

BLC back in session!

Our synod's Bethany Lutheran College began classes once again on August 27. Please keep our college and seminary in your prayers. May the Lord use our educational institutions for his glory and for the benefit of his church.

Retirement Announced

Pastor Theodore Gullixson has indicated his retirement from the pastoral ministry at Grace Lutheran, Madison, WI, effective at the end of September. Pastor Gullixson and family will move to Mankato, MN, where he will continue to serve as editor of our Lutheran Sentinel and help with vacancy preaching as opportunities arise.

Prayers Requested

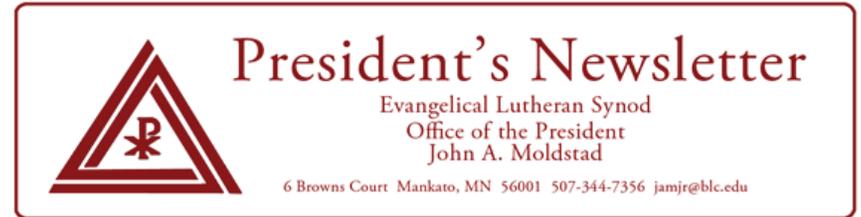
- Former WELS President, Rev. Carl Mischke, 90, died at Sun Prairie, WI, on August 23. He had served as the leader of the Wisconsin Synod from 1979 – 1993. The funeral was on August 27, 2013, at St. John's in Juneau, WI. Please keep the Mischke family in your prayers, as we rejoice that Pastor Mischke, through faith in his Savior, now enjoys his heavenly home for eternity.
- Pastor Joseph Burkhardt's father recently died at age 102. Joe says: "My father worked hard in the hot sun day after day roofing houses to pay for nine years of education in a Lutheran Day School. My mom, who died in 1995, made sure we had plenty of good nourishment and sleep and drove us to school each day. Praise God for loving Christian parents." May God comfort the family with the promise of the glorious resurrection.
- Our prayers are requested for our fellow believers in Christ in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India. A political situation has developed bringing some difficulties for daily living and also hardships for the Christian faith in a land dominated with Hinduism.

September President's Schedule

September 5	Centennial Committee
September 8	Preach for dedication at Grace, Redmond, OR
September 9	Oregon Pastor's Winkel, Redmond, OR
September 10	Archives and History Committee
September 12	Synod Review Committee
September 13 -14	Engage Others With Jesus retreat at Midland, MI
September 15	Preach at Hillman, Rogers City and E. Jordan, MI
September 19-20	Circuit Visitors' Conference in Bloomington, MN
September 23	Bethany College Women's Auxiliary Day
September 27	ELS DC and WELS CICR meet in Milwaukee, WI
September 30	Board for Lutheran Schools of America

Blessings in Christ,

John A. Moldstad



September 2013

Dear Fellow Workers in Christ's Kingdom:

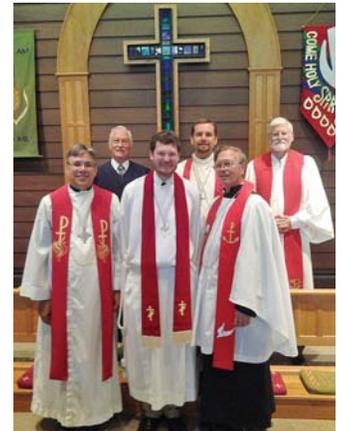
Back to school! Educational programs in our communities and in our churches are ramping up. Imparting knowledge is a blessing. We marvel at what we learn under God's creation. What is offered through the ministry in our churches, however, is a knowledge penetrating even deeper. It goes to the heart of our existence and addresses what is to come. In his commentary on Psalm 2 – a Messianic psalm urging the embracing of the Son of God ("Kiss the Son," verse 12) – Martin Luther debunks all the knowledge and wealth of the kings of the nations as worthless, if there is no acknowledgement of our Savior God. "For if the knowledge of Christ is lacking, all wisdom is folly, all righteousness is iniquity and sin, all life is itself death." How important it is to acknowledge the "King alone, through whom salvation and life should come" (AE 12, 69). May God preserve the Christ-centered education we offer through the pastors and teachers of our parishes!

In the work of our gracious Savior,

John A. Moldstad

Installation

Rev. Matthew Brooks was installed at pastor of Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Waterloo, IA and Faith Lutheran Church in Parkersburg, IA on July 14, 2013. Circuit Visitor Rev. Wayne Halvorson served as liturgist and lector and performed the rite of installation. Rev. Shawn Stafford, Pastor Brooks' seminary classmate, preached the sermon, "A Noble Task," based on 1 Timothy 3:1. Other pastors participating in the laying of hands included Rev. Wes Bruss (WELS), Rev. Glenn Smith, and Rev. Martin Hoesch.



Shalem's transplant in India

We received some very disturbing news from India. Shalem, the young boy requiring a liver transplant, had been granted \$15,000. to go toward his surgery by a trust in India after appearing on a television show. When asked on the show what he wanted to be when he grew up, he replied, "A pastor!"

When the managers of the fund found out that Shalem is a Christian and not a Hindu, they withdrew the funding. Shalem and his family converted from Hinduism to Christianity in 2010. Because of this, it is very unlikely that the funding will be reinstated. This action now leaves the family \$15,000. short of the \$50,000. needed. The surgery has been scheduled for this Sunday, but may have to be postponed if the funds are not available. Please prayerfully consider helping Shalem with this life-saving surgery!

If you would like to help, checks may be sent to the synod office. You may also donate online: www.evangelicallutheransynod.org/donate



Resignations and Appointments

- Rev. Larry Wentzlaff has resigned from the Board for Home Outreach. We express our appreciation for Larry's work on the board. Appointed to the vacated position until next year's convention is Rev. Greg Schmidt, Naples, FL.
- The president has appointed Rev. Homer Mosley, Saginaw, MI, to serve as the Alternate Visitor of Circuit #3.
- At the direction of the Board of Trustees, Rev. David Locklair has been appointed for a one-year term to the Committee on Archives and History. Mr. Erik Soule has resigned from the committee; we thank him for his past service.
- Mr. Paul Tweit has announced his resignation from the Doctrine Committee. Our thanks to Paul for his dedicated service. Mr. Greg Costello, Mankato, MN, has been appointed to the vacated position until next convention.

Church Forming in Illinois

In Lincoln, Illinois, a congregation is forming to join the ELS. The name of the congregation is Grace Lutheran. For more information, please contact Rev. Dan McQuality (danielmcquality@gmail.com) at 217-358-9778.

Church Closing

In Sebastian, FL, Trinity Lutheran, recently made the decision to sell its property and cover its mortgage obligations. While it is sad to report the closing of the church, we give thanks to God for the many years (1983, organized) of faithful worship conducted at this site.

Concordia Honors Pastor Theiste

The congregation of Concordia Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI, yesterday gave thanks to God for 40 years of pastoral service by their faithful shepherd, Rev. Fred Theiste. Pres. Moldstad brought greetings for the occasion on behalf of members of the ELS. Concordia will now be served by Rev. Aaron Hamilton, who is moving to WI from Salt Lake City, UT. We thank God for the service of Pastor Theiste!



Teaching Staff at Kissimmee, FL

We are happy to report record enrollment at the Peace Lutheran School for the 2013-2014 school year: over 90. Pictured above are: Principal Jason Draeger, Sara Hoffman, Justine Smith, Danielle Powers, Barbara Huhnerkoch, and Pastor Matthew Moldstad.



Installation at Waukon

On August 25, 2013, Rev. Ron Pederson was installed as pastor of King of Grace Lutheran. Rev. Kincaid Smith, former pastor of the congregation, served as liturgist; Rev. Wayne Halvorson, Circuit 7 Visitor, performed the rite of installation, and Pres. Moldstad preached the sermon on Joshua 1:6-9. Other pastors who participated in the service were: Rev. Dan Basel, Rev. Glenn Smith, Rev. Shawn Stafford, Rev. David Locklair, Rev. Martin Hoesch, and Rev. Matthew Brooks.



Two Teachers Installed

Debra Hammond and Amy Gunderman were installed as part-time teachers at King of Grace Lutheran Church, Golden Valley, MN, on August 25, 2013. Pastor Benjamin Wiechmann performed the rite of installation.

Newest member of Hope!

On Sunday, August 25, 2013, Hope Lutheran had its first baptism during its worship service. Mason James Laknahour became a member of God's family through Holy Baptism. He is the son of Jennifer and James. We pray God's continued blessings on Mason who has been born again by Word and water.

