



You are the body of Christ, and
individually you are members of it.

—
1 CORINTHIANS 12:27

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KRIS SNYDER, CONFERENCE COORDINATOR

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2022 NOTES

UNITED IN CHRIST

**YOU ARE
THE BODY OF
CHRIST, AND
INDIVIDUALLY
YOU ARE
MEMBERS
OF IT.**

1 CORINTHIANS 12:27

AS YOU CHOOSE SECTIONALS

1. Sectionals are grouped into the following categories (then sorted by presenter's last name) on pages 8–35: administration, art, athletics/PE, early childhood, exceptional education, general, language arts, management/motivational, math, music, religion/spiritual growth, science, social studies, and technology. Since some hit several categories, presenters have also noted the categories for their sectionals.
2. In response to requests for more content, we are adding back in a sectional time on Friday. Some sectionals are offered during all three sectional time slots (A, B, and C). Some are not. Sectional times are listed with each section's title.
 - A: 1:30–2:30 p.m. Thursday
 - B: 2:45–3:45 p.m. Thursday
 - C: 10:45–11:45 a.m. Friday
 - AB: 1:30–3:45 p.m. Thursday
3. Besides the title, summary, and speaker information, additional details are provided to assist you in choosing your sectionals:
 - WELS Teaching Standards (see page 5)
 - Rubric for audience participation (see page 5)
 - Applicable grade levels
 - Categories (as assigned by the presenters)

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION PIECES

1. Vote online for WLSTC committee members (see pages 36–38 for candidates and bios).
2. Choose to purchase lunch served at WLHS on Thursday. Back by popular demand, this year's menu is chicken taco bar with your choice of tortillas or a salad and toppings (tomatoes, onions, salsa, shredded cheese, sour cream, black olives, and jalapenos), rice, refried beans, and churros.
3. See an opportunity for early childhood educators to participate in The Registry (see page 5).

All registrations must be completed online at www.wlstc.org
Registration runs September 8–October 19, 2022

REGISTER EARLY TO SECURE YOUR PREFERRED SECTIONALS
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 19!

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

WLSTC 2022 | OCTOBER 27-28

UNITED IN CHRIST

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27		FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28	
7:00 AM	Registration Begins; Displays Open	7:30 AM	Displays Open
8:30 AM	Opening Worship	8:15 AM	Opening Devotion & Announcements, Raffle
9:45 AM	Reports & Announcements	8:55 AM	Spiritual Growth Keynote: Rev. Jonathan Hein
~	Break	9:55 AM	WELS Shepherd Plan Presentation
10:15 AM	Professional Growth Keynote: Myron Dueck	10:15 AM	Break
11:45 AM	Lunch (on your own) & Visit Displays	10:45 AM	Single C Sectionals
1:30-2:30 PM	Single A Sectionals	11:50 AM	Closing Devotion, Professional Growth Certificate Distribution
2:45-3:45 PM	Single B Sectionals		
1:30-3:45 PM	Double AB Sectionals		
3:50	Closing Devotion		
4:30 PM	Displays Close		

CONFERENCE PARKING

As in the past, all two-hour parking restrictions will be lifted on Glenview (84th) and Honey Creek Parkway. In nearby subdivisions, pay attention to any posted no-parking signs. Please do not park in the Pick 'n Save/ Starbucks lot. As guests we want to represent WLHS well and be good neighbors.

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

330 N. Glenview Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53213

ITEMS TO CONSIDER

WLSTC 2022 | OCTOBER 27–28

RUBRIC FOR AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Low Participation: 0–30% interactive. Presentation is primarily speaker led, limited breakout discussion and/or active participation.

Moderate Participation: 30–60% interactive. Presentation is balanced between speaker and group discussion, several opportunities for breakout discussion and/or active participation.

High Participation: 60–100% interactive. Presenter serves as facilitator; the majority of time is spent in breakout discussion and/or active participation.

WELS TEACHING STANDARDS

Click on the above link or search online for the WELS Teaching Standards.

THE REGISTRY

For the ninth year, WLSTC will be offering certificates from The Registry for early childhood educators. The Registry is Wisconsin's recognition system for the child care and education professions. It acknowledges and highlights the training, experience, and professionalism that are vital for quality care and education. Members of the conference who make use of The Registry can receive documentation through certificates verifying their attendance at the conference keynotes and sectionals that they attend. Please note that receiving documentation through The Registry is pending their approval. The Registry is an excellent resource for storing the documentation as well as receiving professional development that has been approved by The Registry.

Those conference members who would like to receive credit for WLSTC through The Registry should check the box during online registration. This will add \$8 to registration to cover the work necessary to register WLSTC and its sectionals for credit for each individual as well as personalizing and providing the certificates. If you have any questions, please direct them to the conference Registry coordinator, [Tim Mueller](mailto:registry@wlstc.org) (registry@wlstc.org).

In order to receive credit through The Registry:

1. Check The Registry box during WLSTC registration and pay the \$8 fee.
2. The WLSTC Registry Coordinator will request approval for each individual attendee's specific sectional choices and then personalize a certificate and email it to each individual following the conference.
3. Each individual must send the certificate to The Registry to apply it to his or her account.

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH KEYNOTE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27 AT 10:15 AM

FAILING IS AN OPTION

Space Travel, Music Icons, and Harnessing the Power of “Desirable Difficulties”

MYRON DUECK

Legendary NASA Flight Director Mr. Gene Kranz famously declared that “failure is not an option” while engineering the safe return of the *Apollo 13* crew. Though this approach is essential when lives hang in the balance, it may not be the mantra to adopt when designing deeper learning experiences for our students. Recent research suggests that creativity and understanding are the silver lining of struggle. Furthermore, bands like the Beatles, who took great artistic risks, ended up fundamentally changing modern music. Surprisingly, immediate feedback models and instant performance measurements can actually be misinterpreted as true student understanding, while our own life experiences suggest that difficulty, uncertainty, and mistakes provide the canvas for long-term memory. This keynote will make the case that if we want to increase student learning and promote competencies such as critical thinking and problem-solving, we need to embrace modes of inquiry, risk, and exploration in which failing is certainly an option.



During his 24 years of teaching and administration, Myron has developed numerous grading, assessment, and reporting systems with his classes in which students have greater opportunity to show what they understand, adapt to feedback, and play a significant role in the reporting of their learning. Myron incorporates his practitioner and leadership experience as he shares his stories, tools, and firsthand experiences with educators around the world. Recently his presentations have diverged to include global education trends and change.

*Myron’s published work includes numerous journal articles and his best-selling book, *Grading Smarter, Not Harder—Assessment Strategies That Motivate Kids and Help Them Learn* (ASCD, 2014). His second book, *Giving Students a Say! Smarter Assessment Practices to Empower and Engage*, was released in January 2021. Videos include a project based in his own school district, *Smarter Assessment in the Secondary Classroom*, and *Ask Them*.*

Myron lives in Summerland, BC, Canada, with his family and was serving as vice principal and teaching a class for Summerland Secondary during the COVID pandemic. He has since been reinstated as vice principal for communicating student learning in his local school district—Okanagan-Skaha 67.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH KEYNOTE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28 AT 8:55 AM

SHAPING A CULTURE OF UNITY

REV. JONATHAN HEIN

An organization's culture includes the collective thought habits of those who work in that organization. And culture is vital. A congregation's culture explains why that church and school do what they do (or, possibly why the church and school don't do what they should do). It is impossible to overstate how important healthy congregational culture is. There is an old business adage: "culture eats strategy for breakfast." That simply means if the culture of an organization is not strong, it does not make any difference how good a plan is in place. The plan won't be well executed. The organization is going to struggle.



St. Paul writes, "May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 15:5,6). He prays that God would shape our culture: our attitudes and thoughts. Paul says one of the benefits is that it will lead to unity: one mind and one voice as we all work at one mission.

In this presentation, we will look at the importance of congregational culture. We will see how it will inevitably shape all ministry within the church, school, and preschool, either positively or negatively. We will see "the attitude of mind" God would have each of us possess. Finally, we will discuss the vital role that called workers play in shaping their congregation's culture.

Jonathan Hein serves as coordinator for WELS Congregational Services and as director of WELS Commission on Congregational Counseling. He has personally worked with over 130 congregations, helping them assess and plan their ministry. Prior to working for WELS, Jonathan started two congregations in South Carolina. As chairman of the South Atlantic District Mission Board, he oversaw the planting of another dozen congregations. Jonathan is married to Rebecca, a teacher at Trinity Lutheran in Waukesha, WI. They have two sons: Caleb, who works in finance, and Joshua, who serves in our nation's air force.

ADMINISTRATION

Sectional CO1

Creating a Collaborative Faculty Environment

Brett Baade

This sectional aims to explore methods and strategies school leaders can implement to create a positive and healthy faculty working environment that focuses on utilizing the gifts and abilities of the called workers in your ministry.

Brett Baade serves as director of Christian education at Christ-St.Peter, Milwaukee.

WELS Teaching Standard: 10

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to all grade levels

Category: Administration

Sectionals AO2 or BO2

Applying Your Assessment Philosophy

Andrew Baxter and Brett Baade

This sectional is designed to assist school leaders in applying their school's assessment philosophy and to provide pathways to create buy-in from various stakeholder groups. Attendees will leave with practical steps to align their assessment philosophy with their school's assessment practices.

Andrew Baxter serves as principal at St. Lucas, Milwaukee. Brett Baade serves as director of Christian education at Christ-St.Peter, Milwaukee.

WELS Teaching Standards: 7, 8

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to all grade levels

Category: Administration

Questions?

Contact Kris Snyder

kris.snyder@wels.net • 414-527-6854

Double Sectional ABO3

Building a Foundation to Reach Your Community

Dana Kirchoff

Our schools grow only with God's blessing. As we seek to reach more people, many opportunities present themselves to aid our earthly efforts: marketing plans, branding (and rebranding), strategic planning, social media, new websites, Google ads, enrollment funnels, demographic studies, program development, retention strategies, open houses, community networking... to name just a few. How do you know where to start? What are the best uses of your ministry's precious resources . . . and your precious time? And which items are really necessary to reach more people?

This presentation will . . .

1. Break down the six foundational needs of reaching families in your community.
2. Prioritize those needs to guide decisions and resource allocation.
3. Identify the concrete steps to meet each foundational need.

Participants will walk away with a clear understanding of where to start, what to spend, and how to build a strong foundation for reaching their communities.

A graduate of MLC, Dana Kirchoff began her career as a WELS teacher, continued as a freelance writer and marketer, and later used both experiences in her role as vice president of marketing and growth at Divine Savior Ministries. Now Dana helps ministries reach more people in their communities through strategic planning, marketing, and program development. Learn more at www.danamkirchoff.com, on Instagram (@dana_m_kirchoff), Facebook (/danamkirchoff), or LinkedIn.

WELS Teaching Standard: 10

Audience Participation Level: Low

Applies to all grade levels

Categories: Administration, Management/
Motivational

ADMINISTRATION

SECTIONALS

A: 1:30–2:30 p.m. Thurs.

B: 2:45–3:45 p.m. Thurs.

C: 10:45–11:45 a.m. Fri.

AB: 1:30–3:45 p.m. Thurs.



Sectional A04 or C04

Creating a Formative School Culture

John Meyer, PhD

It makes sense to stick with what works, but there is a fine line between time-honored traditions and ruts. Successful schools inspire reflection and growth and help students take responsibility for their own learning. This sectional helps school leaders develop cultures that thrive on professional collaboration, organizational learning, and trust.

John Meyer is the director of graduate studies and continuing education at MLC. His graduate studies together with 34 years of leadership in Lutheran schools have contributed to his understanding of learning-centered school cultures.

WELS Teaching Standard: 9

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to school leadership

Category: Administration

Sectional A05 or B05

The Blessings That Come From Effective Faculty Communication

Dr. Cindy Whaley

What is effective communication? This sectional defines, discusses, and identifies ways to effectively communicate with faculty members. It also explores the multitude of people who will be blessed through effective faculty communication.

Cindy Whaley is a professor of education at MLC. She taught for 15 years in two different schools in Wisconsin before coming to MLC. She taught in multi-grade settings from grades 1 through 6. At MLC she teaches courses in curriculum and instruction and literacy methods to undergraduates and a graduate assessment course in the MLC master's program. She also coordinates MLC's public school clinical and student teaching placements, the postbaccalaureate licensure program, and is the edTPA coordinator and licensure officer. Dr. Whaley is president of the Southwest Minnesota Reading Council and serves as MLC's chief institutional representative for the MN Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.

WELS Teaching Standards: 6, 9, 10

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to administration, but all are welcome

Categories: Administration, General

ART



Sectional B06

Engaging Learners With Visual Thinking Strategies

Beth Dobberstein

Participants will learn how to use art images to implement visual thinking strategies that invite critical thinking.

Beth Dobberstein has taught visual art for over 20 years, including workshops at the National Gallery of Art. She currently serves as an adjunct instructor for MLC while pursuing her PhD in urban education with a focus in curriculum and administration leadership.

WELS Teaching Standards: 3, 5, 6, 7

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to all grade levels

Categories: Art, Social Studies, Language Arts

ATHLETICS/PE

SECTIONALS

A: 1:30–2:30 p.m. Thurs.

B: 2:45–3:45 p.m. Thurs.

C: 10:45–11:45 a.m. Fri.

AB: 1:30–3:45 p.m. Thurs.



Sectional A08 or B08

Let's Move! Standards and Guidelines for PE

Rachel Kuehl

Attendees will have the opportunity to consider the latest physical education national standards and ACSM physical activity requirements for children ages 3K through grade 8. Evidence, resources, and activity ideas will be shared. Let's promote lifelong health through early movement!

Rachel Kuehl has worked at WLC for 25 years. She is the inaugural and current head of the sport and exercise science program that began in 2011. This program was the first undergraduate exercise science program in the state of WI to receive initial accreditation from CAAHEP in January 2022. She is the former head of the physical education (coaching minor) program, former head volleyball coach, and former head softball coach at WLC. She also served as head varsity volleyball coach for Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School, earning state championship titles in 2007 and 2012. Rachel earned her MS in kinesiology from Texas Woman's University in 2010. Her current research involves jump analysis in collegiate volleyball. Her main academic focuses are the introductory courses, exercise physiology, and undergraduate student research.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10

Audience Participation Level: Low

Applies to all grade levels

Category: Athletics/PE

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Double Sectional ABO9 EC Math—Make It Count!

Amanda Berg

In this sectional, we will take a look at research, standards, milestones, and developmental indicators for early childhood math. We will discuss some curriculum supports, resources, songs, apps, centers, games, and more. We will work cooperatively to share ideas and information on best practices and successes in our own classrooms. This workshop will be a mix of presentation, small group work, resources sharing, and networking as we build our math arsenal for EC education.

Amanda Berg has been teaching for 20+ years. She graduated from MLC with elementary and EC degrees and became licensed in both EC and elementary in MN and WI. She has been a director and or teacher in preprimary EC education as well as kindergarten. She served as the EC district coordinator in MN for several years and has been a mentor in multiple EC leadership cohorts and has mentored a director apprentice. She is currently serving at St. Philip's, Milwaukee, as the K4/K5 teacher and is the EC committee chair for WISCO conference. She gets excited connecting with other teachers and working to improve practices to better meet the needs of our young students.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 10

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to early childhood

Categories: Math, Early Childhood

Sectional A10 or B10 or C10 Expanding Your Read-Alouds

Erin Dooley

We know the importance of reading to students for language development, but read-alouds can be used for many more areas of development than just language. Come learn how to expand your read-aloud books to help students develop prewriting, writing, social, and emotional skills. You'll leave with lesson plans and hard copies to expand on three books in your class library and the knowledge to stretch other read-aloud books in your repertoire.

Erin Dooley has taught K4 at St. Marcus, Milwaukee, for five years. Erin is a 2016 graduate of MLC with a degree in early childhood education. Erin lives in Milwaukee with her husband, Dylan.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 7

Audience Participation Level: Low

Applies to preK through kindergarten

Category: Early Childhood

REGISTER EARLY TO SECURE YOUR PREFERRED SECTIONALS
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 19!

EARLY CHILDHOOD

SECTIONALS

- A:** 1:30–2:30 p.m. Thurs.
- B:** 2:45–3:45 p.m. Thurs.
- C:** 10:45–11:45 a.m. Fri.
- AB:** 1:30–3:45 p.m. Thurs.



Sectional B12

Best Practices in an Early Childhood Ministry

Cindi Holman

Early childhood ministries are an amazing opportunity to share the gospel and to provide excellence in care and education for young children. Let's look together at some best practices that can lead to a ministry focused, high quality early childhood ministry as we all seek to "tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD" (Psalm 78:4).

Cindi Holman is humbled to serve as the early childhood coordinator with the Commission on Lutheran Schools. That role includes support and encouragement for WELS early childhood ministries and those who serve in them. She has experience as a classroom teacher and a passion for the ministry opportunities early childhood ministries provide.

WELS Teaching Standards: 5, 10

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to early childhood

Category: Early Childhood

Questions?

Contact Kris Snyder

kris.snyder@wels.net • 414-527-6854

EARLY CHILDHOOD



Sectional A13 or B13

Baking Buddies in the Classroom

Sharon Klopf and Anne Meyer

This sectional is designed to give you some new and fun ideas you can incorporate into your Bible lessons and alphabet time using cooking, baking, and other culinary activities. We will share ideas and recipes along with a few make-and-takes (“eats”). Come and join us for this delicious way to teach your little chefs.

Sharon Klopf and Anne Meyer are currently 3K teachers at St. Paul’s, Muskego. Anne has been serving in the ECM for the last 20 years. Sharon has been with St. Paul’s for the last 14 years. They both have a special place in their hearts for the ECM and have been recently synod certified.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to early childhood

Categories: Early Childhood, Science, Art, Math, Religion/Spiritual Growth

Sectional A14 or B14 or C14

Discipline and Logic in a 3K Classroom

Stephanie Nocella

Face it—teaching 3s and 4s can be rough. This workshop will focus on how one teacher uses concepts from Love and Logic in the classroom to help with discipline and teaching the children how to make wise, safe choices. While not a certified Love and Logic instructor, Stephanie is an enthusiast of Love and Logic and applies the concepts in her classroom.

Stephanie Nocella is the 3K lead teacher at Redeemer Learning Center in Tomahawk. She graduated from MLC (2013) with a degree in elementary education and is taking courses to complete her ECE degree. She and her husband, Michael, reside in Tomahawk with their children, ages 7, 3, and 11 months.

WELS Teaching Standards: 2, 3, 5, 6

Audience Participation Level: Low

Applies to early childhood

Categories: Early Childhood, Management/Motivational

EARLY CHILDHOOD

SECTIONALS

- A:** 1:30–2:30 p.m. Thurs.
- B:** 2:45–3:45 p.m. Thurs.
- C:** 10:45–11:45 a.m. Fri.
- AB:** 1:30–3:45 p.m. Thurs.



Double Sectional AB15

Classroom Management Tips and Tricks in ECE

Monica Quinnett

Are your days feeling chaotic in preschool? Do you find yourself losing control during group activities, carpet time, and whole group? Young children love to talk! In this sectional, different classroom management tips and tricks will be shared. From finger plays, songs, classroom setup ideas, and more, you're sure to leave feeling more in control of even the most chaotic times in an ECE classroom. Bring your favorite classroom management ideas to share with the group!

Monica Quinnett graduated from MLC in 2016 with a bachelor's in early childhood education. She wanted to be an ECE teacher since she was in kindergarten! Her husband graduated from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in 2020 and was assigned to St. John's, Watertown. She teaches 4K there.

WELS Teaching Standard: 5

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to early childhood

Categories: Early Childhood, Management/Motivational

CELEBRATING AN ANNIVERSARY IN THE MINISTRY?

Be sure to register early so we can include your name in the conference program.

**Note your 25th or 40th anniversary
during registration.**

EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION



Sectional C16

Add American Sign Language to Your Curriculum—Let Your Hands Do the Talking!

Matthew Buchholz and Ben Olson

Limited to 20 people

Attendees in this workshop will be presented methods of teaching American Sign Language (ASL) to elementary students. The content includes the manual alphabet, numbers, and basic rudimentary ASL vocabulary. Methods of teaching ASL include games and interactions with students and teachers to learn ASL basics. Learning ASL improves hand-eye coordination, boosts motivation, and increases understanding for visual learners.

Matthew Buchholz and Ben Olson have served on the MDHH Committee since mid-2000 doing various projects. Both are ASL teachers in a high school setting in the greater Twin Cities area. Matthew completed an online certification from MLC in order to teach ASL online at MLC. Ben is a certified interpreter who interprets professionally for his congregation and in other settings. Ben stays busy going to his sons' sporting events.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to grades K–5

Category: Exceptional Education

Sectional A17

Learning Disabilities

Amanda Dobberstein

This sectional will include a discussion about what a language disability is and offer some ideas of how to help students within the classroom.

Amanda Dobberstein is a speech-language pathologist with 22 years of experience working with pediatrics in early intervention and school settings. She lives in Lake Mills and works at Crown of Life Academy, Fort Atkinson.

WELS Teaching Standards: 2, 3, 8

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to early childhood, grades 1–4

Category: Exceptional Education

EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION

SECTIONALS

A: 1:30–2:30 p.m. Thurs.

B: 2:45–3:45 p.m. Thurs.

C: 10:45–11:45 a.m. Fri.

AB: 1:30–3:45 p.m. Thurs.



Sectional A18 or B18

Special Education in Our Private Schools

Professor Kelli L. Green

This sectional will overview important definitions, terms, and processes including: child find, prereferral, referral, eligibility criteria, the special education process, and planning and evaluating accommodations and modifications. A legal overview of the special education process that navigates federal and state laws, policies, funding streams, and building a positive relationship with your local public school will be discussed. Resources will be provided for future reference.

Kelli L. Green is a professor at MLC. She holds licensure in K–12 learning disabilities, emotional behavioral disorders, and administration of special education. With 21 years of teaching experience as a WELS classroom teacher and public special educator, the Lord gave Kelli a passion for serving educators.

WELS Teaching Standards: 2, 3, 6, 10

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to grades K–12

Category: Exceptional Education

Sectional C19

Differentiation for Real Classrooms (UDL & DI)

Professor Kelli L. Green

This sectional connects the classroom teacher's grade level and content expertise and background knowledge of differentiated instruction with universal design for learning (UDL). You will gain practical ways to integrate the foundations of UDL, differentiation, and formal accommodations into your classroom instructional and environmental practices. You will be engaged individually and within small group discussion and creation.

Kelli L. Green is a professor at MLC. She holds licensure in K–12 learning disabilities, emotional behavioral disorders, and administration of special education. With 21 years of teaching experience as a WELS classroom teacher and public special educator, the Lord gave Kelli a passion for serving educators.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to grades K–12

Categories: Exceptional Education, General, Management/Motivational

EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION



Sectional A20 or B20 or C20

Poverty's Effect on Learning

Dan Johnson

One in ten students in Wisconsin live below the poverty line. Living in this way often puts students at a disadvantage. In this sectional, learn some ways in which poverty affects our students on a daily basis. What can we as teachers do to help mitigate this disadvantage?

Dan Johnson graduated from MLC in 2003 and received his master's from MLC in 2017. He has taught at Mt. Lebanon, Milwaukee, since 2013. He has spent 15 out of 20 years of teaching in high poverty areas.

WELS Teaching Standards: 3, 7, 8

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to all grade levels

Categories: Exceptional Education, General, Management/Motivational

Sectional A21 or B21

Universal Design for Learning (UDL): Designing With ALL Learners in Mind

Dr. Kari A. Munte

In this sectional, educators actively analyze and examine their curriculum and instructional decision-making process to understand how the UDL framework delivers an equitable education for meeting the needs of a diverse group of learners. Throughout the sectional, future classroom applications center on how our instructional decisions create learning barriers, how, when applying UDL principles, those barriers are minimized or eliminated, and how UDL and culturally responsive teaching work together to ensure all students become expert learners.

Kari A. Munte serves as a professor of social studies education at MLC. She earned a PhD in learning, teaching, and curriculum with an emphasis in social studies education from the University of Missouri. Her scholarship focuses on UDL, culturally responsive pedagogy, and inclusive practices and education.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to grades K–8

Categories: Exceptional Education, General, Technology, Management/Motivational

GENERAL

Sectional A22

The Value of a Target—How One Educator Embraced Learning Targets in His Classroom

Myron Dueck

Common Core (CCSS), NGSS, C3, AERO, and many other curricular learning outcomes have “arrived,” and with them educators are tasked with reexamining the focus of learning. In this session, the presenter will discuss the importance of targets, while focusing on the vital role that targets play in learning. If applicable to the location, a short history of the origins of CCSS will be provided so that audience members will have a better understanding of “how did we get here?” The presenter will lay out how he incorporated CCSS/NGSS/C3-style learning outcomes into the day-to-day routines of his own classroom. Student responses to learning targets will be presented as well as a selection of projects that resulted from them. Accurate data around the extent to which students have understood the targets is achievable, and the presenter will highlight his experiences in obtaining results that guide instruction. We create opportunities for creativity and autonomy once it is clear of the direction of the learning. Common targets do NOT equal common teaching, but assessments that link to common targets can certainly equate to a common set of goals and possibly better instruction.

With 24 years of teaching and administration experience, two published books, and more, Myron lives in Summerland, BC, Canada, with his family and was serving as vice principal and teaching a class for Summerland Secondary during the COVID pandemic. He has since been reinstated as vice principal for communicating student learning in his local school district—Okanagan-Skaha 67.

WELS Teaching Standards: 2, 3, 4, 8

Audience Participation Level: Low

Applies to all grade levels

Category: General

Sectional B23

Grading Smarter Not Harder . . . In One Hour

Myron Dueck

This session is an overview of the presenters best-selling book, *Grading Smarter, Not Harder—Assessment Strategies That Motivate Kids and Help Them Learn*. The audience will get a distinct flavor for the tone of the book as well as a good idea for what they could do differently in the areas of grading, unit plans (targets), homework, retesting, and creativity. The presenter will tackle why we need to consider changes to traditional grading and assessment routines and will provide a look at the tools that can help pave the way for effective change. Overall, the importance of building strong relationships is emphasized.

With 24 years of teaching and administration experience, two published books, and more, Myron lives in Summerland, BC, Canada, with his family and was serving as vice principal and teaching a class for Summerland Secondary during the COVID pandemic. He has since been reinstated as vice principal for communicating student learning in his local school district—Okanagan-Skaha 67.

WELS Teaching Standards: 3, 4, 5, 7, 8

Audience Participation Level: Low

Applies to all grade levels

Category: General

Questions?

Contact Kris Snyder

kris.snyder@wels.net • 414-527-6854

GENERAL

Double Sectional AB24

Designing a Usable and Quality Curriculum

Melanie Giddings

“What curriculum are you using” is a commonly asked question. However, designing a usable and quality curriculum begins long before a textbook evaluation even begins. In this double sectional, attendees will participate in a hands-on learning experience. Attendees should come with a subject area in mind, a Chromebook/laptop, and a writing utensil to sketch out and begin designing a quality curriculum. Attendees from the same faculty can take a team approach, but both individuals and faculty teams will leave this sectional with a toolbox of resources to continue curriculum development at their own schools.

Melanie Giddings is a 2005 graduate of MLC (STEP—Math). She served at St. Lucas, Kewaskum, from 2006 to 2016. Since 2017, Melanie has served as curriculum director for the 17 LES that partner together to form FVL Schools. Melanie earned her master’s degree through WLC in 2020 and resides in Appleton with her husband, John, and three children: Faith (age 12 years), Samuel (age almost 10 years), and Thaddeus (age 7 years).

WELS Teaching Standards: 4, 7

Audience Participation Level: High

Applies to grades K–8

Categories: General, Administration

Sectional A25 or B25 or C25

Reaching the Heart and Mind of the Struggling Child

Dr. Ashley Schoof

Have you ever wondered what to do with certain children or why some children behave a certain way? This presentation will help you answer that question. This presentation will share the latest in brain-based research to understand behavior and emotional issues in children. The learner will be able to not only understand this research but also be able to apply it to the classroom. Trust Based Relational Intervention will be of heavy focus on the interventions discussed.

Ashley Schoof earned her BS in psychology at WLC. She completed her graduate training and earned her MS and PsyD in clinical psychology from the Wisconsin School of Professional Psychology, Milwaukee. Dr. Schoof completed her internship at Lakeview Specialty Hospital and Rehab, Waterford, which is a residential, neurobehavioral rehabilitation facility. Dr. Schoof currently functions as a senior clinical director at Christian Family Solutions. She has a deep regard for child and adolescent issues and is the director of higher levels of care for these populations. She specializes in development, trauma, adoption, foster care, and emotional and behavior dysregulation related to a variety of diagnoses.

WELS Teaching Standards: 2, 3, 5

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to all grade levels

Categories: General, Early Childhood

REGISTER EARLY TO SECURE YOUR PREFERRED SECTIONALS
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 19!

GENERAL

SECTIONALS

A: 1:30–2:30 p.m. Thurs.

B: 2:45–3:45 p.m. Thurs.

C: 10:45–11:45 a.m. Fri.

AB: 1:30–3:45 p.m. Thurs.



Double Sectional AB26

More Time Teaching, Less Time Presenting

Ben Stern

Do you ever feel that you are more of a presenter of information than a teacher or perhaps that you teach to the middle instead of to the entire class? If so, a self-paced, mastery-based unit is right for you. Using principles and research around Bloom's Two Sigma Problem, learn how to create your own self-paced unit that will empower you to reach all your students, assess individual student learning, and spend more time doing what you want to be doing—teaching. You'll leave the sectional with a concrete framework for a new unit.

Ben Stern is in his 12th year of teaching chemistry and biology at Fox Valley Lutheran, which is pretty much his dream job because he can pursue his professional interests of science, quality instruction, and experimenting with teaching techniques (and dangerous chemicals).

WELS Teaching Standards: 3, 4, 5, 7, 8

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to grades 3–8

Categories: General, Science

Sectional A27 or B27 or C27

Put the Phone Down: Setting Boundaries in Ministry

Becki Wagner

Often teachers and administrators are overwhelmed by the tasks of ministry. We want to serve and be available to everyone, but we find ourselves drained and struggling to get everything done. Finding time for ourselves and our families can seem like an impossible task. This sectional will explore how to firmly but lovingly set boundaries with yourself and the people you serve.

Becki Wagner has been in the ministry for almost 25 years. She has taught multi-grade classrooms, single-grade classrooms, and has been a full-time childcare administrator for the past six years. As an administrator, she finds herself balancing many duties and having to create boundaries often.

WELS Teaching Standards: 5, 6, 9

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to all grade levels, especially administrators

Categories: General, Administration, Management/Motivational

GENERAL

Double Sectional AB28

Dealing With Suicide

Chaplain Kenneth Wenzel

Part 1 of this sectional will provide understanding and will give some history of suicide and a basic understanding of how Christians should view it and avoid mistakes. We will look briefly at Judas and the wrong views of some churches and people today. Part 2 will use the international Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) program for prevention of which the speaker is a certified presenter. There will be a short video on how teens can help. Part 3 will show a video of WELS survivors and their advice.

Kenneth Wenzel served as a missionary in Montana and as a pastor in Wisconsin for 24 years. He now serves as hospital chaplain in Madison for Institutional Ministries (WELS). For ten years he served as the pediatric chaplain at Wisconsin University Hospital. Presently he is semiretired and lives in Sun Prairie.

WELS Teaching Standards: 2, 3, 5, 6, 10

Audience Participation Level: Low

Applies to grades 5–8

Categories: General, Religion/Spiritual Growth

Sectional C29

The Gift of Social-Emotional Learning

Dr. Cindy Whaley

What is SEL and why do all educators need to implement it into their learning environments? Please join this sectional as we define, discuss, and identify the need and the learning opportunities we have to educate the whole child by incorporating SEL into our classrooms and schools.

Cindy Whaley is a professor of education at MLC. She taught for 15 years in two different congregations in Wisconsin before coming to MLC. She taught in multi-grade settings from grades 1 through 6. At MLC, she teaches courses in curriculum and instruction and literacy methods to undergraduates and a graduate assessment course in the master's program. She also coordinates MLC's public school clinical and student teaching placements, the postbaccalaureate licensure program, and is the edTPA coordinator and licensure officer. Dr. Whaley is president of the Southwest Minnesota Reading Council and serves as MLC's chief institutional representative for the MN Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.

WELS Teaching Standards: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to all grade levels

Category: General

REGISTER EARLY TO SECURE YOUR PREFERRED SECTIONALS
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 19!

GENERAL

Sectional A30 or B30

THINK: Christ-Centered Cognitive, Social, Emotional Strategies

Dr. Rhoda Wolle and Lyzz Buskirk

Our brains are one of the most valuable resources God has given us. We teach many valuable subjects in school, so let's teach children how to maximize this incredible tool they have each been given. This new Christ-centered curriculum will help your students learn about topics such as critical thinking, emotional/ thought regulation, and servant leadership in a developmentally appropriate, brain friendly way! The curriculum is video based, and teachers and parents reinforce the content through prepared activities.

Rhoda Wolle is an educational psychologist and former education professor and dean at WLC. She now serves as vice president of organizational development at Kingdom Workers. She will be presenting with Lyzz Buskirk, a former academic success coach who helped her develop the curriculum.

WELS Teaching Standards: 2, 3, 5

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to early childhood–grade 4

Categories: General, Management/Motivational



Questions?

Contact Kris Snyder

kris.snyder@wels.net • 414-527-6854

LANGUAGE ARTS

SECTIONALS

A: 1:30–2:30 p.m. Thurs.

B: 2:45–3:45 p.m. Thurs.

C: 10:45–11:45 a.m. Fri.

AB: 1:30–3:45 p.m. Thurs.



Sectional A31 or B31

Novels for Upper Grades

Kevin Klug

This sectional will explore newer and time-tested novels that many upper-grade students and teachers will enjoy. There will be classroom novels and series to consider and good read-aloud choices as well. Teachers will have a chance to share book titles and authors that they have used and would like to recommend. Some project ideas and ways to meet standards and target goals will also be shared.

Kevin Klug is the principal and a teacher at Pilgrim Lutheran School, Menomonee Falls. He has over 20 years of teaching experience in grades 4–8. He currently teaches literature for grades 5–8. His goal is to find books that students will actually want to read.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 3, 4, 5, 10

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to grades 5–8

Category: Language Arts

Sectional A32 or B32 or C32

New & Classic Picture/Chapter Books for Your Classroom

Jonathan Roux

Come and explore new (and a few classic) picture books! Books will be shared for academic areas, special events and holidays, as well as character and social-emotional development ideas in your classroom. (Note that this is a new presentation, not a repeat from previous years).

Jonathan Roux, professor of education at MLC since 2008, teaches courses in the literacy block (Children’s Literature, Teaching Language Arts, Teaching Reading). He is active in the International Literacy Association, MN Academy of Reading, MN Reading Association, the Southwest MN Reading Council, and the Higher Education Literacy Partnership of MN (H.E.L.P.).

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 10

Audience Participation Level: Low

Applies to all grade levels

Categories: Language Arts, Early Childhood

LANGUAGE ARTS

Sectional C33

Vocabulary Strategies to Build Comprehension

Dr. Kirsten Schulz

As we prepare students to be consumers of literacy, we want to instill not only how to decode but to practice complex problem solving, critical thinking, and creativity in all content areas. This presentation will provide researched-based evidence on the importance of these skills, as well as reading strategies to assist students with comprehension and vocabulary building. Motivational learning tools will be shared in a hands-on workshop.



After graduating from college, Kirsten Schulz accepted a teaching position in a Title One school in Southern California. She taught in the elementary school for several years before returning to the Midwest. Those years granted her the opportunity to teach and learn from struggling students. After she returned to the Midwest, she directed a preschool for several years and began her graduate work. She began teaching in the education department at WLC in 2011. The courses she teaches include: Content Area Literacy, Emerging Literacy II, Reading Interests for the Pre-Adolescent and Adolescent, Reading Interventions, Student Motivation, and Introduction to Learning Disabilities. She enjoys watching her students teach lessons in the surrounding schools and grow as pre-service teachers. Teaching and learning are interwoven together in an intricate pattern. Kirsten finds great interest in observing both teachers and students and finding the strategies that play an integral part in the retention process, especially for struggling readers. Discovering what motivates learners and integrating relevant learning tools in classroom instruction is a key learning component.

WELS Teaching Standard: 4

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to grades 1–4

Category: Language Arts

Questions?

Contact Kris Snyder

kris.snyder@wels.net • 414-527-6854

MANAGEMENT/MOTIVATIONAL

SECTIONALS

A: 1:30–2:30 p.m. Thurs.

B: 2:45–3:45 p.m. Thurs.

C: 10:45–11:45 a.m. Fri.

AB: 1:30–3:45 p.m. Thurs.



Sectional A34 or B34

Responding to Challenging Behaviors With Love and Grace

Linda S. Hensel, PhD

Are the challenging behaviors of some students in your classroom getting you down? Have you run out of ideas for managing those students? In this session, we will discuss how to deliver individual supports for students who have the most challenging behaviors while teaching your whole class. We will discuss supports that affirm students as beloved children of God and make you feel good too!

Linda Hensel is a professor of education and department chair of special education at Concordia University-Wisconsin. She teaches behavior management, curriculum and methods, and assessment courses for pre-service special educators. Prior to coming to higher education, she taught learners with a wide variety of abilities at the early childhood level.

WELS Teaching Standards: 3, 5

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to all grade levels

Category: Management/Motivational

Sectional A35 or B35

Creating Systems to Manage Classroom, Workload, Life

Jennifer Vik

Do you find yourself working 50, 60, even 80 hours a week and still feeling overwhelmed by what needs to be done? Many teachers struggle with finding a balance between school and home. This workshop is designed to help you find that balance. You will learn how to create systems in your classroom, planning, and grading and discover ways to shift your mindset to become more efficient and productive, thus freeing up time just for you.

Jennifer Vik graduated MLC in 2005. She taught one year in Milwaukee before taking time off to have a family. Jennifer reentered the ministry in 2015 when she was called to teach upper grades at St. Paul's, Fort Atkinson. Jennifer and her husband, Matthew, have four children ages 10–16, so finding balance between school and home is a must!

WELS Teaching Standards: 5, 7, 8, 9

Audience Participation Level: Low

Applies to all grade levels

Category: Management/Motivational

MATH

Sectional A36 (grades K–2); **B36** (grades 3–5); **C36** (grades 6–8)

Saxon Math’s Going Away. What’s Next?

Dr. James Carlovsky

Many WELS schools are looking for curriculum answers since Saxon Math is no longer going to be published. Your school or federation may also be studying this subject. This session will lead you, the teacher, through the different math curricular philosophies as well as some of the most common curricula being used in WELS schools at your grade level. Be prepared to experience a few of your lessons a number of ways.

James Carlovsky completed his PhD in math education from the University of Minnesota in 2019, where he studied moments of student thinking in the classroom. He gained teaching experience from his years at St. John’s, Sparta, and Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School. He currently serves at MLC as a professor of mathematics and instructional technology. He feels that math needs to be experienced and explored.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 10

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to grades K–2, grades 3–5, and grades 6–8
in separate sections

Categories: Math, Administration

Sectional A37 (grades 3–5); **B37** (grades 6–8)

Teaching Mathematics With Understanding

Tyson Zarnstorff

The presenter will highlight ideas, models, and manipulatives that encourage students to learn mathematics with understanding. Every student can learn mathematics, and understanding is the key to retaining that knowledge. This session will focus on helping students learn the “why” of mathematics.

Professor Tyson Zarnstorff has a master’s degree in mathematics education from Western Governors University. He taught grades 3–9 math in Lowell, AR, grades 6–12 math in Doral, FL, and currently teaches mathematics education at MLC. He is a firm believer that every student can learn mathematics!

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 2, 3

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to grades 3–5 and 6–8 in separate sections

Category: Math

REGISTER EARLY TO SECURE YOUR PREFERRED SECTIONALS
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 19!

MUSIC

SECTIONALS

A: 1:30–2:30 p.m. Thurs.

B: 2:45–3:45 p.m. Thurs.

C: 10:45–11:45 a.m. Fri.

AB: 1:30–3:45 p.m. Thurs.



Sectional A38 or B38

Teaching Hymns for Life

Kevin Bode

The time to teach our students the songs of our faith is now! This new curriculum will help students have a greater appreciation for hymns that are both old and new. You will learn about the many useful and easy-to-use components of the curriculum and how students can become actively engaged in the learning process.

Kevin Bode serves as half-time teacher, half-time music director at Emmanuel, Tempe, AZ. He served on the hymnal committee for Christian Worship 2021 and was chairman of Hymns for Life.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to grades K–8

Categories: Music, Religion/Spiritual Growth

Sectional B39 or C39

Preparing the Next Generations of Church Musicians

Valerie Floeter

Music is an important tradition in Lutheran worship. Who are the musicians in your congregation who will be enhancing your services in 20 years? They are your youth. Come for practical advice on getting them involved.

Valerie Floeter is a church musician and composer serving at Grace, Waukesha. She feels strongly about getting the youth involved in the music of the congregation. She has created a graded children's piano hymn series emphasizing Lutheran hymnody and will be releasing an instrumental solo series in Fall 2022. (www.FloeterMusic.com)

WELS Teaching Standards: 2, 3, 4, 10

Audience Participation Level: Low

Applies to grades 2–8

Category: Music

MUSIC

Sectional A40 or C40

Sing and Make What?

David Porth

Looking for ideas, resources, lessons, or an entire unit to develop and sustain musical literacy in your classroom? This roundtable discussion sectional is designed for teachers to share their go-tos with fellow music educators. Come ready to share these ideas with the group—collaboration is an excellent tool for learning! Please email your materials to the facilitator (dporth@pilgrimcares.org) at least one week prior to the conference so a curated list may be created and shared with sectional attendees.

David Porth is currently serving at Pilgrim, Menomonee Falls, as teacher for grades 7–8 and worship coordinator. These duties include worship planning, serving as head organist, and directing the adult choir. A 2014 graduate of MLC, David also holds the master of church music degree from Concordia University-Wisconsin.

WELS Teaching Standards: all 10

Audience Participation Level: High

Applies to all grade levels

Category: Music

Sectional A41 or B41

Spicing Up Your Music Program: World Drumming & Ukuleles

Casey Pufahl

Have you thought about incorporating drums and ukuleles into your music program but unsure how? Are you looking for a hands-on way to introduce or reinforce musical concepts to your students? This sectional is for you. Spicing Up Your Music Program gives instructors active learning strategies for the standards-based curriculum.

Casey Pufahl is a graduate of the MLC STEP program. After graduation, Casey continued his coursework at St. Thomas University, Hamline University, and the Graduate School of Music at St. John's University, Collegeville, MN. Casey holds a master's degree and K–12 teaching licenses in Minnesota and Wisconsin. He served on the Executive WELS Band Festival Committee. Casey is an active member of the VoiceCare Network, the American Choral Directors Association, Wisconsin Music Educators Association, and NAFME.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Audience Participation Level: High

Applies to grades 5–8

Category: Music

REGISTER EARLY TO SECURE YOUR PREFERRED SECTIONALS
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 19!

RELIGION/SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Sectional A42 or B42 **Using EHV in the Classroom**

John Brug

This sectional will focus on using the Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV) Study Bible app (available in the Microsoft Store) in the classroom for all grades. It is especially useful for SMART Boards. We will also look at the condensed EHV Bible, *The Story of God's Love*.

Professor John Brug taught at DMLC and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary for a total of 37 years. He is the editor of the EHV Bible translation.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 4, 6, 7, 9
Audience Participation Level: Low
Applies to all grade levels
Category: Religion/Spiritual Growth

Sectional C43 **Things You Might Not Know About Bible Stories**

John Brug

Things you might not know about Bible stories will add new insights to Bible stories. Did David have red hair? How tall was Goliath? What kind of toilets did Israel use? Did they eat cheese curds? Etc.

Professor John Brug taught at DMLC and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary for a total of 37 years. He is the editor of the EHV Bible translation.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 4, 6, 7, 9
Audience Participation Level: Low
Applies to all grade levels
Category: Religion/Spiritual Growth

Double Sectional AB44 **Where Faith Meets Anxiety & Depression**

Titus Buelow

The goal of this course is to understand anxiety and depression and gather what the Bible has to offer specifically to those who have these disorders and to those who care for them. Let us walk together through this difficult topic so we can still see Jesus in the midst of the storm.

Titus Buelow currently serves as pastor at St. Peter's, Helenville. He personally wrestles with depression and has worked with many others who struggle with depression and anxiety. Titus hopes the experience and the research on this topic give needed awareness, help, and comfort to this very pervasive issue of our times.

WELS Teaching Standards: 2, 6, 9, 10
Audience Participation Level: Moderate
Applies to all grade levels
Category: Religion/Spiritual Growth

Questions?
Contact Kris Snyder

kris.snyder@wels.net • 414-527-6854

RELIGION/SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Sectional A45 or B45 or C45

Who Am I? The Teen Crisis Today

Rev. Dr. Phil Huebner

This sectional will focus on the biggest crisis for teens today—understanding who they are. So often teens can become overwhelmed by feeling worthless, guilty, ashamed, anxious, alone, and so much more. These feelings make it difficult to deal with the problems of everyday life as their feelings become their identity (“I am worthless . . . I am unloved, etc.). The sectional will present real facts about Jesus to ground our identity in Christ and to give strength to endure life’s biggest struggles. Those in attendance will learn how to help teens know who they are in Jesus based on facts, not feelings.

Phil Huebner was assigned to start a new mission church in Palm Coast, FL, in 2007. He served nine years at Christ the King. In 2016 he accepted a call to serve as campus pastor at Wisconsin Lutheran High School, where he now serves. Dr. Huebner holds two master’s degrees from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary and a doctorate from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN. His entire ministry to date has seen emphases on outreach, children, teens, and families. Dr. Huebner is married to Becky, and they have two children, Noah (15) and Gwen (12). In his free time, he loves to travel and read and research more on the topics of families and teens.

WELS Teaching Standards: 2, 3, 5, 6, 10

Audience Participation Level: Low

Applies to all grade levels

Category: Religion/Spiritual Growth

Sectional A46 or B46 or C46

Prayer, as Natural as Breathing

Kristen Miller

How is your prayer life? If you are like many of us, there are times when you pray fervently and often. Then there are times when you just do not know what or how to pray. Prayer is a tremendous blessing from God. What a joy and a privilege to speak directly to our awesome Creator! In this sectional, you will learn ways to enrich your own prayer life and teach your students to do the same. The Lord’s Prayer will be understood and applied on a very personal level. Scripture verses will burst to life as you soak in God’s love for you personally. You will grasp the meaning of the verse, “Pray continually” as prayer becomes as natural to you as breathing. Practical tips, models of prayer, and projects will be made available to help you teach your students the joy of communicating with our marvelous God in prayer.

Kristen Miller has enjoyed a rich and full prayer life . . . at times. Other times, she has experienced very dry spells when all she could say was, “Holy Spirit, take it from here, please.” Kristen has taught in several WELS elementary schools for over 26 years. She was featured in the September 2013 edition of Kids Connection in which she shared a glimpse into her students’ prayer lives. Kristen currently teaches K–8 Spanish at Trinity, Waukesha. And yes, her students pray in Spanish.

WELS Teaching Standards: all 10

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to all grade levels

Categories: Religion/Spiritual Growth, General, Music, Language Arts, Early Childhood, Art

REGISTER EARLY TO SECURE YOUR PREFERRED SECTIONALS
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 19!

RELIGION/SPIRITUAL GROWTH

SECTIONALS

A: 1:30–2:30 p.m. Thurs.

B: 2:45–3:45 p.m. Thurs.

C: 10:45–11:45 a.m. Fri.

AB: 1:30–3:45 p.m. Thurs.



Sectional A47 or B47

Personal Devotion Life of a Teacher

Mike Pingel

In this sectional, you will reflect on your personal devotion practices. As a sectional, we will discuss tactics to fight the temptation of being too busy. The presenter will share ways to grow faith in meaningful and applicable ways.

Mike Pingel teaches fourth grade. He has many other roles, but his favorites include being a husband, father, and coach. Mike wants to improve on being a blessing to those around him.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 9

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to all grade levels

Category: Religion/Spiritual Growth

Sectional A48 or B48 or C48

Christian Moral Reasoning in the Classroom

Phil Warnecke

Abortion, euthanasia, genetics, and transplantation . . . How do you as a Christian teacher address these controversial topics with your middle school students? This presentation will provide you with a tool belt of biblical resources to help you and your students reason together morally in light of God's Word. Students in our science and religion classes are already curious and aware of the wounds of our sinful world. You as a teacher can provide a safe learning environment to learn and grow in the wisdom of God.

Phil Warnecke is a 2016 graduate of WLC. He serves at Risen Savior, Milwaukee, as eighth-grade homeroom teacher, middle school religion teacher, and worship coordinator. Phil is pursuing his graduate certificate in bioethics at Concordia University-Mequon.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 5, 9, 10

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to grades 5–8

Categories: General, Science, Religion/Spiritual Growth

SCIENCE

Sectional A49 or B49 or C49

DINOSAURS: What should I teach about dinosaurs?

Mark Bergemann

Kids love dinosaurs! Learn what your students should know about dinosaurs. Discuss how to teach about them at your grade level. If you know little or nothing about dinosaurs (or science in general), then this sectional is for you. We will also look at using dinosaurs as a teaching tool to introduce various biblical teachings and evolutionary concepts.

Mark Bergemann teaches MLC online courses on creation apologetics and serves as president and editor at the Lutheran Science Institute (LSI), a 48-year-old WELS affiliated creation apologetics ministry. He retired from a career in electrical engineering.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 4, 7, 9

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to all grade levels

Categories: Science, Religion/Spiritual Growth

Sectional A50

3D Science Instruction

Paul Ihde

Quality science instruction is more than simply reading a textbook and memorizing concepts and vocabulary. Intrinsicly, most teachers know this but don't have the time or resources to develop their practice. This sectional provides an overview of three-dimensional science teaching found within an all-inclusive curriculum called Mi-STAR.

Paul is the principal and middle school science teacher at Grace, Oshkosh. He also serves as a trained professional learning facilitator, training teachers to implement the NGSS curriculum, Mi-STAR.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 7, 9

Audience Participation Level: Low

Applies to grades 5–8

Category: Science

Sectional A51 or B51 or C51

Plug and Play Science Resources

Derek Rabbers

Do you put science at the end of the day, hoping you don't get to it most of the time? Do you feel you lack the resources to make science feel "real" to your students? Do you like science and just want to hang out and nerd out? If you answered yes to any of these, sign up to explore some resources and philosophies that will add that extra *je ne sais quoi* to your science class.

Derek Rabbers has served as a high school science instructor at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School for the past three years. Previously he taught fifth grade and fifth–eighth grade science in Milwaukee.

WELS Teaching Standards: 1, 3, 4, 7

Audience Participation Level: Low

Applies to grades 4–8

Category: Science

Sectional A52 or B52

Genesis One for Poets: Light and Color

Mark W. Tacke

This workshop will explore the wonders of God's creation of light and color. Demonstrations and hands-on activities will give participants ideas and concepts they can immediately use in their own classrooms.

Mark W. Tacke teaches physics at MLC. Previous teaching experiences include Evergreen Lutheran High School and Northland Lutheran High School. Mark and his wife, Rachel, have three adult children and enjoy five grandchildren.

WELS Teaching Standard: 1

Audience Participation Level: High

Applies to all grade levels

Category: Science

SOCIAL STUDIES

Sectional B53 or C53

Engaging Scholars in Westward Expansion on the Oregon Trail

Kate Jaeger

Do you long for the simpler analog days of education? Do you have fond memories of traveling the Oregon Trail during computer time in elementary school? Do you love to give your scholars immersive experiences that let them live the lessons? Learn how to become a wagon master on the Oregon Trail, utilize former students as trail guides, and give your scholars firsthand experience with trail life while engaging them in the good, the bad, and the ugly sides of westward expansion with a variety of activities to reach different learning styles.

Kate Jaeger is in her ninth year teaching grade 3 at Atonement, where she also coaches forensics and softball. She is especially passionate about teaching ELA/writing and social studies, with some German thrown in for fun. When she's not teaching, she's usually outside with her Diva Doxi Dachshund or reading historical fiction.

WELS Teaching Standard: 7

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to grades 3–6

Category: Social Studies

Sectional A54 or B54

Using Canva in the Classroom

Lauren Ewings

Canva is an online graphic design program that can be used by both teachers and students. It makes use of design elements, photo editing, and layouts to help create professional-looking final products. In this session, teachers will learn more about Canva, create a free premium educator account, learn about the different ways Canva can be utilized in the classroom, have the opportunity to create their own product using Canva, and discover additional resources that can help them make effective use of Canva in their classrooms.

Lauren Ewings currently serves as an English teacher and the technology integration coordinator for Fox Valley Lutheran High School. She truly enjoys finding creative ways to use technology in the classroom, as well as working with the teachers at FVL to find meaningful ways to integrate technology into their classrooms.

WELS Teaching Standards: 3, 6, 7

Audience Participation Level: High

Applies to grades 5–8

Category: Technology

REGISTER EARLY TO SECURE YOUR PREFERRED SECTIONALS
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 19!

TECHNOLOGY

SECTIONALS

A: 1:30–2:30 p.m. Thurs.

B: 2:45–3:45 p.m. Thurs.

C: 10:45–11:45 a.m. Fri.

AB: 1:30–3:45 p.m. Thurs.



Double Sectional AB55

School Marketing From Zero to Growth

John Kujath

Do you know how to use a phone or a computer? Then you can be successful in creating new growth and also positioning your ministry for future growth. We will take both a broad and in-depth look at a variety of ways to boost your ministry's reach in your community. Beginners to advanced should all leave with useful nuggets.

John Kujath has served the church in a number of roles—teacher, principal, athletic director, tech director, and coach. While still serving a full-time call, he also worked within and outside the WELS doing videography.

WELS Teaching Standard: 10

Audience Participation Level: Moderate

Applies to all grade levels

Categories: Technology, Early Childhood, Administration, Management/Motivational

WLSTC ELECTIONS

VOTE DURING ONLINE REGISTRATION: WLSTC.ORG

This year you will elect one female and two males to the WLSTC Program Committee. You will also elect a secretary to the WLSTC Executive Committee. Please read through the biographies below and select your nominees on the “ELECTIONS” tab during registration. Election results will be announced at the conference.

Female Program Committee Members (Vote for One Female)

Tammy Mielke

Dr. Mielke grew up in Loveland, CO, and attended a mission church. She went to public grade school from K–3 and, when her congregation opened their school, she attended 4–8 at St. Peter’s Lutheran, Ft. Collins, CO. She graduated from (Martin) Luther Preparatory School in 1987 and continued to (Dr.) Martin Luther College. Tammy taught in congregations in Columbus, OH; Monroe, MI; and North Hollywood, CA. She earned her master’s degree from Eastern Michigan University while teaching in Michigan and California. She then moved to the UK to do her PhD in children’s and young adult literature. Tammy then taught children’s literature, pop culture, and Honors at the university level for 15 years. She returned to the public ministry in fall of 2022 and teaches middle school ELA at Westside Christian. She has served on several university, national, and international committees, as well as conference planning committees. She presently is on the executive board of the Children’s Literature Association.

Cheryl Root

Cheryl Root’s ‘roots’ began as a country girl from Auburn, MI. From there the Lord led her to begin her professional training at Martin Luther College, then known as ‘Dear DMLC.’ In 2004 she received state licensure in Elementary Education and in Middle School level Social Studies and English Language Arts. In 2018 she also received a charter school license for ELA at the high school level. Her experiences with WELS include part-time and full-time teacher of grade 8 and 5 at Mount Olive Lutheran School; 7–8th grade teacher at Immanuel, Waupaca; eleven years as 6–8 teacher at Zion, Morrison Lutheran School; five years as part-time teacher at FVL; one year as grade 4 teacher at St. Mark, Green Bay; and four years at Shepherd of the Valley—one year as grade 3–4 teacher (2012–2013) and last three years as part-time teacher of grades 7–8. Her areas of responsibility are teaching English Language Arts, Social Studies, art, and music.

Alyssa Stuebs (incumbent)

Alyssa was born in Lexington, Kentucky. After she graduated from Fox Valley Lutheran High School in 2011, she went on to Martin Luther College in New Ulm, MN. In 2016, she graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Parish Music. Before teaching at Neenah Lutheran School, Alyssa taught for three years at Lord and Savior Lutheran School in Crystal Lake, IL, serving as a music and technology coordinator. In her spare time, she enjoys hiking, running, gardening, and spending time with her family.

Rebekah Thoma

Becky has been the kindergarten teacher at St. Peter’s Lutheran in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin for the past 15 years. She is married to Gary Thoma and has five lovely children. Becky loves serving her Savior Jesus and teaching His little lambs.

WLSTC ELECTIONS

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Male Program Committee Members (Vote for Two Males)

Craig Breitzkreutz

Craig graduated from MLC in 2004 with his Bachelor's and in 2020 with his Master's in Education. He has served as the principal of Peridot-Our Savior's in Peridot, AZ; St. John's in Baraboo, WI; Faith in Antioch, IL; and now St. Paul's in Fort Atkinson, WI. This past year he served as the Chairman of the Lake Lutheran Teachers Conference. Craig is passionate about continuing education and is currently pursuing his second Master's degree in Theological Studies. His wife, Charissa, is also an educator. Together they have four children. The family likes to travel, play and watch sports, camp, and visit boring historic sites with their dad.

Robert Buss

Bob serves as the principal of St. Paul's Lutheran School in Menomonie, WI. St. Paul's school is nearly 150 years old and serves 140 students from 3K–8th grade. He was raised in Milwaukee where he attended K–8 at St. John's Ev. Lutheran School before graduating from Wisconsin Lutheran High School. Upon graduation from MLC, he was assigned to teach grades 3–5 at St. Luke's in Oakfield. While subsequently serving at Siloah Lutheran School in Milwaukee, he obtained a master's degree in Literacy and Learning in the Content Areas from Walden University and was a founding member of Koiné. He also taught at Hope High School in Milwaukee, serving as English Department chair. Before accepting a call to Menomonie, he served multiple roles at St. Marcus where he founded the Mustang Drumline, worked in administration, taught classes in grades 5–8, and played drums in multiple weekly worship services for nearly 14 years in two other worship groups. His wife Susan is a WELS art educator and accomplished international artist who partners with him to raise their four children.

Dan Johnson

Dan is currently in his 20th year of teaching and 10th in the Milwaukee area. He is a 2003 graduate of MLC, and a 2018 graduate of MLC with a master's degree in Instruction. Dan has taught in public, private, and WELS schools in Oklahoma and Wisconsin, serving in grades 3–10 and as principal and technology director. Dan currently teaches at Mt. Lebanon, Milwaukee, where he serves as 7th grade homeroom teacher, 7th–8th grade ELA, and technology coordinator. He has a passion for Literature, literacy, urban education, and curriculum development.

Colin Paustian (incumbent)

Colin grew up in Racine. He attended Wisconsin Lutheran School and Shoreland Lutheran High School. He graduated from MLC in 2016 with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Secondary Chemistry Education. He was assigned to Trinity, Neenah, where he taught upper grades math and science and served as athletic director. Following the unification of the two WELS schools in Neenah into Neenah Lutheran School, he served as eighth-grade teacher, athletic director, and technology director until 2021. He now serves as the principal at Neenah Lutheran School.

WLSTC ELECTIONS

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Executive Committee Secretary (Vote for One)

Phil Rehberger (incumbent)

Phil is married to Claire Rehberger and has five adult children. He was born in Oshkosh and has lived and served as a principal and teacher in six different locations. He teaches grade eight. For professional study, he is pursuing a Doctorate in Education (Curriculum and Assessment) at the University of West Florida. In his spare time, he enjoys exercising, reading, and playing board games with family and friends. His favorite areas of curriculum to study and teach include Bible history and catechism, social studies, ELA, literacy, history teaching routines and student approaches, and varied instructional frameworks. Phil has presented (always with co-presenters) at various state and local conferences on these topics.

WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

Interested in sharing how your school is united in Christ? We're looking for pictures for the conference program. Photo files need to be in high resolution (300 dpi minimum) or large dimensions (48 inches minimum width). Please email files without compressing and with "WLSTC Conference Photos" in the subject line to [Kris Snyder](mailto:kris.snyder@wlstc.org).