

## Why Are There So Many Different Christian churches?

Why are there so many different kinds of cereals? It is all too confusing. There are cereals with marshmallows. Cereals that turn the milk chocolaty.



Cereals that have fruits, nuts, or raisins. Cereals that even go snap, crackle, and pop.

### *Which Church???*

How is a person ever supposed to decide? Do I choose my cereal because I like all the sugar? Do I choose my cereal because I like the tiger or honeybee or leprechaun? Or should I choose my cereal based on the nutritional value?

The cereal aisle at your local grocery store is filled with different kinds of cereals. The street corners in your town are filled with different kinds of Christian churches. How are you ever going to decide which church is best for you?

I would encourage you to choose the church that is the most spiritually nutritious. Choose a church whose teachings are filled with the “milk” and “meat” of God’s Word. The Bible says about itself: “Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation” (1 Peter 2:2,3).

Choose a church that isn’t giving you just what you “want” to hear but what you “need” to hear. “For the time will come when people...will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear” (2 Timothy 4:3). You and I need to hear that we have led unhealthy, sinful lives. We need to hear that Jesus died for our sins and has made our lives wholesome and healthy again.

I could eat all kinds of cereals that may fill me up, but they may not always

be the best physical food that I could put into my body. In the same way that I want the best physical food for my body, I definitely want the best spiritual food for my soul. I want you to find a church that has the very best spiritual food there is—God’s truth. Again, the Bible says, “God wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:4).

Come and share God’s truth with us. Come and be spiritually nourished.

*-adapted from WELS Outreach newsletter*

## Congregational News

**Getting Into & Growing In God’s Word** In his second letter, St. Peter writes “*But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*” He’s talking about a life-long process of spiritual growth...getting to know Jesus better every day. In 2 Timothy 3:15, Paul writes to a young pastor who had been doing just that... “*From infancy you have known the*



*Holy Scriptures which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.*

Part of the reason Zion exists is to teach what God says. We accomplish that by partnering with parents through Sunday School and catechism instructions and by offering Bible Studies for continued growth for every Christian. Please make use of our Christian Education opportunities for all ages so that you are constantly growing and building your life on the rock-solid foundation of God’s Word. Read on for the specifics...

- **Sunday School** Sunday School for ages Pre-K - 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Bring your children to the church proper on Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. They start with a brief devotion and then go to their classrooms to grow in their faith in their study of God’s Word.
- **Catechism Instructions** These Wednesday evening classes teach God’s Word to our 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders on the basis of Luther’s Small Catechism, preparing them for confirmation.

- **Sunday Adult Bible Study** Confirmed and older members and friends are invited to join our adult bible study in the fellowship hall from 8:45 – 9:30 A.M. each Sunday morning. Coffee and refreshments are usually available as we study bible books, characters, or topical studies. No being put on the spot, and you can ask questions to your heart's content.
- **Midweek Bible Study** No, we don't have anything scheduled right now, but if we had interest in a midweek morning bible study, it would make our pastor's day. Gather a group or suggest a day and / or topic and we'll start one!
- **Bible Information Classes** Our Bible Information Class (BIC) is a course that helps those who are curious learn the Biblical basis for our beliefs. In this class we look at the various Bible passages that explain what we believe. New sessions are scheduled whenever anyone is interested.

**Church Picnic New Date** Due to a scheduling misunderstanding our church picnic has been moved up to **September 11<sup>th</sup>**, the day that we had originally wanted so as to correspond to our Sunday School Kickoff. The



Christian contemporary group *Unworthy* will be here to lead us in worship. Barring any severe weather, we'll be gathering under a tent at 9:45 a.m. (only service at Zion that weekend) for worship, followed by our church picnic. Please dress according to the

weather reports – casual is just fine. A variety of grilled meats and refreshments will be provided – members are asked to bring side salads / dishes and / or desserts. The bounce house will be up for the kids, several cornhole boards will be up for friendly competition, and you'll enjoy getting to know your church family a little better.

**Mission Statement Introduction** It won't be long and you'll soon notice a new banner in the entryway which will remind us of why we exist as a congregation. To introduce it to the congregation, we'll be having 3 special worship services / weekends, each focusing on one of the 3 parts to our mission statement. Stay tuned for more details.

**Parking Issues** When Sunday School starts each September, our parking lot becomes much busier. In order to keep everything as safe and smooth as possible, when you pull into our parking lot, take a hard right and drive around the cars to find your spot. Parents, when dropping off or picking up your children, please don't park along the side of the fellowship hall...it makes it harder for people to make it from the parking spots to the doors and creates a bottleneck of traffic. Simply park your car and escort your children to the doors. Thank you.



**New Webpage Just for Teenagers** *Forward in Christ* has a webpage just for teens which includes articles written by teens and for teens on topics that matter to teens. Check it out at [www.forwardinchrist.net/teens](http://www.forwardinchrist.net/teens). We're also looking for teens to share their Christ-centered stories for possible future publication in the magazine. Find out more by going to [www.forwardinchrist.net/promote](http://www.forwardinchrist.net/promote).

**College Bound Students?** Are you heading to college this fall? Do you know someone who is going to college? Don't leave your faith life at home! Sign up with WELS Campus Ministry to get connected with the local campus pastor near your school and to receive free copies of *Meditations* devotions and *Forward in Christ* magazine. Sign up at [wels.net/college](http://wels.net/college).

**Baby Item Collection** In conjunction with the LWMS Fall Rally, we are planning a collection of baby-related items to be sent to the Central African Medical Mission in Zambia. Please see the poster in the entryway and place your donations in the baby bassinet next to the church mailboxes. Your gifts will go a long way to show your Christian love to our brothers and sisters in Africa.

**Thanks to the Volunteers** During any given week, we have members who come to church to give of their time and gifts to serve the Lord. From teaching Sunday School – to lawnmowing - to cleaning - to singing for or accompanying worship services - to spreading the mountain of crushed stones for our road around the cemetery - to so much more...there are a myriad of ways by



which our members show their love for their Lord by volunteering. We are always looking for people to serve during worship and in the upkeep of our facility and grounds...call the pastor or Corey Schulz to see how you can help too!

## KML Korner

**2022-23 School Year Begins** KML began its 49<sup>th</sup> year of instructing our youth in the truth of God's Word. The 2022-23 school year began on August 18 with a record-breaking enrollment of over 550 students, and on August 26, five new faculty members were installed during a special



chapel service. To God be the glory! Let's Grow Together! But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen. 2 Peter 3:18, NIV Let's Grow Together! These words based on 2 Peter 3:18 are our theme for

the new school year and are a daily reminder to our students and entire KML family that God's blessings abound when we grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ. That blessing is both for us personally and for those around us. As we grow, we also have the opportunity to live how God designed us to live - his way. What an impact we are able to have in this world who needs Jesus more than ever!

**KML Clay Shoot & Wine Event** The KML Foundation is hosting their annual Clay Shoot & Wine Event on Saturday, **September 17<sup>th</sup>**, at the Mayville Gun Club which is a new and exciting venue for us! This growing event is fun for everyone, whether an expert hunter or simply a novice. The Wine Event is an opportunity to learn about, and sample, some wines, paint a glass, and enjoy some great fellowship. To register, sponsor, or donate, go to [www.kmlhs.org/clayshoot22](http://www.kmlhs.org/clayshoot22). All proceeds go to the KML Sportsman Fund which supports student assistance.

**Trunk or Treat at KML** Join us at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School on Sunday, October 16, from 3:30-5:30 p.m. for Trunk or Treat! Face painting,

food for sale, candy, and more! Register to bring your children to trunk or treat at [www.kmlhs.org/trunkortreat](http://www.kmlhs.org/trunkortreat) by **October 7<sup>th</sup>**.

KML Federation members are invited to host a trunk for this event. Register to *host* a trunk at [www.kmlhs.org/hostatrunk](http://www.kmlhs.org/hostatrunk) by **September 9<sup>th</sup>**.

**KML Ultimate Alumni Tailgate Party** KML alumni and their families are invited to join us at KML for the Ultimate Alumni Tailgate Party on Friday, September 23, from 6:00-8:00 PM. Free food, kids' bounce house, face painting, alumni swag, and more! Register by **Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>** at [kmlhs.org/alumnihoco2022](http://kmlhs.org/alumnihoco2022). Registrations are required to ensure adequate food and fun!

## Invitations / Events / Opportunities



**Great Hymns of Faith** Do you like to sing? Join us on **Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>**, beginning at 10:00 a.m., at Salem Landmark Church and WELS Museum (6814 N 107th Street, Milwaukee). This presentation will briefly look at the history behind some of the great hymns of our Christian musical heritage...then we'll have a chance to sign through them using the refurbished reed organ at the Salem Landmark Church and WELS Museum. This presentation will focus on some of the historic hymns in the new Christian Worship (2021). For more information about the WELS Historical Institute, visit <https://welshistoricalinstitute.org>

**OWLS Meeting** Our September meeting of Flyway OWLS (Chapter 77) will be held on **September 20<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:00 p.m.** Our speaker for the day will be Kevin Ehlike, Director of Mission Advancement for Winnebago Lutheran Academy. He will share an update on WLA: the current school year, enrollment trends and support, and give an update on the plans WLA has to build a new campus to serve our Association and community. Light refreshments will be served. If you have any questions contact Stefanie Gutermann at 920-583-2166.

**150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Invitation** St. Peter's, Kekoskee invites you to a special service at 1:30 p.m. on **Sunday, September 25** to thank the Lord for his blessings to St. Peter's Lutheran Church as they celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the congregation and the 150 years of



Gospel ministry that he has given them the privilege to carry out in Kekoskee since then. The theme of the celebration will be "Built on the Rock! Everyone is also invited to a catered meal that will be served from 11:30 till 1:00. Please RSVP

to [150anniversary@StPetersKoskee.com](mailto:150anniversary@StPetersKoskee.com) or to

920.344.6980 (text or voicemail) **by September 9, 2022.**

**Friends of the Seminary Day** Please join us on **October 1<sup>st</sup>** for *Friends of the Seminary Day* where men and women gather to learn more about the vital mission of the seminary. Presentations highlight some of the ways our faculty and students are serving Christ's church on a wider scale on and off our campus. In addition, an offering is gathered to support a project on campus. The day starts at 8 a.m. with registration and includes coffee fellowship, worship, presentations, a light luncheon, and campus tours for those who wish to participate. Send your name, address, telephone number, and home congregation, along with a \$10 registration fee, to: Lori Guse 11831 N Seminary Drive Mequon WI 53092. Please **RSVP by September 16.** Questions? E-mail [lori.guse@wisluthsem.org](mailto:lori.guse@wisluthsem.org).

**Singles Event - Hiking at Parfrey's Glen** Want to see one of the most beautiful spots in Wisconsin? The WELS / ELS Singles Group will be hiking to Parfrey's Glen (E1377 CR-DL, Merrimac WI) on **Saturday October 8 at 2:30 pm.** It is a hike of about .75 of a mile to the waterfall. Questions? Please contact Rachel Fritz at [rachelfritz@yahoo.com](mailto:rachelfritz@yahoo.com).

**Another Singles Event - Boardgame Afternoon** The WELS-ELS Singles group invites single/widowed/divorced individuals to a board game event on **Saturday, October 22 at 1:30 pm** at Star of Bethlehem School, 3700 S. Casper Drive in New Berlin. Bring your favorite games and a snack to

share. Questions? Please contact Dawn Fanning Jansen at [djansen8@hotmail.com](mailto:djansen8@hotmail.com) or 920-427-9258.

**Missions Rally** The LWMS Fall Rally is set for **October 22<sup>nd</sup>** at St. Paul's in Brownsville. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. with the Opening Service at 9 a.m. Speakers will be Pastor Lucas and Emily Callies talking about their mission near Cedar Rapids, Iowa, especially how we can do mission work in our own communities. At the rally there will be a collection for baby items to be sent to the Central African Medical Mission in Zambia (CAMM). The mission is requesting baby/infant layette type items to offer to mothers who deliver at the Mwembezi clinic. We will be collecting new or gently used items such as knit hats, booties/socks, washcloths, receiving size blankets, fleece blankets, onesies, gowns, etc.

