

February 2020 Updates, Resources, and Prayers

Any of the following items can be copied and pasted into your bulletins, newsletters, e-mails, etc. to help members learn about WELS ministry and connect with their synod.

New Hymnal from Northwestern Publishing House coming soon

Northwestern Publishing House will be introducing the NEW Christian Worship and accompanying suite of musical and liturgical resources in 2021. You can learn more about it at christianworship.com.

WELS Annual Report

The WELS Annual Report is now available. If you didn't get a hard copy, you can find all the mission and ministry updates, stories, pictures, and more online at wels.net/annualreport.

Check out the NEW *Forward in Christ* magazine

Forward in Christ, the official magazine of WELS, has relaunched for 2020.

Changes include:

- A redesigned cover and interior pages.
- Expanded Confessions of faith.
- This is WELS—photos from our readers.
- Q&A column with accompanying Bible study.
- A new website and weekly e-newsletter.

Subscribe at nph.net and check out the new website, forwardinchrist.net.

Equipping Christian Witnesses

Equipping Christian Witnesses, the new campaign from Martin Luther College, focuses on recruitment, financial aid, and facilities. By enrolling more future ministry workers, helping them fund their Christian education, and enhancing their learning environments across the campus, WELS strengthens the foundation for its future. Learn more at mlc-wels.edu/mlc-campaign.

What's happening in WELS?

Subscribe to the WELS Together e-newsletter to stay connected with the people of your synod and the ministry they serve. Also, don't miss the twice-monthly videos, expanding on important and exciting synod news.

Go to wels.net/together to read more and subscribe today.

Follow Missions on Facebook

Like the new WELS Missions Facebook page to stay up to date on news from Home and World Mission fields, read inspiring stories of the gospel at work, and take advantage of the many resources WELS Missions has to offer. Visit facebook.com/WELSMissions to get started.

Know your synod

Your Sunday offerings help support the work of WELS, but do you know how? Go to wels.net to discover stories about the many WELS world and home mission fields; explore which ministries can support you

and your congregation; enjoy daily devotions and Bible readings; and subscribe to stay up to date on the latest news from your synod. All of this and more is available on wels.net. Visit us online today and save us as a Favorite or a Bookmark!

WELS App available

Nearly 20,000 people have downloaded the WELS app to their phone or tablet to access daily devotions, WELS Missions Blogs, synod news, and more wherever they go. Get the app for free by going to wels.app in your device's web browser and "add to home screen" using your device's method.

Connecting WELS members

The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod offers many ways to connect members through social media. Join the WELS online community at facebook.com/weslutherans, twitter.com/welstweets, instagram.com/weslutherans, and vimeo.com/wels.

Prayers for February 2020

Any of the following prayers can be copied and pasted into your bulletins, newsletters, e-mails, etc. to encourage members to pray for their synod's ministry work.

February 2

Hymnal Project – Lord Jesus, you have given different gifts to the members of your body, the Church. We thank you for those with musical abilities who are compiling our new hymnal and its complementary resources. May these worship materials enhance our grasp of your Word and move our hearts in praise. Thank you, also, for the modern technology that allows us to more easily expand the use of these resources for our congregations and families. Amen.

February 9

East Asia – Satan and his allies never rest; you know this, Lord. Because many people still hate you and your Word, we have been forced to withdraw our missionaries and their families from East Asia and move them to nearby, less-hostile countries. Yet from history we have seen that persecution has helped spread your Word. We ask you, Lord, to do that again here. Be with the missions and their pastors in this time of stress. Give them strength, Lord God, to bear persecution, continue to faithfully share your gospel, and lead more souls to you. Amen.

February 16

Commission on Inter-Church Relations – Lord God, bless the WELS Commission on Inter-Church Relations as they work to preserve and strengthen the bond of confessional fellowship with church bodies already united with us and to extend the bond of fellowship with churches where we find unity in doctrine and practice. Thank you that in the past two years so many church groups from Africa, Asia, and Latin America are requesting fellowship with our synod. Continue to build your church around the world, Lord Jesus, and guide our Commission on Inter-Church Relations as it works diligently to strengthen these relationships. Amen.

February 23

Multi-Language Publications – Heavenly Father, be with our brothers and sisters in Africa as they work with WELS Multi-Language Publications to develop ministry materials in the many different languages used by the people around them. Guard the process against challenges including illnesses and armed conflict and provide sufficient resources to complete the work. May the work on these publications progress quickly for the purpose of bringing more of your people into your kingdom. Amen.