

SHARE

what's inside

This month's issue includes five devotions to be used during Advent and at Christmas (pp. 17–20). Each devotion features a short message, Bible reading, hymn, and prayer for a weekly reminder of the hope, joy, love, and peace that Christ brings. An enhanced experience, including audio and video of Martin Luther College students singing the suggested hymns, is available at forwardinchrist.net/advent-2023.

- Encourage congregational members to pick up the issue and use the devotions at home each week. A promotional slide at forwardinchrist.net/promote is available.
- Send a link to the online articles to members and school families.
- Share FIC's weekly social media post highlighting that week's devotion on your congregation's social media channels.
- Read each week's devotion as part of your small group Bible studies.



WELS CONNECTIONS

In the December *WELS Connection*, you'll travel to Vietnam, where you'll meet one of the 55 graduates from WELS' seminary-level training program for the Hmong Fellowship Church, see the new Theological Education Center that was just dedicated in Hanoi, as well as visit rural areas where more training is taking place. Meet one of the pastors who teaches in that rural training program in this month's *Forward in Christ* (p. 24).

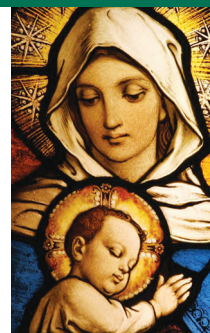
EXPLORE DECEMBER 2023 ARTICLES



Meet Casy, a man who found true freedom in the gospel after being put in jail for a crime he didn't commit (pp. 7-9).



Can't get enough of "This is WELS" photos? We have two pages for you this month, highlighting Christmas pictures from congregations and schools (pp. 4,21).



Why is the virgin birth of Christ such an important teaching of the Bible? Find out in this month's "Please explain" (p. 30).

SHARE YOUR

witnessing story



How do you share your faith with your friends and neighbors? Tell us your witnessing stories and strategies for possible inclusion in a future issue. forwardinchrist.net/submit

SPREAD THE WORD by using this request in your church updates or as a promotional slide, forwardinchrist.net/promote.

LUTHERAN LEADERSHIP



Forward in Christ has been featuring articles on Lutheran leadership throughout 2023. This month's article talks about the importance of congregational culture (pp. 14–16).

Miss any of this year's leadership articles? Read them all at forwardinchrist.net/lutheran-leadership.