

STAY CONNECTED TO JESUS

LEADER GUIDE



2023-2024—SEASON 29



We made it to the last three months of the season and school year. Next season is our 30th—help us celebrate! Some of you teachers have seen all 30 seasons; some grew up with it; some just started watching it. What is your most memorable *Kids Connection* moment? How has *Kids Connection* affected you, your school, your students, your ministry? What would you say to help us celebrate? Send your 1-minute video, photo, or email to kidsconnection@wels.net.

A continued thank-you to Northwestern Publishing House for running our subscription services. If you are not a subscriber, you can go directly to the *Kids Connection* page: wels.net/kidsconnection. Click on the red Subscribe Now button. Please contact Laura.Schulz@wels.net for subscription assistance.

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.

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Christ's Love, Our Calling.

MARCH 2024

Sometimes life is hard! Sometimes bad things happen. This month Jake and Olivia are sharing some personal examples of Romans 8:28 in action, "For we know that all things work together for the good of those who love God." We also look at verses 26 and 39 of the same chapter. Use these with your students!

Just over a year ago Olivia was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. Her body doesn't produce something called insulin which our bodies need in order to use the food we eat. She was pretty sick for a long time.

In August of 2021, God took Jake's dad home to heaven, suddenly. He was 53. God tells us that our times are in his hands. He knows how long we will live.

We call our lives on earth our time of grace, the time that we have to learn about God's love and the blessings he has promised to those who believe.

Finally, Pastor Tony Schultz celebrates our future home in heaven because of Easter!

"[Nothing] will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:39).

QUESTIONS TO SPARK DISCUSSION

1. Think about a time when you were sick or someone you love was in the hospital, or maybe a time when you attended a funeral.
2. How does knowing that Jesus is with you help?

APRIL 2024

Teachers are passionate about their students, that's why they are teachers! This month we meet teachers with different passions. First, a teacher and some students whose love for cursive handwriting gave their school a chance to remind their community that we do all things to God's glory.

In our second story we meet some therapy dogs. Two teachers saw a lot of stress in their students and were

looking for ways to help. They adopted dogs and took them through a year and a half of training. Now these furry friends visit students on a regular basis.

Finally, Pastor Tony Schultz shares how special it is to be able to share the good news of the gospel with others.

"Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction" (2 Timothy 4:2).

QUESTIONS TO SPARK DISCUSSION

1. Can others read what you write? Why would that be important?
2. Do you have a pet at home or at a friend's or relative's house that you like? How do you feel around that pet?

MAY 2024

What's on the summer calendar for you? This month we meet some girls and young ladies who set aside a week every summer to immerse themselves in God's Word and his creation at Lutheran Girl Pioneer summer camp.

Next, we enjoy a sent-in MY SCHOOL story from Good Shepherd in Sioux Falls, South Dakota where students learn how to work together through robotics. One team from their school even went to the international competition in Dallas, Texas!

Finally, Pastor Tony Schultz shares a special memory of baptizing his twin daughters. It's quite a story!

"These words that I am commanding you today are to be on your heart. Teach them diligently to your children, and speak about them when you sit in your house and when you walk on the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as a sign on your wrists, and they will serve as symbols on your forehead" (Deuteronomy 6:6-8).

QUESTIONS TO SPARK DISCUSSION

1. What are you looking forward to this summer?
2. Before summer hits, think about how you can help us celebrate 30 seasons of *Kids Connection*. See the beginning of this letter for details.