

Evergreen Lutheran High School District Convention Summary Report

June, 2016

Under the theme, "Live in Grace; Walk in Love," the 2015-16 school year at ELHS brought new faces and changes to the Administration Department with the arrival of Mr. Ted Klug and Pastor Jim Getka, both who replaced Pastor Nathan Seiltz. The Lord provided us a student body that excelled in great behavior, cooperativeness and "living in grace," as our year's theme encouraged. The Evergreen Family highly values its partnership in ministry with The Evergreen Lutheran School System (TELSS), as well as our partnership with the entire Pacific Northwest District's congregations and schools.

We rejoiced this Spring as one of our International students was baptized at Parkland Lutheran Church in Parkland, WA, and as four of our graduating seniors indicated that they will be attending Martin Luther College to become teachers in our synods' schools! A total of 93% of our graduating seniors will be attending college this fall, as well.

In early June, Evergreen Lutheran High School received the very prestigious WIAA Scholastic Cup Award! The Scholastic Cup is the WIAA's most prestigious annual school award. The year-long competition recognizes the top school in each of the six WIAA classifications based on academic, athletic and sportsmanship excellence. Points are awarded by a school's finish in each of the WIAA/Dairy Farmers of Washington/Les Schwab Tires State Championships and Academic State Championships.

Evergreen Lutheran secured its first 1B title with a point total of 980, sixth best all-time in the classification. With two academic State Championships and three top five finishes in athletic State Competitions, the Eagles soared past last year's Scholastic Cup Champions, Crosspoint, who finished with 865 points. ELHS won previously in the B Division in 2001-02 and in 2002-03.

While we have met significant challenges this year, the Lord has blessed us with even more significant blessings, most notably, a supportive and encouraging TELSS Federation of members who came to Evergreen's aid during our financial shortfall this spring. We cannot express enough thanks for the sacrificial gifts that so many have made so that Evergreen's mission may continue.

In light of these events, Evergreen's administration and Board have worked diligently to create a sustainable budget, including some staff reduction. Mr. Stan Bauer's position as Development Director will be reduced to 500 hours as he begins a "semi-retirement," with Board plans to reopen this position as Mission Advancement Director when our financial situation improves. We are also blessed with retired teacher, Mr. Steph Rodmyre, and retired pastor, James Humann, who are volunteering to teach part time. We thank God for these men who are willing to give of their time so generously for the Kingdom.

We also express great thankfulness to Mrs. Bobette Weimer, our Office Secretary, and Mrs. Ann Poetter, our Recruitment Director, for the many years and faithful service they have given to Evergreen. Their absence will be deeply felt by the Evergreen Family, but we pray that the Lord of the Church will guide and direct their steps along paths of peace.

With the Lord's blessing, we pray that you will see continued growth in your school as Evergreen seeks to fulfill its mission: to provide a Christ-centered Christian education for you, your children, your congregations and the Pacific Northwest. We are your school, eager to serve you by training the future leaders of your congregations and, God-willing, future workers in his Kingdom!