



Bringing the Written Word to the World

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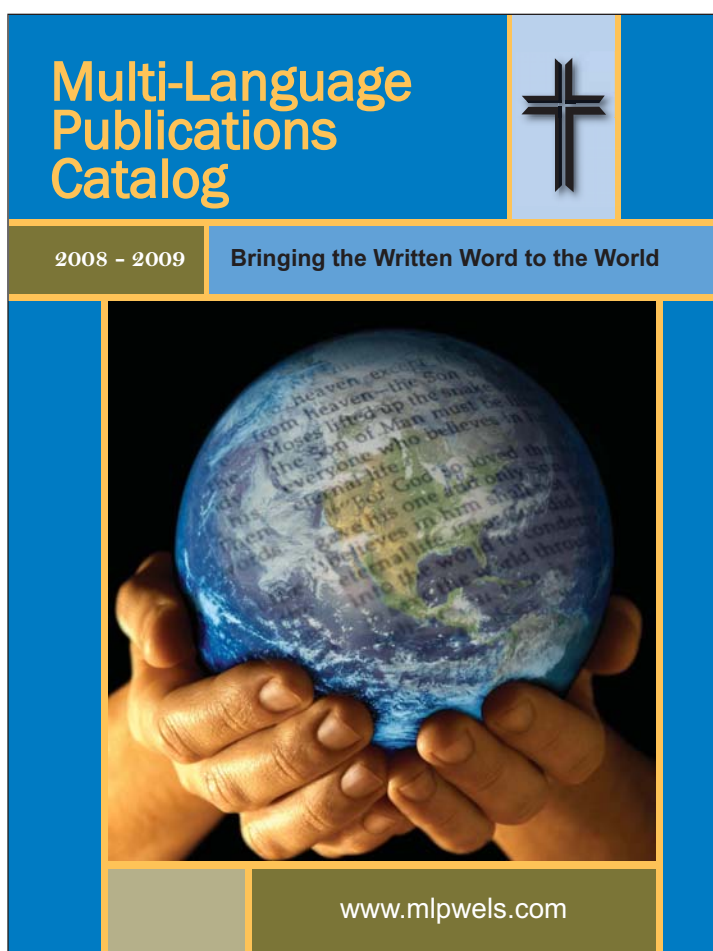
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New Catalog Distributed

The new 2008-09 edition of the *Multi-Language Publications Catalog* is being distributed this month. About 2,800 copies were sent to WELS pastors and male teachers, mission fields, language teachers and other lay people listed in the *WELS Yearbook*. These include addresses in the WELS and ELS. About 400 copies were sent to the mission agencies listed in the United States. Additional copies are stored in El Paso, from where they will be distributed over the next two years.

The new catalog lists about 600 items in 40 languages. About 100 new items are included. Special pages chart all the language editions of *The Promise*, *What the Bible and Lutherans Teach*, *Bible Stories in Pictures* and the *Bible Teachings Series*. Once again, the catalog provides information about cross-cultural resources available from other ministries of interest to confessional Lutherans.

If you have not received a copy—or would like more copies to distribute to your contacts, request them from Multi-Language Publications in El Paso. There is no charge.



www.mlpwels.com

WELS Spanish Worship Resources Development

SWoRD News - November, 2007

By Steven Wagenknecht

Let the work of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. Colossians 3:16

In response to a growing need for Spanish worship materials in WELS congregations and mission fields, the WELS Commission on Worship and Board for Home Missions have formed a committee for Spanish Worship Resources Development. There are numerous reasons for this project, including:

Many new worship resources have been developed since *Culto Cristiano* (the Spanish version of *The Lutheran Hymnal*) made its debut in the 1960s.

Many congregations working the Hispanic outreach would benefit from a reliable source of doctrinally sound worship materials.

There is a shortage of culturally appropriate material available for use on Sunday mornings.

Many of our Spanish ministries have been gleaning from various sources in search of worship materials. In the process, some have been less than meticulous about copyright issues.

Inconsistency in worship styles leads to in-cohesive worship and varying quality from church to church.

On May 1, 2008, a Spanish worship website is scheduled to go public in order to field test the initial resources. That site is planned to include one order of worship with Holy Communion (*Misa Cristiana*). The order would include the 5 historical Christian canticles with modern music and text. Two other resources often requested by those doing Hispanic outreach, a Baptism service and a service of thanksgiving at the celebration of a girl's fifteenth birthday (*Quinceaños*), will also be available. There will also be about two dozen doctrinally sound Spanish hymns, some copyrighted and some public domain, some original work and some revisions of already published songs. Five Psalm arrangements, one for each major season of the church year, are also planned for inclusion. All music will be chorded for guitar.

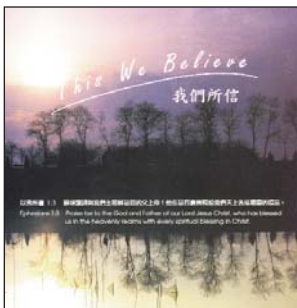
Use of the website will be free, but require registration. Since some of the material is copyrighted, registration will include a user agreement to purchase printing rights for use in church bulletins through OneLicense.net and LicensingOnline.org.

An amplified 'sampler' and eventually a full scale hymnal (either bound or in digital format) are included in the SWoRD committee's long range goals. En route to that goal, over 1,000 individual hymn and song selections have been compiled in a review database. Anyone interested in participating in the review and evaluation process should contact Pastor Steven Wagenknecht via e-mail at: ewagen@hotmail.com



Combining Text *and Sound* on One CD

A New and Relatively Inexpensive Way to Reach People Who Do Not Enjoy Reading



We just received the Chinese edition of *This We Believe* in Chinese. You may order copies from Multi-Language Publications (38-3407). See our online catalog for more details.

Even if you have no need for Chinese publications, you may find the publishing approach interesting for your cross-cultural outreach. The CD offers the written text as three separate files in English, Simplified and Traditional Chinese. The files are PDF. The CD *also* contains an *audio reading* of the same publication in English, Mandarin and Cantonese. The audio file is in MP3. This makes the contents more accessible to the large portion of the Chinese-speaking population that finds it difficult to understand the Chinese characters used for Christian vocabulary. If you are serving a population that does not read religious material easily, consider using the approach taken by the Translation Working Group of our sister church in Hong Kong. The cost of reproducing CD's may be much less expensive than printing lengthy books or even booklets.

Bible Correspondence Programs Continue To Grow

Adapted From a Report by Harold Essmann

In Nepal

The third worker training workshop, held in October, completed the instruction in the first level of training for church workers in Nepal. Fourteen workers completed all the classes in the three workshops and were awarded certificates of achievement. The next level of training, the Bible institute program, is slated to begin in March 2008.



A number of recently published sets of Bible history posters, partially funded by the Antioch Foundation, were carried to Nepal and used effectively in the worker training workshop.

During a mission visit by Pastors Essmann and Koelpin, the Scripture Learning Center was dedicated with over 100 persons in attendance at the worship service. The center consists of an office for the director of the Scripture Learning Program, two large store rooms for Bible Teachings Series books used in the program and a large meeting area to be used for worker training workshops and weekly worship.

The literacy program funded by the Antioch Foundation is in progress with sessions about one-half completed. Most all of the participants are women because the literacy rate for women in Nepal is about 30% and quite possibly much lower in Far West Nepal where we are working.

Several Bible Teachings Series books have been translated for use in the Scripture Learning Program.

During the first eleven months of this year, 22,541 pieces of Christian literature were distributed and 2,604 people were enrolled in the program. The goal at the beginning of the program was to reach 5,000 persons in five years. Near the end of the second year, more than three fifths of that goal has been met.

In Pakistan

A set of the Bible history posters was made available during a visit by Pastors Essmann and Koelpin to Pakistan. One hundred sets of 120 Bible History posters were shipped to Pakistan from Bogota, Colombia where they were printed and they arrived safely in Pakistan. These posters illustrate the two Sunday school series that have been translated recently into Urdu.



The program goal—to enroll 10,000 persons—has nearly been met. There is now a new goal to enroll an additional 10,000 persons. During the first eleven months of this year, 16,515 pieces of Christian literature and 4,316 new persons were enrolled in the program.

The WELS pastors attended a program for translators, reviewers and distributors involved in the Bible Correspondence Program. About 20 persons were in attendance.

This fall, one new volume of the *Bible Teachings Series* was printed, and another volume was reprinted.

In Latin America

This program progresses slowly but surely. A virtual worship service, in the Spanish language, is also provided through this program. Two hundred seventy-nine people were enrolled in the program through November, 2007 and 1,125 pieces of Christian literature were distributed. Three new volumes of the *Bible Teachings Series* are being distributed to various Spanish-speaking fields.

USE THIS PROGRAM IN YOUR MINISTRY!

The **Spanish** program is up and running. Contact Spanish Publications Director, Gonzalo Delgadillo

gdelgadillo@mlpwels.com

He will be happy to work with you to enroll your contacts, or to help you involve your contacts in small group Bible studies using the Bible

Correspondence program resources.

The primary material used in the Bible Correspondence

Programs is the *Bible Teachings Series*. All seventeen books are available in **English**.

Contact Pastor Paul Hartman

paulhartman@mlpwels.com

to help you get an English program started.

Do you have contacts who speak **Japanese**?

Five volumes are available and a sixth one will be published soon. Missionary Stahmann in Japan reports, "We get a lot of use out of these volumes here, and they have a direct, immediate use at our congregations."

Four volumes are available in **Chinese**.

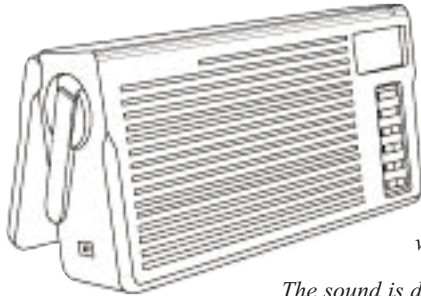
The primary material used in the Bible Correspondence Programs—*The Bible Teachings Series*—are now becoming available on the **Internet**. You will find them under "Bible Studies" at

www.whataboutJesus.org

The Proclaimer

Listening to Bible readings on cassette tapes or CDs is great, if the people you are reaching have access to equipment *and electricity*.

Hosanna in Albuquerque, New Mexico is offering through “Faith Comes By Hearing” a simple and inexpensive solution—the Proclaimer. The hand-held device enables poor and illiterate people to listen the Bible without having to access electricity. Their website describes it this way:



An installed microchip contains Scriptures in the heart language; chip will not erase or wear out from frequent playing.

The battery will play for 15 hours and can be recharged enough times to play the entire New Testament more than 600 times.

The Proclaimer has a built-in generator and solar panel to charge the battery.

The solar panel, in addition to charging the battery, will run the Proclaimer even without battery power as long as there is sunlight.

The sound is digital quality and loud enough to be heard clearly by groups as large as 300.

Quoting a well-known TV personality: “The Proclaimer is self-powered and can play the Bible in the jungle, desert or ... even on the moon!”

A New Testament Proclaimer is \$100.

A Complete Bible Proclaimer is \$159. (Please call or write for available versions.)

We believe that early next year, Faith Comes by Hearing will offer free samples of the Proclaimer to missionaries. We are expecting to receive a press release about that offer in January. Go to www.faithcomesbyhearing.com for more information.

Visit us online at: www.mlpwels.com

Next Teaching Online Course to Begin on January 9, 2008

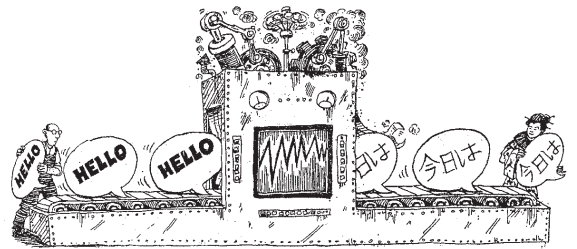
The next offering of the **EDU9501: Teaching Online** course is slated to start on January 9, 2008 and continue for about 16 weeks. If you are interested in taking the course online, go to

<http://www2.mlc-wels.edu/grunwald/overview9501.htm>

for more information. The course is taught by Dr. James Grunwald, a professor at Martin Luther College.

Model Constitution for WELS Congregations Now in French

Dr. Madeleine Velguth has translated the **Model Constitution for WELS Congregations** into French. The translation still needs to be revised by its first users in Quebec, Canada. A digital copy of the translation can be obtained from Multi-Language Publications in El Paso, Texas.



Sometimes the speed at which new foreign language items are produced by the mission fields of the WELS and ELS would lead one to think the translation process is quite simple—like work done by a machine. Nothing could be further from the truth! Translation requires sufficient understanding by the translator of the culture in which the original text was produced so that the message is understood. Or, barring that, the text itself has to be clarified to make the message understandable to the translator. Effective translators are from the culture into which the message is being translated. They adapt the message to make it understandable, appropriate and appealing to the readers of the targeted culture.