

2026 Conference Sessions

1) **Stronger Together: The Power of Church - Nonprofit Partnerships** **Tim Dolan/Phil Hayes**

What if your church could multiply its impact in your community by joining hands with those already doing great work? This presentation explores how partnering with nonprofit organizations can help churches put Christ's compassion into intentional action—feeding the hungry, supporting families, mentoring youth, and caring for the vulnerable. Together, we'll see how these partnerships move ministry beyond Sunday worship, creating meaningful connections that turn faith into service and compassion, leading to real, lasting change.

2) **The Christian and Science** **Arthur Eggert**

To determine how a Christian should react to various scientific ideas, it is essential to understand precisely how both Christianity and science are defined. The basis of Christian truth and scientific truth will be discussed in this session. How a Christian can live in a world dominated by science will be explored.

3) **Building Solid Financial Habits** **Peter Wolfgramm**

Are your personal finances stressing you out? Are things off track because of your own short-sighted choices and faulty habits? As a certified financial coach, I assist people with taking stock of their current reality and by providing a proven plan for getting back on track. Please join us for some tools and encouragement to fine tune your financial habits to faithfully manage God's blessings.

4) **Yes, you: An evangelism model for anyone, anywhere** **Aaron Wakeman**

In his session, Aaron will share the evangelism model that he has used to train hundreds of evangelists - average lay people like you and me. He will offer encouragement and practical tools to help us remove the stigma, guilt, and fear around the topic of evangelism. And by God's grace, you will leave the session ready to be good news tellers in your lives and communities.

5) **Just Don't Be Weird** **Nathan Klusmeyer**

Talking about Jesus doesn't have to be awkward or weird. In this encouraging and practical seminar, we'll explore how to share our faith at work, in our communities, and with friends and family in ways that are natural, respectful, and grounded in the gospel. We'll tackle common fears, offer real-life examples, and learn from each other's experiences to build confidence and clarity. With biblical encouragement and practical tools, you'll be equipped to speak about Jesus with grace and authenticity. Whether you're just starting out or looking to grow, this seminar will help you share your faith without fear—or cringe.

6) **You Gotta Love It** **Justin Heise**

A session on personal Bible Study - what works, what doesn't, why it matters, and how to love it.

7) Pastoring Your Household: Rhythms of head, heart, and habit

Brandon Steenbock

Every man is called to be a shepherd to his household, no matter how big or small his family. This means leading in the areas of how we learn and think about God's Word, how we deepen our faith, and how we live for and serve our Lord. This session will explore how you can build rhythms and practices in your home to grow closer to Jesus in head, heart, and habit.

8) From Overwhelmed to on Mission

Jon Ruddat

Learn how to organize your week so you can excel at work, love your family well, and serve God's kingdom without burning out. This practical session gives you a proven framework to identify your peak energy times, align your schedule with biblical priorities, and say "no" graciously when needed. Walk away with tools to build a sustainable rhythm that honors God and maximizes your impact in every area of life.

9) Yes, But I Can't Forgive Myself

Brad Price

How often have you heard, "Jesus has covered all your sins, you are forgiven!" and thought, "Yes, but I can't forgive myself." Moral injuries are a major contributor to suicide rates among those in military and first responder professions. It takes courage to face the demons of moral injury and trauma because of the things we've faced or done. In this session, we will look at the connection between faith, moral injury, and trauma, and how the message of God's grace is the answer to finding peace and self-forgiveness.

10) Marriage under Fire

Ben Berger

Do you ever feel under fire in your marriage? Maybe it's what she said or how she said it; maybe it's what you said or how you said it. Miscommunication and unmet expectations often lead to conflict, which is not always easily resolved. This session will be more discussion than presentation. Let's discuss together what threatens our marriages and how God's word guides us through conflict to resolution and even stronger unity.

11) Livestreaming: Fad or Gospel Aid?

Larry Poch & Panel

Livestream technology is not a passing trend—it offers enduring value. When used thoughtfully, it can become a powerful tool for gospel outreach.

This session does not aim to promote worship from home as a substitute for gathering in person. Rather, it invites us to explore how livestreaming can complement and strengthen our church communities.

Guiding questions include:

- Will prospects view recordings of your worship services?
 - Can these recordings help visitors become more familiar with your teachings, worship style, and campus?
 - How might livestreaming encourage, promote, and support in-person worship within your sanctuary?
- We'll highlight real-world dialogue between congregations and foster connections among those seeking to use livestreaming to deepen engagement, extend outreach, and warmly invite others into the life of the church.

12) Godly Boyz II Men

Phil Huebner

Where have all the men gone? If you look closely at many of our WELS high schools and then many of our churches, you'll see much of the same--lots of women serving and leading, not so many men. While we certainly have men in leadership roles, there is a distinct lack of godly men who lead, especially among younger generations. What can we do to raise up more godly men? This session will explore some of the root problems and offer some suggestions and advice to address those issues.

13) Living with God's Gift of Anger

Phillip Merten

We're all too familiar with anger's potential for destruction, yet it's part of the toolbox of emotions God created us with. How can we experience and express anger without having it take over and blow things up? How can we be both loving and angry? We'll apply the Bible's truth of God's grace to the challenges of living in a world where there are things that make us angry.

14) Forming the Whole Man: Faith, Discipline, and Habits

Wade Johnston

This session will explore Christian formation by examining what has been forming us, what should be forming us, and the role that disciplines and habits can play in helping us grow in the faith and our vocations.