

# SHARE WHAT'S INSIDE

In his column this month, James Pope encourages readers to thank God for his newest gifts to the church: graduates recently assigned to the teaching, preaching, and staff ministries in our synod (p. 34). The July issue provides many opportunities to meet these new full-time called workers and learn more about WELS' ministerial education system.

- View this year's graduates from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wis., and Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minn., as well as details of where they will serve (pp. 18–28).
- Examine statistics about WELS' current and future full-time called workers, complete with commentary about vacancies, new opportunities, and continued needs (p. 17).
- Learn how the Assignment Committee makes some difficult decisions as it assigns graduates into full-time ministry (p. 29).

- Meet a rancher who is now training to care for a different kind of sheep (p. 7).
- See what lessons a seminary student learned while serving a congregation during his vicar year (back page).

Urge your members to grab a copy of this month's issue so they can see these new called workers and keep them in their personal prayers.

Here's a prayer to use in worship or to share in your church's newsletter.

Lord of the church, thank you for enabling this year's ministerial education graduates to complete their programs of studies and move on to new chapters of Christian living. Bless them with strength, courage, and joy as they serve you and others. May their greatest joy always be your love for them. Amen.

## EXPLORE JULY 2026 ARTICLES



How can congregations and their members faithfully use digital tools in their ministries (p. 10)?



Why should I pay taxes when I disagree with how the government uses my money (p. 12)?



Is it fine to worship online (p. 14)?

### Host a *Forward in Christ* Sunday in 2026

Want to learn more about *Forward in Christ* magazine and how it fits into your congregation's mission? Host a *Forward in Christ* Sunday. Executive editor James Pope is available to preach and/or conduct Bible class to share more about the synod's official magazine and the importance of staying in God's Word. Learn more at [forwardinchrist.net/fic-sunday](https://forwardinchrist.net/fic-sunday).

