

Wisconsin Lutheran College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin *Encourage One Another*

From the Office of the District President

May 2022

Dear Brothers in the Lord,

I pray that your Easter joy is continuing, as you reflect on the grace, mercy and peace of your risen Lord!

We have not been able to convene in person since our District Conference in 2019. It will be great to be able to do so again! Our biennial District Convention will be held on June 14-15 at Wisconsin Lutheran College. Our theme will be simple: "Encourage One Another." As we gather in worship and fellowship, we receive encouragement from our Lord, which we then express toward each other. I hope all of you will be able to join us.

Our **keynote speaker** will be MLC President Richard Gurgel. President Gurgel will share the importance of mutual encouragement and charity, as we navigate the kinds of difficult circumstances we have faced the past couple of years. His experience as a new college president during this time will provide a helpful context to his words.

The **guest preacher** for our opening service will be Pastor Keith Free. Pastor Free recently stepped down from his role as WELS Administrator for Home Missions, having accepted a parish call to St. John's, Mukwonago. He will encourage us to remember the great privilege we have in sharing the gospel with others. Pastor Free has been much involved with our synod's upcoming "100 Missions in 10 Years" emphasis, so that will certainly be on our minds as we hear his message from God's Word.

In addition to the various reports and updates on the ministry we are carrying out as a synod throughout the world, there will be **elections** to the district praesidium and many other offices. Our current Second Vice-President, Pastor Michael Woldt, has asked not to be considered for re-election. We thank our Lord for Pastor Woldt's faithful work the past four-plus years. First Vice-President Daniel Leyrer and Secretary Billy Carter are the other two district officers.

Over the past year I have worked with President Schroeder and our praesidium in regard to possible **transition plans**, if no one should be led to accept the call to serve in the new position of superintendent of schools for our district. We have extended calls over a two year period,

but the Lord has not led anyone to accept this call. With this email, then, I am announcing that I have come to the **prayerful decision** that I will not accept nomination to serve another term as district president, after serving in this capacity the past six years and as a district praesidium member in two districts for fifteen years. It has been an honor to serve as your district president, but for various reasons I do not believe I can keep up this pace for another two years, at which time I would be 67.

However, I also believe this district needs to have another person in place to serve the many needs and opportunities God has given us. I have offered to provide that assistance during a time of transition. President Schroeder has authorized a **non-praesidium assistant's role** for our district on an interim basis for six and possibly twelve months. It will be reviewed monthly. I am willing to serve in this assistant's role, if the new district president desires this assistance. In the meantime, we will continue to call for the superintendent position. God-willing, someone will be in place in that position by July 1, 2023. We entrust all this to the Lord of the Church for his blessing.

As noted above, there will be many reports and updates in connection with our shared ministry as a synod. What a blessing it is to hear these reports and to support the various ministries in whatever way we can. One way we can do that is by gathering together for mutual edification and encouragement in the Word. Please take a few moments right now to review the information which Secretary Carter has provided for us and **fill out the registration form** on the district website. We look forward to seeing you, greeting you, worshiping with you, and sharing with you the joy that is ours as God's holy and dearly loved people. In short, we look forward to this opportunity to **"encourage one another."**

In Our Risen Lord Jesus,

David P. Kolander, President

Dany P. Kolander



Wisconsin Lutheran College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin *Encourage One Another*

Convention Information

Time: Tuesday, June 14 and Wednesday, June 15, 2022

Place: Wisconsin Lutheran College (Sessions will be held in the REX)

8800 West Blue Mound Rd, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Attendance: Expected to attend as voting delegates:

• All pastors and ministry certified male teachers and staff ministers serving in called positions and holding membership in SEW congregations;

• One lay delegate from each SEW congregation.

<u>Invited to attend:</u>

- Retired pastors, male teachers, and staff ministers;
- Pastors, male teachers, or staff ministers not currently holding a call;
- All male called workers not yet ministry certified.

Lay Delegates: See the enclosed sheet for more information especially for first-time attendees.

Convention

Materials:

The 2022 Report to the Districts (RttD) Hard copies will be mailed to every congregation. A link to the .pdf version is also available at the convention page of the district website, www.sew-wels.net/2022convention.

Links to a .pdf version of the report, a flipbook version of the report, as well as a few supplemental reports from some areas of ministry, are also available at www.wels.net/about-wels/official-reports/rttd/.

District Reports and Other Convention Materials We intend to conduct the business of this convention using as little paper as possible. Links to all convention reports and other materials will be available at the 2022 Convention page of the District's website, www.sew-wels.net/2022convention, several days before the convention. You will be able to use electronic devices to access those materials from the convention floor. We plan to provide access to outlets for recharging to as many of the seats as possible.

If you are not able or inclined to bring an electronic device to the convention, then we would strongly encourage you to print the materials - or ask someone to print them for you - before you come to convention. You shouldn't depend on the content of every report being displayed on the projection screens.

If you are not able to print the materials, we will have a limited number of printed copies available at the convention. Please use the "Comments" box on the registration form to indicate that you would like to receive printed copies.

Note: If you have reports or other materials that you would like to have included among the convention materials, please contact Secretary Carter for important details and deadlines for sending things to him electronically.

Registration: Please register **before June 3**. Early registration is important for providing our hosts with accurate meal counts. If at all possible, please use the online registration form. The following link will take you directly to that registration form: www.sew-wels.net/2022registration.

> If you have no Internet access, then you can register by contacting District Secretary Billy Carter by any of the means at the bottom of the next page. Please make sure that your message or letter includes a) your name and your congregation or calling body and b) which meals you will need.

Excuses:

If you will be absent for all or part of the convention, please excuse to Secretary Carter. You may use the online registration form to do this. (Note: it is not necessary for retired called workers to excuse if you aren't planning to attend.)

Fees:

There are no convention fees. The costs for this convention are covered entirely by district dues. A mailing with your congregation's or organization's dues assessment will be sent to the attention of your treasurer later this week.

Parking:

WLC's new parking structure will be available for us for this convention. It holds over 300 vehicles. You can enter the structure from Wisconsin Avenue. The address of the lot is 8701 W Wisconsin Avenue. There are turn lanes from the east and from the west, but in the morning traffic it might be better to approach from the west.

Once that structure is full, there are another 80 spaces available under the residence halls. You can find that parking by turning left or right immediately after entering the campus at the Blue Mound entrance - before entering the circle. If you find it necessary to park on the street, please note the parking restrictions that exist on many of the neighborhood streets.

Check in:

When you arrive at the convention, please check in and pick up your name badge at the table for your conference at the north end of the REX gymnasium. The conference secretaries will man these tables.

Offering:

A floor committee will be asked to draft a resolution that will designate where to send the offering that will be gathered at the opening communion service.

Meals:

Continental breakfasts will be provided Tuesday and Wednesday in the north-west and southwest corners of the REX.

A noon meal will be provided on Tuesday for all who registered for it.

A Tuesday evening meal will be provided for floor committee members.

(Floor committee members should register for this meal.)

A box lunch will be provided on Wednesday for all who registered for it.

(We are planning to work into the early afternoon.

We may have you pick up the boxes for a "working lunch" or have them available to take home with you as you leave.)

Refreshments will be available in the REX lobby throughout the convention.

Lodging:

WLC does not provide lodging in their residence halls. They have made arrangements with several area hotels for reduced rates for people attending meetings at WLC, including:

Radisson Milwaukee West - \$92/night

2303 N Mayfair Road, Milwaukee 53226-1502 - 414.455.4573

Residence Inn Marriot Wauwatosa - \$119/night

1300 Discovery Place, Wauwatosa 53226-1338 - 414.258.2575

Holiday Inn Express Milwaukee/West Allis - \$89/night 10111 W Lincoln Avenue, West Allis 53227 - 414.327.2200

When you call to reserve a room, make sure to mention that you are attending a convention at WLC to receive the reduced room rates.

Displays:

Many synod and para-synodical ministries and groups will have displays at the convention. Please visit their displays while you are there.

If your group would like to set up a display and you don't hear from Secretary Carter about making arrangements to do so, please contact him before May 27.

Questions:

Please contact District Secretary Carter at sewsec@gmail.com, at 920.979.3087 (voice or text), or at P.O. Box 44, Brownsville, WI 53006.



Wisconsin Lutheran College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin *Encourage One Another*

Floor Committees

#1 - Elections: Staff Minister Thomas Banaszak, chairman

Pastors: Teachers: Laymen:

Michael Borgwardt Josiah Willitz Bethlehem, Carmel Andrew Bauer ChiSeon Kim Peace, Kokomo

Joshua Kesting David Stoltz Immanuel, Waukegan Mark Rohrback Matthew Moeller St. Paul, Brownsville Jonathan Learman Matthew Rydecki St. Paul, West Bend Aaron Weber Joseph Brinkman St. Matthew, Iron Ridge Curt Golm Brian Gottschalk Jordan, West Allis

Luis Acosta Mark Moldenhauer Abiding Word, Milwaukee

Christopher Doerr Timothy Thierfelder Siloah, Milwaukee

Scott Bergemann Brett Baade Gethsemane, Milwaukee Ed Ungemach Keith Kopczynski Water of Life, Racine

Andrew Fix Timothy Mielke St. John (Oakwood), Oak Creek

Robert Frick Jason Goede Zion, Hartland

James Nowack Reformation, Dousman

Nathan Schulmeister

#2 - District President's Report and Resolutions: Chairman: to be determined

Pastors: Teachers: Laymen:

Kevin Raddatz Scott Sievert Good Shepherd, Downers Grove Steven Geiger Jamie Luehring Abiding Peace, Elgin

Larry Mose Tim Gustafson Shepherd of the Hills, West Bend

Dan Marshall Philip Krueger Zion, Allenton

Raymond Kimbrough David Leyrer Woodlawn, West Allis David Pagel Joshua Seeger Grace, Milwaukee Joseph Radzek James Holman Faith, Antioch

Nathan Strobel Paul Scriver St. Paul, Franklin Iarrod Erbe

James Brandt John Kaesmeyer

#3 - Other Topics: (may not be needed) Staff Minister Mark Blauert, chairman

Pastors: Teachers: Laymen:

Dustin Blumer Joe Archer Christ the King, Palatine

Robert Hein Timothy Kuehl Shepherd of the Hills, West Bend

Scott Beyersdorf Redeemer, Cedarburg Joel Pless James Haferman Zion, South Milwaukee Joel Leyrer Philip Merten Timothy MacKain Risen Savior, Milwaukee Steve Neumann Kevin Glaeske Trinity, Union Grove Gary Koschnitzke Todd Gorsline Living Word, Waukesha Richard Warnecke Gerald Marowsky

> Daniel Hahm Joel Mattek Ryan Walz

#4 - Steering: Pastor Jonathan Balge, chairman

Pastor John Roekle Teacher Duane Vance

#5 - Copy Review: Pastor Phil Casmer, chairman

#6 - Technology/Website: Teacher Joshua Schoeneck, chairman

Floor committees 2 and 3 (if needed) will meet in Generac Hall (the science building at the east end of the campus). Room assignments will be published in the convention materials. Committees are asked to begin their work on Monday evening before the convention and to conclude their work Tuesday evening. Supper will be provided on Tuesday for all committee members (remember to sign up for it when you register). Chairmen of the remaining committees are asked to meet with Secretary Carter Monday evening as well

All chairmen will receive more information about each committee's assignments and will be asked to appoint secretaries before the convention so that Secretary Carter can get them information they will need for their work.



Wisconsin Lutheran College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin *Encourage One Another*

Proposed Agenda

Tuesday, June 14

8:00	Registration & Fellowship			
9:00	Opening Worship Service with Communion	Pastor Keith Free, Preacher		
10:30	Greeting from WLC	Vice-President Richard Mannisto		
10:40	Break			
11:00	District President Report	President David Kolander		
	Elections Committee			
	Circuit Changes			
12:00	Lunch and Circuit Pastor Elections			
1:30	Greeting from Synod Presidium	Vice-President James Huebner		
1:35	Keynote Presentation	MLC President Richard Gurgel		
3:05	Break			
3:20	Home Missions	Pastor Keith Free		
	District Mission Board	Pastor Jon Borgwardt		
3:50	World Missions	Administrator Larry Schlomer		
4:05	Martin Luther College	President Richard Gurgel		
4:20	Ministerial Education	Administrator Paul Prange		
4:35	Christian Aid and Relief	Pastor Bruce Marggraf		
4:50	Announcements			
5:00	Devotion	Circuit Pastor Aaron Steinbrenner		

The Elections Committee will be given the floor whenever necessary to complete their work. Floor Committees meet in the evening

Wednesday, June 15

	-			
8:30	Morning Devotion	Circuit Pastor David Kuehl		
9:00	Elections Committee			
9:15	District Business	Secretary Billy Carter		
	(Minutes, Financial Report, Synod Delegates)			
9:30	Congregational Services	Pastor Bryan Gerlach		
10:00	Northwestern Publishing House	Mark Buske		
		Pastor Chris Cordes		
		President Jeremy Angle		
10:15	Break			
10:30	Synodical Council	SEW Representative Peter Aisbet		
10:45	Ministry of Christian Giving	Pastor Paul Lindhorst		
11:00	Other Reports & Floor Committees			
	WELS Foundation			
	WELS Historical Institute			
12:00	Courtesy Resolutions / Announcements			
	courtesy resorations / runiouncements			
12:15	Closing Devotion & Installation of Officers	Circuit Pastor Robert Dick		

The Elections Committee will be given the floor whenever necessary to complete their work.

Dates of Future Conventions and Conferences

All dates are the Tuesday and Wednesday of the second full week after Memorial Day. Conventions meet in the even numbered years at WLC.

Conferences meet in the odd numbered years at the Seminary.

2023	Conference	June 13-14	WLS	2027	Conference	June 15-16	WLS
2024	Convention	June 11-12	WLC	2028	Convention	June 13-14	WLC
2025	Conference	June 10-11	WLS	2029	Conference	June 12-13	WLS
2026	Convention	June 9-10	WLC	2030	Convention	June 11-12	WLC



Wisconsin Lutheran College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin *Encourage One Another*

Nominations

Notes: Biographical information will be provided in the convention materials.

All nominees are listed in alphabetical order.

(i) = incumbent

Nominations from the District Nominating Committee (four year terms)

Ministerial Education Governing Board Representatives

Martin Luther College, Pastor

Daniel Leyrer (i) – St. Marcus, Milwaukee John Roekle – First, Racine Aaron Steinbrenner – Peace, Hartford

Michigan Lutheran Seminary, Layman

All three slots need to be filled

District Mission Board, Pastor

James Saatkamp – Resurrection, Milwaukee Brian Schmidt – Trinity, Caledonia Michael Zarling (i) - Water of Life, Racine

District Mission Board, Teacher

Ryan Finkbeiner (i) -

Mt. Lebanon, Milwaukee ChiSeon Kim, Jerusalem, Morton Grove, IL

District Mission Board, Layman

Steven Wolf (i) – Our Savior, Grafton *One more slot needs to be filled*

District Lutheran Schools Coordinator

Teacher Duane Vance –
Illinois Lutheran Schools, Crete, IL
Teacher David Stoltz –
Crown of Life, Hubertus

District Board of Appeals, Chairman

Pastor Dale Reckzin – St. John, Oak Creek Pastor Thomas Schultz – Christ, Palatine, IL

District Board of Appeals, Pastor

Jonathan Arndt – St. John, Newburg Jacob Schwartz –

Star of Bethlehem, New Berlin

District Board of Appeals, Teacher

Matthew Linton -

Kettle Moraine LHS, Jackson David Ring –

Wisconsin Lutheran School, Racine

District Board of Appeals, Layman

Paul Kieselhorst (i) – Grace, Milwaukee Quentin Samelson –

Lord and Savior, Crystal Lake, IL

Nominations from the District Council (four year terms)

District Nominating Committee, Chairman

Jason Free – Christ the Lord, Brookfield *One more slot needs to be filled*

District Nominating Committee Chicago Conference -- Teacher

Two slots need to be filled

District Nominating Committee Kettle Moraine Conference -- Pastor

Jeremy Husby – Peace, Hartford Jonathan Learman – St. Peter/Zion, Theresa

District Nominating Committee Milwaukee Metro Conference -- Layman

Mark Buske (i) – Nain, West Allis One more slot needs to be filled

District Nominating Committee Milwaukee Urban Conference -- Teacher

Todd Gorsline (i) – Atonement, Milwaukee Peter Langebartels – St. Marcus, Milwaukee

District Nominating Committee Shoreland Conference -- Pastor

Scott Bergemann – New Life, Kenosha Arthur Faught – Trinity, Union Grove David Wierschke (i) – Trinity, Caledonia

District Nominating Committee Western Lakes Conference -- Pastor

Timothy Gerbing – Christ, Pewaukee Benjamin Steenbock – Zion, Hartland



Wisconsin Lutheran College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin *Encourage One Another*

Guidelines for Lay Delegates

We hope you are looking forward to attending our district convention on the campus of Wisconsin Lutheran College. The communion worship service and the devotions will be good for the soul. The essay, the reports, and the discussions are sure to be interesting. And you will enjoy the Christian fellowship.

Many of the representatives from the boards and commissions of the synod will refer to the 2018 Report to the Twelve Districts (RttD) in their reports to us. Copies of a print version of the RttD will be sent to every congregation. A link to a .pdf version is available at www.sew-wels.net/2022convention. That .pdf version, along with supplemental reports from other areas of ministry can also be found at wels.net/about-wels/official-reports/rttd/.

Other reports and materials for this convention will also be posted on the convention page of the district website (www.sew-wels.net/2022convention) about a week before the convention. Making these materials available electronically has resulted in significant cost savings for recent conventions. If you are not able to download or print the reports, and you don't have anyone who can print them for you, there will be a limited number of packets of these materials available at the convention. Please use the comments box in the online registration form to indicate that you would like to receive one of these packets.

When you arrive at the college, please come to the REX, the large gymnasium/auditorium building at the north end of the campus. Please check in and pick up your name badge at the tables (one for each conference of the district) at the north wall of the auditorium. (Your pastor will be able to tell you the name of the conference to which your congregation belongs.)

A festival communion service will open the convention at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday. Worship and commune with us as we ask God's blessings on our convention and on the work of the synod.

As a voting delegate, you may participate in all election ballots and voice votes. You may also participate in floor discussions. To do so, simply proceed to one of the floor microphones and wait until the chair recognizes you. Please identify yourself and your congregation.

One of the main orders of business at the convention is elections. There will be nominating ballots followed by election ballots for each of the officer positions (president, vice presidents, and secretary). That process will be explained very early on in the convention agenda. Please feel free to participate in the nominating and election ballots.

The district nominating committee has also placed quite a few names in nomination for other district positions. The election for those positions will take place by ballot after the elections for the officers are complete. A list of those nominations is included in these pages. If you didn't receive a copy, please ask your pastor to get you one. Biographical information for all these

candidates will be included among the downloadable convention reports. You may wish to take some time to look over that information prior to the time of the actual ballot.

Each of the district's circuits will also hold elections for circuit pastor at the convention. These elections will take place at circuit meetings during the lunch hour on Tuesday. The downloadable convention materials will include a list of times and locations. Please attend this meeting and participate in the election of your circuit pastor.

You may be assigned to a floor committee. These committees study specific matters coming before the convention and prepare resolutions for discussion and adoption on the convention floor. A list of the floor committees and their members is included elsewhere in these pages. If the name of your congregation is listed under one of those committees, please arrange to attend the meetings of that floor committee. The rooms where each committee will meet will be listed in the convention materials. Directions to those rooms will be posted. Committees 2 and 3 (if needed) will be asked to begin their work on Monday evening and conclude their work on Tuesday evening. Supper will be provided in your committee rooms (please make sure that you check the box for Tuesday supper on the registration form).

Pages 3-5 of these materials include some other information you will need in order to register for the convention. If at all possible, we'd like you to register online. Instructions for registering online are included on those pages. That information sheet also includes instructions for registering by phone or mail if you have no Internet access.

We want you to feel at home at the convention. We hope that this information has helped. If you have any questions or need more information, please speak with your pastor or contact any of the district officers. Our contact information is included below.

In the Savior's name,

The Southeastern Wisconsin District Officers

President Rev. David Kolander 1650 N Brookfield Rd Brookfield WI 53045 262.782.3040 sewdp@wels.net

First Vice-President Rev. Daniel Leyrer 1152 W Jonathan Ln Bayside WI 53217 262.365.9311 daniel.leyrer@stmarcus.org Second Vice-President Rev. Michael Woldt 2770 Davids Star Dr Jackson WI 53037 262.677.2412 woldtma@hotmail.com

Secretary
Rev. William Carter
615 Highland Ave – PO Box 44
Brownsville WI 53006
920.979.3087
sewsec@gmail.com