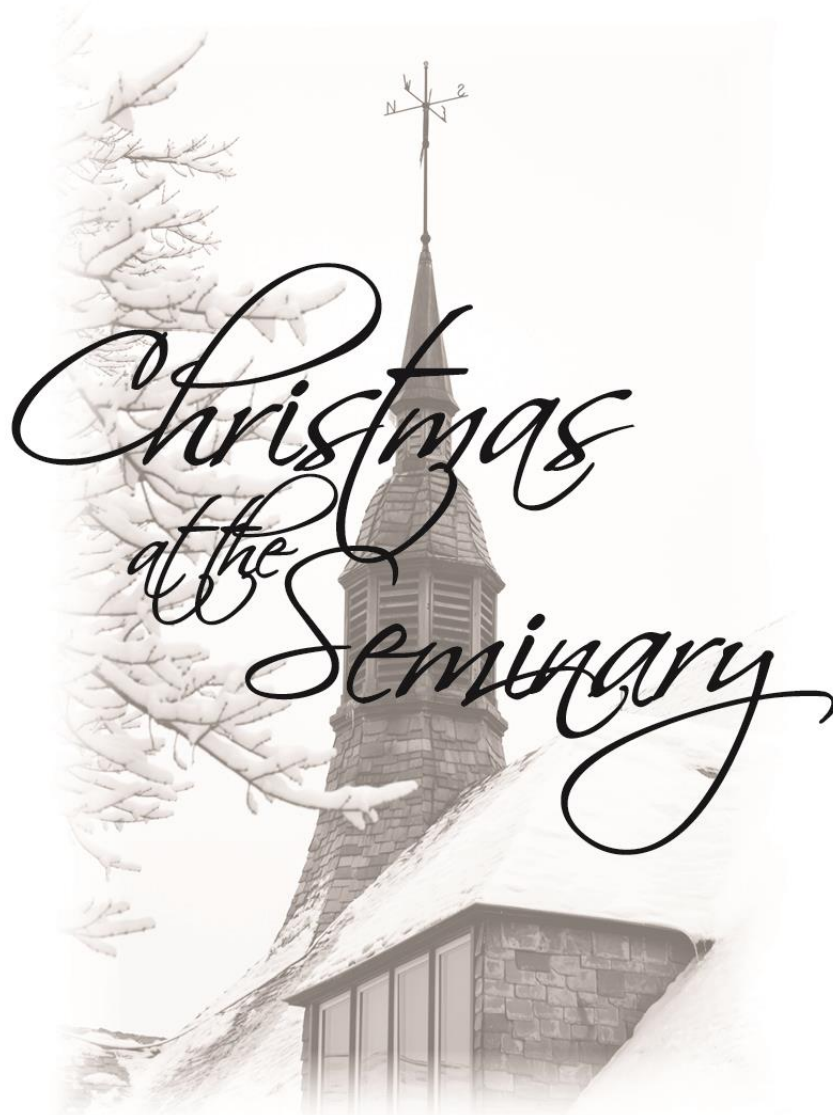


# THE SEMINARY CHORUS

James P. Tiefel, *Director*



**Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Auditorium**

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**December 11, 2016**

## Welcome to the Seminary

All over the Christian world, people are preparing for Reformation 500 in 2017. The official date is October 31, the day on which Martin Luther tacked his 95 theses on the door of Wittenberg's Castle Church. The celebration will begin before that, however, and continue after it. Millions of tourists have plans to visit the Luther sites (beautifully refurbished by the German government), and millions more will attend services and symposia marking the anniversary.

Those who know Luther well agree that Advent and Christmas were favorite times of the year for him. A student who lived in the Luther home commented that as Christmas approached, Luther grew increasingly cheerful: "All his words and songs concerned the incarnation of our Lord." Lutheran historian Paul Maier wrote, "Martin Luther loved Christmas. The joy he derived from the festival each year overflowed his heart and recharged his spirit for the many struggles in his continually challenged life." The notable Luther biographer Roland Bainton observed, "Luther is at his best and most characteristic in his sermons on the Nativity." An example: "There is such richness and goodness in this Nativity that if we should see and deeply understand, we should be dissolved in perpetual joy."



Luther the preacher was not much more cheerful than Luther the hymn writer. Over the course of his ministry he wrote or revised five hymns based on the events of Christmas. All five are in *Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal*:

**Savior of the Nations, Come** (CW 2)  
**All Praise to You, Eternal God** (CW 33)  
**From Heav'n Above to Earth I Come** (CW 38)  
**Now Praise We Christ, the Holy One** (CW 39)  
**To Shepherds as They Watched by Night** (CW 53)

Luther's hymns may lack some of the emotional appeal of *Silent Night* or *Joy to the World*, but not many of our Christmas hymns proclaim the gospel as Luther's hymns do.

This is the Christ, our God most high,  
Who hears your sad and bitter cry;  
He will himself your Savior be  
From all your sins to set you free. (CW 38)

Oh, then rejoice that through his Son  
God is with sinners now at one;  
Made like yourselves of flesh and blood,  
Your brother is the eternal God. (CW 53)

Luther's Advent and Christmas hymns have been part of the Seminary Chorus' repertory for decades. For example, the Chorus files include five settings of *From Heav'n Above*, and all have been presented repeatedly over the years.

The Reformation 500 year will include several notable opportunities to sing Luther's hymns. The National Conference on Worship, Music, and the Arts, scheduled for June 13-16, 2017, will include many of Luther's hymns in its services, including a newly commissioned setting of *From Heav'n Above*. On October 1, 2017, the Seminary Chorus will join with the Wisconsin Lutheran College Choir and the Lutheran Chorale of Milwaukee to present a Martin Luther Hymn Festival in this auditorium. But Luther would be pleased—and Christ will be honored—if these great hymns become a regular part of our private worship and worship in our own congregation every year.

*James P. Tiefel*

*Prof. Tiefel has directed the Chorus since 1985.*

# Christmas at the Seminary

*Crying children may be quieted in the auditorium lobby.  
Please silence cell phones and electronic devices.  
The 3:00 p.m. concert is being streamed live on the Internet.*

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## KEEP YOUR LAMPS

*Traditional spiritual  
Arranged by Andre Thomas, 1982*

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,  
The time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't get weary  
'Til your work is done.

Christian journey soon be over  
The time is drawing nigh.

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,  
The time is drawing nigh.

*Thomas Rockhoff, percussion*

## ADDRESS

### Part I

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*This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written  
about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.*

*Luke 24:44*

## LO, HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING

*16th century German carol  
Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)  
Arranged by Archibald Davison*

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming,  
as men of old have sung.  
It came, a floweret bright,  
amid the cold of winter,  
When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
that Rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it,  
the Virgin Mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
she bore to men a Savior,  
When half-spent was the night.

## ARISE, SHINE, FOR YOUR LIGHT HAS COME

*Isaiah 60*  
*Martin How, 1986*

### *Refrain*

Arise, shine for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has dawned upon you.

For behold, darkness covers the land;  
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.  
But over you the LORD will rise,  
and his glory will appear upon you.

### *Refrain*

Nations will stream to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.  
Your gates will always be open,  
by day or night they will never be shut.

### *Refrain*

They will call you the City of the LORD,  
the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

### *Refrain*

Violence will no more be heard in your land,  
ruin or destruction within your borders.  
You will call your walls Salvation,  
and all your portals Praise.  
The sun will no more be your light by day;  
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.  
The LORD will be your everlasting light  
and your God will be your glory.

### *Refrain*

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.



# PRAISE YE THE LORD

Psalm 150  
Kent Newberry, 1961

Praise ye the Lord. Hallelujah.

O praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.  
Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.  
Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him upon the lute and the harp.  
Praise ye him with the timbrel and dances: praise him upon the strings and pipe.  
Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals: praise him upon the loud cymbals.

Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.

# LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YOU MIGHTY GATES

Georg Weiszel (1590-1635), alt.  
Setting by John Ferguson

*Stand.*



1 Lift up your heads, you might - y gates!  
2 How blest the land, the cit - y blest,  
3 Fling wide the gates; pre - pare your heart  
4 Re - deem - er, come we o - pen wide  
5 E - ter - nal praise, un - end - ing fame



Be - hold, the King of glo - ry waits.  
where Christ the rul - er is con - fessed!  
to be a tem - ple set a - part  
our hearts to you; here, Lord, a - bid.  
we of - fer to your sav - ing name.



The King of kings is draw - ing near;  
O hap - py hearts and hap - py homes  
from earth - ly use for heav'n's em - ploy,  
O en - ter with your grace di - vine,  
Your Ho - ly Spir - it guide us on



the Sav - ior of the world is here.  
to whom this King in tri - umph comes!  
a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.  
and cause your face on us to shine.  
un - til our glo - rious goal is won.

*Be seated.*

## ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

John Hudson

*Ethan Brooks, piano*

### Part II

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*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.* *John 1:14*

## STILLE NACHT, HEILIGE NACHT

*Joseph Mohr and Franz Gruber, 1818*  
*Arranged by V. E. Becker*

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht,  
Alles schläft, einsam wacht  
Nur das traute hochheilige Paar,  
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar;  
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht,  
Hirten erst kund gemacht  
Durch der Engel Hallelujah  
Tönt es laut von fern und nah:  
Christ, der Retter ist da.

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht,  
Gottes Sohn, o wie lacht  
Lieb' aus deinem göttlichen Mund,  
Da uns schläget die rettende Stund,  
Christ, in deiner Geburt.

## TO US IS BORN IMMANUEL

*15<sup>th</sup> century Latin carol*  
*Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)*  
*Arranged by Lloyd Pfautsch, 1969*

To us is born Immanuel: Christ our Lord,  
As foretold by Gabriel. Christ our Lord  
Who is the promised Savior and King.

He lies within a manger small: Christ our Lord.  
He who came to save us all. Christ our Lord.  
Christ our Lord who is the promised Savior and King.

The Light of lights adorns this Child: Christ our Lord,  
Born of Mary, virgin mild. Christ our Lord,  
Who is the promised Savior and King.

## NEWBORN CHILD NOW SLEEPING

Jacque B. Jones  
Marc Stockert, 2015

Newborn Child now sleeping, bed of softest hay,  
In your humble birthplace: nowhere else to stay.  
Shepherds have come with tales of what they've seen.  
Breathless we are asking what these marvels mean.

Smiling Child, what brings you to this lowly town?  
Why within a stable is God's mercy found?  
Hidden from sight, no pageant or parade:  
Why no crown and scepter? Why no trumpets played?

Hungry Child now nursing at your mother's breast;  
Heart of God within you murmurs in your chest.  
Anxious, we watch, who is this child we see?  
"This is my beloved; he will speak for me."

Starlit Child of wonder, moonlit child of grace,  
Maker God among us; our Creator's face.  
Joined here today: eternity and time.  
God has crossed the threshold in this act sublime.

Like the shepherds gathered just inside your door,  
We have heard the promise: grace forevermore,  
Mercy for all and peace upon the earth.  
We have come in awe to worship at your birth.

## IN DULCI JUBILO

14<sup>th</sup> century German carol  
Matthew Culloton, 2016

*In medieval times, popular carols often combined Latin, the language of the Church, with the language of the people.*

*In dulci jubilo*  
Let us our homage show:  
Our heart's joy reclineth  
*In praeseptio;*  
And like a bright star shineth  
*Matris in gremio,*  
*Alpha es et O!*

*O Jesu parvule,*  
I yearn for thee alway!  
Hear me, I beseech Thee,  
*O puer optime;*  
My prayer let it reach Thee,  
*O princeps gloriae!*  
*Trahe me post te.*

*O patris caritas!*  
*O Nati lenitas!*  
Deeply were we stained.  
*Per nostra crimina:*  
But thou hast for us gained  
*Coelorum gaudia,*  
O that we were there!

*Ubi sunt gaudia,*  
Where, if they be not there?  
There are angels singing  
*Nova cantica!*  
There the bells are ringing  
*In regis curia.*  
O that we were there!

## PEACE CAME TO EARTH

*Jaroslav Vajda (1919-2008)*  
*Tune and setting by K. Lee Scott, 1997*

Peace came to earth at last that chosen night  
When angels clove the sky with song and light  
And God embodied love and sheathed his might—  
Who could but gasp: Immanuel!  
Who could but sing: Immanuel!

And who could be the same for having held  
The infant in their arms and later felt  
The wounded hands and side, all doubts dispelled—  
Who could but sigh: Immanuel!  
Who could but shout: Immanuel!

You show the Father none has ever seen,  
In flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pain,  
In bread and wine you visit us again—  
Who could but see Immanuel!  
Who could but thrill: Immanuel!

How else could I have known you, O my God!  
How else could I have loved you, O my God!  
How else could I embrace you, O my God!  
Who could but pray: Immanuel!  
Who could but praise Immanuel!

*Jared Natsis, French horn*





# JOY HAS DAWNED

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

*The Chorus sings stanza 1.*



1 Joy has dawned up - on the world, prom-ised from cre - a - tion -  
2 Sounds of won - der fill the sky with the songs of an - gels  
3 Shep - herds bow be - fore the Lamb, gaz - ing at the glo - ry;  
4 Son of A - dam, Son of heav'n, giv - en as a ran-som;



God's sal - va - tion now un-furled, hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.  
as the might - y Prince of Life shel - ters in a sta - ble.  
Gifts of men from dis - tant lands pro - phe - sy the sto - ry:  
rec - on - cil - ing God and man, Christ, our might - y cham-pion!



Not with fan-fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry,  
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in dark-ness,  
gold - a King is born to - day; in - cense - God is with us;  
What a Sav - ior! What a Friend! What a glor - ious mys-t'ry!



but a hum - ble gift of love - Je - sus born of Mar - y.  
cling now to a mo - ther's breast, vul - n'ra - ble and help-less.  
myrrh - his death will make a way, and by his blood he'll win us.  
Once a babe in Beth - le - hem, now the Lord of his - t'ry.

## MEDLEY of CAROLS

### O Holy Night, What Child Is This, and Joy to the World

*Arranged by Samuel Jeske*

## OFFERING

**A generous offering assists the Chorus to carry out its nation-wide ministry. Thank you.**



The Seminary Chorus is able to receive offerings electronically through a secure website. Scan the QR code with your device to be directed to the seminary's giving page or visit <https://community.wls.wels.net/>. Choose Seminary Chorus from the dropdown menu.

### Part III

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*On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.*  
*Matthew 2:11*

### SING WE NOËL, NOËL

*French noel*  
*Arranged by Theron Kirk, 1968*

Sing we noel, noel; now sing we all this day.  
Fill the air with singing; now sing we all his praise.  
Come and adore him, to the stable come.  
Sing we noel, noel, for Christ is born this day!

Shepherds, now awaken, waken from your sleep.  
Shepherds, leave your pasture; follow yonder star.  
Lying in the manger you will find him there,  
With Mary and Saint Joseph watching o'er his sleep.  
Sing we noel, noel, for Christ is born this day!

Now the Magi from the east, bearing gifts, they come!  
Gold and myrrh and frankincense to offer to the Son.  
Kneel they before him lying near his mother,  
Worship the King of kings, Christ, Emmanuel!  
Sing we noel, noel, for Christ is born this day!

Sing we noel, noel; now sing we all this day.  
Fill the air with singing; now sing we all his praise.  
Hail to our Savior born in manger lowly,  
Come and adore him; to the stable come  
Sing we noel, noel, for Christ is born this day!

### GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

*Wolfgang A. Mozart (1756-1791)*

Glorious is thy name, Almighty Lord.  
All the angels stand 'round about thy throne.  
Let all nations bow before thee and declare thy wondrous works.  
We praise thee, we give thanks to thee, we adore thee, we glorify thee.  
Lord, we adore thee, we bless thee, Lord, we thank thee for thy great glory.  
Heaven is thy throne and earth is thy footstool;  
thou art King over all the world.  
Glorious is thy name.  
Blessings and honor be to God forever and ever more.

FESTIVAL FIRST NOWELL

17<sup>th</sup> century English carol  
 Setting by Dan Forrest, 2014

*Stand for the final stanza.*

All: 1 The first Now - ell the an - gels did say was to  
 Women: 2 They look - ed up and saw a star shin - ing  
 All: 3 Then let us all with one ac - cord sing

cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;  
 in the east be - yond them far;  
 prais - es to our heav - en - ly Lord

in fields where they lay keep - ing their sheep, on a  
 Men: and to the earth it gave great light, and  
 that hath made heav'n and earth of nought and

cold win - ter's night that was so deep.  
 so it con - tin - ued both day and night.  
 with his blood man - kind hath bought.

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,  
 Chorus: Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,  
 Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.  
 born is the King of Is - ra - el.  
 born is the King of Is - ra - el.

**M:** Almighty God, you made Christmas to shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his glory in the life to come; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen. (*spoken*)

**M:** May he who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill us with such joy that comes with the knowledge of the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

**C:** **Amen.** (*spoken*)

*Be seated.*

## LORD, WHEN YOUR GLORY I SHALL SEE

*Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676)*

*Kurt J. Eggert (1923-1993)*

*Carl F. Schalk, 1992*

*Commissioned to honor the ministry of Pastor Kurt Eggert, this anthem has become the signature anthem of the chorus and concludes every concert and appearance.*

Lord, when your glory I shall see and taste your kingdom's pleasure,  
Your blood my royal robe shall be, my joy beyond all measure!  
When I appear before your throne, your righteousness shall be my crown;  
With these I need not hide me. And there, in garments richly wrought,  
As your own bride I shall be brought to stand in joy beside you.

## POSTLUDE

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Compact discs of recent recordings produced by the Seminary Chorus, including the 2010 recording, *Christmas at the Seminary*, are available for sale following the concert for \$12.00.



Guests who desire to visit the seminary's chapel, library, and classrooms are invited to exit the auditorium via the east entrance, walk under the tower, and turn right toward the library entrance: *Thy Word is Truth*. Enjoy a Christmas snack as students show you where they prepare for ministry.



The Chorus thanks members of the seminary staff for all they do to make the annual Christmas concert an enjoyable and faith-building ministry.

## Concert Participants

### Accompanists

**Ethan Brooks**  
**Nathanael Plocher**

### Instrumentalists

**Joshua Jensen**, *trumpet*  
**Tristan Paustian**, *trumpet*  
**Caleb Klatt**, *trumpet*  
**Jared Natsis**, *French horn*  
**Isaiah Horn**, *euphonium*  
**Peter Schlicht**, *banjo*  
**Paul Bourman**, *guitar*  
**Samuel Jeske**, *bass guitar*  
**Thomas Rockhoff**, *percussion*  
**Alexander Kirchenwitz**, *percussion*

### Guest Instrumentalists

**Lori Guse**, *violin*  
*Morning Star, Jackson*  
**Adam Sipe**, *trumpet*  
*St. John, Wauwatosa*  
**Matthew Schmidt**, *tuba*  
*Grace, Milwaukee*  
**Kevin Becker**, *organist*  
*Grace, Milwaukee*

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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**Peace Came to Earth** – Words © 1984 Jaroslav J. Vajda. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**Joy Has Dawned** – Words and music © 2004 Thankyou Music. Used by permission.

# The Seminary Chorus

## Tenor 1

Ethan Boese	New Berlin, WI
James Hemmelman	Winona, MN
Jacob Jenswold	Hortonville, WI
Samuel Jeske	Milwaukee, WI
Brian Knepprath	North Mankato, MN
Jared Natsis	Saline, MI
Andrew Nemmers	Allen, TX
Tristan Paustian	Charlotte, NC
Thomas Rockhoff	Wichita, KS
Hans Thomford	Chesaning, MI
Douglas Van Sice	Capac, MI

## Tenor II

Jordan Bence	Oconomowoc, WI
Paul Bourman	Rochester, MN
Ethan Brooks	Janesville, WI
Samuel Crass	Watertown, WI
Matthew Hatzung	Maplewood, MN
Joshua Jensen**	Ixonia, WI
Micah Koelpin	Dallas, TX
Christopher Royce	Green Bay, WI
Nathan Schulte	La Valle, WI
Jacob Seelman	Sturgeon Bay, WI
Zachary VonDeylen	Friendswood, TX
Andrew Westra	Columbia, TN

## Bass I

Benjamin Berger	Mequon, WI
Ross Chartrand*	Gainesville, VA
Charles Crass	Ortonville, MI
Jackson Hunter	Middleton, WI
Eric Melso	Brookfield, WI
Jonathan Neumann	Pueblo West, CO
Nathanael Plocher	Vassar, MI
Timothy Priewe	Milwaukee, WI
Matthew Proeber	Janesville, WI
Chester Reinemann	Maplewood, MN
Peter Schlicht	Black Creek, WI
Daniel Schmidt	Bittern Lake, AB
Benjamin Schone	New Ulm, MN
Jordan Uhlhorn	Scottsdale, AZ

## Bass II

Jacob Brohn	Hudson, WI
Nicolas Jenswold	Hortonville, WI
Alexander Kirchenwitz	Weston, WI
Caleb Klatt	New Hope, MN
Luke Miller	Maryville, TN
Jacob Reich	Lake City, MN
Geoffrey Rue	Racine, WI
Steven Saatkamp	Milwaukee, WI
David Spaude	Antigo, WI
Paul Spaude	Antigo, WI
Matthew Stuebs	Appleton, WI
Orie Thomford	Chesaning, MI
Craig Wilke	Fort Atkinson, WI

*\*President of the Chorus*

*\*\*Vice president of the Chorus*

## WISCONSIN LUTHERAN SEMINARY

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, located in Mequon, Wisconsin, is a post-graduate school owned and supported by the members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Since its founding in 1863, the school has had as its specific purpose to offer theological training for men who desire to enter the pastoral ministry. The seminary carries out this purpose by training all its students to preach and teach the pure gospel of Jesus Christ and to carry out the work of the ministry in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and in conscious agreement with the historical confessions of the Lutheran Church. The seminary's stated goal is to produce pastors who are

Confessional in stance  
Evangelical in approach  
Mission-minded in spirit  
Culturally sensitive  
Appropriately flexible, and  
Zealous both to nurture and equip the saints.

Most of the students who attend Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary have been trained at Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minnesota, and many have attended our synod's preparatory high schools in Watertown, Wisconsin, and Saginaw, Michigan. At the seminary, students enroll in a three-year program of classroom instruction. A fourth year, spent in a congregation under the supervision of its pastor, precedes the senior year. The on-campus curriculum includes both academic courses (scriptural, historical, and doctrinal studies) and professional courses (preaching, worship, teaching, evangelism, administration, counseling, etc.). The seminary's Pastoral Studies Institute provides training for students from diverse ethnic backgrounds and second career candidates who require a specialized curriculum. Students who successfully complete the seminary's course of instruction and are presented by the faculty as candidates for the ministry are assigned to their first field of service by the presidents of the synod's twelve districts. This year 88 students are attending classes on campus; 25 are serving as vicars and one as an emergency instructor.

Since 1929 the seminary has been located on a beautiful 80-acre campus in Mequon, a suburb of Milwaukee. The primary campus buildings – chapel, classrooms, library, cafeteria, and dormitories – are under one roof and are situated around a central park-like circle. This complex was designed to resemble the Wartburg Castle, where Martin Luther translated the New Testament into German. A 1000-seat auditorium and gymnasium is located within a short walk of the main complex. Members of the faculty live in homes on the campus.

The seminary also serves pastors who are active in WELS congregations through its *Grow in Grace Institute for Continuing Education*; many are involved in an advanced degree program. The campus hosts a variety of professional seminars, and faculty members are frequent speakers at continuing education events both in the United States and on the synod's world mission fields.

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary is supported by the mission offerings of WELS congregations, the tuition paid by its students, and private gifts directed to the seminary. Should you desire more information about the seminary, please contact the mission advancement office at 262-242-8100 or [wls@wls.wels.net](mailto:wls@wls.wels.net). Find more information about Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary at [www.wls.wels.net](http://www.wls.wels.net).



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## Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

11831 North Seminary Drive • Mequon, Wisconsin 53092 • [www.wls.wels.net](http://www.wls.wels.net)