Leyrer & Pastor Steven Pagels

Many WELS congregations have developed strong early childhood programs, but they struggle in their efforts to help young families make the transition from preschool to elementary school. Learn what one congregation is doing to bridge that gap and how to develop an effective harvest strategy from your preschool to your school.

Elective 8: Evangelism in the Spanish Language: Luis Acosta

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 eagerly desires to become part of a faith community. How can you get involved with this ministry? What resources are available to assist you and your congregation in finding these people and sharing the gospel with them?

Elective 10: Youth Work at the Lighthouse Youth Center: Rev. Jim Buske

Struggling to reach out to your teens and unchurched youth? Is your congregation looking for its place in the community? Check out what Lighthouse Youth Center is doing to make connections with its community and youth in inner city Milwaukee.

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

Whether an adult convert or a multi-generational Christian, each of us has the same command from Jesus, “Go and make disciples of all nations.” Learn about using small home Bible study or fellowship groups to share Christ with friends, family, or neighbors.

Elective 12: Using Technology for Outreach: Joseph Du Fore

From Photoshop to Twitter, the Blogosphere to iPad apps, this world is up to its eyeballs in techno sophistication. Discover how to tap into these new technologies and use them to share 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: Living the Dream: Jennifer Mueller

Serving a congregation means meeting people you never thought you would meet, making friends that you never knew existed, and changing lives with the never-changing Word of God. Hear about the ups and downs, the eye-opening experiences, and the amazing opportunity that you will soon have as a called servant of Christ.

Elective 14: Lutheran Women’s Missionary Society and Supporting Missions: Jackie Hieb, Jill Doering, & Pastor Jeff Mahnke

“LWMS is women dedicated to serving Jesus by increasing awareness of, interest in, and support of the mission outreach of WELS.” Learn about the history and organization of LWMS and the many missions it supports throughout the world.

Elective 15: 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].” Explore various myths and half-truths connected to the intersection of worship, outreach, and member retention in light of recent data from both inside and outside WELS.