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# PRESENTATION DESCRIPTIONS



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## 10 Quick Tips to Jump Start Instrumentalists in Worship

Patricia Backhaus

Do you want to use a greater variety of instruments more often in worship? This session offers much that can help meet that objective. Included are: ten useful ideas for getting instrumentalists involved in worship right now; repertoire, scheduling rehearsals and ideas for working with children, teens and adults; a quick primer for understanding instruments and how to best utilize them in an ensemble; basic conducting skills to keep everyone on the beat.

*Pat is a freelance musician in the Milwaukee area and the founding conductor of the Soli Deo Gloria Brass, a group of WELS musicians. She earned the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in trumpet performance from the University of Minnesota and is an active conductor, clinician, and composer/arranger. She is also a member of ASCAP and a performing artist for the Getzen Co.*

## A Catalog of Christian Symbols

Peter Schaewe

A requested extension of the 2011 conference topic on Christian Symbolism in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, this presentation reviews both common and not-so-familiar Christian symbols, providing information and resources to worship leaders or teachers who want to educate their members on symbols and to artists who want to employ symbolism in their work.

*Peter is staff minister and art teacher at St. John, Jefferson, WI, and has served as the Worship Arts chair for the last four worship conferences. He is a graduate of Martin Luther College and holds a B.F.A. in painting and drawing from UW-Milwaukee.*

## Art Wars: Sacred vs. Expressive in Lutheran Liturgical Art

Jonathan Mayer

Every Lutheran in America is spectator to the "traditional vs. contemporary" worship battle, which has played out for decades. Liturgical art has not escaped this dichotomy, either, though the subject is rarely addressed. This presentation will examine what has happened to worship art over the past 60 years, and why. We will discuss what it means for an artist to be both "Lutheran" and "liturgical," and how that should transform our thinking about art for worship.

*Jonathan earned a B.A. in studio art at Bethany Lutheran College. He went on to study illustration at Savannah College of Art and Design, where he received his M.F.A. He taught art history briefly at Concordia University Nebraska, and currently serves as the cover editor for Logia. He is an advocate for employing the visual arts in liturgical worship. Examples of his work are at [www.scapegoatstudio.com](http://www.scapegoatstudio.com): illustration, liturgical art, and graphic design services for Lutheran churches.*

## Beautiful Sound from Average Children

Kurt Cereske

We've all heard singing by children that is simply not beautiful: voices out of pitch, lacking blend, and sounding more like shouting. This presentation emphasizes details that will improve the sound of any children's choir or classroom choir. Topics include: vocal and rehearsal techniques; the art of warming up a children's choir; tone production; vowel formation; and rehearsal activities that keep singers engaged. The presentation includes observing a rehearsal of the worship conference children's choir

that will model the concepts promoted in the workshop. *This presentation is offered only once. Those interested are welcome to attend a second children's choir rehearsal later in the conference.*

*For information on Mr. Cereske, see Sing and Play the Kodály Way.*

### **BIC Teaches Doctrine and Worship**

Mike Zarling

Perhaps without realizing it worship guests are first exposed to basic truths of Scripture in worship: original sin, justification, sanctification, etc. They hear the clear voices of Scripture: Bethlehem's angels, God's seraphim, Palm Sunday's crowds. The presenter has created a Bible Information Class that connects basic Bible truths with Lutheran worship. The class is based on this premise: "What we believe influences how we worship, and how we worship reflects what we believe." The presentation provides an overview of the BIC and suggestions for incorporating the approach into other teaching resources.

*Pastor Zarling served for eight years in an exploratory congregation in Kentucky. For the past 10 years, he has served Epiphany and Wisconsin Lutheran School in Racine, WI. His areas of focus are worship, education, and outreach within the church and elementary school.*

### **But Johnny Can Sing Hymns**

T David Gordon

What we sing matters. So does how we sing. This presentation explores what we are communicating beyond the words of worship: worship forms, music styles, ambiance, etc. The exploration provides insights from the perspective of a media ecologist and cultural observer and suggests criteria for making good choices. (Media ecology is the study of how media and communication processes affect human perception and understanding.)

*Dr. Gordon is Professor of Religion and Greek at Grove City College (Grove City, PA), where he teaches courses in Religion, Greek, Humanities, and Media Ecology. Previously, after serving as a parish pastor, he taught at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in S. Hamilton, MA. He is the author of Why Johnny Can't Preach and Why Johnny Can't Sing. He is a graduate of Roanoke College (B.L.A.), Westminster Theological Seminary (M.A.R., Th.M.), and Union Theological Seminary (Ph.D.).*

### **But Johnny Can Sing Hymns (and Preach)—Further Conversation**

T David Gordon

Join Dr. Gordon for further discussion of his topic. Since media ecology is an unfamiliar discipline to many, this session offers opportunity to better understand his insights and apply them to a variety of situations.

*See previous selection.*

### **Canticum Novum and Chamber Music**

This recital will present a variety of instrumental music for chamber orchestra consisting of some of WELS finest musicians directed by Prof. Adrian Smith of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, MN. This orchestra will also accompany Canticum Novum, a choir of elite singers directed by Mr. Jonathan Laabs, in a setting of the Latin mass.

### **Celebrate Your Church's History: Applying for the National Register of Historic Places**

Todd Dvorak

Does your church have a Schalldeckel, or was it built with "Cream City" brick? If so, your church may qualify to be on the National Register of Historic Places. And if registration has been a goal for your congregation, this presentation is a must. Drawing on the experience of assisting his congregation in submitting their church to the Wisconsin State Register and National Register, Todd will share insights about the application process and more. You'll learn about the qualifications needed, the pros and cons of pursuing landmark status, and the opportunities to highlight your congregation in the community.

*For information about the presenter, see Greening Your Sacred Space.*

### **Children Can Sing in Parts**

Marjorie Flanagan

Part singing is one of the great joys in children's choirs. It is a skill that begins in early elementary grades, progressing to exciting opportunities for harmony in late elementary and middle school and beyond. This session will trace the development of part singing throughout K5-8 and will provide techniques and activities that work for all children.

*Marjorie serves as the Fine Arts Coordinator and Choral Director at Wisconsin Lutheran High School, where she teaches*

*Freshman Choir, Church Music, and Musicianship through Handbells. She directs the Jubilation Handbell Choir and coordinates several elementary school music activities. She received her Bachelor of Music degree and Kodály Certificate from Alverno College and a Master of Church Music degree from Concordia University Wisconsin.*

### **Choral Conducting Master Class**

Kermit Moldenhauer

This hands-on workshop, intended especially for conductors with minimal training, will help conductors to improve the choir's sound. Topics may include: warm-ups with intent, seating the choir, focus on vowels for tuning, make consonants a part of the musical fabric, gestures that assist choral sound, working with accompanists. Participants are in three categories: observer, singer, conductor. Singers, a minimum of 16 and a maximum of 32, will come ready to sing their part (nearly memorized). Music will be provided in advance. Seats will be reserved according to registration date and voice part. Conductors will study the score in advance and conduct the piece as part of the workshop. Only two people can participate as conductors. If you are interesting in conducting, please email the presenter: moldenkg@gmail.com.

*Dr. Moldenhauer teaches courses in Lutheran worship, choral conducting, and directs the College Choir at Martin Luther College. He holds the Master in Church Music degree from Concordia University, River Forest, IL, and a Ph.D. from International Seminary, Plymouth, FL. He is a member of the Commission on Worship and has been involved in most of the resources produced by the Commission. He chaired the committee that produced Christian Worship Supplement (2008).*

### **Choral Reading – SAB/SATB**

Randy Bode

*Since 1995 Prof. Bode has served at Luther Preparatory School in Watertown, WI, where he teaches music courses and directs the Prep Singers, the school's traveling choir. A 1986 graduate of Dr. Martin Luther College, he began his teaching career at St. John, Watertown, WI. He holds the Master of Church Music Degree from Concordia University Chicago.*

### **Choral Reading – Unison and 2-part for Small Church or School**

Christy Feuerstahler

*Christy is a graduate of Martin Luther College. From 1999-2004, she was a teacher at Trinity, Neenah, WI, where she was also the music director for church and school. Currently, she is on the Worship Committee at church, directs the Senior Choir, and plays organ. Outside of church, Christy facilitates a therapeutic music program geared for people with dementia at the Valley VNA Assisted Living Facility in Neenah.*

### **Collaboration, Creativity, Communication – Three Keys to Success CANCELLED**

Nicholas Kent, D. Scott Davis, Matthew Burow

Over 70% of the student population at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School is involved in the arts. The new performing arts center, the final piece of a campus-wide master plan, provides supportive space for daily worship, music, and theater. There are opportunities for academic uses, area K-8 schools, and the community. We'll discuss how collaboration between owner, architect, and contractor worked through design, funding, and construction—illustrating the tools necessary to complete a successful project, whether large or small. We'll focus on the benefit to the school, the Lutheran community, and the community at large.

*Nicholas Kent has over 13 years of experience in architecture and is currently an associate and project manager with Plunkett Raysich Architects, LLP. He specializes in K-12 education and religious facilities and understands the responsibility of creating spaces for communities with public and private funds.*

*D. Scott Davis has over 19 years of experience in architectural design and specializes in creating inviting spaces that inspire people. He is a partner and project designer with Plunkett Raysich Architects, LLP and focuses on listening to our clients and creating a space that reflects their mission, vision and values.*

*Matthew Burow is the president of Catalyst Construction and has over 12 years of experience in the construction industry. He is active in the WELS community and assists churches and schools in the construction process. He understands the clients' needs and helps them achieve their goals through responsible planning and construction.*

## **Compelling Worship—Further Conversation**

Jon Hein

The title of this session is also the title of the conference plenary address to be presented after the opening service on Wednesday. After Pastor Hein expands on the thoughts of his address, participants will have an opportunity for further discussion of the topic.

*Pastor Hein is Director of the Commission on Congregational Counseling. He also serves Beautiful Savior in Summerville, SC, a congregation blessed with steady growth since his assignment there in 1997. He is former chair of the South Atlantic District Mission Board. He is a member of WELS Institute for Worship and Outreach.*

## **Comprehensive Musicianship — An Overview of the CMP Model**

Chris Gleason

For nearly forty years, Comprehensive Musicianship through Performance (CMP) has been transforming music education, both in Wisconsin (where it started) and across the nation. CMP is a planning process that helps teachers explore the elements of meaningful music performance skills, knowledge and affect, and integrates those elements into student-centered teaching plans. Chris will lead participants through the CMP model and share how CMP is used in his classroom.

*Chris teaches middle school band in Sun Prairie, WI. He earned a B.M.E. at UW-Eau Claire and a master's from UW-La Crosse. He has performed professionally at Disneyland and has been a guest conductor of numerous camps and festivals. He is the founder and organizer of the Band Festival at the Kalahari in Wisconsin Dells which has grown to include over 40 middle school bands. He is the current chair of the Wisconsin Comprehensive Musicianship through Performance (CMP) Committee and the chair of the Wisconsin State Middle Level Honors Band. He has taught CMP Workshops at VanderCook College of Music, the Los Angeles Unified School District, and school districts in the Midwest and Hong Kong.*

## **CW/CWS Digital Worship Music**

Michael Schultz

Participants will experience a digital potpourri: M4A files music from CW/CWS (organ and piano); worship music options which bypass MIDI software/hardware and MIDI learning curve; all of CW/CWS on an iPod; iTunes playlists for worship; iTunes multiple libraries; Haupt-

werk virtual organ MP3 files; worship music files for nursing homes, preaching stations, school classroom, pre-school, Sunday School, personal use; solutions for congregations without keyboardists; worship leaders able to audition all CW/CWS music when planning worship; possibilities beyond CW/CWS.

*Pastor Schultz has served WELS congregations in Flagstaff, AZ and Lawrenceville, GA. He prepared MIDI and MP3 files for the new HymnSoft. He chaired the hymns subcommittee for Christian Worship: Supplement, compiled its guitar edition, and currently serves on as project director for a new WELS hymnal.*

## **Designing and Building for Worship and Outreach**

Philip Huebner

This presentation explores the various ways that architecture and design can proclaim the gospel in a church building and on a church campus. Special emphasis is on using a church or school building to reach out to the community. The tips and hints shared make this presentation valuable to any church considering construction, expansion, or redesign.

*In 2007 Pastor Huebner was assigned to start a new mission church in Palm Coast, FL. Since then, Christ the King Lutheran Church and School have grown quickly in the growing Palm Coast community. Huebner supervised the design and construction of the new church and school buildings that were built in 2010.*

## **Enhancing the Liturgical Year**

Johnold Strey

Intended for pastors, musicians, artists, and altar guilds, this presentation offers a feast of ideas to highlight and delineate the seasons and festivals of the liturgical year. Ideas include variations in rite, ritual, art, music, and ceremony. Consideration will be given to a wide variety of parish sizes and circumstances. *Some ideas in this presentation, repeated from 2011, have previously been shared at Schools of Worship Enrichment.*

*Pastor Strey serves St. Mark, Citrus Heights, CA. Previously he served Gloria Dei, Belmont, CA. A 2001 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, he received a master's degree in Pastoral Liturgy and Liturgical Music from Santa Clara University in 2009. He serves the synod at large as the Arizona-California District Worship Coordinator and as a presenter for the Schools*

of *Worship Enrichment*. He is currently writing a book on worship to be published by NPH.

### **Enhancing Worship and Outreach through Art**

Paula Roberts

Art in the church deepens the worship experience, beautifies the sanctuary, and enhances all areas of the church campus. It also serves as an effective outreach tool. This presentation addresses the inherent value and changing dynamic of Christian art. It presents real-world examples for implementing art into your church and outreach, including statuary, glass design, textiles, mosaics, murals, and creative concepts. It also offers insightful guidance for working with volunteers and professional artists.

*Paula Roberts has over 25 years of extensive church art experience. Having served as a committee member and volunteer as well as a professional designer and artist (Studios of Potente), she is intimately familiar with the decision and design process. Her works includes statues, glass design, textiles, mosaic design, and murals. A member of St. Peter, Sturgeon Bay, WI, Paula runs her studio from her farm while tending fiber animals and a small vineyard. View her work at [www.PaulaJeanRoberts.com](http://www.PaulaJeanRoberts.com).*

### **Expressive Visual Art beyond Banners**

John Bergmeier

Artistic giftedness is from God, so how can gifted visual artists express themselves in the church? Creative ideas and images aren't limited to making seasonal banners to display in a worship setting. This presentation will explore one artist's processes and techniques for expressing his faith, while incorporating expressive visuals into church settings. Learn ways that a contemporary visual artist can be deeply engaged in the spreading of the gospel message in today's culture and society.

*John received his B.A. from Hastings College in Nebraska and his M.F.A. from Wichita State University in Kansas with a major in printmaking. John contributes designs to various churches and worship environments as well as sharing his design and art expertise as a visiting artist at colleges in the Midwest. In addition to his professional design work, John's studio art has been included in numerous group exhibitions internationally, and he has been the recipient of numerous awards.*

### **Fifteen Years, Two Pipe Organs: Lessons Shared**

Jeffrey Seelow

A Rice Lake, WI church shows the value of a finely crafted small pipe organ for 21<sup>st</sup> century worship. But why would a church averaging 120 in worship each week select a pipe organ with only 13 ranks instead of a "more versatile" electronic organ? The presentation focuses not only on the organ itself but also the parish's musical variety and vitality, describing how the organ is used along with other instruments. Since pipe organs can serve churches of any size, this workshop is intended for a wide audience.

*Pastor Seelow, a 1983 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, has served this church since 2000. He wrote about church expansion and new organ in the May 2007 issue of *Worship the Lord*, available at [wels.net/worship](http://wels.net/worship).*

### **Getting the Most out of CWS and CWOS**

Jason Hacker and Grace Hennig

The digital files for CW Supplement and CW Occasional Services include a wealth of materials not found in the print editions. This presentation explores options for enriching worship with these resources: rites, prayers, psalm settings, alternate accompaniments, descants, bell parts, and more.

*Pastor Hacker served Prince of Peace, Traverse City, MI from 2007 to 2013. Previously he was an instructor of religion at Martin Luther College. In early 2014 he began his ministry at Grace, Waukesha, WI. He serves as a member of the WELS Commission on Worship and formerly was the worship coordinator for the Michigan District.*

*Grace is director of the Martin Luther College Women's Choir. In various churches she has served as organist, accompanist, choral director, and worship team leader. She served on the hymn committee for *Christian Worship: Supplement* and has written hymn tunes and settings that appear there and in other hymnals. She serves on the Psalmody committee for the new WELS hymnal project. Her degrees are from Bethany Lutheran College, Dr. Martin Luther College, Concordia University Chicago, and the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.*

### **Graphic Design for Worship and Outreach**

Ian Welch

Art and design have been embedded in the life and culture of the church for centuries. They are valuable for connecting people with the gospel. Creating compelling, professional-looking worship folders and outreach materials

can be daunting, especially with the increasing knowledge of good and bad design by those sitting in the pews. This workshop will focus on the best practices of graphic design, including the layout of worship folders and shortcuts and skills when using popular word processing applications.

*Ian is a designer and composer of liturgical media living in San Diego, California. After graduating from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in 2010, he decided to continue his education at San Diego State University to attain a Master of Music degree with emphasis on composition. He currently serves as the choral director and musician at Risen Savior in Chula Vista, California, and owns a liturgical media company (paramentics.com) that focuses on producing well-designed graphics for churches and schools.*

### **Great Choral Rehearsals 101: Planning the Rehearsal**

Katherine Tiefel

How can my choir sound great with just one hour of rehearsal a week? Excellent rehearsals require planning and preparation. Learn how to improve your rehearsals through score study, goal-setting, and lesson planning. Participants will work together to analyze music and will practice a simple, organized system of rehearsal planning that they can implement week after week. This session is part one of a two-part series on choral rehearsals. In part two, Ms. Tiefel will model a rehearsal based on the lesson plan developed in this session. Attending the 201 session is helpful but not required. *This highly appreciated session is repeated from 2011.*

*Katherine serves as music coordinator and choir director at Abiding Word, Houston, TX. She holds a Master's degree in Choral Conducting and a Bachelor's degree in Vocal Music Education from Michigan State University. Kate is an active guest conductor and clinician, and has presented at various state and national conferences. She performed five seasons with the Grammy-Award winning Oregon Bach Festival Chorus and maintains a private voice studio in Houston. She also serves as a consultant for WELS Schools of Worship Enrichment.*

### **Great Choral Rehearsals 201: Leading the Rehearsal**

Katherine Tiefel

Do you want to improve your rehearsals? Learn how to structure a weekly rehearsal, lead vocal warm-ups, introduce a new piece of music, and keep rehearsals fun and efficient. Participants will serve as the "choir," and will

experience creative ways to teach notes and rhythms, vowels, dynamics, phrasing, diction, and more. This session will conclude with a discussion of the techniques demonstrated as well as a forum offering practical answers to questions raised by participants. This session builds on the material presented in "Great Choral Rehearsals 101: Planning the Rehearsal." Attending the 101 session is helpful but not required. *This highly appreciated session is repeated from 2011. See previous selection.*

### **Greening Your Sacred Space**

Todd Dvorak

Building technology has changed dramatically over the past 20 years. From low flow toilets to LED bulbs, our church and school facilities have great opportunities to implement energy-saving systems and equipment at more reasonable costs. This presentation will explore new technologies for lighting, plumbing, and heating, which can free up more of your congregation's budget to fulfill its true mission. We will also explore Wisconsin's Focus on Energy program which may offer rebate incentives for improvements to your mechanical and electrical systems.

*Over the past 15 years Todd has been involved with planning, design, and construction of worship spaces. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee where his master's thesis focused on the history of Lutheran church architecture. Todd is a registered architect with Hoffman Planning, Design & Construction, Inc., in Appleton, Wisconsin.*

### **Hymnal 2024**

Michael Schultz

At this very early stage, the 2024 WELS hymnal project can best be defined by considering its committee structure. A moderated open forum discussion will be offered, covering psalmody, hymnody, liturgical rites, lectionary, technology, ancillary literary volumes, and overall communication of the project. Such items will keep us on track but all questions and comments are welcome. Wondering about which hymns will stay or go? Always wished that a certain something could be changed or added? *This session occurs outside the presentation times, Thursday at 1:00 and 6:15 p.m. in the TARC Skybox classroom.*

*For information about Pastor Schultz, see CW/CWS Digital Worship Music.*

## Hymns in the Life of Church, School, and Home

Johann Caauwe

A Lutheran hymnal is a rich devotional resource that deserves to be used in every church, school, and especially, in every home. Already at very young age, children are capable of learning hymns and participating in worship. These hymns provide solid teaching and strong comfort for Christians, young and old alike. This presentation provides practical and inspiring ideas and anecdotes for teachers, parents, pastors, and all who influence children and worship.

*Pastor Caauwe has served parishes in El Paso, TX, and Modesto, CA. Since 2006, he has blogged about hymns for church, school, and home at shepherdstory.com. He is a father to eight young children. Currently, he and his wife educate their children at home following a classical education model.*

## Improving Vocal Resonance and Choral Tone with Vowel Modification

Natosha Cole

Looking for a way to help your singers create a free, open tone, especially in their upper voice range? Vowel modification could be the answer. With the use of a sample choir and private voice students, this session demonstrates the benefits of using vowel modification. Suggestions on how to utilize the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) in this process will be given. No previous knowledge of the IPA is necessary.

*Natosha is a voice teacher at Manitowoc Lutheran High School with over 20 years of experience teaching voice. A member of the distinguished National Association of Teachers of Singing, she is a 1996 graduate of Martin Luther College and studied vocal performance at Arizona State University. She is a former area Lutheran high school choir director and teacher and currently serves as music and upper grade teacher at First German Lutheran, Manitowoc, WI. Her duties include a full K-8 music curriculum and junior choir.*

## Insights from Sweden

Gunilla Hedkvist

Swedish Christians generally have poor choices for finding new worship resources. The apostasy of the (Lutheran) Church of Sweden is evident in its publications. Most who have left the state church have joined independent congregations that mirror American Evangelicalism with its doctrinal aberrations and overwrought emotionalism. As

an alternative to paganism disguised under a veneer of Christian terminology, or rock concerts posing as worship, the confessional Lutheran church in Sweden is preserving the best of the old and embracing the best of the new, keeping the gospel solidly at the center.

*Gunilla belongs to the Lutheran Confessional Church in Sweden and teaches Swedish and English in a public junior high school. She attended Dr. Martin Luther College in 1973-74 and 1977. Since her youth she has been interested in hymns, liturgy, and the singing of psalms. When there was a need for revitalizing the liturgy and the use of hymns and psalms in her own congregation, she found an opportunity to serve her church.*

## Lessons from Leipzig

Mark Tiefel and Jacob Behnken

For three hundred years, the brilliant ideas of Johann Sebastian Bach have filled palace courts and concert halls. As we investigate worship life of eighteenth-century Leipzig, we'll learn that 'busy old master Bach' still has insights to share with the busy preachers, planners, and players of today. All who interact with a weekly worship schedule will gain practical ideas for crafting well-ordered church music in the twenty-first century.

*Pastor Tiefel is a 2010 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. He serves as pastor of Abiding Word in Houston, TX and as District Worship Coordinator for the South Central District.*

*Pastor Behnken is a 2012 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. He serves as pastoral assistant to the District President of the Michigan District as pastor at Good Shepherd of Midland, MI. He has studied organ primarily under Dr. Edward Meyer and Dr. Wayne Wagner of Martin Luther College and served 2008 conference as one of the organists.*

## Mission: Very Possible – Achieving Great Sound for Worship

David Hosbach

Aunt Tilly says she can't hear when she comes to worship. Is the problem *volume*? Or *clarity*? Is the issue just the spoken word? What about musical definition and balance, whether acoustic or reinforced? This session investigates the importance of a well-designed sound system and how the sound system and room acoustics must "play nice together" in order to deliver good speech intelligibility and musical definition, no matter how large or small the worship space.

*David graduated from Dr. Martin Luther College and now runs his design consulting business, DSH Audio Visions, based in Milwaukee. He began as an installer in Minneapolis, MN, and worked into systems design and acoustic analysis. David has developed a reputation for successful system development in highly reverberant worship spaces. Examples include Chapel of the Christ, MLC, New Ullm, MN, and the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Mobile, AL., and hundreds of parish worship spaces of all sizes.*

### **Music for the Modern Ensemble**

#### **Branches Band**

This session features selections from the Branches Band catalog (including over 40 transcriptions of hymns, original Christian songs, and portions of the liturgy) along with selections from other sources. These resources serve a variety of instrument combinations and skill levels.

*For information about the members of Branches Band, see "Simple Tools and Techniques."*

### **Organ Music for Worship – Easy to Medium**

#### **Ryan Friske**

*Ryan graduated from Martin Luther College in 2012 and serves at Trinity, Bay City, MI. He teaches grades 5-6; directs the junior choir, school band, and handchimes, and teaches music to other classrooms. As the Director of Music, he conducts the adult choir and handbell choir and serves as head organist.*

### **Organ Music for Worship – Medium to Difficult**

#### **Mark Davidson**

*Mark is Assistant Minister of Music and Principal Organist at Trinity, Waukesha, WI. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Church Music from Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato, MN, and has served the WELS at large as guest recitalist, organist, and presenter at past WELS worship conferences and at WELS congregations across the United States. Mark is also a member of the Hymns Committee for the new hymnal project.*

### **Painting Studio**

#### **Charis J. Carmichael Braun**

Step into the artist's studio and watch an artwork come to life. Trained in historic methods and academic techniques, Charis will create a large-scale artwork during the conference. This "studio presentation" will demonstrate a typical process used in traditional painting. As Lutheran modes

of education study doctrine to reveal the "heart" of God's Word, this presentation shows how a painting is "fleshed out." Ask questions, follow the progress, and watch a complex work of art take form right before your eyes. This session occurs outside the presentation times. Interested people may observe at any time.

*Charis holds a B.A. from Bethany Lutheran College and an M.F.A. from the New York Academy of Art. She teaches Art History, and is the Director of Communications at an artist-in-residence program. Her paintings have been exhibited internationally and may be found in both private and public collections. With her husband Andrew Braun, a woodworker and cabinet-maker, Charis lives and works in New York. She is a member of Sure Foundation in New York City.*

### **Piano Music for Worship**

#### **Dale Witte**

*Dale presently serves at Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Fond du Lac, WI as Choir Director and Fine Arts Department chairman, teaching Music Theory and Music Technology. Dale holds degrees from Dr. Martin Luther College (1989) and Concordia University Chicago (Master of Church Music, 1997). He is an active church music composer with liturgical, choral, and piano compositions published by NPH and CPH.*

### **Preaching Christ-Centered Sanctification**

#### **Richard Gurgel**

No one ever insisted that Lutheran preaching's hallmark is insightful sanctification preaching. Without apology, our main focus is the declaration "righteous" Jesus procured for us by living perfectly and dying innocently in our place. Yet that does not make Lutherans pitiful paupers begging a few crumbs from others more well-to-do theologically in sanctification. Within our doctrinal heritage we possess a wealth just waiting to enrich encouragements to sanctified living. This workshop will explore specific aspects of that wealth that can enrich our Christ-Centered sanctification preaching.

*After 12 years serving as pastor in Oklahoma City, OK and Jackson, WI, Dr. Gurgel has taught at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary since 1998. He completed doctoral studies at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in 2010 with an emphasis on professional growth for preachers. He has taught Christian education, homiletics, and systematic theology. He currently teaches homiletics while also serving as director of Grow in Grace: the*

*Institute for Continuing Education at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.*

### **Recruitment and Repertoire for the Beginning Elementary School Band**

Chris Gleason

How do I get kids interested in band? What do I do if you have only nine instruments? What makes a piece of music “great”? What are ways to keep kids motivated and excited about band? How do I assess students in band? Bring your questions as these topics and many more will be covered in this session.

*For information about Chris Gleason, see Comprehensive Musicianship.*

### **Renewing Places of Worship**

Paul Barribeau

The tasks for renewing sacred spaces are as unique and varied as each church building. Some congregations are updating historic church homes; others are incorporating newer technologies; still others are creating places of worship within non-traditional or secular buildings. Despite the challenges faced in renewal projects, opportunities abound to create inspirational places for the celebration of Word and Sacrament. This workshop will focus on the priorities for congregations seeking to renew spaces. Specific project examples will be shared.

*Liturgical Architect Paul Barribeau is Senior Project Manager at Groth Design Group, an architectural firm focused on serving religious clients and community-based organizations. Prior to his practice of architecture he was an ordained Lutheran pastor. This past experience provides insight into designing spaces for liturgy and ministry. Paul’s firm works with all religious denominations within the Christian tradition, especially excelling in design of liturgical spaces for sacramental churches.*

### **Repertoire for the Lectionary – Year B**

Naomi Laabs

This session features anthems old and new which match the focus of the Gospel of the Day for the Sundays and festivals of the lectionary, year B. The goal is to provide worship planners with a rich repertoire of options that present a unified worship theme: lessons, anthem, hymns, sermon all taking their cue from the Gospel of the Day. Selections will include SATB, SAB, two-part, and unison.

*Naomi serves St. Andrew, Middleton, WI, as Staff Minister of Worship. She helps develop the services and coordinates over 100 volunteers who serve in worship. Previously she served Trinity, Neenah, WI for eight years as teacher and music director. She is a 2005 graduate of Martin Luther College with an emphasis in Parish Music and received a Master of Church Music degree from Concordia University Wisconsin in 2013.*

### **Repertoire for the Lectionary – Year C**

Rich Lehmann

This session features anthems old and new which match the focus of the Gospel of the Day for the Sundays and festivals of the lectionary, year C. The goal is to provide worship planners with a rich repertoire of options that present a unified worship theme: lessons, anthem, hymns, sermon all taking their cue from the Gospel of the Day. Selections will include SATB, SAB, two-part, and unison.

*Pastor Lehmann, Western Wisconsin District Worship Coordinator, serves Peace, Janesville, WI, where he is also the choir director. He directs the Blackhawk Lutheran Chorale (WELS members from south-central Wisconsin) and has previously directed choirs, handbells, and bands. Degrees beyond seminary include B.F.A.-Music (1978) and an M.M. (1991) from UW-Milwaukee. He has also pursued doctoral studies in musicology at UW-Madison.*

### **Saving Voice**

Linda Dindzans, M.D.

“Protect your voice so you can most effectively present His” — a presentation in three parts for speakers (pastors, teachers) and singers. *The Wilderness: Lost, stressed, or strained voice? Defining voice injury or abnormal voice. When is an injury an emergency? When to seek advice from an ENT or other voice professional. The Ten Commandments: An ENT physician’s “dos and don’ts”. The Promised Land: Daily “devotions” for vocal warriors: exercises to strengthen and maximize healthy voice, strategies to overcome injury from past vocal abuse.*

*Linda is a retired ENT surgeon with a particular interest in voice care. She was educated at Harvard University and McGill Medical School. She continued ENT specialty training at University of Toronto followed by a pediatric ENT fellowship at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh. She is an author and educator, a member of the National Voice Foundation, and a past president and founding member of the Greater Milwaukee Chapter*

of the Voice Foundation. She is also an active violinist and choral singer.

### **Setting Up a Handbell Choir**

Kim Pilz

This presentation will give an overview of what is needed to set up a handbell choir. Topics that will be discussed will include equipment that is needed and music choices. Participants will also learn how to prepare the music for rehearsals. A list of resources will also be available. Many of these items will also apply to beginning a handchime choir.

*Kim's involvement in handbells began in grade school and continued throughout high school and college where she also served as an occasional director. Kim served as the WELS National Handbell Chairperson from 2005–2011 and is currently the treasurer of the WELS Handbell Festivals. In addition to teaching at St. Paul, Tomah, WI, she directs two handbell choirs, serves as an organist, and accompanies the adult choir.*

### **Simple Tools and Techniques for Effective Hymn Arranging**

Branches Band

Using Branches Band arrangements as case studies, explore simple tools and techniques used to transform hymns and liturgy elements into a format that effectively incorporates a variety of instrument combinations and skill levels while maintaining reverence and singability. These adaptations are useful for leading the entire congregation or for alternating between congregation and another vocal group.

*Branches Band has served WELS and ELS congregations all over the United States and Canada since 2008. All members are graduates of Wisconsin Lutheran College; Andy Braun (B.A. in Communication), Rachel Braun (B.A. in Music - Vocal Performance), and Jeremy Bakken (B.S. in Mathematics and Music Theory, M.M. in Composition and Choral Conducting from the University of New Mexico). Andy and Rachel work as full-time musicians in Milwaukee and travel with Branches Band. Jeremy is currently pursuing a D.M.A. in Choral Music from the University of Southern California and joins Branches Band on breaks from school.*

### **Sing and Play the Kodály Way: PreK to Grade 3 Sing and Play the Kodály Way: Grades 4-8**

Kurt Cereske

Do you want to make music come alive in your classroom? Are you wondering how you can make it fun and exciting and all the while have students eating out of the palm of your hand, wanting more and more? This workshop will demonstrate songs, games, and activities that inspire a love for music and singing in every classroom. Be prepared to move, sing, play, and have fun—hallmarks of Kodály methodology—and to learn music and musical concepts at the same time. *These presentations from 2011, with some new material, are offered only once.*

*Kurt is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Fine Arts Music Education at Texas Tech University. He specializes in early childhood and elementary music education, children's choral music, and Kodály pedagogy. Previously, Kurt was the Director of Music at St. Paul's First Lutheran, North Hollywood, CA. He served on the Board of the Kodály Association of Southern California and the Organization of American Kodály Educators. Currently, Kurt teaches pedagogy in both the Kodály Association of Southern California and the West Texas Kodály Initiative. He is the Director of Kodály Musicianship and an Associate Conductor for the National Children's Choir (based in Los Angeles and New York City) and is an Associate Conductor for the West Texas Children's Chorus.*

### **Teaching and Learning the Sacramental Life**

Jon Zabell

God delivered us from death and the devil by the life and death of Jesus, and he delivers that salvation to us through Word and Sacrament. How do the Sacraments of Baptism and Communion inform Christian worship and preaching? How do baptized, confirmed believers find strength and identity in the sacramental life? This presentation explores resources for use at church or home to teach sacramental life themes.

*Pastor Zabell serves St. Paul, Green Bay, WI. He was a member of the Hymnal Supplement Committee and chaired the Supplement Introduction Committee. He currently serves as Chairman of the WELS Commission on Worship and is a consultant for the synod's Schools of Worship Enrichment.*

## Teaching Worship in the Mission Field

Jonathan Schroeder

This presentation shows how key worship themes are inculcated in a parish with many adult converts. Worship education happens in many ways outside of a worship Bible class. Good worship “teaches” simply from the weekly experience of worship. Good worship folder design both assists guests and helps to form a worshipping community. Notes in the worship folder help both new Lutherans and life-long Lutherans to appreciate Lutheran worship. And finally there is worship content in various classes. The presentation includes anecdotes from those who have come to treasure Lutheran worship.

*Pastor Schroeder serves Faith, Sharpsburg, GA. His duties beyond the parish are numerous: member of the Synodical Council, moderator of the Institute for Worship and Outreach, consultant for Schools of Outreach and for Schools of Worship Enrichment, editor/author for Planning Christian Worship, and more.*

## The Architecture of Worship Spaces

Richard Skendzel

This presentation begins with a brief outline of the roots and early development of the architecture of Christian churches. It then covers the multiple functions that church buildings today must accommodate and the importance of dedicated spaces for gathering and worship.

*Rick’s background and education (B.A. from the University of Notre Dame and M.S. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology) have contributed to his ongoing study in Christian history and worship. He has participated in a variety of church design projects including the overall design, the interior design, and the design of liturgical furnishings. In his designs he emphasizes both the art and the science of architecture and combines attention to both the spiritual and physical realities of spaces for Christian ritual.*

## The Best of Brass and Organ

This recital will feature music for brass and organ by composers from every era. Matthew Schlomer will conduct the brass group selected from some of the best musicians in WELS. Organist Wyatt Smith will accompany the group and will also be featured in a solo work.

## The Secrets of Teaching Hymnology

Kevin Bode

A new hymnology curriculum is coming to our Lutheran schools. The goal of the curriculum is to help teachers cultivate in their students a deeper appreciation for hymns. This presentation will provide an overview of the project along with simple but effective ways to help the next generation learn to value both the words and the music of these sacred songs. Your constructive feedback will be appreciated by the creators of this curriculum.

*Kevin serves as teacher at Emanuel, Tempe, AZ. He directs the adult choir and plays organ and piano for services. He is a 2006 graduate of Martin Luther College where he worked in the Elementary/Secondary Teacher Education Program with a second major in vocal and choral music. In May he earned a Master of Church Music degree from Concordia University Wisconsin. He is a member of the Commission on Worship.*

## The Wittenberg Trail

Leonard Payton

Recent years have witnessed the exodus of Evangelicals and other Christians to Anglicanism (Canterbury trail), to Orthodoxy (Constantinople trail), and even to Roman Catholicism. But there is also a trail to the biblical truths of the Lutheran Reformation—a trail to Wittenberg. Unbelievers and spiritual seekers have found this trail along with former Lutherans who have returned to their spiritual homes. Leonard Payton describes his own spiritual journey: Lutheran upbringing, leaving the Lutheran church, and then returning. As a “former insider” he gives insights into Evangelical worship ... as well as Lutheran.

*Pastor Payton serves St. John (LCMS), Forest Park, IL. Before becoming a Lutheran pastor, he was a musician in the Presbyterian Church in America in Northern California and Texas for ten years, including a praise team for a new and booming church plant. His degrees are from the University of Southern California (B.Mus.), UC San Diego (M.A. and Ph.D. in composition), and Concordia Theological Seminary (M.Div.), along with two years at the State Conservatory of Music, Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany.*

## The Word of God in Sacred Art

Edward Riojas

Many view art only as a means to decorate the Christian Church and in so doing miss the opportunity to visually instruct by either pointing to Holy Scripture or underscor-

ing It. By eroding the role of art in the Church, sacred traditions of our artistic forebears have been supplanted by the fluff of mass-marketing. Mr. Riojas will identify common visual errors, and give examples of how visual form can yield to the true function of sacred art.

*Edward graduated summa cum laude from Aquinas College, Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he earned a B.F.A. degree. Besides illustrative work spanning nearly 30 years in his vocation as artist for The Grand Rapids Press/MLive Media Group, Mr. Riojas' sacred art can be seen in Lutheran institutions, sanctuaries, private collections, and markets throughout the U.S., Canada, and Europe. His work has been featured in LCMS publications, and a large body of work comprising hundreds of sacred illustrations is still being used to benefit Lutheran teens and young adults through [higherthings.org](http://higherthings.org).*

### **Unity or Conflict: The Status of Worship in the LCMS**

Jon Vieker

This survey tells the story of the loss of worship unity in the LCMS. While diversity within Lutheran parameters is good, diversity that strains those boundaries can be harmful to a church body. Lessons learned may be valuable as WELS continues to encourage Lutheran worship that is historic, innovative, and reflective of the blessed unity we share.

*Pastor Vieker serves as Senior Assistant to LCMS President Matthew Harrison. Previously he was Assistant Director for the LCMS Commission on Worship during the Lutheran Service Book project. He has also served as an organist, choir director, and worship planner. He recently completed his Ph.D. dissertation at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis on a history of LCMS hymnals. Other education includes S.T.M. (1990) and M.Div. (1987) also from CSL, and B.A. (music, piano) from California Lutheran University.*

### **Voices Raised with Strings and Keys**

Mark Davidson and Michael Schultz

A handful of key questions come into play when guitar and piano are combined to lead public worship: Will the instruments be able to carry the room and lead the singing? Should the guitar always be amplified? Will the arrangements for each instrument mesh or clash with each other? A repertoire session with multiple examples of this combination will allow participants both to sing and to discuss the relevant issues.

*For information about Mark Davidson, see [Organ Music for Worship – Medium to Difficult](#).*

*For information about Pastor Schultz, see [CW/CWS Digital Worship Music](#).*

### **Working Smarter at Worship: A Survey of Tools and Techniques**

Caleb Bassett and Jonathan Bauer

With 52 Sundays in the year, hundreds of hymns, thousands of available choir pieces, the process of planning worship can be daunting. With pastors, organists, directors, singers, instrumentalists, ushers, and others involved, communication becomes difficult. How can a congregation keep everything coordinated, communicated, and well-executed? This workshop guides participants through a survey of tools and techniques to help make worship planning and execution more efficient.

*Pastor Bassett is a 2010 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary and serves as pastor of St. Stephen, Fallbrook, CA. He is a member of the new hymnal project executive committee, serving as chair of the technology subcommittee. He has designed the project's public website as well as its private side for managing work by seven subcommittees.*

*Pastor Bauer serves at Good News, Mt. Horeb, WI. Previous to this year he served Emmanuel in Tempe, AZ with focus on worship and evangelism. He has also served as an organist, choir director, and music coordinator. He was a member of the Arizona-California District Worship Committee and is a member of the Institute for Worship and Outreach. He is a presenter for Schools of Worship Enrichment and a member of the WELS Hymnal Project Executive Committee.*

### **Your Instrument: Unlocking the Body for Enhanced Health, Musicianship, and Creativity**

Matthew Schlomer

This interactive workshop explores how movement can influence every aspect of the music making process. Participants will discover their body's potential for increased artistry and will create habits that promote healthy and long-term service with reduced risk of stress, pain, and injury. Ideas are applicable to keyboard players, instrumentalists, singers, and conductors as well as artists, actors, and dancers.

*Dr. Schlomer is currently conductor of the Interlochen Arts Academy Band in Interlochen, MI. Previous positions include worship coordinator at The WELS Chapel in Madison,*

*WI, adjunct professor at Luther College, and assistant conductor of wind ensemble at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Schlomer has twelve years of experience teaching at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School and Sheboygan North High School. He holds a D.M.A. degree and M.Mus. degree in instrumental*

*conducting with a minor concentration in dance from the University of Wisconsin, a bachelor of music in education from the University of Colorado at Boulder.*

## NOTES

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