

September 2020, WELS Updates, Resources, and Prayers

Notice: Links are highlighted in purple.

Find Christian community on campus

Connect with fellow believers during your college journey. For 100 years, WELS Campus Ministry, a ministry of WELS Home Missions, has provided the resources college students need to find spiritual encouragement and community as they navigate the challenges of young adulthood. The WELS Campus Ministry Committee financially supports about 30 campus ministries and assists hundreds of other congregations. If you're in college, sign up for WELS Campus Ministry at <https://wels.net/serving-you/christian-life/campus-ministry/>.

WELS Family Devotions

Get your family into God's Word during the week! WELS has developed short devotions for the entire family to use. Each devotion comes complete with a set of questions for different age groups, a prayer, and hymn verses that can be sung or spoken. Downloadable printable versions are also available. Find the family devotions at <https://wels.net/serving-you/devotions/family-devotions/>.

Follow *Forward in Christ* on Facebook

Get more from *Forward in Christ*, the synod's official magazine, by following it on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ForwardinChristMagazine>. Join the community and join the conversation.

Have you visited wels.net lately?

Do you ever wonder how your Sunday offerings help support the work of WELS? 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 <https://wels.net/>. Visit us online today and save us as a Favorite or a Bookmark!

Connecting WELS members

Connection is more important now than ever. The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod offers many ways for members to connect through social media. Join the WELS online community at the following links:

<https://www.facebook.com/welslutherans>

twitter.com/welstweets

[instagram.com/welslutherans](https://www.instagram.com/welslutherans)

vimeo.com/wels

WELS Together e-newsletter

Stay in the loop! 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 that cover important and exciting synod news. Go to <https://wels.net/news-media/together/> to read more and subscribe today.

New Faith Care Packages from Northwestern Publishing House

Looking for ways to reconnect with loved ones during these uncertain times? Send them a Faith Care Package from NPH! Each care package features thoughtfully selected, Christ-centered books and resources for college students, aging adults, children, families, and more. NPH will ship the package directly to a loved one with the option of including a free personalized message from you. Just write your message in the comments section of your order. Discover the full collection of care packages at nph.net/carepackages!

Parents: Check out this at-home solution to Sunday school!

Now you can continue Sunday school lessons for your children from the comfort of your own home! NPH is producing a Christ-Light Remote Learning Program for grades PreK-K, 1-2, 3-4, and 5-6. This program combines Lesson Videos recorded by experienced WELS teachers available for free via YouTube and easy activities that parents can do with their children using printed Christ-Light Sunday school student lessons.

Visit nph.net/ss-at-home to order your student lesson pack, find helpful tips for getting started, meet the Sunday school teachers, and more.

Prayers for September 2020

September 6

Ministry during pandemic – Lord Jesus, we know you are always in control and that you work all things for the good of your people whom you love. Continue to remind us of this and empower us to respond with joy and boldness. Thank you for mercifully helping your people during this pandemic and giving us opportunities for reaching out and acting in Christian love. Move us to connect with people in order to serve as your witnesses. Amen.

September 13

Christian Aid and Relief – God in heaven, throughout his ministry, our Savior showed compassion for people's spiritual and physical needs. We ask that you bless our synod's new full-time director of Christian Aid and Relief, Pastor Dan Sims, with your Spirit's gifts as he begins leading this ministry of compassion. We praise you for moving your people to offer their talents, time, and treasure to assist people in storm-ravaged Iowa and the Gulf Coast. May our help to those who have experienced natural disasters or personal crises be a bridge to sharing the gospel, to explaining how the One who fulfills our greatest need is Jesus the Savior. Amen.

September 20

Kenya – Lord God, we praise you for growing your Church throughout the whole world. Thank you for bringing the Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ—Kenya church body into our fellowship and providing us the opportunity to support their enthusiastic outreach in Kenya. Give their leaders a firm footing in your Word as they teach others. May they shine the light of your love to their neighbors to bring many more people to you. Amen.

September 27

European civilian chaplain – Lord God, we pray for Rev. John Hartwig as he serves as the new WELS civilian chaplain in Europe. Even as COVID-19 has restricted visits to the military bases, provide Pastor Hartwig and his wife with ways to share your Word and to ground in their faith the military members there, most of whom are young people and who are away from home for the first time. Amen.