

August 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.

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.

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

Prayers for August 2020

August 4

Campus Ministry – Lord God, we thank you that 100 years ago your Holy Spirit guided our church body to begin campus ministries at colleges and universities in North America. Through these ministries you have blessed many of your people with Christian fellowship, encouragement, and spiritual growth. We ask you to help our congregations support campus ministries where there are opportunities. May your gospel be a light for people from all over the world who are attending these university campuses. Amen.

August 9

World Missions – God of all grace and of all people, we offer our humble thanks to you in these strange and difficult times. Thank you for keeping our world missionaries safe and healthy during this pandemic. Though many conventional modes of sharing the gospel have been limited and routes of travel have changed, you, Lord, have not changed. Nor has your powerful promise of forgiveness through Jesus. Continue to bless your churches around the world with the ability to adapt and with the eager desire to meet the needs of their communities. Let your unchanging promise of eternal pleasure and unending joy in heaven be shared with all people. In Jesus' name we ask it. Amen.

August 16

Students returning to school – Dear Savior God, we praise you for bringing us to know how you love us and have already forgiven us. As many students return to classrooms in-person or online this fall, we humbly ask you to accompany them with your Truth. May whatever way they learn this year bring many benefits to their lives and a better appreciation of your wisdom and love. Allow their study and thirst for knowledge to remain in its proper place—a tool to be used in this life—but may the earthly wisdom they gain never become a substitute for the gift of spiritual wisdom and faith in you. Preserve their faith, Lord. Guide their daily decisions. Allow them to grow in your grace and knowledge. In your name we ask this. Amen.

August 23

Home Missions – Dear Jesus, we thank you for the generous offerings you have motivated your people to give and for the faithful planning done by our district mission boards in conjunction with the WELS Board for Home Missions. Since a number of the plans for opening new home missions have been placed on hold, help us to be patient with your timing, Lord, and remind us that the good news of your love will always and only be blessed where and when you allow us to share it. Continue to bless our congregations and pastors with a mission zeal to share the good news of your rescue with every community. Amen.

August 30

Family devotions – Father, Son, and Spirit, we know that one of your most impactful blessings is your gift of the Christian home. Satan has cruelly set his sights on destroying this pillar of spiritual health and societal stability. Please bless our families and homes, Lord. Protect them from the devil's attacks and grant our families time in your Word every day. Use the family devotions created by our WELS Discipleship team as an instrument of daily healing, hope, and health, for the people of our synod. Equip them with your spiritual weapons and let your Word bring each family closer to you and to each other. Lord Jesus, we pray this in your name. Amen.