



CHRIST
THROUGH US

SYNOD CONVENTION 2025

WELS Congregational Services

Report to the 2025 Synod Convention

MINISTRY **FOR** YOU

World Missions

Home Missions

Ministerial Education

MINISTRY **WITH** YOU

Congregational Services

*Congregational Services
seeks to encourage and
equip congregations
for faithful and fruitful
gospel ministry.*



WELS Congregational Services



Rev. Paul Prange
Worship



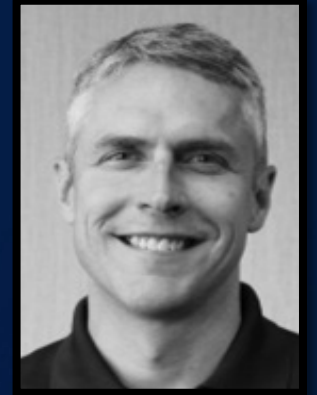
Rev. Jonathan Hein
*Congregational
Counseling*



Mr. Dan Nommensen
Operations



Mr. Jim Rademan
Lutheran Schools



Mr. Paul Patterson
School Accreditation

CHURCH COHORT

SCHOOL COHORT



Rev. Eric Roecker
Evangelism



Rev. Donn Dobberstein
Discipleship



Rev. Joel Gaertner
Special Ministries



Mrs. Melanie Giddings
*Lutheran
Curriculum*



Mrs. Jamie Walta
*Early Childhood
Ministries*

With Thanksgiving



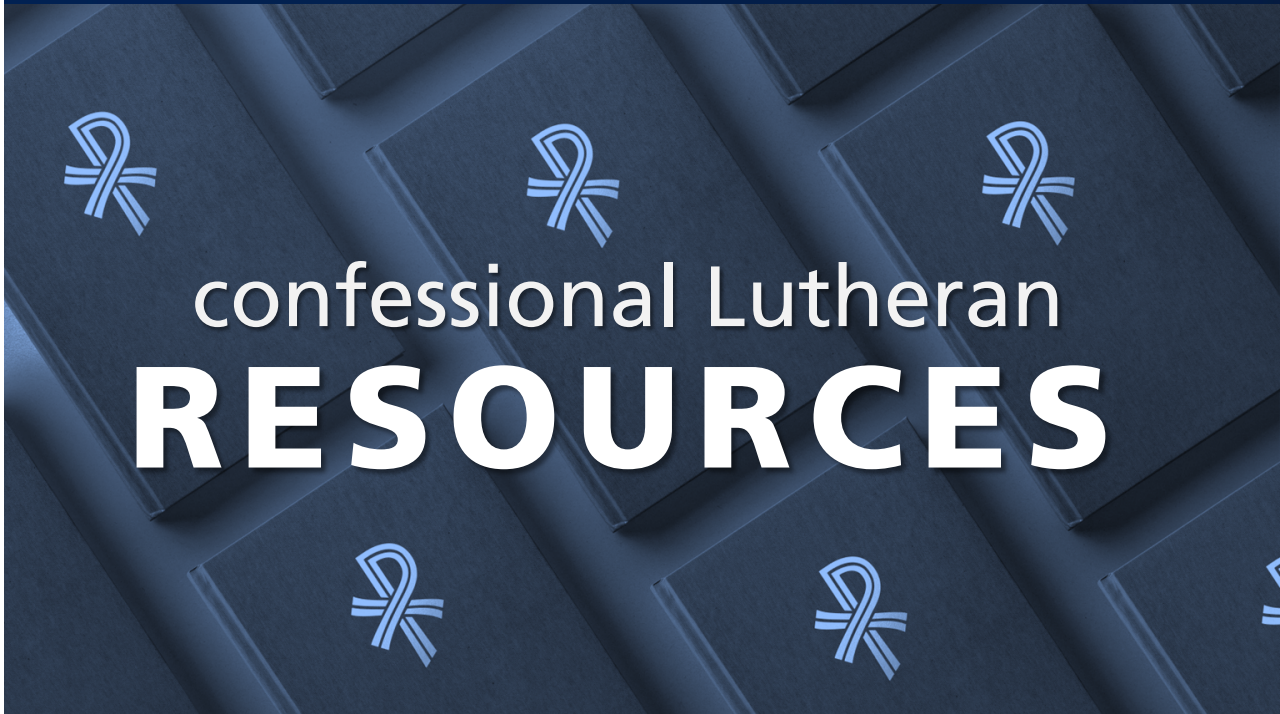
Rev. Bryan Gerlach
Worship



Mrs. Cindi Holman
Early Childhood Ministries



Mr. Dave Hochmuth
Prison Ministry

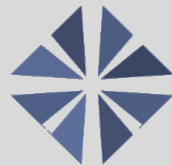


Church & School Consultations



365 Together

(ministry revitalization and coaching)



AXIS

(long-range planning)



School Accreditation

(excellence in education)



Telling the Next Generation

(school outreach strategy)



Mission Together

(congregational partnerships or consolidation)



Shadow of the Leader

(culture-shaping training)



Everyone Outreach

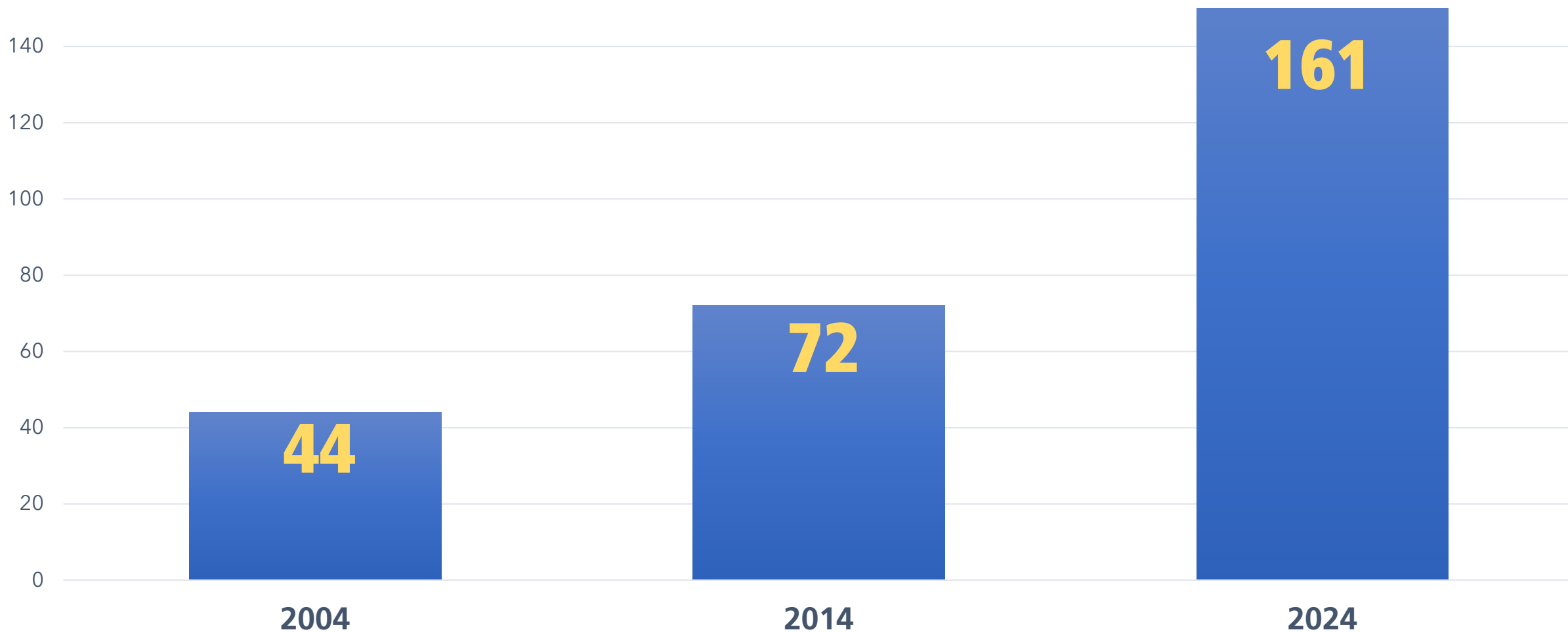
(personal outreach)



Ministry Mapping

(custom consultation)

Church & School Consultations



Lutheran Resources

MINISTRY TRAINING



LET'S GO
LOVE · LISTEN · LEAD



EQUIP WOMEN TO
Teach the Word



**Chaplaincy
Training**



WELCOME
Home



**STANDING UP
FOR CHILDREN**

A Christian Response to
Abuse and Neglect



freedom
for the **captives**

Lutheran Resources

MINISTRY RESOURCES

Apologetics
DEFENDING THE FAITH



NEVER Too Young to
Talk About **Jesus**
Why Your Witness Matters

**WELS
YOUTH
NIGHT**



**HEART
IMPRINTS**

A worship resource for children
in the congregation, school,
or early childhood ministry



Lutheran Resources

PERSONAL RESOURCES



made.
known.



Devote Yourself
NEWSLETTER



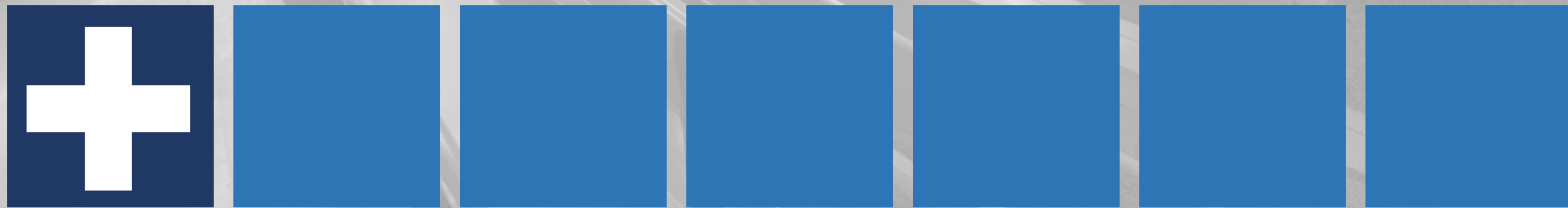
Lutheran Resources

SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCES



*serving WELS members who cannot easily be served
through traditional congregational ministries*

THE FOUNDATION



welscongregationalservices.net

[Ministry Resources](#)[Modules & Training](#)[Blog](#)[The Foundation](#)[Stats Report](#)[Search](#)

Congregational Services

Ministry resources, training, Bible studies, ready-made graphics, and more

WELS Congregational Services exists to serve congregations, schools, and their leaders by providing personal assistance so that they might carry out gospel ministry in the most faithful way on the local

[ABOUT US](#)

Not seeing what you need? Suggest a resource or training lesson via the WELS contact us form.

[SUGGEST RESOURCES](#)

Mission & Ministry Events



National Conference

on Worship, Music, and the Arts

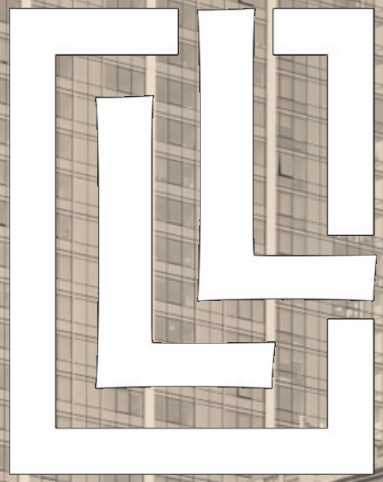
WELS NATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON



LUTHERAN LEADERSHIP

JANUARY 19–21, 2026

HILTON, CHICAGO



CHRIST THROUGH US

lutheranleadership.com



2026 WELS YOUTH RALLY

CHRIST THROUGH US

JULY 14–17, 2026

**Bowling Green State University
Bowling Green, Ohio**



Statistical Trend Analysis

WELS STATISTICAL REPORT

2024



STATISTICAL SUMMARY & ANALYSIS

2024

Jonathan R. Hein

School Statistics: Fall 2024



3,109

CALLED TEACHERS



411

SCHOOLS



47,183

STUDENTS

TRENDS

- *more teachers*
- *more students*
- *fewer but larger schools*

SPECIAL EDUCATION

A Growing Opportunity

5,994 STUDENTS
in 409 SCHOOLS
received services

89 SCHOOLS

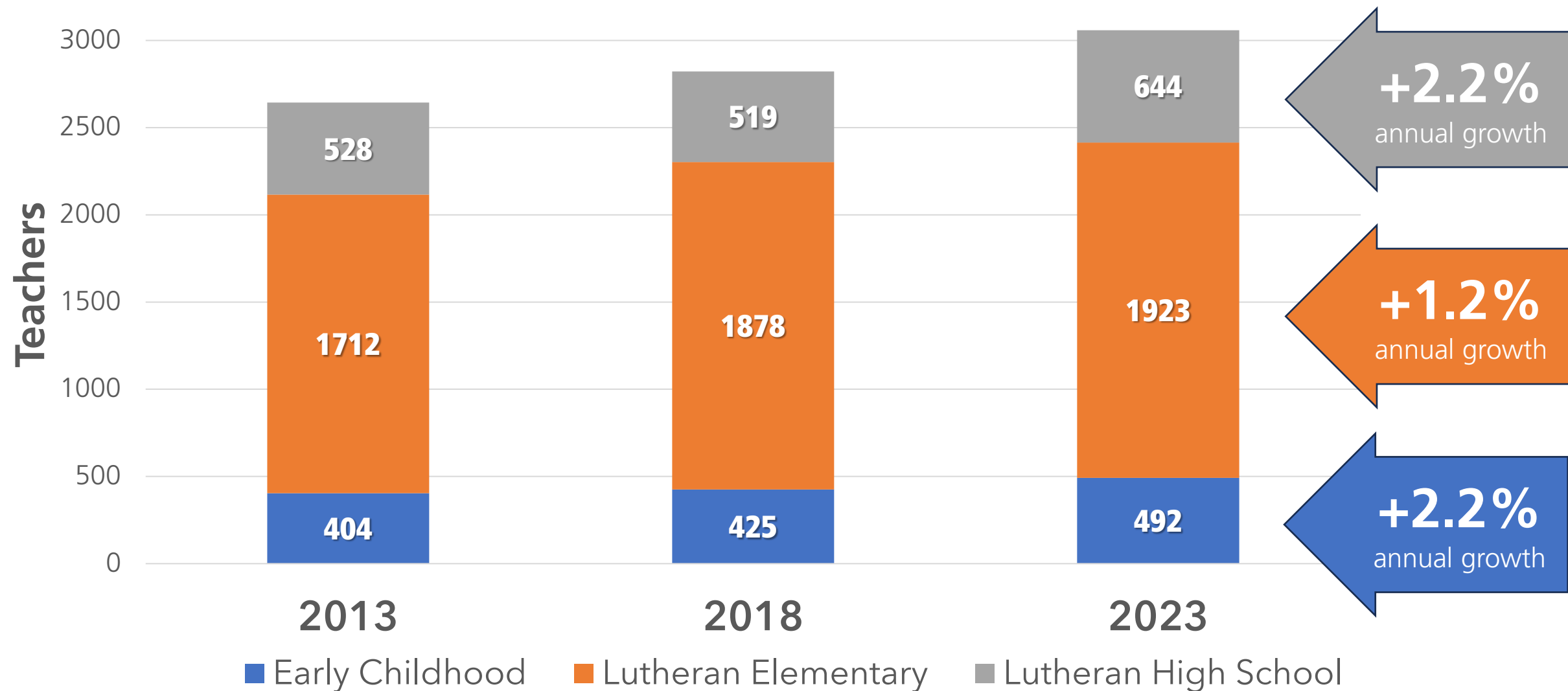
serving at least one
student on the
Autism spectrum

222 TEACHERS

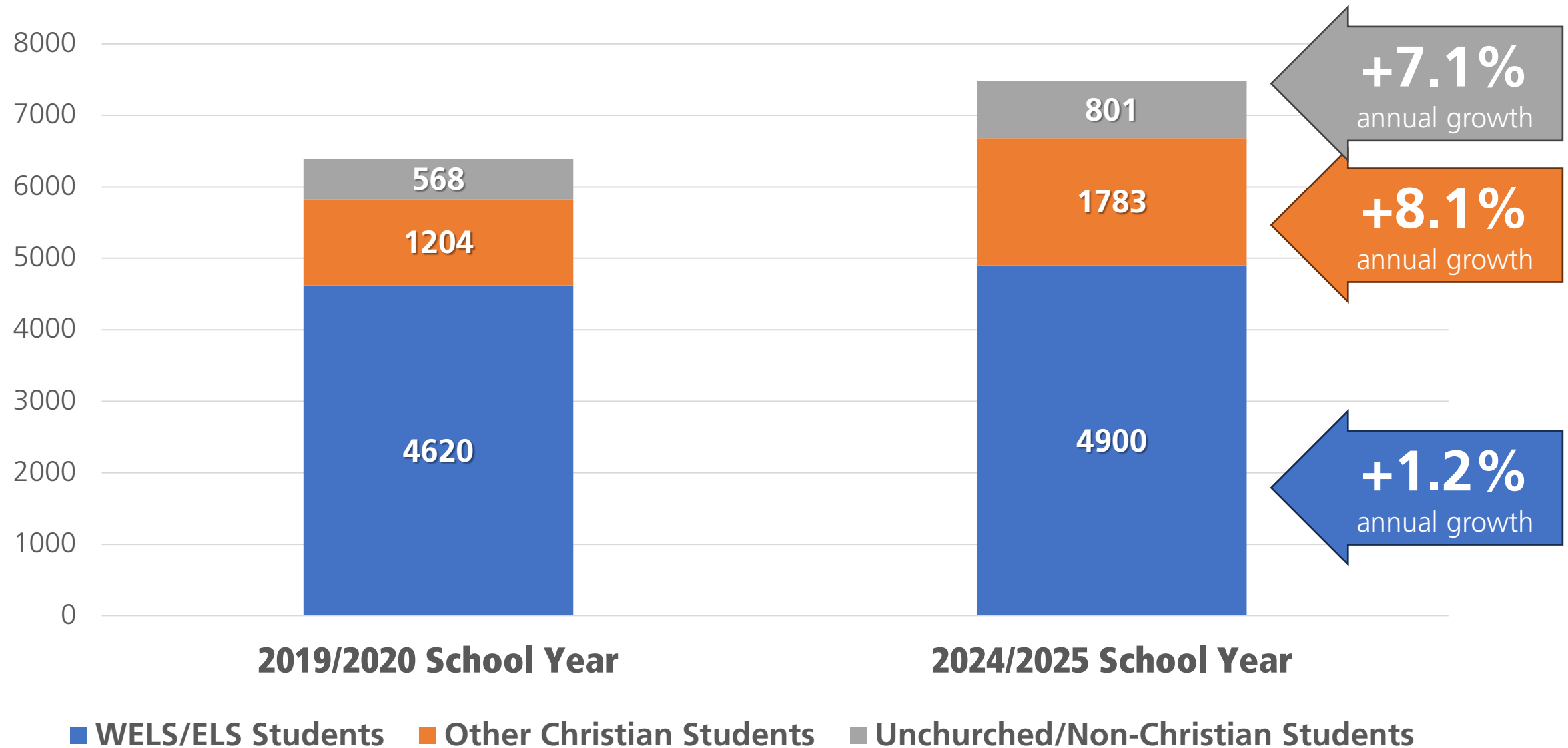
degreed or licensed for
special education

Individualized Education Program

WELS TEACHER GROWTH RATE: PAST DECADE



High School Enrollment by Affiliation (ALHS & Prep)



School Statistics: Teacher Shortages

Average 21/22,
22/23, 23/24

SY 24/25

Positions Available

655

525

Active Teachers Accepting Calls

326

259

Teachers Assigned from MLC

104

94

Secular Trained/CBE Candidates

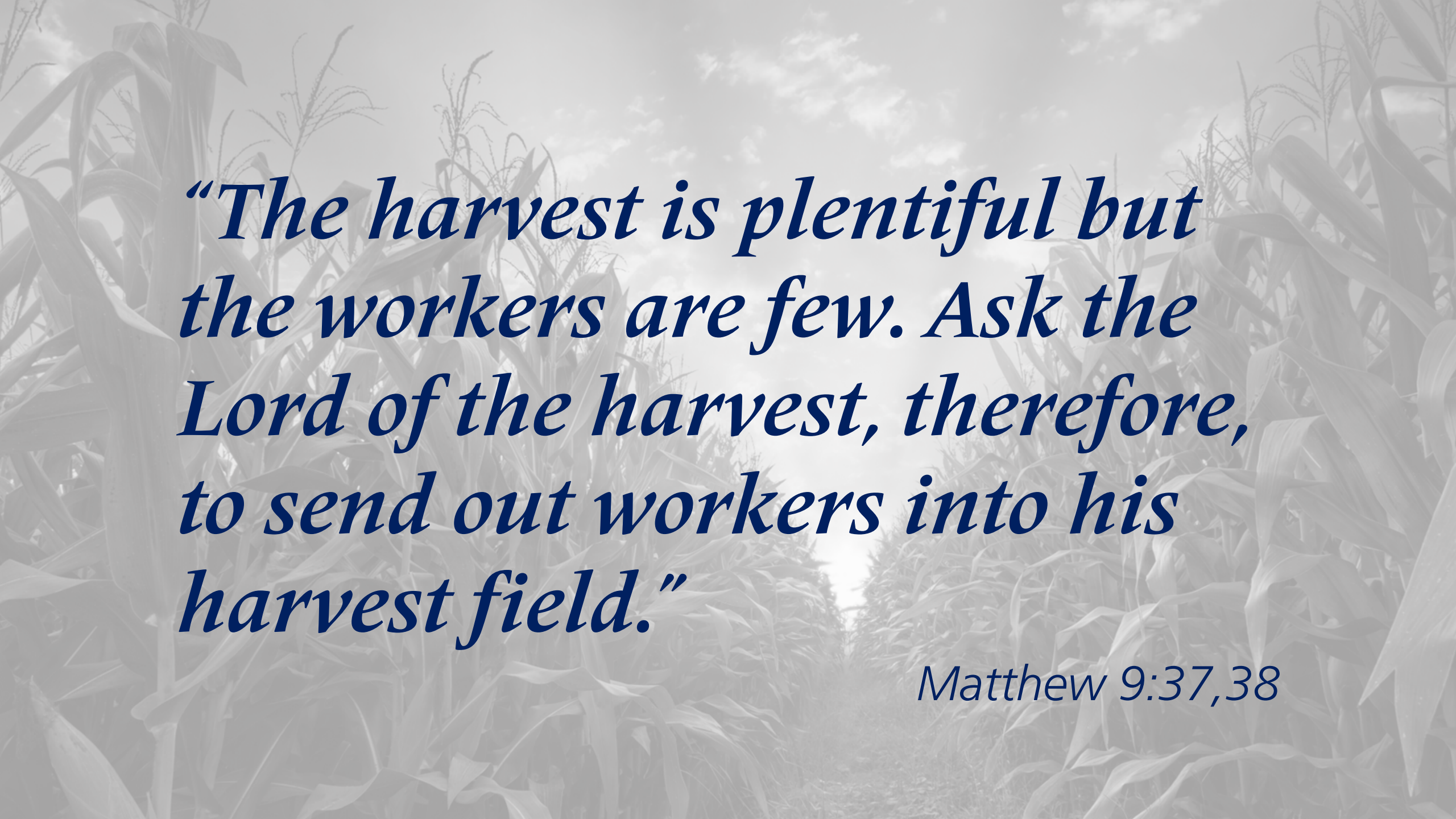
103

81

Inactive Teachers Returning

113

88



“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

Matthew 9:37,38

SUPPORT AT EVERY STEP

for Early Childhood Teachers



TIER 1

Early Childhood Teaching and Ministry Overview

Train your new teachers in-house with 25 free online modules.

TIER 2

CDA Credential Training

Earn a CDA in one semester.

TIER 3

Early Childhood Ministry Certification

Obtain theology and ministry training appropriate for early childhood.

TIER 4

Associate of Science in Early Childhood Education

Become call eligible for preschool with a college degree and ministry certification.

Training School Leaders



*Principal
and
Director Training
Programs*

*Principal
and
Director
Credential Cohorts*



WELSSA
WELS School Accreditation



APRIL 2024	JUNE 2025
Star Reduction	<i>Reduced required standards in all three sets</i>
Infant and Toddler	<i>Completed and approved by WELSSA Commission</i>
Standardized Forms	<i>Standardized annual reporting & self-study format</i>
Application to YoungStar	<i>Full ECM addendum to LES standards approved</i>
Standards Revision	<i>4th revision of draft</i>

Theology Curriculum

- Phase One—Framework

- **Coming to a close**
- Developed Picture of a Graduate
- Created Guiding Principles (Early Childhood)
- Created Standards (Grades 1-12)

- Phase Two—Content

- Four Programs
 - Early Childhood
 - Grades 1-5
 - Grades 6-8
 - Grades 9-12
- Developing Production Partnerships and Identifying Writers





WELS
National Conference
on Lutheran Leadership

FAITHFUL AND FUNDED

Rethinking How We Support Lutheran Schools

*Explore Seven Shifts Needed to Ensure a
Sustainable Future for a School Ministry*



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