



CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES

Report to the 2019 WELS Synod in Convention

**FOR THE
GENERATIONS
TO COME**

SYNOD CONVENTION 2019



CONREGATIONAL COUNSELING

Jonathan Hein, Director
Coordinator of Congregational Services



DISCIPLESHIP

Donn Dobberstein, Director



EVANGELISM

Eric Roecker, Director



WORSHIP

Bryan Gerlach, Director



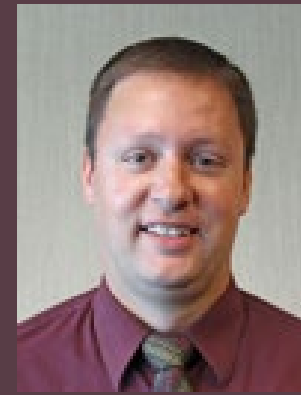
SPECIAL MINISTRIES

Jim Behringer, Director



LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

Jim Rademan, Director



LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

Tom Plitzuweit, Associate Director



LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

Cindi Holman, Coordinator of ECM

What we do

- Congregational Services works under the Conference of Presidents.
- Congregational Services provides boots-on-the-ground type counseling for congregations that request it.
- Congregational Services provides ministry resources for all WELS congregations.
- Congregational Services monitors synod trends and plans ways to capitalize on opportunities and meet challenges.

FOR THE
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SYNOD CONVENTION 2019

welscongregationalservices.net

Sign up to receive e-mail updates.



[Servant Training](#)

[Ministry Resources](#)

[Modules](#)

[Schools of](#)

[Timely Topics](#)

[Best Practices](#)

[Blog](#)



Congregational Services

The LORD said, "I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you." Genesis 17:7

[LEARN MORE](#)



WELS NATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON

LUTHERAN LEADERSHIP

WELS National Conference on Lutheran Leadership

- ❑ January 21-23, 2019, at the Sheraton Grand in Chicago
- ❑ 5 plenary sessions on macro issues
- ❑ 25 breakout options on tactical issues / “best practices”
- ❑ Cost: \$249/person (price breaks for multiple attendees)
- ❑ lutheranleadership.com



COMMISSION ON CONGREGATIONAL COUNSELING

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CONGREGATIONAL COUNSELING

- ❑ **Coordinating commission** within Congregational Services: “commonly identified needs”

- ❑ **Programs:**
 - Self-Assessment & Adjustment Program (SAA)
 - Ministry, Organization, and Staffing Evaluation (MOSE)
 - School of Strategic Planning (SSP)
 - AXIS (late spring 2020)

Circuit Pastor Partnership

- ❑ **Circuit pastors trained to help churches more proactively.**
 - Do basic SWOT analysis
 - Set some long-term goals
 - Consider the mission potential of merging / going multi-site
 - Consider when it is time to close

- ❑ **Begins this fall (October 3 – SEW)**




COMMISSION ON EVANGELISM

FOR THE
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SYNOD CONVENTION 2019

C19



congregational

evangelism

kit.

CREATING A CONGREGATIONAL

OUTREACH

CULTURE



LET'S GO!

PERSONAL WITNESS TRAINING

WELCOME

Home



Welcome Home Initiative

- An effort to go after the 155,000 WELS members who attend less than 5% a year and “welcome them home” to active church life.
- Promoted as an “every member attends” Sunday, either October 20 or October 27.
- Includes a worship series that encompasses season of End Time.
- CORE COMPONENT: Online elder training resources to deal with delinquency promptly and zealously.
- Materials on welscongregationalservices.net





COMMISSION ON DISCIPLESHIP

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DISCIPLESHIP

***WELCOME HOME* ELDER TRAINING PROGRAM**

- Video and print resources for pastors and lay leaders to use together
- Couple with *The Peter Plan* for a comprehensive elder program
- Available at welscongregationalservices.net in the “servant training” section

WELCOME
Home





1010

for

Stewardship Emphasis

3 Sunday
Emphasis

10 Week
Follow Up

Resources at

welscongregationalservices.net/10-for-10/

Future priorities

- ❑ **Family:** strengthen marriages, restore family altar, increase partnership between parents and pastor
- ❑ **Young Adults:** focus on anchoring our young people at critical stage of 14 to 24 years old
- ❑ **Member Integration:** small groups
- ❑ **Sunday School:** intentional expectations
- ❑ **Confirmation/Adult Instruction:** creative approaches for instruction





20 **VISION** 20

WELS INTERNATIONAL
YOUTH RALLY

June 23-26, 2020
Knoxville, Tennessee



Kids connection

Stay connected to Jesus!

25th Anniversary Season

* Annual bundle subscription with WELS Connection



COMMISSION ON WORSHIP

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SYNOD CONVENTION 2019

Time to start budgeting for the new hymnal

“Now already?”



- Planned resources listed in BORAM, page 147
- Introduction at National Conference on Lutheran Leadership in January 2020
- 64-page preview edition to congregations in 2020

Some projected hymnal costs

- Pew edition – approximately \$25
- “Service Builder”
 - add-on for mp3 playlist capability
 - Usage cost covers currently licensing fees (OneLicense, CCLI); Service Builder does the reporting for you
 - Stunning Capabilities (Similar product: search “cph service builder”)



COMMISSION ON LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

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SYNOD CONVENTION 2019

Challenges

- Teacher vacancies
- More than 20 principal interims or vacancies
- Approaching 20 early childhood director interims or vacancies
- Economics and society



LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

Focused work

Consulting with schools on:

- Shared resources
- Combining school ministries
- Sustainable funding and support models



LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

Focused work

Ministerial Growth and Evaluation Process Modules

- Educator growth, improved student learning
- Coaching
- Ministry development plan
- New evaluation tools



WELS Continuum of
Principal Development

June 2019

LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

Focused work

- Recruiting and training future principals and directors
- Mentoring and supporting new/interim principals/directors
- Partnering with MLC on ministry certification and principal credential



LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

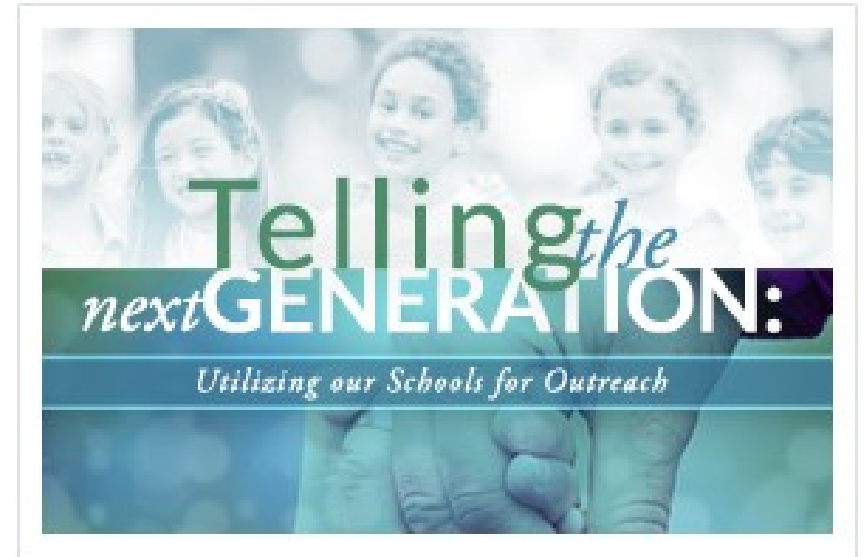
Focused work

- Accreditation – 48 site visits
WELS-wide next school year
- Revisions and adjustment to all
accreditation platforms
- Private and Parochial School
Advocacy at National and
State Levels



Focused work

- ❑ *Telling the Next Generation*
- ❑ Training and equipping district leaders





COMMISSION ON SPECIAL MINISTRIES

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SPECIAL MINISTRIES

- Compassion and outreach** – *Love in Action*
- Inclusion** – *Members with disabilities have gifts to serve within body of Christ*

SPECIAL MINISTRIES

Issues:

Referral

Safety

Vocation

Funding

Actions:

WELS.net/refer

Standing Up for Children training and policies

Chaplains, Nurses, Counselors, Volunteers

Share “Love in Action” materials

SPECIAL MINISTRIES

Compassion Ministry modules (at welscongregationalresources.net)

- Caring Congregations Bible study
- Training: Preventing Abuse at Your Church
- Recovery Friendly Churches
- Ministry to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (coming soon)



WELS

Christ's Love, Our Calling.

Prison Ministry - 25th Anniversary