

## Coming Up at TPOG in Spring 2014

*All are welcome! Please join us at any events listed below*

- **Winter Retreat** at TPOG on Saturday, January 18th, 9 am—4pm, activities planned for the evening if you are able to stay. All students welcome—please call or e-mail for details!
- **The Gathering** at UWM: **Jay Seegert** of the Creation Education Center is back by popular request! “Faith Is Not a Four-Letter Word” on February 5th at 7pm
- **Winter Break** from now until classes resume for Spring Semester on:
  - Marquette: **January 13th, 2014**
  - MSOE: **January 6th, 2014**
  - UWM: **January 21st, 2014**
  - WLC: **January 20th, 2014**
- **TPOG will be closed for Christmas Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> through Jan. 1. Office hours will resume on Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>**

### The Point of Grace

2215 E. Kenwood Blvd, Milwaukee, WI 53211  
[office@tpog.net](mailto:office@tpog.net) or 414-963-2047

Find out more about our mission at [www.tpog.net](http://www.tpog.net)

#### Our Staff

Rev. Don Thompson, Pastor  
Mike Westendorf, Outreach  
Paula Herbst, Secretary

#### Board of Directors

Jon Ebeling – John Eggers – Andy Koffman  
Jacob Sheahan – Chad Wleczyk



**THE POINT OF GRACE**  
Milwaukee Area Campus Ministry  
“Christ On Campus”

2215 E. Kenwood Blvd.  
Milwaukee, WI 53211

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## December Newsletter

### What's Happening at TPOG

We held our first formal *Gathering* at Wisconsin Lutheran College with many thanks to our **Collegiate Council members**, especially WLC student, **Jack Albert**, who has been enthusiastic in bringing his campus into the TPOG fold with other college-aged Christians. **Bill Limmer** led a talk and discussion very poignant for students: procrastination and how it relates to the gifts and calling Christ gives us. Pastor Bill led with an illustration of the **Parable of the Ten Talents**:

**His master replied, “Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things.” (Matthew 25:23)**

**Thanks again to all Collegiate Council members** who willingly organized *Gathering* events at their campuses this fall semester. You know what the Master says to you!

#### ***Supporters, please pray for:***

- Students traveling during the holidays
- That our Retreat in January renews and stimulates staff & students alike
- Christians with a heart for campus ministry to support with both time & treasures

NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
MILWAUKEE, WI  
PERMIT NO. 4983

## A Student's Perspective

**Adam Smith**  
**—University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee Alumnus—**  
To supporters of The Point of Grace Campus Ministry:

Thank you for your support of WELS Campus Ministry in the Milwaukee area in the past, present and going forward into the future. Your gifts of time, talents and treasure help to strengthen the faith of many college students and work to bring other college students to knowledge of God and his Word. I would like a couple minutes of your time to share my story of how your support of campus ministry affected my life.

I came to the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee as a graduate student working to receive a Masters in Public History after receiving a Bachelors degree in History from Missouri S&T in Rolla, Missouri. The closest church was an hour and a half away and while there was a church family that I would ride with on occasion, it didn't really give me a chance to fully participate in God's Word. I did not participate much in campus ministry, mostly because I was the only WELS student on campus but also because I didn't really want to. As you can see, there sounds like a number of excuses here, because that's what I seemed to do a lot of and was growing apathetic in my faith. The final straw was when mom died unexpectedly and that sent me down into a further spiral where I was angry with God and struggling to comprehend why these things could happen.

Thankfully, when I came to Milwaukee I was able to meet some great people through The Point of Grace and the WELS Campus Ministry. Through Bible Studies, conversations with Pastor and other staff, and regular church attendance I was able to start gaining a greater appreciation for what God has done and continues to do for me and to start becoming a more active participant in my faith life. One of my favorite bible studies I was involved in included a number of graduate students and some of the staff from TPOG. We would sit down once a week, usually for breakfast, and talk about a chapter of the Bible and how it related to our lives today. Discussions were awesome and I learned a great deal about myself and my fellow studiers.

In short, Milwaukee Area Campus Ministry provided an excellent opportunity for me to find myself and redefine my faith relationship with God. I am so grateful for the opportunities you helped to provide for me through your generous donations of time, talent, and treasure. While I moved from Milwaukee over a year ago, my passion for campus ministry has not ceased and I continue to support and help with True North Campus Ministry at Saint Cloud State University and surrounding St. Cloud schools.

Thank you again for all of your support and helping to make this possible!

Yours in Christ,  
**Adam Smith**  
TPOG Alumnus



***Adam completed his Master of Art in Public History degree with a certificate in Museum Studies at UWM in May 2012. He is currently the curator at Stearns History Museum in St. Cloud, Minnesota. We LOVE seeing our students grow up & succeed and Adam is an excellent example!***