



# WISCONSIN LUTHERAN SEMINARY — ALUMNI —

11831 N Seminary Dr • Mequon WI 53092

## **Pending Approval—Minutes**

### **Eighteenth Annual Meeting**

Monday, September 22, 2025, 10:30 AM

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Chapel

#### **Opening**

President Mark Eckert opened the eighteenth annual WLS Alumni meeting at 10:32 a.m. with a reading from Acts 1:1–8 and with prayer. President Earle Treptow greeted the alumni.

#### **Awarding of Scholarships**

President Mark Eckert welcomed Senior Mark Burger (a previous recipient who had accepted an emergency call after his vicar year and had now returned for his senior year), Middler Josiah Koelpin, and Senior Justin Schroeder, this year's recipients of the WLS Alumni scholarships. Each expressed appreciation for the gifts received.

#### **Welcome and Acknowledgement of Classes**

President Eckert welcomed the alumni by decade. The oldest alumnus present was from the class of 1967.

#### **Minutes of September 16, 2024**

A motion was made, supported, and adopted to accept the minutes of the September 16, 2024, annual meeting as amended.

#### **Elections (President, Treasurer, Committee Members)**

A motion was made, supported, and adopted to accept the ballot as presented. The alumni cast written ballots. The results of the election were as follows:

- President: Mark Eckert (WLS 1984)—term ending 2027
- Treasurer: Richard Waldschmidt (WLS 1990)—term ending 2027
- Nominating Committee member: Joshua Free (WLS 2012)—term ending 2028
- Membership Committee member: John Brenner (WLS 1977)—term ending 2028

#### **Financial Report**

Treasurer Rich Waldschmidt presented the WLS Alumni treasurer's report. In the year ending June 30, 2025, WLS Alumni received \$3968 in gifts for the operating fund. We awarded two \$1400 scholarships and supported the Grow in Grace retreats with a \$400 gift. Net assets as of

June 30, 2024, were \$9075, an increase of \$347. There were \$532 in gifts to the endowment fund; together with market changes, the endowment balance increased during the year ended June 30, 2025, by \$5371 to \$43,874. A motion was made, supported, and adopted to accept the treasurer's report.

#### **Main Presentation (Mr. Sean Young, WLS Director of Mission Advancement)**

Staff Minister Sean Young, the new WLS Director of Mission Advancement, gave an overview of his personal background and previous work experience, his current role, and the new Compelled capital campaign, along with efforts to build awareness of the seminary's mission among younger donors.

#### **Roll of Alumni Departed to Glory Since Last We Met**

Professor John Brenner read the roll of 30 WLS alumni who had departed to glory since the 2024 WLS Alumni annual meeting (or earlier). The alumni then sang hymn 880, "For All the Saints," stanzas 1–4, 7, and 8. Student Noah Melso was the organist for the day.

#### **Acknowledgements, Announcements, and Adjournment**

The date of the next annual meeting is anticipated to be Monday, September 21, 2026. Vice President Matthew Arnold gave a closing prayer. A motion was made, supported, and carried to adjourn the meeting. The eighteenth annual meeting of WLS Alumni adjourned at 11:39 a.m. with the singing of the doxology.

Respectfully submitted,



Pastor Nathan Ericson, Secretary

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#### **Related Documents**

- Minutes of the September 16, 2024, annual meeting;
- The Chronicler's Report of WLS alumni who departed to glory since the 2024 meeting;
- The WLS Alumni Treasurer's Report.