

# SNAPSHOT

Winter 2023



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29*

The Christian Church has been doing the same thing for over 2,000 years; pointing people to Jesus.

When John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him, this was his opportunity to turn people's attention away from him to the One for whom he was preparing the way. This Jesus was the Lamb who would be sacrificed for the sins of the world.

When the Church was persecuted in its early days, those who were dispersed into foreign lands took the gospel with them and continued to point people to Jesus as the Savior of the world. With remarkable resiliency, the Christian Church grew and flourished under such circumstances.

When Luther rediscovered the gospel after years of darkness, he pointed people to Jesus as the center of all hope and salvation. With courage and faithfulness, the confessional church continued to keep their focus on Jesus and point others to do the same.

When missionaries left the European continent to serve the immigrants who came to America for religious freedom and opportunity, with great zeal they pointed people to Jesus as they gathered Christians into congregations and established missions at a remarkable pace.

For over 110 years, Michigan Lutheran Seminary has pointed her students to Jesus as the reason for their certainty for salvation and hope for eternity while also equipping them to carry the mission of John the Baptist to point people to Jesus in the public ministry of the gospel.

While history has plentiful examples of faithful and heroic efforts to point people to Jesus, let's not imagine that this task is complete or an assumed priority for all. As you hear John the Baptist direct people to Jesus, be aware that our mission is the same. This world needs the Word that there is a Savior who has paid for all sins, and his name is Jesus, the Lamb of God. In fact, I need that reminder daily. So, point me to Jesus, please.

Loving and serving Him,

Rev. Mark Luetzow, *President*

## CONCERT CHOIR TOUR 2023



- Friday, March 17  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Stevensville, MI  
6:30 pm concert
- Sunday, March 19  
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church - Memphis, TN  
10:15 am worship service
- Monday, March 20  
Calvary Lutheran Church - Dallas, TX  
2:30 pm mini-concert for students  
7:00 pm full concert
- Tuesday, March 21  
Divine Peace Lutheran Church - Rockwall, TX campus  
7:00 pm concert
- Wednesday, March 22  
Trinity Lutheran Church - Temple, TX  
7:00 pm concert
- Thursday, March 23  
Holy Word Lutheran Church - Austin, TX  
4:30 pm micro-concert for ECE families  
7:00 pm full concert
- Friday, March 24  
Abiding Word Lutheran Church - Houston, TX  
2:00 pm mini-concert for students  
7:00 pm full concert
- Saturday, March 25  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - The Woodlands, TX  
4:00 pm concert
- Sunday, March 26  
Christ Alone Lutheran Church - Dardenne Prairie, MO  
7:00 pm concert

## FOOTBALL TEAM NAMED ACADEMIC ALL-STATE



The Seminary football team was recently named by the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association (MHSFCA) to be first-team Academic All-State for Division 8 high schools. This honor is won by compiling the team grade point average. MLS finished in the top four in our division and will receive a banner to hang at our field.

The MHSFCA has also recognized senior Evan Wakefield with the Scholar-Athlete award. The award this year was given to only 19 athletes across all divisions in Michigan and is based on your grade point average and college entrance assessment score.



### MLS VIDEO SHARE WINNERS

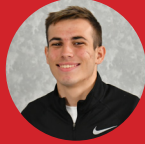
Congratulations to the upper graders at St. John Lutheran School in Bay City, MI. These students and their teacher, Mr. Ian Paulsen, watched the new *MLS: Small School Advantage, Big School Opportunities* promotional video and won a pizza party lunch for submitting their picture.

You can watch the short video yourself on the MLS YouTube channel using the QR code below. When you do, take a picture with your class and we'll enter you in a drawing to have an MLS sponsored pizza party or donuts for Bible class. Send pictures to [rsc@mlsem.org](mailto:rsc@mlsem.org).



### MID-YEAR PROJECT TITUS TRIP

In early December, four MLS seniors headed to **Heritage Lutheran Church** in Gilbert, Arizona. These students helped Heritage host a soccer camp for the surrounding community! Here is what senior Ryan Dabe had to say about the trip.



*"My favorite part of the trip was helping out the kids at the camp. I was with the little kids and I had so much fun playing soccer with them and talking to them. I learned that ministry is about building relationships with people first. We built relationships at the soccer camp, and hopefully those relationships will convert into ministerial opportunities. We're just witnesses at the end of the day. I also saw different ways you can be a leader at church. I've always heard of how people need to help at church, even if they aren't pastors and teachers. I was able to see how lay people can make a big impact on the church."*



### CHILDREN'S THEATER - ON THE ROAD

The MLS Court Street Players are happy to announce that they are taking their Children's Theater production of *Camelot and Camelittle* on the road this spring! On March 13, the cast and crew will be traveling to Zion Lutheran School in Monroe, MI, to perform for several schools that are otherwise a bit too far south to make it all the way to the MLS campus in Saginaw. We hope that many can come to enjoy the show!



*Small School Advantage, Big School Opportunities*



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