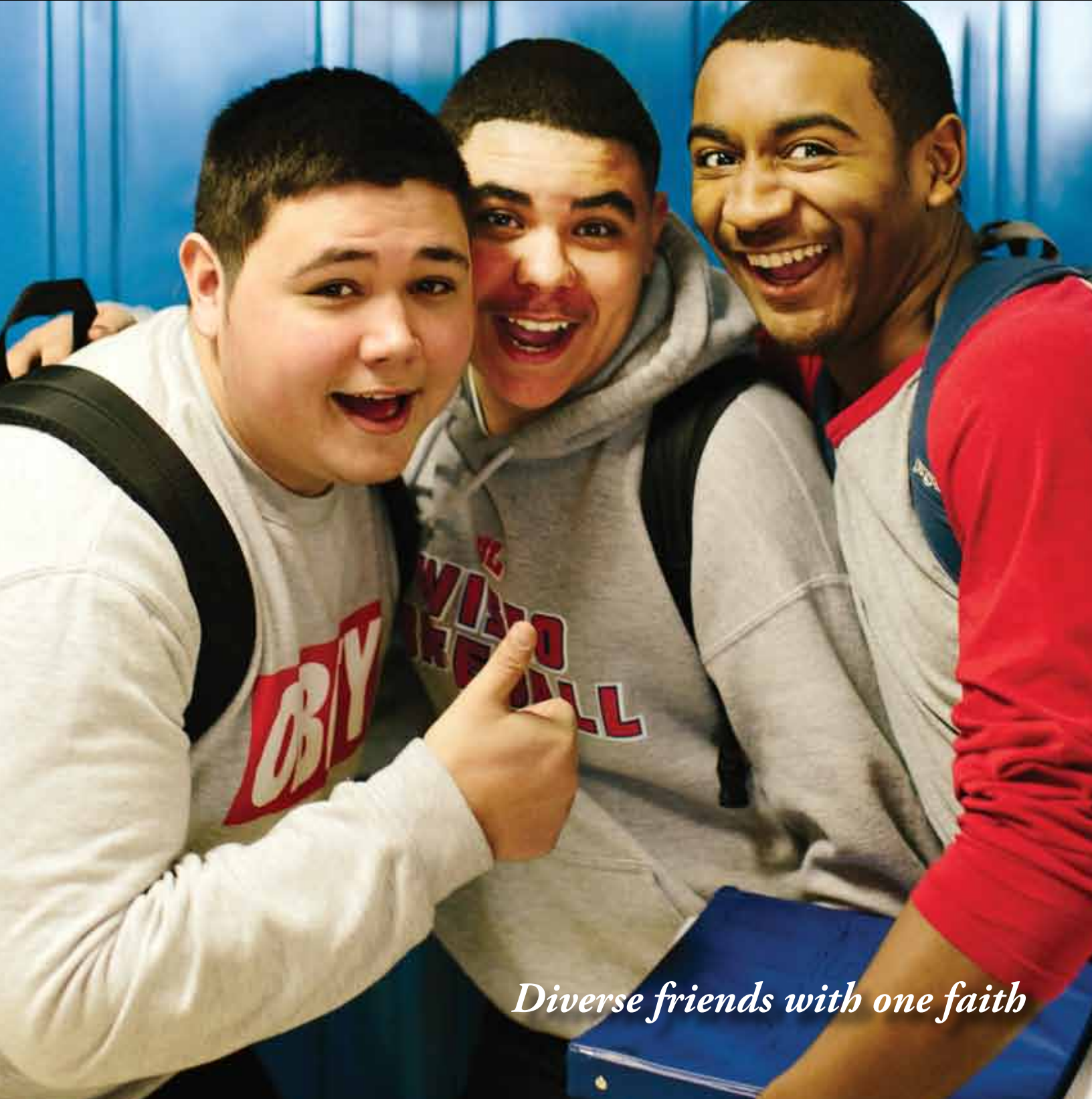


Spring 2013

WLHS

# CONTACT

*Alumni & Friends Magazine*



*Diverse friends with one faith*



A MESSAGE FROM  
**REV. KENNETH FISHER**  
PRESIDENT OF THE WLHS CONFERENCE



Pastor Fisher with  
Keishon Parker ('16)

*“Begin with  
the  
End in Mind.”*

*“After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb...” Revelation 7:9.*

**“Begin with the end in mind.”** It starts with imagining where you want to go or what you want to be at the end of the process. That’s truly what the strategic ministry planning process WLHS is engaged in this year has been all about – **envisioning what we aspire to become under Christ.**

We want to be **“the preferred choice for those seeking a comprehensive Christian high school experience in a caring, cross-cultural setting.”**

I’m not sure if we can describe exactly what that looks like in every detail – but we think it looks much like what we are today – celebrating the diversity of white, black, brown, yellow, and any other color of God’s palette.

That’s a vision that matches St. John’s vision of the ultimate end that God has in mind. God pulls back the curtain of time in Revelation to give a fuller glimpse of what he has planned. In Chapter 7’s vision, it is the gathering through the gospel of every *“nation, tribe, people, and language”* into the eternal family that we call the Holy Christian Church.

As we envision the “end” five-years from now for WLHS, perhaps it’s worth seeing how the steps we are seeking – despite the challenges to accomplish that vision – also lead towards **what God reveals will one day be reality for us in Christ!**

That gives us confidence to step forward with faith. As we share with you the strategic framework in this issue and consider all of the related ethnic, socio-economic, and financial challenges that are facing this ministry to accomplish such a lofty vision of its future, **I find comfort in knowing that in the end God will accomplish fully what we’re striving in part to do.**

Our little vision for our beloved Wisco matches God’s ultimate vision for his Church. Isn’t it comforting to see that? It makes me want to keep rolling up my sleeves and getting back into the fray. **Won’t you join me?**

In Christ’s service,

Pastor Kenneth Fisher

# In This Issue



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MUSICAL CHAIRS



6, 7, 8 & 9

BEGIN WITH  
THE END –  
STRATEGIC  
MINISTRY  
PLANNING &  
FRAMEWORK



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SLAM – A STUDENT  
BIBLE STUDY

## Upcoming Events

- Future Freshman Parent Night May 1, 2013
- Prism Concerts May 17, 18, 19, 2013
- Fishers of Men Tournament May 19, 2013
- Graduation June 2, 2013
- Friends of Wisco Golf Outing June 17, 2013

For More Information, Visit  
[www.wlhs.org](http://www.wlhs.org)

## WISCONSIN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

For Christ's Love Compels Us... 2 Corinthians 5:14

**Our Purpose** Christ's love compels us to provide a comprehensive Christian secondary education for Milwaukee area youth.

**Our Mission** Wisconsin Lutheran High School exists to work in partnership with Milwaukee area WELS congregations to make disciples of young people and their families now and for eternity by developing in them a Biblical worldview as well as the personal skills necessary for a lifetime of service to Jesus in their homes, churches, careers, and communities.

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL IS OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE FOLLOWING CONGREGATIONS JOINED TOGETHER AS THE WLHS CONFERENCE:

- |                      |                     |                     |                      |                       |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Apostles of Christ   | Gethsemane          | Pilgrim             | St. Lucas            | Siloah                |
| Atonement            | Gloria Dei-Bethesda | Redemption          | St. Marcus           | Star of Bethlehem     |
| Calvary, Thiensville | Good Shepherd's     | Resurrection        | St. Mark             | The Point of Grace    |
| Centennial           | Grace, Milwaukee    | Risen Savior        | St. Matthew          | Trinity, Waukesha     |
| Christ, Big Bend     | Grace, Waukesha     | St. Andrew          | St. Paul, Cudahy     | Victory of the Lamb   |
| Christ, Milwaukee    | Jordan              | St. Jacobi          | St. Paul, Franklin   | Woodlawn              |
| Christ, Pewaukee     | Loving Shepherd     | St. James           | St. Paul, Milwaukee  | Zebaoth               |
| Christ the Lord      | Messiah             | St. John, Lannon    | St. Paul, Muskego    | Zion, Hartland        |
| Divine Peace         | Mt. Calvary         | St. John, Milwaukee | St. Peter            | Zion, South Milwaukee |
| Fairview             | Mt. Lebanon         | St. John, Mukwonago | St. Philip           |                       |
| Faith                | Nain                | St. John, Oak Creek | Salem, Cramer Street |                       |
| Garden Homes         | Nathanael           | St. John, Wauwatosa | Salem, 107th Street  |                       |

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ON THE COVER: Chuck Jones ('13), Aaron Martinez ('15), Jonathan Holder ('15)



# All this and more in one “Musical Chairs” Day



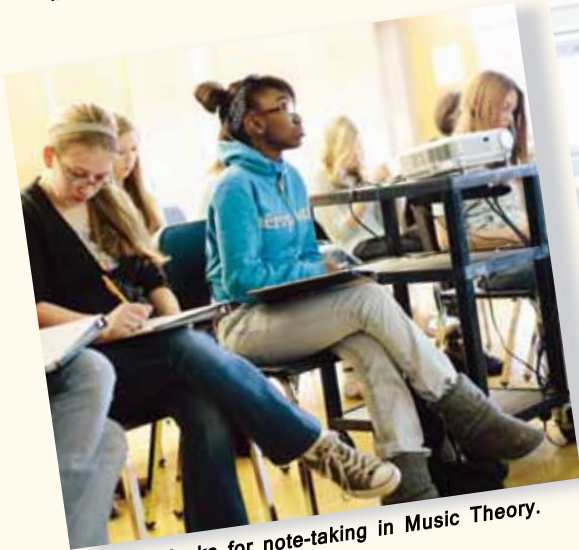
Moving chairs is a daily routine.



A “tight squeeze” for the A Cappella Choir.



Choir room becomes make-up room during production of Grease.



No desks for note-taking in Music Theory.



Limited technology, but lots of cables and cords.



Lack of space forces this band to practice in the library.



Students need to find a place to take a test.



Handbell choir meets on auditorium stage and is too often cancelled with scheduling conflicts.



**Q:** How many students are squeezed into the one choir classroom in a day? **A:** 170

**Q:** How many students are in a typical classroom in a day? **A:** 75

**Q:** How many configurations of chairs and tables are made in the choir classroom in a day? **A:** 7

**Q:** How many configuration of desks are made in a typical classroom in a day?

**A:** 1, but no need to change daily

The Fine Arts facilities have not been improved since 1958. This creates daily challenges with space, technology, storing, moving, and set construction. We have inadequate choral space, overcrowded music facilities, insufficient ensemble and instrumental practice rooms, lack of storage space, and lack of space for theatrical set construction. It's like playing "Musical Chairs" all day long.

## Space

"Our biggest challenge in Fine Arts is the lack of space and technology as well as storage," said Marjorie Flanagan, the Fine Arts department coordinator and instructor.

"On any given day, it is possible to **change the configuration of the choir room seven times between the four choral groups and academic classes** like Church Music, Musicianship Through Handbells, and Music Theory," continued Flanagan. Handbells often meet in the auditorium because there isn't room during the school day for this class. After school, co-curricular groups include Wisco Kids, Jubilation, and Inspiration. The Grade School Choir also gathers once-a-week in the choir room. During drama and musical productions, the choir room is used for rehearsals. Private lessons can also be held in the choir room. It is a rare occasion that the choir room is empty. **Besides the choir classroom, you can find musical groups and individuals practicing in the print shop, library, and of course, the auditorium and band room.**

**There is a different set-up for each activity.** For choral groups the chairs are in a choral formation, for academic classes tables are used so the students can write notes, and for co-curricular groups all the chairs and tables are put away. Everything demands a different physical setup.

**Lack of space is also an issue in the Visual Arts,** particularly where drawing and painting takes place.

## Technology

"In the choir room," Flanagan said, "we have a portable computer station and a projector on a rolling cart with lots of cables and cords in-between." **Music classes use more technology today than in the past.** Choral warm-ups, sight-singing examples, and recording of choral groups are all integral parts of

music. **The sky is the limit in music technology and WLHS has barely scratched the surface.** Largely, because we have to reconfigure the room and only have a portable computer.

One of the most exciting things proposed for *Gifted for Praise* is the music lab. We could look at different forms of music teaching that highly interest the students. Examples include group piano, classroom guitar, sound mixing, and composing. The lab would allow the use of technology in a way students use music in their everyday life—like garage bands.

## Storing, Moving, Constructing

Concerning storage, the biggest challenge comes on the stage. The choir risers and sound shells are stored on the stage at all times. Flanagan said, "When it comes time to produce the fall drama and spring musical, the risers and shells are lifted off the stage, and since the tiny elevator isn't large enough, they are rolled out the door, down the driveway, into the girl's downstairs locker room, and stored there up to four weeks. In order to store in the locker room, we have to coordinate scheduling the spring musical around grade school basketball tournaments and track season." The rest of the **storage, from costumes to props to music and marching band material, is all over the school.**

When the band performs on stage, all the percussion instruments are moved upstairs. Some can fit in the tiny elevator, but most of the percussion is **picked up and carried up the stairs, pushed up the driveway, and then lifted up onto the stage.**

Finally, the stage is the construction area for the drama and musical productions. Even with the best efforts of cleaning up sawdust, it is still everywhere and is a nuisance for band and choral performances. With a new freight elevator we would be able to do set construction in the wood shop, bring the pieces up by elevator, and place them on stage. No more sawing on stage.

## The Finale

It is exciting to think about how much more students will be able to create artistic works that honor God and proclaim his Word with *Gifted for Praise*. And nobody is going to miss playing "Musical Chairs" every day.





# UNVEILING THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

## Proposed New Mission Statement

Although the essential mission of the high school has not changed since its inception in 1903, the setting in which it conducts its ministry is dramatically different. Therefore, the following new mission statement is being proposed for the unique opportunities that God is presenting the high school's ministry today:

*Compelled by Christ's love, rooted in God's Word, and guided by the Great Commission...*

**Wisconsin Lutheran High School prepares youth in a diverse world for productive, Christ-centered lives.**

## Vision Statement

After a careful development process, the Strategic Ministry Planning Committee proposed (and the board has endorsed) the following vision statement that describes what WLHS aspires to become:

*Renowned for its distinctive Lutheran values, superior academics, and award-winning co-curricular activities...*

**Wisconsin Lutheran High School will be the preferred choice for those seeking a comprehensive Christian high school experience in a caring, cross-cultural setting.**

*Unchanging mission,  
new mission statement*

**“Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.”**

Proverbs 15:22

Throughout this school year, WLHS has been involved in a **wide-scale, consensus-driven, strategic planning process** that seeks, under Christ, to chart the school's next five-years. The process has engaged students and parents, faculty and staff, administration and the board members, pastors and principals, supporters and friends in a dialogue to build consensus about a united vision, shared values, and the critical strategic initiatives necessary to set a clear course toward that future.

“It's been a wonderful opportunity to **listen, learn, and grow** in understanding both the challenges and the opportunities that our high school ministry is facing today as we plan for the next three-to-five-years,” said Pastor Ken Fisher. “It was a perfect time to do this, having recently moved into the president role. I've been impressed with the **incredible engagement** and the synergy of the critical thinking skills of those involved.”

## SAME MISSION and VISION – NEW STATEMENTS

Nothing has changed since 1903 about the school's mission. And yet most everything about the setting for carrying out the Great Commission with teenagers has changed. “Although we are proposing a new mission statement, we are still here to carry out the same Great Commission – nurturing our children and reaching out with the gospel to the next generation,” Board Chairman Eric Christophersen reminds us. “A key reason for the **new verbiage is to simplify the statement and reflect what we heard in the listening process.** We heard that our strengths are helping our teens be ‘Christ-centered’ and to learn how to live in a ‘diverse world.’ This new mission statement pulls it all together.”

Complimenting this new mission statement is a proposed vision statement that describes what WLHS aspires to become. “We didn't hear anyone saying that we want to change our comprehensive curriculum or abandon our diversity. Everyone acknowledges that they are strengths. But we must be honest – not everyone thinks that WLHS is the ‘preferred choice’ for a Lutheran high school experience. Even though WLHS today is an incredible place, there are many false perceptions about our safety and academic standards. **We aim to correct those perceptions** with specific strategic initiatives,” said Pastor Fisher.



“Seeing is believing,” as one recent visitation committee member notes, “I understand Wisco is facing a time of transition and is at a crossroads. However, when I see the students at Wisco I feel that the issues are almost all manufactured by adults. It seems that **the students of Wisco transcend the racial, economic, and academic differences** and exist together under the belief that they are all loved equally by Christ. I believe if you could bring adults into the building to see what is taking place in the hallways, chapel, and classrooms, people would come away impressed. A significant amount of emotion is surrounding the direction that Wisco will head. **I would imagine that individuals who are interested in helping steer Wisco would take the time to spend a day at the school.** My experience has been rewarding and I feel that I understand what happens at the school much more clearly.”

## HONESTLY FACING THE CHALLENGES

After months of pouring over data, analyzing, and listening, our consultant, Alan Zacharias commented, “Blessed with a strategic location, attractive and functional facilities, robust student activities, successful alumni, supportive conference congregations, and committed, gifted board members and volunteers, WLHS is by most measures doing well. However,” he advises, “there are several significant and pressing issues that are hobbling ministry, causing dissatisfaction among stakeholders, and otherwise undermining the mission work of the school. **The seven strategic goals that this plan addresses will be essential as the school moves forward into a bright future.**”

Among the challenges identified that the strategic goals address are:

- Clarifying and communicating the mission, vision, values, and plans of WLHS;
- Managing the tension regarding the role of Milwaukee Parental Choice, international student recruitment, and the needs/wants of the traditional WELS students and families;
- Embracing the WLHS mission field that has presented itself to the school;
- Addressing perceived disconnect between various groups and the school;
- Bridging the growing divide between urban and suburban congregations;
- Developing a sound, sustainable business model; and
- Overcoming false perceptions regarding school safety.

*“I’ve appreciated the present planning process. It has again shown me that among the many blessings WLHS provides is the opportunity to experience the diversity and unity of the Body of Christ in one place.”*

Pastor David Kolander  
Christ the Lord Lutheran Church,  
Brookfield, WI



*Identified WLHS strengths: helping our teens be “Christ-centered” and to learn how to live in a “diverse world.”*



## KEY VALUES

Developed and articulated through the planning process, the following values are the key concepts and ideas that **WLHS as an organization holds sacred or non-negotiable**. These define how the school operates and forms its decisions.

In the pursuit of our mission, Wisconsin Lutheran High School will be defined by these values:

### **Great Commission Focus:**

Centered on Christ's command, and in collaboration with our conference partners, to "make disciples of all nations" through nurture and outreach;

### **Distinctively Lutheran:**

Teaching and scholarship characterized by faithfulness to the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions;

### **Academic Excellence:**

Providing an innovative, comprehensive curriculum that challenges each student for career and/or college readiness;

### **Servant Leadership:**

Developing in each student a Christ-like attitude of leadership and service in all aspects of Christian vocation;

### **Student-centered:**

Committed to always putting first the best spiritual, academic, physical, and social interests of the student;

### **Faithful Stewardship:**

Wisely and gratefully managing all of God's gifts and resources to Christ's glory;

### **Multi-cultural:**

Celebrating the mutual benefit of cross-cultural, integrated relationships in the Body of Christ;

### **Family:**

Encouraging healthy relationships and fostering an atmosphere of compassion and loving nurture within the WLHS community; and,

### **Partnership:**

Seeking collaborative partnerships that help shape tomorrow's leaders and benefit God's world.

## SETTING STRATEGIC GOALS

The following seven proposed strategic goals (not ranked in order of priority) address the challenges and help move the school towards achieving its lofty, though attainable vision for the future:

- **Academic Excellence:** Enhance learning through the development of comprehensive academic programs and delivery systems that meet the unique and changing needs of different learners.
- **Optimize Enrollment:** Increase overall enrollment by recruiting a growing number of Lutheran elementary school students reflecting the ethnic, geographic, and socio-economic diversity of our conference.
- **Servant Leadership and Student Life:** Inspire a vibrant learning community that encourages spiritual, intellectual and social growth; Christian witness; intercultural awareness; and servant leadership.
- **International Program:** Develop an expanded international student program that seizes the opportunity for gospel outreach.
- **Communications:** Articulate the brand identity, enhance the reputation of the school, and build relationships within the community and key constituencies.
- **Finance and Management:** Achieve long-term fiscal sustainability, exercise good stewardship of resources, and efficiently utilize advanced technology in support of school operations.
- **Facilities:** Invest in distinctive and appealing facilities that support and enhance the teaching and learning environment.

**Ministry Action Teams (MAT)**, consisting of six to eight individuals, were formed to focus on each of the strategic goals. The members included faculty, staff, board members, alumni, parents, and supporters. In January and February, each MAT mapped out specific, detailed, measurable, and achievable initiatives that will help move WLHS towards realizing its vision and achieving those goals over the next three-to-five-years.

"Each team, with members **representing all facets of our constituencies**, brought unique perspectives and skill sets to analyze challenges facing the school," said Daryl Raabe, the chairman of the Strategic Ministry Planning Committee. "I think people will be truly amazed at what they have collectively proposed. **This is exciting!**"



*Strategic Planning chairman, Darryl Raabe, along with strategic consultant, Alan Zacharias, conducts a kick-off meeting with MAT chairs: Principal Phil Leyrer, Rev. Jeremy Mattek, Sharon Patterson, Hannah Reinke, Diana Kerr (pictured), Brian Cramer, and David Fritsch.*

## IMMEDIATE STEPS AND BEYOND

In March, the MATs presented their sets of initiatives to the Strategic Ministry Planning Committee (SMPC) for review and a coordinated revision. After approving the unified plan, the SMPC will present the proposed strategic plan to the Board of Directors. As with the strategic framework, key constituencies will be given an opportunity to react to the plan and offer their input over the next few months until the final revised strategic ministry plan is presented to the board for approval in May and the delegates in June.

**“After we adopt this strategic plan, the real work begins,”** said Pastor Fisher. “At that time, we begin to integrate the strategic plan with our annual operational plans over the next three-to-five-years. We’ll use key performance indicators, benchmarks, and determine our priorities as we design our ongoing ministry plans. We will need to continue to communicate those plans to our constituencies while implementing accountability and assessment mechanisms.”

Pastor Fisher added, “This will call for heartfelt prayers—asking Christ for his continued blessings—and hard work on behalf of all those who love WLHS and value the important ministry that it seeks to carry out.”

*“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.”*

Proverbs 16:3

A recent visitation committee member stated, “The students of Wisco transcend racial, economic, and academic differences and exist together under the belief that they are all loved equally by Christ.”



*Principal Ned Goede and student enjoying a friendly moment after school.*





# SLAM — Salt and Light in the Morning

***“You are the salt of the earth. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”*** Matthew 5:13 and 16

**Salt**, in Jesus’ time, was highly valued. The Romans sometimes paid their soldiers with it. If a soldier did not carry out his duties, others would say, “He is not worth his salt.” Salt also enhances flavor and improves the taste of food. To be “salty” is to be Christ-like. As we do so, we help those around us develop a taste for Jesus.

The **light** that is to shine from the believer at all times consists of the fruits of faith, the living proof that he or she has been touched and illuminated by Jesus. Unbelievers who come into contact with believers will be compelled to know what makes them shine. A full moon has no light. It merely reflects the light of the sun. That’s how it works with Christians, too. When we shine our light, we point others to God who is within us.

Two seniors, Hannah Midthun, from Grace Ev. Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, and Eric Uher, from Mt. Calvary Ev. Lutheran Church in Waukesha, **initiated a Bible study with their fellow classmates** at the beginning of this school year.

“During the summer at Camp Philip I grew in faith and knowledge from the time spent in Bible study. I wanted to do something like that during the school year,” said Hannah. “So I asked Eric if he would help me start a Bible study held once a week at WLHS.”

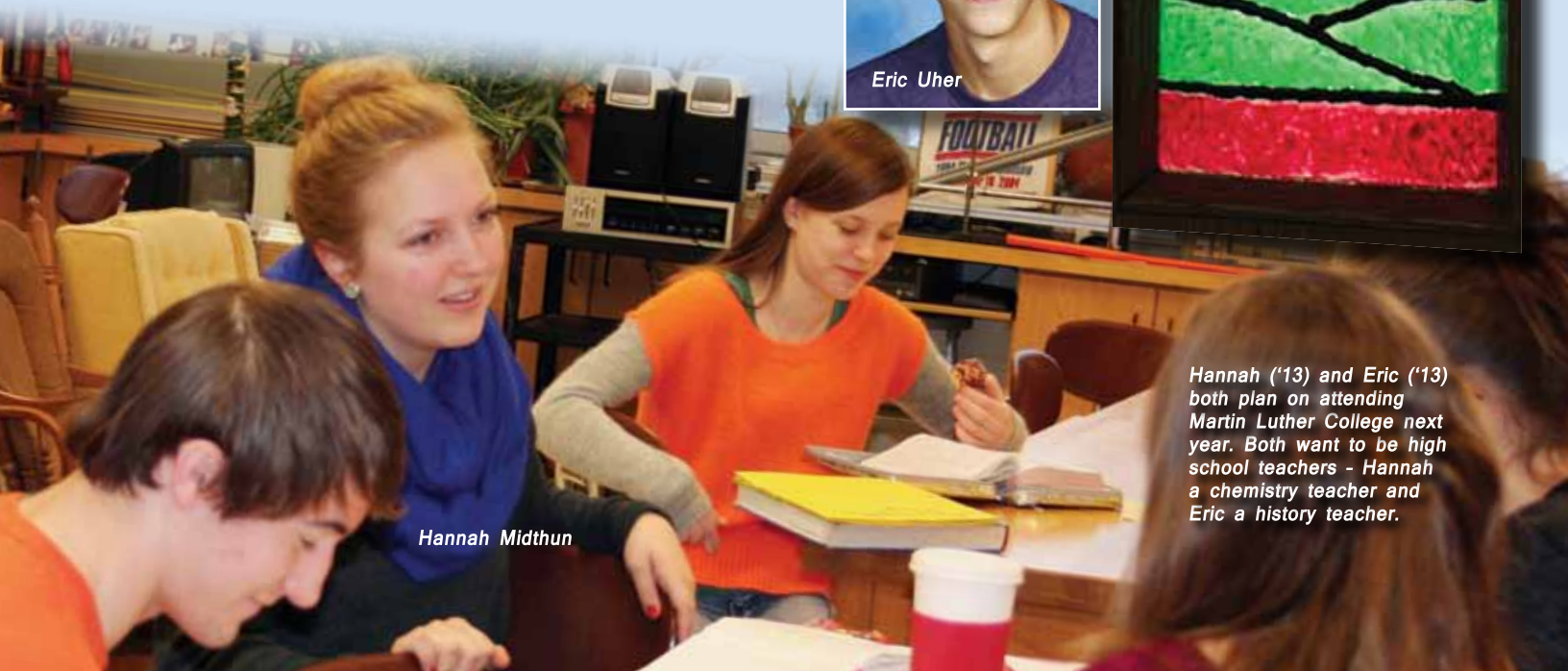
“I was excited about the idea,” commented Eric. “Something that really motivates me is Matthew 5:13-16, ‘You are the salt of the earth . . . let your light shine before others.’ **Having a Bible study is one way to glorify God as the salt and light of the earth.** We also used the salt and light with knowing we would meet in the morning before school started and came up with **SLAM—Salt and Light in the Morning.**”

Hannah and Eric made a homeroom announcement to students and placed the event on a Facebook® page. There was a huge turnout for the first study and the number of students who attend the weekly study continues to grow. The study group focuses in particular on New Testament books written by Paul. “The Epistles have great tips for getting us through the day,” mentioned Eric. “Yes,” Hannah added, “I had three tests one Friday. Starting the day with the Bible study made a big difference to my day. **The message helped take away my stress and focus on God’s strength and presence.**”

Each study has a theme and the students seem to find ways to carry the theme with them throughout the day. Eric said, “One Friday was about our ‘citizenship in heaven.’ **After the study, I started a spontaneous gesture of pointing to heaven** as I passed others who had been in the Bible study that morning. Doing that gesture with other students lit up the day. It encouraged me to see **classmates light up over God’s Word.**”



Eric Uher



Hannah Midthun

Hannah ('13) and Eric ('13) both plan on attending Martin Luther College next year. Both want to be high school teachers - Hannah a chemistry teacher and Eric a history teacher.

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## Maggie Rasmussen '10

Martin Luther College (MLC) / Student Teacher –  
St. Matthew's Lutheran School, Oconomowoc

*"Students  
are blessed  
with being  
prepared  
for a future  
in a diverse  
culture."*



"Wisco really influenced my career choice and prepared me to become a WELS teacher," stated Maggie Rasmussen, a 2010 WLHS graduate. "It is an awesome place. **Besides helping me figure out what I wanted to do in life, WLHS prepared me academically, religiously, and socially.**" Maggie is the fulfillment of our proposed vision statement: she had a comprehensive Christian high school experience in a caring, cross-cultural setting.

### Academically

Maggie will be **graduating from MLC six months early**. That's because **she took AP® classes at WLHS**, and went to MLC with seven college credits. "There are only a few WELS high schools that offer extensive AP® classes. WLHS is unique that way. It is wonderful that I can graduate early," said Maggie.

### Religiously

"Wisco is more than superior academics; you have the **opportunity to hear God's word every day with about 800 people**," Maggie continued. "That is **incredible!** To have so many different friends and they all know the Lord and they all have a common faith. Teenage years are hard and what better place to do it than at WLHS with a Christian faculty and Christian friends.

WLHS has an incredible staff and faculty. Their relationships with students are unlike any other. They are Christian role models who I learned how to be a good Christian woman from. **Teachers are all working towards a common goal—for students to be strong Christians and succeed past Wisco.**"

### Socially

"**WLHS has a diverse student body, which is similar to the real-world.**" Maggie found the **diversity to be very positive**. "Every class had some diversity." Maggie continued, "I participated in sports—track, volleyball, and dance team. I was also on student council. All of those situations had a diverse student body participation. We all worked together; there was no division between races. **We were one class, or one team, or one student body working towards common goals.**"

### Call to Teach

As for choosing to become a teacher, Maggie said, "After my sophomore year, I went on a Share the Mission trip to Mexico. That experience gave me my first glimpse at working with elementary-aged children. I came home knowing I wanted to be a teacher. **WLHS was very supportive and helped encourage my call to teach.**

Now I'm in my fourth week of student teaching, and it has been incredible. I love being in the classroom. I get to teach math and science to 5th graders, but also about God, his love for them, and his plans for them."

Maggie foresees possible outreach opportunities when she becomes a WELS grade school teacher. "The Lord will place me where I should be," stated Maggie. "My goal is that where ever I end up I am a Christian role-model. Maybe it will be a call with a lot of diversity. **WLHS gave me a real world experience through a diverse student body**, by the way the school is run, and with the many opportunities offered. Students are **blessed with being prepared for a future in a diverse culture.**"





## *Retiring...* Yvonne Quint

Yvonne Quint retired December 31, 2012 as the associate director of mission advancement. **Yvonne has a heart for volunteerism.** After she and her husband “retired” seven years ago from jobs they held in California, they moved to Milwaukee. Getting involved as a very active volunteer at WLHS led to a job offer as the associate director of mission advancement. At the time, she agreed to do the job for two years, but **WLHS was blessed to have Yvonne’s expertise for six.** You’ll find Yvonne still at WLHS – as a volunteer. She is serving on The Big Friday Night Auction committee and got the Scrip program running.

*“This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God’s people but it is also overflowing in many expressions of*  
**thanks to God.”**

2 Corinthians 10:12



## *Welcoming...* Ann Nischke

Ann Nischke **has joined WLHS as associate director of mission advancement.** In this role, she is responsible for the annual fund and appeals, alumni relations, and events including the annual auction. Ann comes most recently from the financial services industry. From 2002 to 2006 she served in the Wisconsin State Assembly as the elected State Representative from the 97th District. Ann was president of the Waukesha County Chamber of Commerce from 1995 to 2001. She also spent 15 years in leadership roles with the Milwaukee and Waukesha YMCAs.

## *Encouraging...* to Volunteer & Donate

Inspired by Yvonne Quint’s years of volunteering, we are featuring an organization that can benefit from others involvement. **Under the umbrella of the Milwaukee Federation of WELS Churches is the Bargain Center** with north and south side locations. They encourage you to **“Find A Bargain - Donate One - Or Share Your Time.”**

Both Bargain Centers **welcomes donations** and offer opportunities to **share your time and keep resources flowing to the ministries they support, which includes WLHS.** The volunteer positions include sales clerk, floor clerk, marking clerk, sorter, electronic repair, and stockers. If you think one of positions fits your time and abilities, contact the WELS Bargain Center at 414-327-2529.

**There are many other opportunities to volunteer throughout WELS.  
Maybe you’ll find it in your heart to seek out an opportunity to serve.**

# Remember When ...

Being one hundred and ten is a ripe old age... yet Wisconsin Lutheran High School is feeling as young as ever. Surely the founding fathers' vision for a Lutheran high school has gone down paths they could not foresee and way beyond their dreams. Here is a glimpse at that path...

- ▶ September 21, 1903, Lutheran High School (LHS) opened on 12th Street and North Avenue
- ▶ The first class consisted of 18 girls
- ▶ In 1908 the tuition was \$20 a year
- ▶ The first building was erected on three acres in 1908
- ▶ In 1924 the first telephone was installed in the school office
- ▶ 1925 was a year of firsts—a basketball team was started and the school's first yearbook, the Aurora, was published
- ▶ During the Great Depression, a teacher's salary was less than \$100 a month
- ▶ The first band was formed in 1939
- ▶ LHS could accommodate 250 students; when LHS hit an enrollment of 858 students in 1946, the school day was run in shifts beginning at 7:00 am and ending at 5:30 pm, the gymnasium was converted into classrooms, and barracks were used for additional classrooms
- ▶ In 1952, 27 congregations formed the WLHS Conference
- ▶ The "new" Wisconsin Lutheran High School opened on September 7, 1955 in the "old" LHS building—the same year that Robert Krause became the first principal of WLHS
- ▶ Ground was broken on December 1, 1957 for the new WLHS at its current location
- ▶ In 1963 thirteen new classrooms were added to the south end of the building
- ▶ Students raised over \$42,000 for the Schlicker pipe organ in 1963
- ▶ Since 1972, WLHS has won over 260 state, regional, or conference championship titles in numerous athletics
- ▶ A superintendent/president position was added in 1978
- ▶ In 1979 a second addition consisting of a new library, visual arts, and a second gym was dedicated



- ▶ The burning of the mortgage took place in 1989
- ▶ In 1998, WLHS began offering Advanced Placement classes
- ▶ Also in 1998, the math and science addition to WLHS was completed
- ▶ In 1999 the Athletic Field Complex was dedicated—no more "rock pile"
- ▶ The Centennial Celebration took place in 2003 with yearlong remembrances
- ▶ Also in 2003, the first Hall of Fame Inductees were honored
- ▶ Project Lead the Way®—a high level engineering curriculum, began in 2010
- ▶ WLHS instituted the College Readiness Continuum in 2011 with strong support from area foundations
- ▶ In 2011, the *Gifted for Praise* comprehensive campaign was initiated to enhance the Fine Arts and Practical Arts, create a student center and new atrium, and air-condition the south wing
- ▶ The WLHS Strategic Ministry Plan began in 2012
- ▶ A new Mission Statement is introduced in 2013
- ▶ 2013—WLHS celebrates 110 years!

God's  
grace on  
WLHS  
has been  
immeasurable.





WLHS  
**HALL of FAME**  
**2014**

Every day at WLHS we observe the many ways that our school is shaping tomorrow's leaders. Through God's grace, our teachers, coaches, and staff work towards preparing our students to become the next great instructor, synod leader, university president, or even professional athlete.

**Every three-years we look back with pride, and commend those in the WLHS family who have made the very most of the exceptional talents God has bestowed upon them.** We want to celebrate these unique individuals that assisted WLHS or excelled in their chosen field thereby giving glory to God through their achievement and service.

The categories for which an individual can be nominated include:

- Athletics
- Performing/Visual Arts
- Alumni Leader
- Stewardship
- Ministry

**If you know of someone who should be considered for the WLHS Hall of Fame, please go to [www.wlhs.org/nomination](http://www.wlhs.org/nomination) and print, fill out, and submit the nomination form by November 4, 2013 to:**

Wisconsin Lutheran High School  
 Hall of Fame Nominations  
 330 North Glenview Avenue  
 Milwaukee, WI 53213

IN LOVING MEMORY

- 1938** Otilia Zastrow (Prah) *November 11, 2012*
- 1939** Dorothy Lindemann (Steffen) *March 23, 2013*
- 1942** Lois Hartwig (Wegner) *March 28, 2013*
- 1944** Audrey Garske (Ramtham) *March 26, 2013*  
 Robert O. Gauger *December 6, 2012*
- 1946** Caryl Browne (Klug) *February 5, 2013*
- 1946** Marion Ohm (Ristau) *February 19, 2013*
- 1947** Fern Zierer (Lange) *February 24, 2013*
- 1948** Delmer Moeller *September 18, 2012*  
 John Benidt *June 4, 2012*  
 James Marquart *January 18, 2013*
- 1950** David Beierle *March 11, 2013*
- 1952** Beverly Rahn (Lindell) *February 6, 2013*
- 1953** Donna Manning (Peters) *September 27, 2012*
- 1953** Ronald H. Raasch *November 19, 2012*
- 1953** Richard J. Stoll *December 19, 2012*
- 1955** Kay F. Jackson (Hinkle) *December 26, 2012*
- 1957** Marvin John Vanselow *November 27, 2012*
- 1960** Laura Scherbarth (Toepel) *November 29, 2012*
- 1961** Grace Schneider (Ruege) *October 4, 2012*
- 1963** Judith Vanderpoel (Jakubowski) *December 16, 2012*
- 1970** Sharon Keech (Voss) *October 13, 2012*
- 1970** Enid Stevenson *February 19, 2013*
- 1971** Laurie Rick (Scheller) *March 12, 2013*
- 1988** Mary O'Connell (Lewandowski) *June 21, 2012*

# UPCOMING LHS & WLHS

# REUNIONS

## THANK YOU!

to the dedicated reunion planners and volunteers who work to keep LHS and WLHS alumni connected.

To serve on the committee or for information, please contact Nancy Raabe at 414-453-4567, ext. 2016, or [nancy.raabe@wlhs.org](mailto:nancy.raabe@wlhs.org). For updates visit [www.wlhs.org](http://www.wlhs.org)

- 1944** The 69-year reunion of the Class of 1944 is planned for September, 2013. Watch for details in the upcoming months.
- 1945** On June 29, 2013 your class will be celebrating its 68-year reunion at the Silver Spring Country Club. Watch your mail for more information.
- 1946** Mark your calendar for the 67-year reunion on September 7, 2013 at Alioto's. For more information, contact Betty (Smalz) Biesterfeld at 262-780-9830.
- 1948** The 65-year reunion will be on June 23, 2013 at Libby Montana in Milwaukee. Watch for information in the mail or contact Donna Franklin at 262-783-4817.
- 1953** A 60th reunion is planned for Thursday, August 8th, at Meyer's Restaurant on South 76th Street in Milwaukee. Gathering time is 11:30 a.m. with a family-style lunch served at noon. Please note that the class mailing list has been down-sized. Anyone who does not receive the mailing may still register for the reunion by phone: 262-376-7641 or email: [erkraft376@att.net](mailto:erkraft376@att.net).
- 1954** Mark your calendar for the 59-year reunion on June 8, 2013 at North Hills Country Club. Please contact lone Minster at 414-481-3892.
- 1958** The 55-year reunion of the Class of 1958 will be on Wednesday, June 26, 2013 at the Thunder Bay restaurant in Waukesha. Look for more information in spring or email Sylvia McDonald at [sylvia7158077@att.net](mailto:sylvia7158077@att.net).
- 1963** Mark your calendar for your 50-year reunion September 27-29, 2013 at New Berlin Hills Golf Club in New Berlin. For more information please contact Bob Lehninger at [lehninger@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lehninger@sbcglobal.net).
- 1968** A 45-year celebration is being planned on September 13, 2013 at Abigail's Banquet Hall in Milwaukee. For information contact Jim Kleist at [jim.kleist@wlhs.org](mailto:jim.kleist@wlhs.org) or 414-453-4567 ext. 2005.
- 1978** The 35-year reunion is being planned for September 14, 2013. More details will be coming soon. Contact Linda Sweek at [lindasweek@yahoo.com](mailto:lindasweek@yahoo.com) for information.
- 1983** A 30-year celebration is planned for August 10, 2013 at "Best Place" at The Historic Pabst Brewery in Milwaukee. Watch your mailbox for more information or contact Pat Wenzel at 715-360-0407 or [govfreak@hotmail.com](mailto:govfreak@hotmail.com).
- 1988** The plans are set for Saturday, July 27, 2013 in honor of your 25-year reunion at the Brookfield Sheraton Hotel. For more information, contact Stephen Brester at [sbrest1@att.net](mailto:sbrest1@att.net) or 262-251-4420.
- 2003** Ten years have passed since your graduation. If you would like to serve on the committee or more information, please contact Steve Miick at [stevemiick@gmail.com](mailto:stevemiick@gmail.com).

The following classes will be celebrating milestones:

**1973 - 40 years    1998 - 15 years    2008 - 5 years**  
**1993 - 20 years    2003 - 10 years**

If you would like to serve on a class committee or would like more information, please contact Nancy Raabe.

## YOUR Help Needed for a 2:1 Challenge Grant

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation, announced a 2:1 challenge grant in the amount of \$100,000 for *Gifted for Praise*. This is exciting news!

The grant is for up to \$100,000 with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation matching 50 cents to every dollar raised. That means that with your help, if we raise \$200,000, WLHS will receive an additional \$100,000 for *Gifted for Praise*. That's a total of \$300,000! We ask that you consider making a gift of \$500, \$250, \$100, or whatever amount is appropriate for your family. Your participation is key!

### The Thrivent deadline for the matching gift is June 30, 2013.

The grant is part of the Foundation's Lutheran Grant Program. This program is designed to assist Lutheran organizations. In 2012, the program distributed more than \$2 million in grants.

WLHS is half-way through the *Gifted for Praise* campaign and half-way to the goal of \$5 to \$7 million. *Gifted for Praise* is designed to help WLHS continue providing the highest level of academic excellence. It will strengthen the overall financial stability of WLHS, expand the Fine Arts facilities, which includes the Practical Arts, construct Project Lead the Way® classrooms, build a new atrium and student center, and install air-conditioning - all to better serve southeastern Wisconsin youth.

**Please help WLHS meet the \$100,000 challenge with a gift of \$500, \$250, \$100, or any appropriate amount. Just use the envelope found in the center of Contact.**

WLHS is thankful for your support and thankful for the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation and the good they are doing to support the Lutheran community.



**Thrivent Financial for Lutherans  
Foundation**



# ALUMNI GRAPEVINE

WE WANT TO  
HEAR FROM  
YOU!

Send us your updates  
by emailing your  
news and photos to  
nancy.raabe@wlhs.org

**Roy Ruckdeschel ('63)** retired from St. Louis University in June 2012 as a Professor of Social Work. He received his doctorate in Sociology from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio in 1974 and spent 38 years as a full professor. Roy has two daughters who live in Chicago and five grandchildren.

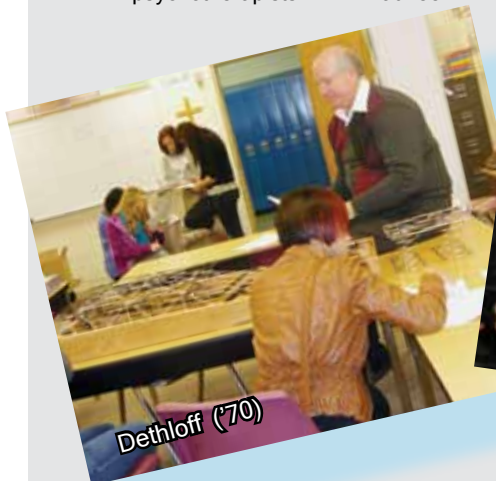
**Mike Dethloff ('70)** held a furniture workshop for the Interior Design class on December 20. Mike's family owns Ken Michael's Furniture. He has conducted this workshop at WLHS for ten years. He brings real furniture and some component parts like cushion foam, springs, and fabric and puts on a very interesting workshop. The students weigh foam, hammer furniture, and calculate cost differences in fabrics.

**Martha (Gehl) Unteutsch ('76)** graduated from MATC in December 2011 with a degree as an Administrative Professional.

**Jerry Husz ('79)** is scheduled to be inducted into the Wisconsin State High School Cross Country Hall of Fame in 2013.

**TJ Saye ('89)**, chief operating officer at the Chicago personal injury and wrongful death law firm of Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard, founded the non-profit Michael Matters Foundation in December 2012. This foundation is dedicated to building awareness and raising funds to prevent and cure brain cancer.

**Lillian (Emler) Carroll ('99)** and husband Thomas welcomed their first child, Anastasia Carroll on January 16, 2013. Both are employed as psychotherapists in Milwaukee.



Dethloff ('70)



Saye ('89)

In January 2013, four WLHS alumni, **Cynthia Fitzsimmons ('99)**, **Kyle Tolbert ('08)**, **John Klein ('09)**, and **Emily Treichel ('10)** traveled to Grenada through a service learning trip sponsored by Wisconsin Lutheran College. The week included building a roof, painting a home for two local families, as well as teaching Sunday school and assisting with various projects at the local congregation, Grace Lutheran Church. The four alumni said it was a wonderful opportunity to share the love of the Savior Jesus with the people of Grenada and create lasting friendships with fellow Vikings.

**Joshua Raabe ('99)** received his PhD in Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology in December 2012 from North Carolina State University where he is currently conducting fisheries research as a Postdoctoral Scholar. He lives in Raleigh, North Carolina with his wife Meredith and daughter Rylee.

**Robin (Kolosovsky) ('01)** and Nathan Sabich were married on October 20, 2012 at St. Marcus Church in Milwaukee. There were many alumni involved in the wedding including **Randy Kolosovsky ('70)** father of the bride, **Leanne (Kolosovsky) Higgins ('96)**, **Neal Kolosovsky ('97)**, **Kyle Kolosovsky ('99)**, **Amanda (Kolosovsky) Szymanski ('01)**, **Kristy Joers ('03)**, **Kelly (Faherty) Wicinski ('01)**, **Robina Reddie ('01)**, **Katie (Robinson) McGrath ('01)**, **Andy Joers ('99)**, and **Chris McGrath ('01)**.

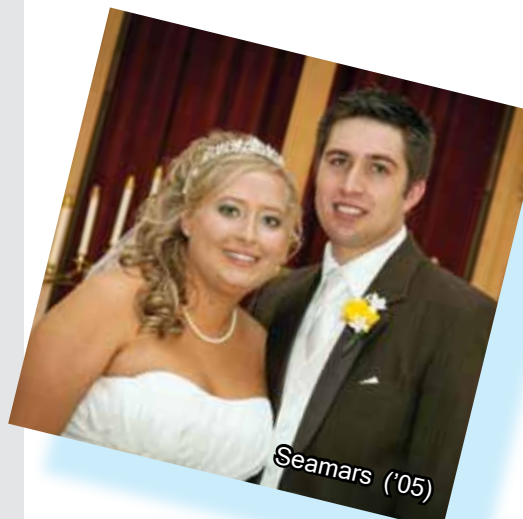
**Katrina (Westervelt) ('02)** and Antonio Belmontes, Jr. were married on October 6, 2012 at St. Stephens Parish in Oak Creek. The couple lives in Oak Creek.



Fitzsimmons ('99)  
Tolbert ('08)  
Klein ('09)  
Treichel ('10)



**Katie (Grund) Batterson ('04)** and her husband David welcomed their first child, Layla Scarlett, on July 31, 2012. Layla is the granddaughter of **Warren Grund ('71)**. The family lives in Springville, New York.



Seamars ('05)



Batterson ('04)

**Katie (Nettesheim) ('04)** and Steven Lehman were married on October 6, 2012 at St. John Lutheran Church in Lannon. The couple is now living in Canton, Michigan where Steven is a 5-6th grade teacher at St. Peter in Plymouth. WLHS graduates in the wedding party included **Kaitlyn Schumacher ('04)**, **Matthew Nettesheim ('99)**, **Ryan Nettesheim ('01)**, and **Eric Nettesheim ('01)**.



Smith ('07)



Alberti/Unteutsch ('05)

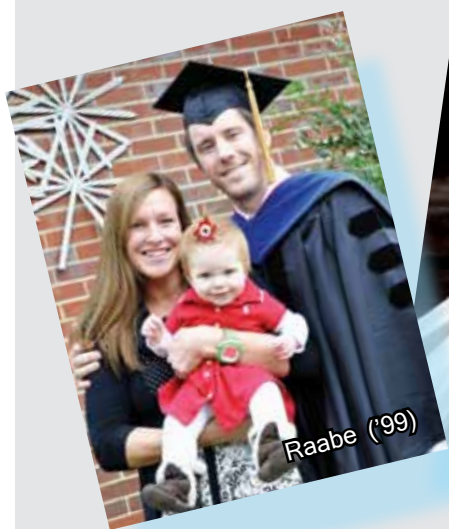
**Robert Seamars ('05)** and Katy Boothe became husband and wife on August 24, 2012 in the historic St. Paul Lutheran Church in Muskego. Groomsmen included alumni **Brandon Medinger ('05)**, **David Misko ('05)**, and **Joshua Seamars ('08)**. The couple resides in Mukwonago.

**Lindsay Unteutsch ('05)** and **Brandon Alberti ('05)** became engaged on May 20, 2012 behind home plate at Miller Park. They met at WLHS, were Class Couple, and graduated from Marquette University in 2009. A wedding is being planned in Riviera Maya, Mexico on November 7, 2013. Lindsay is a registered nurse at Life Navigators in Wauwatosa and Brandon is employed at Assurant Health in downtown Milwaukee.



Nettesheim ('04)

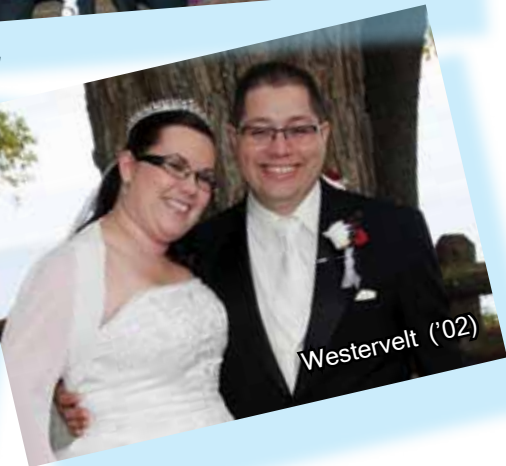
**Jake Smith ('07)** has returned to decorate the FACE room for Christmas every year since his graduation from WLHS! He also donated the tree, skirt, lights, and all the decorations.



Raabe ('99)



Kolosovsky ('01)



Westervelt ('02)





9th Annual  
**Fishers of Men**  
 CLASSIC

**Sunday, May 19, 2013**  
**5:00 am**

SMOKEY'S BAIT SHOP  
 on Pewaukee Lake

**REGISTRATION**  
**FEE \$30** per person

For More Information Contact  
**MIKE SEBALD**  
 mike.sebald@wlhs.org or call  
 414-453-4567, ext. 2262

**Wisconsin Lutheran High School**  
**www.wlhs.org**



BE A WLHS FAN ON  
**facebook**®

Become a fan of Wisco's Facebook page to get the latest news about our school and upcoming events by going to [wlhs.org](http://wlhs.org) and clicking on the Facebook icon in the bottom corner. You can post comments and interact with an online community of friends and alumni of our school.

*Friends of Wisco*

**23<sup>RD</sup>**

**ANNUAL  
 CHARITY**



**GOLF OUTING**

*June 17, 2013*

**REGISTRATION - 9:00 am**  
**TEE-OFF - 10:00 am**

**Evergreen GOLF CLUB**

N6246 US Highway 12  
 Elkhorn, Wisconsin

For more information contact **Nancy Raabe**  
 414-453-4567, x 2016

# Winter Athletic Season

The winter athletic season is now over and WLHS was again blessed with great successes.

The **girls' basketball** team finished with a 12-2 conference record, good for 2nd place in the Conference and a stellar 20-4 overall record. Injuries brought this successful season to an early close in the WIAA Regional Final against Whitefish Bay. First Team All-Conference Girls Basketball went to Mandy Frey and Kelsey Frey, both seniors.

The **wrestling team** also enjoyed success this winter, as a young team placed 4th in both the dual season and the Conference Tournament. The varsity team had four individuals qualify through the Regionals and Sectionals and on to the State Tournament in Madison. First Team All-Conference Honors went to Jacob Roecker and Ken Reid, both seniors, and sophomore Aaron Michaels.

The **boys' basketball** team won their 8th consecutive Conference Championship and then grabbed the WIAA Regional and Sectional Plaques as well, on their way to a return trip to Madison for the State Tournament. A convincing win over Stoughton sent the Vikings into the State title game against Pulaski, where they fell a few points short. The **Wisconsin Little Ten Conference** named senior **Deiondre Cunningham** **Player of the Year**. Coach Ryan Walz credits the seniors for their leadership and how... "the whole team has been amazingly unselfish." Congratulations on a successful 22-6 season!

The **cheerleading** competition squad won their Regional championship and again qualified for the State championships. The team placed 2nd in the medium sized school competition. The girls also qualified for the National Cheer Championships in Florida.

**Jeff Sitz, WLHS athletic director** stated, **"I am most proud of... the Christian way our student athletes conduct themselves.** And, although we all fall short of leading the perfect life of Christ, our students are prepared to live their lives in **service to their Lord.**"

## Fine Arts

A WELS congregation member recently wrote to Ned Goede, principal and A Capella and Chamber Choir director, **"...my gratitude to the Lord for their gifts of song and music and especially for their faith in Jesus, which shone through so brilliantly in each song..."** WLHS is thankful to know how the Fine Arts program inspires others. Below are a few mentions of the students shining brightly this winter.

**Grease the High School Version**—In 1959, Rydell High School's students are starting a new school year. Sandy Dumbrowski, played by **Jessica Kreuser** is the new girl at school and Danny Zuko, who was **Ethan Tellier**, is the leader of the "Burger Palace Boys." The two had a brief fling over the summer, but when school starts, Danny is cool to Sandy. Sandy wonders what she needs to do to fit in at Rydell. By the end of the play she has transformed herself into a greaser's dream date. Former WLHS history teacher, **Bob Lehninger**, made a special appearance as the Teen Angel.

**Grease** has been placed on the world's most popular musical list. And the cast and crew at WLHS had a blast performing songs like "Greased Lightnin'" and "Summer Nights." The musical was fun and a little flirty.

**Spring Band Concert and Sacred Spring Choral Concert**—The WLHS Concert Band, Jazz, and Percussion Ensembles performed for the Spring Band Concert on Thursday, March 21 with some out-of-this-world music. Two days later on March 23, the Sacred Spring Choral Concert with various choirs and instrumentalists was held. The theme, "My Faith has Found a Resting Place," prepared attendees for Holy Week.

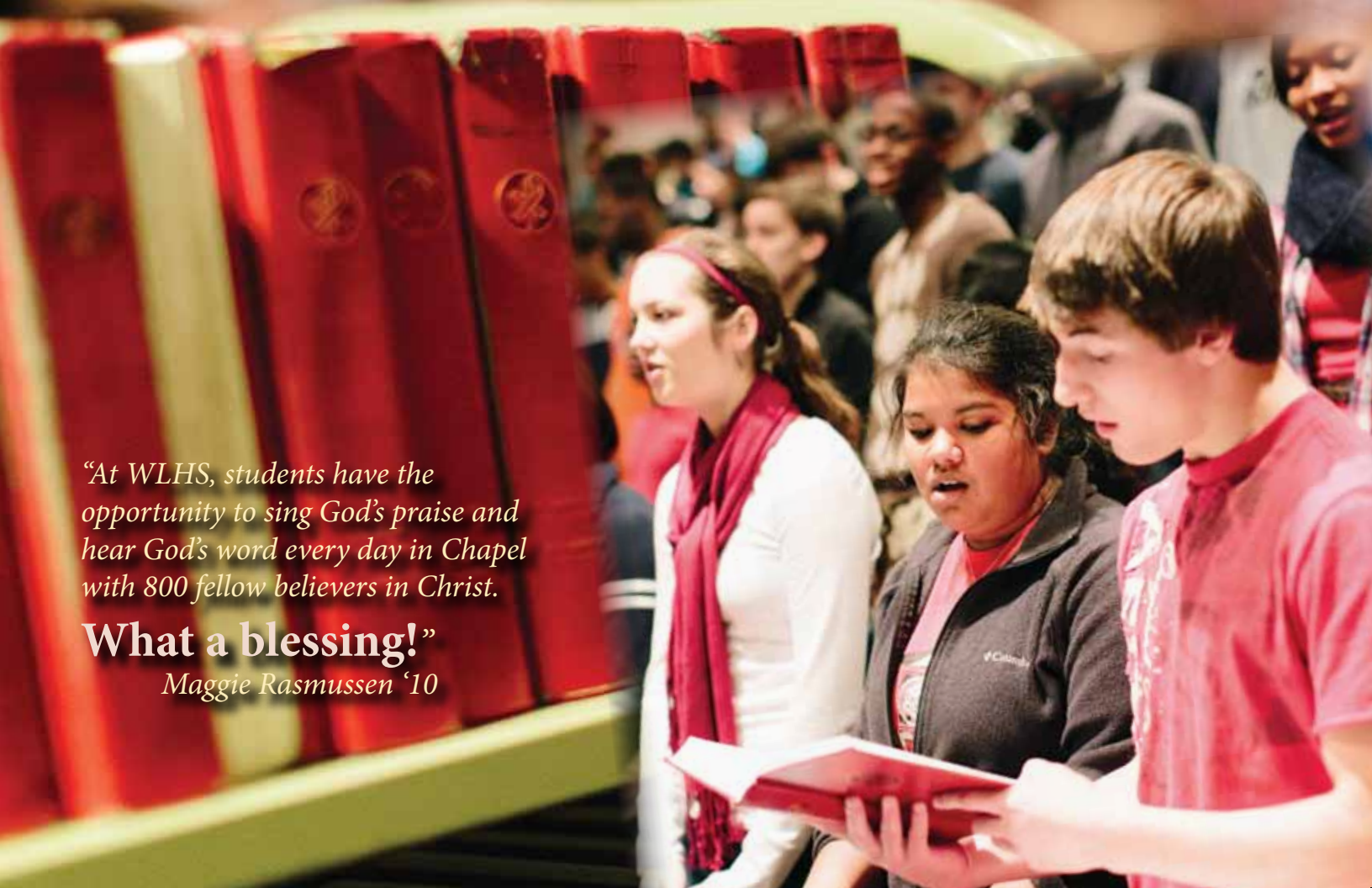


*"It's a blessing from God that has put us in this position, to play the championship game"*

as quoted in the *Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel* by Deiondre Cunningham ('13).





A photograph of students in a chapel. In the foreground, three students are looking at their Bibles. A young woman on the left wears a white shirt and a red scarf. A young woman in the middle wears a dark grey hoodie. A young man on the right wears a red t-shirt. Behind them, many other students are visible, some holding Bibles. The background is filled with rows of red Bibles on a shelf.

*“At WLHS, students have the opportunity to sing God’s praise and hear God’s word every day in Chapel with 800 fellow believers in Christ.*

**What a blessing!”**  
*Maggie Rasmussen ‘10*