


required by the synod's constitution. This notice is included below.

Request for colloquy

Stuart Wade Turner, from Bridgman, Michigan, is a 2010 graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind., and most recently a pastor in the North American Lutheran Church. He now is a WELS member and has requested a colloquy for the purpose of serving in the pastoral ministry of WELS. Correspondence related to this request should be sent by Aug. 10 to Michigan District President, Rev. John Seifert, 907 Mattes Drive, Midland MI 48642; pastorjohnseifert@gmail.com 

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WELS has a Facebook page?
facebook.com/welslutherans

WELS has Twitter?
twitter.com/welstweets

WELS has Instagram?
instagram.com/welslutherans

WELS has an app?
WELS offers a mobile application for the iOS and Android cell phone platforms. Get the WELS Mobile app at iTunes and Google Play.



To sign up for the e-mail version, visit wels.net/together.

TOGETHER



July 19, 2016

WELS Archives construction nearing completion

Work on preparing the space that will house the WELS Archives is progressing well. The remodeling of the area on the lower level of the Center for Mission and Ministry, Waukesha, Wis., is scheduled to be completed by the end of July. Once construction is completed, the shelving and furniture for the archives space will be installed. The actual move of the historical documents, books, and artifacts from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary will begin in September. The move will not only free up needed space at the seminary, but it will also place the archives into a climate controlled environment that will help to preserve the collection.

Another feature of the newly created space will be a visitor center. The center will be the first place that visitors will see when they tour the Center for Mission and Ministry. Using video and displays, the center will offer an overview of the synod's history as well as give visitors a glimpse of the various ministries carried out by the synod.

Susan Willems, the new WELS archivist, has begun the task of sorting and classifying the archives material and making plans for the move. Willems is well qualified for the task, having worked in the archives department at the University of Denver. She is a graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran College and earned her Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of Denver in 2013.

Once completed, this project will carry out the resolutions of at least three synod conventions, which called for the relocation of the synod archives to a suitable new home.

Serving in Christ,
President Mark Schroeder 

Supporting humanitarian aid work in missions

Each year, WELS Christian Aid and Relief distributes humanitarian aid funds offered by God's people expressing Christian love for others in need. The aid provides clean

water, medical care, life skills classes, basic needs, and more for people around the world and in the U.S.

Rev. Bob Hein, chairman of WELS Christian Aid and Relief, says,

“This used to be exclusively World Missions projects, and now more and more of the Home Mission fields, especially in cross-cultural situations, are bringing us projects as a way to reach other cultures.”


This year, funding is being provided to churches in Las Vegas, Toronto, Chicago, and Texas that have or are developing programs to help immigrants as they settle in the U.S.

Hope Lutheran in Toronto, Canada, for example, operates the Hope food bank and offers humanitarian assistance to newcomers in its neighborhood. This can take the form of food, rental help, and assistance with other matters pertaining to their transition into the area. This project helps Hope Lutheran open the door to share the gospel with new families in the area.

Hein says, “They’re all just trying to find a way to bridge the gap to reach people in other cultures, and there’s so many humanitarian needs in those communities.”

Around the world, humanitarian aid enables access to new and emerging fields, even in places where WELS doesn’t or can’t have missionaries. And it is a show of good will to areas where a WELS presence might be a risk.

“Christian Aid and Relief can be at the front lines. When we’re reaching an emerging field, we have some humanitarian aid to show that we care,” says Hein.

To view the entire list of humanitarian aid projects supported by WELS Christian Aid and Relief, visit wels.net/humanitarian-aid. 

WELS Hmong conference uplifts members

More than 165 attendees and their children gathered around the Word at the WELS Hmong National Conference, held July 8-10 at Immanuel Hmong, St. Paul, Minn. Hmong pastors and laymembers from congregations in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kansas, Alaska, California, and even the WELS mission in Thailand strengthened their faith through worship and Bible study and learned more about each other’s ministries.

“The encouraging moment is when I see members who live in places where we do not have a church or the church is very small come and see that we have many people worshiping and praising the Lord,” says Rev. Pheng Moua, pastor at Immanuel Hmong and conference planner. “The gathering is uplifting to the members and will encourage their walk with Jesus Christ.”


Moua started this conference about ten years ago at his church. It usually is held every other year, sponsored by the larger WELS Hmong congregations.

“We do not want our members to hunger and envy what other church bodies can cater to their members,” says Moua. “When we are surrounded with our own people, we teach our members that we can be united to nurture and teach our people to become a strong church body.”

Worldwide in WELS, 25 Hmong pastors serve eight ministries in the

United States and 15 congregations and preaching stations in Thailand and the surrounding area.


“It is a blessing to gather with fellow Christians to receive their support, since the Hmong culture and many Hmong are anti-Christian,” says Rev. Keith Free, Home Mission administrator and conference attendee. “I believe it helps to re-energize their desire and commitment to sharing the Word.”

The next Hmong National Conference will be held in 2018. Home Missions and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary also are sponsoring an Asian Conference for pastors and spiritual leaders in October at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wis. 

Ticket deadline is Friday for WELS Night at Miller Park

There is still time to join thousands of WELS members for the third annual WELS Night at Miller Park. Organize your group and plan to join us for the Milwaukee Brewers’ game against the Pittsburgh Pirates on Fri., July 29. Game time is 7:10 p.m. Dr. Dan Johnson, president of Wisconsin Lutheran College, Milwaukee, Wis., will be throwing out the ceremonial first pitch. Mr. Brian Davison, member of Koiné, will be singing the National Anthem. “More than 2,000 tickets have already been sold for this year’s game, and during this final week of ticket sales that number will likely increase dramatically,” says Mr. Lee Hitter, WELS director of communications.

Prior to the game WELS President Mark Schroeder, along with representatives from Wisconsin Lutheran College, Milwaukee, Wis.; Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minn.; and Northwestern Publishing House, will form a welcoming committee as buses unload hundreds of WELS members from congregations throughout the Midwest. The meet-and-greet event will be held in the Brewers’ bus parking lot.

The Brewers are again offering WELS members up to 50 percent off the price of tickets. Seating will be along the third base line and in a block for WELS members. The pricing is Field Outfield Box for \$21/ ticket, Loge Outfield Box for \$17/ ticket, or Terrace Reserved for \$9/ ticket. The ticket service fee will be waived for groups of 20+ if you contact WELS member Jason Fry at 414-902-4516 or jason.fry@brewers.com. The deadline to purchase tickets is Fri., July 22. 

Request for colloquy – July 2016

A former North American Lutheran Church pastor now living in the Michigan District has requested a colloquy so he can become a pastor in WELS.

A colloquy is an in-depth interview with a pastor who has left another church body due to its false teaching or practice and who now wants to serve as a WELS pastor.

Formal notice to the WELS constituency of a colloquy request is