# March 2020 Updates, Resources, and Prayers

#### **WELS Home Missions**

WELS Home Missions is blessed to plant churches and assist mission-minded congregations in the United States, Canada, and English-speaking West Indies. Home Missions currently supports 126 congregations with financial subsidy or district mission board/mission counselor assistance, with 26 of those being cross-cultural mission congregations. Find out how WELS is reaching our neighbors right here in North America at wels.net/missions.

#### **2020 Taste of Missions**

Registration opens March 2 for the second annual Taste of Missions, held on Saturday, July 11, 2020, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon, Wis. Join WELS Missions for an afternoon of family fun, ethnic cuisine, fellowship with home and world missionaries, and MORE! Learn more at wels.net/tasteofmissions2020.

## **WELS International Youth Rally**

The WELS International Youth Rally will be held June 23-26, 2020, at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn. Registration opens March 2. At that time Contact Youth Leaders can begin preregistering members of their group. After that rallygoers will receive personalized links to finish their registration. Teens and parents, if you're interested in growing in your faith, meeting WELS members from around the country, and having fun, check out wels.net/youthrally.

## **WELS Night at Miller Park**

Tickets are on sale now for the annual WELS Night at Miller Park! Each year thousands of WELS members gather for an evening of fellowship and fun, and you can join them for the Milwaukee Brewers' game against the Pittsburgh Pirates on Fri., July 24, 2020. Game time is 7:10 p.m. The Brewers are again offering WELS members up to 50 percent off the price of tickets. Get tickets at brewers.com/wels.

# Check out 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.

## **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.

## **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.

## Have you visited wels.net lately?

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!

# **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/welslutherans, twitter.com/welstweets, instagram.com/welslutherans, and vimeo.com/wels.

# Prayers for March 2020

## March 1

Bethlehem, Richland Center, Wis. – Lord Jesus, we praise you for your victory over sin and death that we are privileged to proclaim through our actions and words. Thank you for blessing the home mission efforts of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Richland Center, Wis., so that they were able to connect with their neighbors through several years of events leading to a successful opening service. Guide them as they continue to show care to their community, teach your gospel, and plan for building a church in Richland Center. Amen.

### March 8

Grow in Grace — Lord Jesus, our Good Shepherd, we thank you for providing pastors to shepherd the congregations of our synod. Bless our efforts to provide continuing education, mentorship, and ministry resources to pastors through the Grow in Grace institute of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. Use the program to strengthen faith, encourage the discouraged, and inspire dedicated service to you. Provide the leaders of Grow in Grace with wisdom and bless them with the means necessary to ensure the program benefits everyone involved. Amen.

#### March 15

Latin America – Lord Jesus, you commanded your church to "go into all the world" with your Word. You have enabled our synod to reach many faraway places with the gospel. We thank you for blessing our efforts in Latin America through the Academia Cristo Facebook and web pages. We especially ask you to bless the new connections made with students in Paraguay who are eager to share the gospel with their countrymen. Send your Holy Spirit to open hearts and minds to your saving grace. Amen.

## March 22

WELS principals – Heavenly Father, thank you for the Lutheran school system with which you have blessed our synod to train and guide our children with your Holy Word. Bless the leaders of all our schools. We especially ask you to bestow your grace on the teachers completing their training in the 21st Century Lutheran Principal Initiative. Give them wisdom in their work and use their service to your glory and the growth of your kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

#### March 29

Northwestern Publishing House – Lord God Almighty, thank you for providing our synod with a publishing house that creates Bible study materials and devotional resources that are faithful to the Holy Scriptures. We especially praise you for the publication of Luther's Catechism, the Evangelical Heritage Version of the Bible, as well as the production of the new hymnal and all its accompanying resources. Let these tools be utilized in our congregations to honor you and to strengthen the faith of your people. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.