

STAY CONNECTED TO JESUS

LEADER GUIDE



2023-2024—SEASON 29

Welcome to a new school year and the 29th season of *Kids Connection*! This season we meet students from Minnesota to South Carolina, all because you connected with us to share your MY SCHOOL stories—THANK YOU! In our first three months: proclaiming God’s grace via Bible passages at a disc golf course; using God’s gifts in STEM projects; seeing “God so loved **the world**” in action. And, of course, Pastor Tony Schultz closes each of our episodes.

It’s our continued goal to help you all “stay connected to Jesus.” Consider reading each month’s summary to your students before watching the episode, then using the discussion questions as a springboard for classroom discussion on using gifts and sharing Jesus in our daily lives. Also consider sharing your MY SCHOOL story idea with us. Tell us what is unique about your grade school, Sunday school, early childhood, etc.: kidsconnection@wels.net.



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It is our prayer that *Kids Connection* and the gospel it shares will encourage you and your students to stay connected to each other, to others in WELS, and, most importantly, to Jesus.

*Wisconsin
Evangelical
Lutheran Synod*
N16W23377
Stone Ridge Drive
Waukesha, WI 53188

Subscriptions

Laura Schulz
414-256-3226
laura.schulz@wels.net

Story ideas

Kris Snyder
414-527-6854
kidsconnection@wels.net



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Christ's Love, Our Calling.

SEPTEMBER 2023

Have you ever played golf? How about disc golf? This month we head to Grace Lutheran School in St. Joseph, Michigan, to see how they use a disc golf course to share God's grace with the community.

Next, a sent-in story from St. Paul's in New Ulm, Minnesota. Teams solve clues and conquer challenges

scattered throughout the city as they compete in an Amazing Race. Check out the rubber ducks in the snow!

Finally, Pastor Tony Schultz has a winning message.

"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us" (Romans 8:37).

QUESTIONS TO SPARK DISCUSSION

1. How did you stay connected to Jesus during the summer?
2. Even when you're losing, what do you enjoy about playing games?

OCTOBER 2023

Think about all of the different people you see in a week: your teacher, a doctor or nurse, a plumber, people stocking shelves in the grocery store. There are all kinds of different people who do all kinds of different work. God gives us all gifts. This month we look at that through two MY SCHOOL stories.

First, meet students from St. Paul's in Franklin, Wisconsin, who are learning how to use their different gifts as a team to complete a STEM project.

Next, meet Natalie. She wants to be a writer and a WELS teacher. First, she has an amazing opportunity to be a kid reporter for Scholastic News

Finally, Pastor Tony Schultz has a lesson in human humility and weakness that show God's unwavering strength.

"We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us" (Romans 12:6).

QUESTIONS TO SPARK DISCUSSION

1. Identify two gifts in you and one of your peers: (add to this list) musician, artist, scientist, speaker, writer, organizer, encourager, leader, teammate.
2. How can you use these gifts to God's glory?

NOVEMBER 2023

Where were you born? How about your parents or grandparents? Today we start in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, but we head around the world. At St. John's they have a unique ministry serving families from varied backgrounds, including Burma and the surrounding region. We visited them during Culture Day, a day to celebrate differences in heritage and oneness in Christ.

In our second story we have a sent-in MY SCHOOL story from Holy Cross in Madison to help us remember and appreciate our military veterans.

Finally, a Thanksgiving message from Pastor Tony Schultz.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

QUESTIONS TO SPARK DISCUSSION

1. Think of a country (maybe one that you or a classmate is from). Can you find it on a map or globe?
2. Is anyone in your family in the military? How can you thank them for their service?