

# NAD CONVENTION 2016 REPORT



WELS COMMISSION  
ON YOUTH &  
FAMILY MINISTRY

**Staff Minister Kevin Walker**  
*District Coordinator*  
52 Ganton Heights  
Brampton, ON L7A 0T3  
905-783-4147  
[kevin.walker@crossoflife.net](mailto:kevin.walker@crossoflife.net)

**Staff Minister Levi Nagel**  
*Camp Chi Rho Director*  
3233 Annandale Road  
Falls Church, VA 22042  
703-975-1319  
[nagel@gracefallschurch.org](mailto:nagel@gracefallschurch.org)

**Pastor Karl Schauland**  
*Teen Ministry Director*  
618 Colby Court  
Hackettstown, NJ 07840  
908-867-7179  
[pastorschauland@immanuelnj.net](mailto:pastorschauland@immanuelnj.net)

**Nicole Westra**  
*Rally Director/Recruitment*  
4 Smallwood Drive  
Pittsford, NY 14534  
585-381-4670  
[nicolenwestra@gmail.com](mailto:nicolenwestra@gmail.com)

**Pastor Paul Krueger**  
*Teen Ministry Director*  
111 Warren Circle  
Stephens City, Virginia 22655  
540-409-8645  
[pastorpaulkrueger@gmail.com](mailto:pastorpaulkrueger@gmail.com)

**Pastor Aaron Goetzinger**  
*Camps, Rallies, & Recruitment*  
Watertown, NY  
414-699-9138  
[goetzihh@gmail.com](mailto:goetzihh@gmail.com)

**WELS International Youth Rally 2016** Theme: Our God Reigns. Colorado State University at Fort Collins, June 28—July 1, 2016. Registration has ended. There are roughly 2000 participants who have registered. We pray that God richly blesses all that goes on there. To stay up on any new information you can “LIKE” the rally Facebook page: **WELS International Youth Rally**.

**Camp Chi Rho 2016** - We are still taking registrations. Camp will again be at Elk Neck State Park in North East, Maryland. Dates are July 25-29, 2016. The current price is \$175 USD. Registrations can be completed at [www.welsyouth.net](http://www.welsyouth.net).

**Synod School FallTour** - We have funds available to do a second trip this coming fall to visit MLC, WLS, and WLC. If you have any interested students (Sophomore—Seniors), please contact myself or Nicole Westra to coordinate. Timeframe for the trip is late October. Cost in total would be \$100 USD per student.

**School of Youth and Family Ministry** This project, based on the success and model of ongoing Schools of Outreach and Schools of Worship Enrichment, is designed to aid congregations who are either struggling with family ministry or wanting to expand or improve their efforts. Based on data gathered by the Commission on Congregational Counseling, this is likely a high majority of WELS congregations. Workshops include a look at current youth ministry trends; experiential faith opportunities; mixers, games, and activity planning; ministering to seventh grade and beyond; youth-driven Bible studies; the importance of Christian mentoring; marriage growing ministries; and birth-to-sixth grade focuses. After substantial planning and beta testing, the Schools of Youth and Family will be introduced at the summer 2016 WELS International Youth Rally.

**WELS Marriage Enrichment Weekend** - Registration is up and running for the Mysterious Marriage Enrichment Weekend at the Ambassador Hotel, Kingston, Ontario. The dates are October 21-23, 2016. The investment for your marriage is \$310 USD (approximately \$400 CDN) per couple. For more information or to register, go to: <http://wels.net/serving-you/christian-life/adult-discipleship/marriage-enrichment/>. A maximum of 25 couples can participate. So get your registrations in ASAP. Contact myself for any other details.

**Transformed Teen Devotions**- In January 2016 the commission launched a weekly devotional series entitled “TRANSFORMED: Devotions Connecting Teens to Christ.” This series of devotions has been well received and is being used by teens and congregations throughout the synod. To subscribe or to read past devotions, visit [wels.net/transformed](http://wels.net/transformed).

**Combined Director** - The 2015 synod in convention resolved that calling a full-time director for the Commission on Youth and Family Ministry be listed on the Synodical Council’s Unfunded Priority List. Noting the variety of unfunded priorities and a family ministry basis for service to youth, families, and many adults, the Conference of Presidents has recommended to the Synodical Council that a full-time director be shared between the Commissions on Youth and Family Ministry and Adult Discipleship and that the calling for this position take place as soon as funding becomes available.

**WELS Labor Day Retreat** - It’s not too early to start thinking about this worthwhile event. Dates this year are: September 3-5, 2016. More information will be coming out shortly.

**Regional Youth Rally 2017** - Mark your calendars. Next year’s rally will be in the Cincinnati, Ohio area either the week of July 10 or July 17. The theme will be, “Here We Stand” in celebration and in memory of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Stay tuned for more info.

In Christ,

Kevin Walker, NAD - CYFM Coordinator