

June 2023 District Report

Welcome & Thanks!

Welcome to our third biennial June district educational growth conference, the second in person. We thank MLC, WLS/Grow in Grace, our course instructors, our LPS hosts, worship leaders and musicians, and all of you for your participation. We have over 150 registered participants. In the years to come, we pray even more of will be able to participate. ***Christ's blessings on our time together in worship, study, and fellowship!***

June Reports – available on WWD <https://welswwd.weebly.com/2023-district-conference.html>

June Conventions/Educational Conferences – a week later next year

Historically, in June our district has met the first Monday and Tuesday following the first Sunday of June. Starting next year that will change. ***Starting next June, we will normally meet on the first Monday and Tuesday following the second Sunday in June.***

This change is the result of a change in MLC's Academic Calendar. Starting this coming school year, MLC is adding a January Term (J-term) and holding May graduation one week later. In turn, LPS's graduation date will be a full week later. Logistics on LPS's campus necessitate a two-week period between LPS graduation and our district meetings, so this also pushes us back a week.

District June Calendar

2024 – June 10,11	Convention
2025 – June 9, 10	Educational Growth Conference
2026 – June 8, 9	(exception year – MLC graduation is May 16)
2027 – June 14, 15	
2028 – June 12, 13	
2029 – June 11, 12	
2030 – June 10, 11	

MLC Assignments & Teaching Vacancies

In the Assignment Committee at MLC this year, there were 61 (74 in 2022, 92 in 2021, 120 in 2020) teacher candidates who could go anywhere (48 from the graduating class and 13 from previous years), and all of them were assigned. In addition, 40 teacher candidates who were limited geographically received Calls, and 37 teacher candidates returned for another year to their current place of service, for a total of 138 candidates assigned (125 in 2022, 168 in 2021, 150 in 2020).

At MLC, 4 Staff Ministry candidates were available for assignment, and all of them were assigned. Two staff ministry Calls went unfilled.

After the Assignment Committee met, there were still 158 total vacancies for teacher-trained men and women synod-wide (at least 140 at this time in 2022, 90 in 2021, 50 in 2020). Of those 158, 114 had brought Calls to the Assignment Committee that went unfilled.

WLS Assignment Statistics & Remaining Pastoral Vacancies

In the Assignment Committee at WLS this year, there were 116 requests for candidates (90 in 2022, 74 in 2021, 57 in 2020). There were 42 candidates available (27 in 2022, 33 in 2021, 26 in 2020), and all of them were assigned, so 74 of those Calls were unfilled (63 in 2022, 41 in 2021, 31 in 2020). Of those 42 candidates, 37 were seniors receiving their first Call and 5 were from previous classes. In addition, 2 men were reassigned to one-year Calls.

After the Assignment Committee did its work, there were still 140 vacancies for pastor-trained parish men synod-wide (136 in 2022, 95 in 2021, 87 in 2020), a 12% vacancy rate.

As we strive to match resources with opportunities, may we turn to our Savior for His strength, wisdom and guidance. And, may we work together with His blessing.

New District Appointments & Thanks – since last June

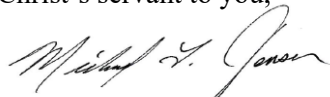
We thank the following for their service, some taking Calls into other districts, some stepping away after years of service.

- Circuit Pastors – Dan Foelske, Michael Lindemann, Dan Iwinski
- District School Coordinator – Fred Uttech
- District Worship Coordinator – Rich Lehmann

We also thank those accepting appointment to fill these positions.

- Circuit Pastors – Neal Behm, Jeff Bolwerk, Jim Nelson
- District School Coordinator – Ben Rank
- District Worship Coordinator – Phil Moldenhauer

Christ's servant to you,



Pastor Michael Jensen

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