

**SOUTH EASTERN WISCONSIN  
DISTRICT NEWS**

**CALLED WORKER ACTIVITY**

Go to: [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)



**SPRING SEMINAR UPDATE**

The Commission for Communication on Financial Support conducted its annual Spring Seminar on March 5, 2005. 47 people were in attendance and participated in an excellent Bible Study on North American Outreach facilitated by Mr. Robert Fischer. Mr. Mel Schuler gave an excellent presentation on how the Home Missions Division of our Synod and the NAO theme are tied together, as well as what our response can be to the call of proclaiming peace with God through Jesus. I appreciated the sharing of ideas and the fellowship and the commitment displayed by those in attendance. Thanks again to all of our presenters, and especially to our District President, Pastor David Rutschow, for keeping us up to date with district and synod happenings. To God be the glory!



**CONGREGATIONAL MISSION OFFERING UPDATE**

**Southeastern Wisconsin District –**

2004 Commitment	2004 Actual	2005 Commitment*	Rec'd thru February	Last Year
\$3,799,059	\$3,649,142	\$3,635,137	\$361,483	\$394,895

\* unofficial numbers with approx. 75% of congregations reporting

**Synod wide –**

Rec'd to Date	Last Year
\$2,109,746	\$2,033,665

**???????????**

Have you thought about revising or getting a WILL for yourself? Call Mr. Joel Raasch, our District's Planned Giving Counselor, for more details. 414-828-0826.



We are the WELS...Proclaiming Peace Through Jesus!

“Use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings” Luke 16:9.



**NEWS FROM THE WELS  
APRIL 2005**

**SYNOD WEBSITE:  
[WWW.WELS.NET](http://WWW.WELS.NET)**



**WALKING TOGETHER SUNDAY CELEBRATES**

**BLESSINGS OF SYNOD**

Materials for Walking Together Sunday will arrive at congregations in mid-April so that churches can prepare for the service, which is designated to take place May 1. Walking Together Sunday is a celebration of what we, by the grace of God, are able to accomplish as a synod. The synod allows us to pool our talents and resources to bring



Jesus to more and more people in ways we could not do alone.

Each congregation will get a package of materials containing a nine-minute video, brochures for use in bulletins, promotional posters and service materials including a sermon guide and litany. The video was produced by Boettcher/Trinklein Television, the same company that creates the monthly WELS Connection video to which many congregations subscribe. The video for Walking Together Sunday focuses on a family that was brought to Christ at a mission congregation. It emphasizes the role played by the synod (us) through different areas of ministry. The brochure provides details on synod's areas of ministry and includes an envelope for contributing to the WELS general fund to help support the synod's mission. The sermon guide is based on Ephesians 1:15-23 and has the theme “Walking with the Ascended Jesus!”



“My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.”  
- John 10:27

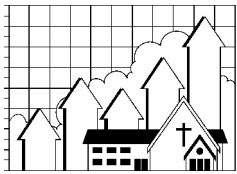
For more information, contact the Commission for Communication on Financial Support at 1-800-827-2237; joycet@sab.wels.net or find out more on the Web by going to [www.wels.net/mpg](http://www.wels.net/mpg).



## WELS WEB NEWS

### *More People Visiting Site*

In a survey of 205 WELS members representing different congregations across the country, the WELS Web site, [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net), was listed as one of the top three sources for helping people keep up with the events and activities of the synod. It was named along with the monthly WELS Connection video (#1) and Forward in Christ magazine (#2). The importance of the Web as a communication tool is further shown by the most recent numbers released from WELS Technology department:



- In February, WELS.net had 56,547 visitors, up 10% from January.
- The Topical Question & Answer section of the site added 118 new Q&As on faith-related topics during the month of February, bringing the total answers posted to 6,886.
- Subscription counts for the Daily Devotion service topped 7,000, including 538 new subscribers since October, 2004. Daily Prayers subscriptions increased 29% in the same time frame.
- Subscriptions to WELS News Releases, a free e-mail subscription, increased 48% since October, 2004.
- There are 1,217 @WELS.net account subscribers enjoying the free web mail service.



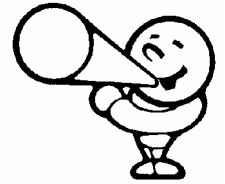
### *What's New at WELS.net?*

Pastor Paul Ziemer, a member of the Military Services Committee of the Commission on Special Ministries, arrived in Kuwait City on March 2<sup>nd</sup> to begin ministering to WELS troops and civilians. Reports of his experiences are logged on the Web at [www.wels.net/csm](http://www.wels.net/csm). Ziemer tells of his "welcome" into Kuwait, the unique security restrictions in the country and his work with WELS military personnel and their family members. New reports are added regularly.



The synod resolved at its 2003 convention to focus on North American Outreach. This focus was developed in response to plateaued

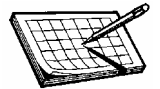
membership in many congregations coupled with a growing mission field of unchurched right here at home. Great resources for witnessing to friends, relatives, associates and neighbors are provided on the Web site at [www.wels.net/nao](http://www.wels.net/nao). In addition, WELS is now offering a free e-mail service called Proclaim! The e-mails, which are sent out twice a month, provide easy-to-remember outreach tips and include a section called "Prepare Yourself" to help you respond to reservations people might have about your Christian message.



Have you ever wished there was more you could do to help with Christ's Mission? If so, see the outreach section above and *pray!*



WELS Ministry of Planned Giving offers a prayer calendar for each month at [www.wels.net/mpg](http://www.wels.net/mpg). Most of the daily prayers listed are at the request of pastors and missionaries on behalf of their congregations



### NAVIGATING WELS.NET

The only downside of a Web site with so much to offer is that it can become difficult to navigate. For this reason WELS.net offers the jumpword search option. At the home page and on most other pages at WELS.net, a column appears on the left side of the screen containing the search and jumpword search fields. The jumpword search field allows synod communicators to bring members directly to a



particular page. For example, for updates on Pastor Ziemer's work in Kuwait, go to [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net) and enter the jumpword "Kuwait." To subscribe to the Proclaim! e-mail service, enter jumpword "proclaim." And to download a prayer calendar for April 2005, search by jumpword "prayer-calendar." When reading about something available on the Web, watch for the jumpwords and use them to simply get where you want to go.