


## A Savior is born!

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**F**amilies will gather. Congregations will join in worship. Children will sing songs of praise. As Christmas approaches, it's my confident prayer that God grant you and your loved ones a blessed and joyful celebration of our Savior's birth!

Go to [wels.net/together](http://wels.net/together) to view a special Christmas message from WELS President Mark Schroeder. 

## Luther movie to stream on Netflix

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**A** *Return to Grace: Luther's Life and Legacy*, the Martin Luther film produced by Boettcher+Trinklein Television, Inc., for the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, will continue to share the history and truths of the Reformation to an even broader audience.

The PBS version of the film (*Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World*) will begin streaming on Netflix on Jan. 1, 2018.

"The Lord has richly blessed this film project," says Mr. Lee Hitter, director of WELS Communication Services. "The Luther film has been seen by hundreds of thousands of people, with more than 1,000 screenings at local theaters, a national audience in a PBS showing that doubled its normal viewership, Marcus Corporation agreeing to show the film to a general audience in every

theater they own in eight states, and now a two-year run on Netflix."

The filmmakers have worked with Netflix to localize the production by adding subtitles and foreign language dubbing to ensure maximum viewership. Netflix has more than 110 million subscribers in 190 countries.

DVDs of *A Return to Grace* are also still available for purchase at [nph.net](http://nph.net). 

## MLC invites public to Evangelism Day

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**M**artin Luther College (MLC), New Ulm, Minn., will be hosting its 13th annual Evangelism Day on Jan. 10, 2018. This year, for the first time, MLC has scheduled evening workshops that the public is invited to attend.

Rev. Mike Hintz, director of WELS Evangelism, says, "When this


special program was planned in 2005, the emphasis was to raise evangelism awareness and provide encouragement and guidance for future called workers of our church to fulfill their calling as evangelists of Christ. Evangelism Day at MLC continues to serve this important purpose.”

Mrs. Michelle Gartner, event coordinator at MLC, adds, “Each year in January MLC students are inspired by dynamic presenters from around our synod on Evangelism Day. We hope that by adding Evangelism Day evening sessions we will give our area members the opportunity to take part in these presentations to inspire them to find ways to do outreach within their communities.”

Evening sessions begin at 4 p.m. and end at 8:30 p.m. with breaks for dinner and a chapel service. Four different workshops will be offered in multiple time slots throughout the evening.

Rev. Mike Geiger, Cross and Crown, Georgetown, Tex., will present “Defending Your Faith: Being prepared to give a reason for the hope we have.” Mr. Jim Rademan, director of the WELS Commission on Lutheran Schools, will speak on “Advancing Strategies for Connecting More People with the Ministry of the Word.” Also from Lutheran Schools, National Coordinator of Early Childhood Ministries Mrs. Cindi Holman will present “Outreach through Early Childhood.” And, Rev. Jon Enter, Divine Savior, West Palm Beach, Fla., will lead a presentation about

“Transformed: Equipping Youth Leaders,” a program to help congregations implement youth ministries.

For a detailed schedule and to register, visit [mlc-wels.edu](http://mlc-wels.edu). 

## New movie focuses on outreach

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**F**ilming starts in January for the final movie in a series of four outreach movies that are a collaboration between WELS Commission on Evangelism, Northwestern Publishing House, WELS Multi-Language Publications, and Boettcher+Trinklein Television, Inc.

Rev. Mike Hintz, director of WELS Evangelism, says that while the first three movies—*Road to Emmaus*, *Come Follow Me*, and *My Son, My Savior*—focused on the life and ministry of Jesus, the final movie will follow the apostle Paul and his work in Philippi. “Our goal for this movie is to show in a dramatic way how the gospel is spread into the world following the command of Jesus and to show how it impacted people’s lives,” says Hintz.


The title, *To the Ends of the Earth*, is taken directly from Jesus’ command to his disciples at his Ascension: “You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

The goal is to complete the movie by the end of summer 2018 in time for congregations to use the film

and accompanying materials in the fall for a special mission emphasis Sunday.

Hintz says the movie would not be possible except for funding help from Church Mutual Insurance Company Foundation; WELS Foundation’s Shared Blessings donor advised fund; Multi-Language Publications; and gifts from groups, congregations, and individuals.

“In the end, the movie is to help us see that this continues to be a wonderful privilege for us to continue this work of sharing the Word so that many more can come to faith,” say Hintz.

The other outreach movies—*Road to Emmaus*, *Come Follow Me*, and *My Son, My Savior*—have had more than a million viewers through TV, DVDs, and online media and have been translated into a dozen different languages. All three movies are still available from Northwestern Publishing House, [nph.net](http://nph.net). Right now there also is a limited time offer of free shipping on quantity orders of *My Son, My Savior*. Learn more at [MySonMySavior.com](http://MySonMySavior.com). 

### Clarification

The last “Together” included a report about the latest meeting between WELS/ELS and the Church of the Lutheran Confession. That report stated:

“Also in November, representatives of WELS and the ELS met with

counterparts from the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC). The CLC was formed in the 1950s when a number of congregations left the Wisconsin Synod because they believed that the synod was not acting quickly enough to break fellowship with the Missouri Synod.”

A better and more accurate way to describe the reason why congregations and individuals left the synod would be to state that “they were of the conviction that the Wisconsin Synod was not acting in accordance with the scriptural principles articulated in Romans 16:17.”

### Did you know...

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**WELS has Twitter?**  
[twitter.com/welstweets](http://twitter.com/welstweets)

**WELS has Instagram?**  
[instagram.com/welslutherans](http://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](http://wels.net/together).