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Welcome to TELL

Hello! I'm Pastor Nate Seiltz, Director of TELL.

TELL trains leaders for Christ. TELL is our name and represents the **TELL Method**—**Think, Evaluate, Learn, and Lead**. TELL brings the real gospel to English-speakers around the world. Online students complete Self-Study Courses, participate in LIVE TELL Courses with theologically-trained TELL Instructors, and lead Growth Groups in their own communities. As the director of TELL Network, I am privileged to lead a team of missionaries, teachers, video producers, and digital marketing specialists all using their gifts and talents to provide a digital platform to train leaders for Christ. TELL reaches as many people as possible who are searching for more meaning in their lives, who are spiritually lost and seeking peace. TELL reaches potential students using social media and trains leaders using the latest technology. TELL, a program of Multi-Language Productions (MLP), invests significant resources to continue enhancing the TELL Program and managing an increasing number of TELL students from across the globe.

TELL training provides a thorough understanding of how to easily share the gospel in an effective, and repeatable way.



Advanced TELL students are assigned a TELL Counselor to provide practical applications that are culturally appropriate, as well as encourage students as they learn to shepherd souls in their own communities. TELL student leaders are equipped to multiply churches.

As you read the following pages, you'll learn details of how—through the TELL platform—we develop relationships with online students, national pastors, lay workers, and volunteers as we continue to grow God's kingdom.

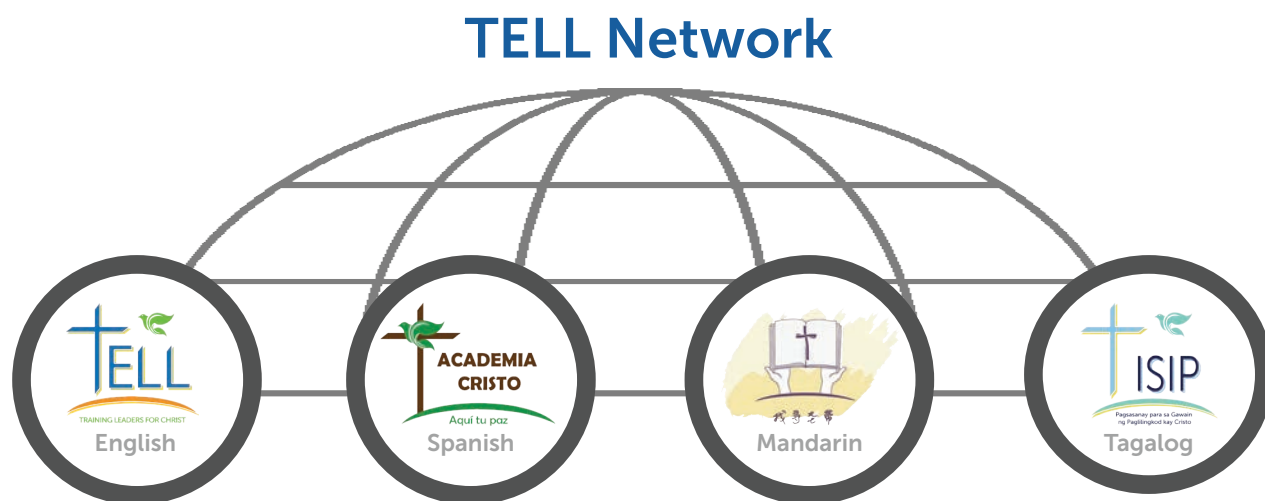
I would never have imagined sitting at my desk at the seminary decades ago that I would be part of reaching millions with the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is amazing how God has put this opportunity before me, drawing on my experience as a pastor, world missionary, teacher, and school administrator. I experienced the joy of teaching the very first TELL class and I am blessed by my relationships to the students and the entire TELL team.

Welcome to TELL!

Reaching the Lost

TELL Network combines a unique and comprehensible method of online instruction.

The letters T, E, L, L, represent the TELL Method. TELL students use the TELL Method–Think, Evaluate, Learn and Lead to share the gospel with others as they are guided through the TELL Program. TELL Network encompasses platforms in English (TELL), Spanish (Academia Cristo), Mandarin (找尋聖帶), and Tagalog (ISIP).



TELL English Training Leaders for Christ

TELL is training leaders for Christ using widely accessible tools like WhatsApp, YouTube, and Zoom. TELL (English) also provides online #TELLtalk devotions, #TELL topics videos, Bible stories, Podcasts and worship music as helpful downloadable resources for TELL group leaders to use as they lead Growth Groups and worship services.

TELL Spanish Academia Cristo

The purpose of Academia Cristo is to bring the gospel to homes in Latin America, making disciples through biblical instruction so they can bring the good news of Jesus Christ to others. Academia Cristo wants everyone to know Jesus Christ as their only Savior.

TELL Mandarin (找尋聖帶)

TELL Mandarin is primarily being used as a recruitment tool to discover people who may be interested in becoming students in the Asia Lutheran Seminary (ALS) program. The three TELL Mandarin self-study courses-based off the English versions-are offered to Mandarin speakers on various social media platforms. The bilingual-English and Mandarin-website provides Bible studies, children's materials, films and the TELL Mandarin beginner level courses. Committed students are encouraged to move into higher level curriculum offered through ALS.

TELL Tagalog (ISIP)

Modeled after TELL, ISIP is an E-learning program–promoted through Facebook–that teaches basic truths from God's Word to prepare Filipino students to be able to share the good news of Jesus with others in their native language. The ISIP method of teaching is the same as the English counterpart TELL. Filipino national pastors in fellowship with WELS are teaching live online classes in Tagalog via Zoom. Their knowledge of biblical languages, history, and world religions serve them well as they reach the lost throughout southeast Asia through the ISIP online platform.



We teach you, so you can **TELL** others.

What We Produce

In addition to Facebook, TELL staff and volunteers produce culturally appropriate content for English speakers around the world through other social media platforms including Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter. TELL also reaches global English speakers by partnering with Lutheran pastors from national churches with whom WELS shares fellowship. The TELL online platform often uncovers church leadership prospects through online engagement. By partnering with local pastors, TELL staff can connect these online contacts with the appropriate national pastor in their local area.

How We Connect

Even in places that do not have consistent electricity, data shows that most people own a smart phone. The TELL mobile-first website makes it easy for anyone to learn the saving message of the gospel using whatever device they have available to them. TELL staff, volunteers and missionaries connect with students with Facebook Messenger and/or WhatsApp to keep in touch and build on-going relationships.

What You Can Do

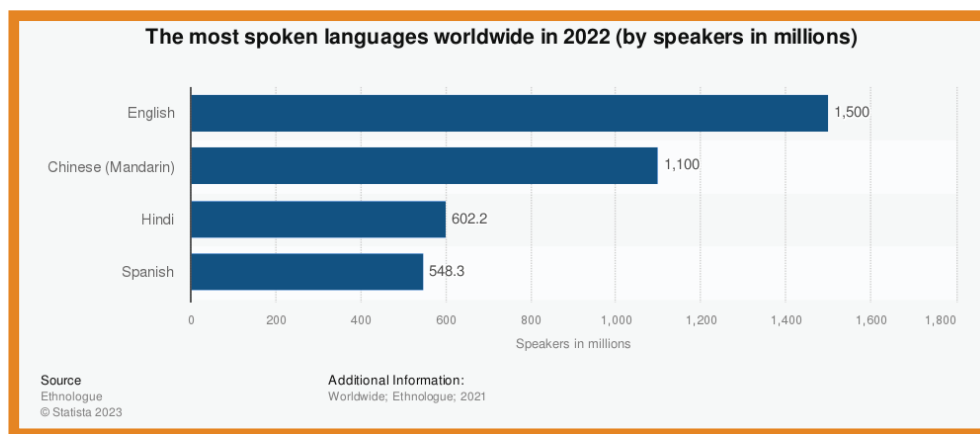
In addition to a mobile-first website, both TELL English and TELL Spanish (Academia Cristo) offer Self-Study courses that can be completed using an interactive WhatsApp chat. These Self-Study lessons include accompanying quizzes to check for understanding. The Self-Study Courses begin with a basic level of instruction. As a result, new TELL Students do not need any experience with Christianity, or religious study. If a student has never opened a Bible, the Self-Study Courses are the perfect place to start. For those students with a background in Christianity or religion, the beginner courses are effective refresher courses.

After a student completes the Self-Study Courses, he or she is invited to participate in LIVE Courses for further in-depth, real-time instruction with a TELL Instructor.

Other Resources

For TELL Network students

TELL Training Leaders for Christ YouTube channel provides students access to #TELLtalk devotions and faith-based films. On the TELL website, our FAQ section provides answers ranging from common questions about the TELL platform to questions about faith and what it means to be a Christian. TELL Topics are available as additional content on the website on subjects such as Evolution. TELL Podcasts provide audio sermons from WELS pastors from both the U.S. and Africa. All of these digital resources are easy to download and share with others.



Multi-Language Productions

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) is a group of more than 340,000 men, women, and children in nearly 1,300 congregations across the United States and Canada united by a common faith in Christ's saving love. We are committed to a common calling—encouraging each other in our faith and sharing God's gift of a Savior with the rest of the world.

"He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation'" (Mark 16:15). Multi-Language Productions (MLP), an arm of WELS World Missions, has created more than 2.9 million video, audio, and print materials and continues to broaden its library of Christian resources. TELL Network, a program of MLP, is reaching even more of the lost with the saving message of the gospel.

Far beyond publishing books, the expanding ministry of Multi-Language Productions (MLP) creates online Christian content to include new websites, podcasts, worship music, social media platforms, and TELL Network—all to expand gospel ministry in places where there is no current Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) presence. MLP is continually harnessing new technology to find new ways to reach the lost with the saving message of the gospel. TELL Network uses the latest digital messaging and online communication to grow a network of Christians to plant new churches in fellowship with WELS around the world.

Introducing the Missionaries

Serving Christ while staying connected at home and abroad



Joel Hoff

Missionary

Missionary Joel Hoff has a master's degree in theology from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Wisconsin, United States. He joined the TELL Network Team in September 2022 and moved with his family to Zambia in March 2023 to serve as the TELL Missionary to Africa. His past service includes serving as a pastor in congregations in Neenah, Wisconsin, in Renton, Washington, and as a world missionary in Cameroon and Albania. He has been married for 11 years and has 3 very active boys.

"God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." 2 Corinthians 5:21

Joining the Faculty

*From Milwaukee to Malawi:
Our teachers train leaders for Christ*



TELL Network has a faculty of more than twenty instructors who are theologically-trained in the Bible and Lutheran Catechism. TELL depends on its teachers to guide leaders-to-be in the foundational truths needed to share the gospel with those in their community.

Instructors have a love for God's word and his people. They have skills to learn and use new technology in the classroom. They are mission-minded and aware of cross-cultural relationships. Many instructors are full-time pastors and teachers who have years of ministry experience in the United States and around the world.

Most TELL Classes require an average time commitment of 3 hours per week for 6 weeks. Most classes are taught for about 1 hour twice per week for 4 weeks. Between LIVE Classes, TELL Instructors communicate with their students using a WhatsApp group. After classes are complete, the instructor is also responsible for collecting and grading students' final projects. As part of the TELL Faculty, non-missionary instructors are given an honorarium.

TELL Instructors are strongly encouraged to attend a monthly faculty meeting with TELL missionaries. In these meetings, a member of the TELL team leads a 60-minute discussion that includes prayer/devotion, classroom issues, and best practices for online learning.

If you are interested in teaching for TELL, you are invited to participate in a live orientation with a member of the TELL team, who will evaluate your readiness and ability to teach. The TELL Registrar provides training materials and video demonstrations to assure the instructor is supported during the entire process.



TELL instructor resources can be found at: teacher.tellnetwork.org

Learning with TELL

Advancement through the TELL Program is as simple as 1, 2, 3...



LEVEL 1

SELF-STUDY

LEARN
THE BIBLE
AT YOUR OWN PACE

In this level, you will:

- Complete 3 Self-Study Courses on WhatsApp
- Download and print your Self-Study Certificate
- Receive an invitation to join LIVE Zoom Courses



LEVEL 2

DISCIPLESHIP

JOIN LIVE ZOOM
COURSES WITH
TELL INSTRUCTORS

In this level, you will:

- Complete 13 TELL Courses LIVE via Zoom
- Meet TELL students from around the world
- Connect with theologically-trained TELL Instructors



LEVEL 3

MULTIPLICATION

LEARN SKILLS
TO SHEPHERD
YOUR COMMUNITY

In this level, you will:

- Complete 7 Advanced Courses LIVE via Zoom
- Work closely with a personal TELL Counselor
- Gather a Growth Group in your local area

Why learn with TELL?

Our instructors use the pure Word of God with nothing added or taken away.

Our instructors have extensive knowledge of biblical languages, history, world religion and more. It's their job to teach you the truth of the Bible and answer your personal questions about faith and religion.

TELL also gives you the unique opportunity to advance your studies and train to become a certified TELL Bible Leader.



"How do I begin?" Becoming a Student

1

Level 1: SELF-STUDY COURSES

Self-Study is a series of recorded videos and quizzes that TELL students can complete on their own, at their own pace.

TELL offers multiple ways to complete Self-Study Courses. TELL students can complete Self-Study in a way that works with the technology they have available. Click below for more information.



Whatsapp
+1 512 481 8752

After completing Self-Study Courses, TELL students are given a certificate to recognize their faithful study.

What comes next?

After completing Self-Study Courses, TELL students are invited to sign up for LIVE TELL Courses.

This invitation includes:

- A link to view a Welcome to Discipleship Level video
- A link to view a LIVE Class Orientation video
- A link to join a WhatsApp Group for your first LIVE Course: *Work of the Savior*, beginning that week

"I'm ready to join LIVE."

Joining the Community

2

Level 2: DISCIPLESHIP

Discipleship Level is made up of 13 TELL Courses

- *The Bible: In the Beginning*
- *The Bible: The Chosen Nation*
- *The Bible: The Fallen Nation*
- *The Bible: The Coming of the Savior*
- *The Bible: The Work of the Savior*
- *The Bible: The Christian Church*
- *Jesus' Teachings: The Ten Commandments*
- *Jesus' Teachings: The True God*
- *Jesus' Teachings: The Sacraments and Prayer*
- *Fellowship: Legalism: Enemy of Grace*
- *Fellowship: Spiritual Identification*
- *The Word Grows: Living As a Disciple*
- *The Word Grows: Disciples Make Disciples*

New TELL students are enrolled in *The Bible: The Work of the Savior* as their first TELL LIVE Course. When TELL students join a TELL Class, they are able to interact in real-time with their TELL Instructor and classmates. TELL students can participate by answering questions during class, either aloud or by using the chat. Each lesson is about 1 hour long and there are two lessons per week for 4 weeks.

Class recordings are also available for those who cannot join LIVE. TELL students are asked to send study guide



answers to their TELL Instructor after viewing the recording to earn credit for class.

TELL students receive class communication in a WhatsApp group. Here, they will receive study guides and pre-class videos, and they will be able to interact directly with their TELL Instructor and classmates.

TELL students are required to submit a Final Project to continue in the TELL Program, earn credit for each course, and receive additional certificates. Instructors are available to assist TELL students as they complete their Final Projects.

TELL students in Discipleship Level are given an Academic Record that displays their progress in the TELL Program. This can be viewed at any time on the Student Information System or a PDF copy can be requested via WhatsApp.

If TELL students need to take a break from class for any reason, they are free to do so. They may request to rejoin class at any time without losing progress in the curriculum.

After completing 8 LIVE Courses, the TELL student will be connected with a personal TELL Counselor who will mentor them as they begin gathering a

(continued)



group in their community. TELL Counselors work closely with the student to encourage them through the rest of the Discipleship Level and help them enter Multiplication Level. The TELL Counselor and TELL student work together to discuss points of doctrine and form a strategy to begin gathering a group. If a student enters *doctrinal agreement* and has gathered a group of at least 10 for Bible study, the Counselor will advise them about moving toward Multiplication Level.

Extracurriculars in Discipleship

There are opportunities for spiritual growth and Christian encouragement outside of the regular TELL classroom and WhatsApp groups! TELL Plus events happen regularly - about once or twice a month for sixty minutes or more. They are special teachings and presentations on Zoom by guest speakers. The topics range from church history, current events, complex teachings and more. Special events for Christmas and Easter or other Christian holidays are also offered. They are great events to be encouraged, make friends, ask questions and grow in faith. These events are advertised on the TELL Bulletin Board group.

The TELL Bulletin Board WhatsApp group is open to all students who have completed "The Bible: Work of the Savior". Here the student body receives regular updates, encouragements, and invitations to TELL Plus events. It is an "Admin-Only" group, so students cannot directly reply within the group. They can post reactions and reply privately to the admin if they have questions or comments about the announcements.



"I want to share this good news with others!"

Gathering a Group



Level 3: MULTIPLICATION

Multiplication Level is made up of 7 TELL Courses:

- *The Word Grows: Multiplying Disciples*
- *The Word Grows: Multiplying Churches*
- *The Word Grows: Multiplying Ministers*
- *Let Us Worship 1: The Biblical Principles of Worship*
- *Let Us Worship 2: Worship in Practice*
- *The Epistles*
- *Psalms as a Devotion*

Students attend these courses in a live group class on Zoom with a TELL instructor. At the same time, they will be gathering and teaching a group of their own called a "Growth Group".

In order to enter the Multiplication level, a TELL student needs to be in doctrinal agreement with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or sister church body. A TELL Counselor can work closely with a student and a church body to achieve doctrinal agreement. This is a process that includes candid conversation about doctrine and practice. If they wish, a student will be asked to subscribe to clear, biblically sound statements that are shared by all WELS missionaries, lay evangelists, pastors and church bodies. The Counselor can help with conversations between the student and sister church body if necessary.



What is doctrinal agreement and what does it mean?

Christians have doctrinal agreement with all believers. In his high priestly prayer on Maundy Thursday evening, Jesus prayed, “My prayer is not for them alone [the apostles], I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you” (John 17:20,21).

Christians also have doctrinal agreement with others in the visible church as they join in activities by which they express their common faith. Doctrinal agreement is every expression of faith in which Christians join together because they are united by their acceptance and confession of all that the Bible teaches. When we declare that we share with other Christians a unity of faith based on the Bible, when we join with them in activities that express our common faith, we are practicing doctrinal agreement.

We believe that we have doctrinal agreement with all who believe in Christ as their Savior. Yet only God can look into people’s hearts to see if they believe. We must base our practice of doctrinal agreement with others on the confession of faith they make. When people agree on all the teachings of Scripture, they should practice doctrinal agreement together. When they do not agree in doctrine, they should not practice doctrinal agreement.



Growth Leader Resources

TELL BIBLE PATHWAY PART 1

When a student is ready to lead a Growth Group, TELL provides student and leader resources: TELL Bible Pathway Part 1 and Part 2.

TELL not only equips leaders in biblical knowledge to lead a Growth Group but also provides resources to use in teaching that group. These resources are called TELL Bible Pathway. It is more than a 2 year resource of Bible lessons for a Growth Group leader. It is divided into two parts called Part 1 and Part 2.

A leader begins teaching TELL Bible Pathway Part 1 with his Growth Group. These are the first Bible classes he teaches his group. The class videos, teacher guides, and student guides can all be found on tellnetwork.org/leader. The expectation is that the leader teaches one lesson per week to his group.

TELL Bible Pathway Part 1 consists of the following lessons:

- *4 lessons* *Four Key Concepts (Sin, Grace, Faith, Works)*
- *8 lessons* *Jesus' Teachings: The Ten Commandments*
- *8 lessons* *Jesus' Teachings: The True God*
- *8 lessons* *Jesus' Teachings: Sacraments and Prayer*

Growth Group members who agree with the teaching in TELL Bible Pathway Part 1 can be brought into doctrinal agreement. The leader may ask his group if any are in agreement with what has been taught. The leader can then recognize doctrinal agreement with those group members.

TELL BIBLE PATHWAY PART 2

After Part 1, the Growth Group leader continues with TELL Bible Pathway Part 2. Many of these lessons are part of the TELL Program with which the leader is familiar. The lesson descriptions can be found in this document under Additional Resources. The class videos, teacher guides and student guides can be found at tellnetwork.org/leader.

TELL Bible Pathway Part 2 consists of the following lessons:

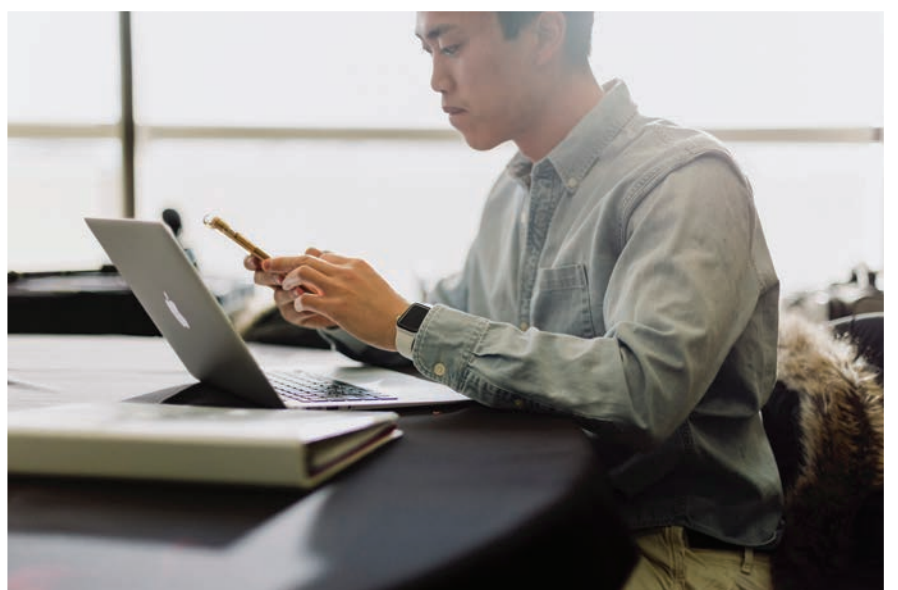
● 9 lessons	<i>The Word Grows: Living as a Disciple</i>
● 8 lessons	<i>The Bible: Work of the Savior</i>
● 8 lessons	<i>The Bible: In the Beginning</i>
● 8 lessons	<i>Forgiveness</i>
● 8 lessons	<i>The Bible: The Coming of the Savior</i>
● 5 lessons	<i>Communion</i>
● 8 lessons	<i>The Bible: The Chosen Nation</i>
● 13 lessons	<i>Bible Fundamentals</i>
● 8 lessons	<i>The Bible: The Christian Church</i>
● 6 lessons	<i>The End Times</i>
● 8 lessons	<i>The Bible: The Fallen Nation</i>
● 9 lessons	<i>Legalism: Enemy of Grace</i>
● 8 lessons	<i>Spiritual Identification</i>

Worship and Music for Growth Groups



Growth Group leaders are encouraged to meet with their groups regularly for worship and Bible study. Leaders in the TELL Multiplication Level will study two worship courses, where they will learn the biblical meaning of worship and how to conduct a worship service with their group. There is a simple worship service outline on tellnetwork.org that leaders can use.

Tellnetwork.org also has worship songs and music available for use in worship services. There are many different styles on the site and leaders are encouraged to use them as they think best for their group.



Biblical Training

after finishing the TELL Curriculum

Leaders who desire more training after completing the TELL Multiplication level have two options:

Attend a Local Seminary

The best option, if available, is to attend a local seminary with whom we are in doctrinal agreement. To become a student in the seminary, the leader would have to satisfy all the enrollment requirements. Each seminary has different enrollment requirements. TELL will help with this enrollment process by communicating with the TELL mission support team or the seminary to assist the leader.

Become a Student in the Pastoral Studies Institute

If there is no local seminary, then the leader can apply to be student in the Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI). PSI stands ready to provide support in the area of higher theological education for TELL students who do not have a local seminary or TELL mission support team. Again, TELL will communicate with the PSI team to facilitate further theological education for the leader.

Contacting the Team

How to get in touch with TELL



WhatsApp

New students: +1 (512) 481-8752
Admissions: +1 (262) 423-1988
Registrar: +1 (262) 501-4827



Email

ask@telnetwork.org



Facebook
Messenger

TELL: Training Leaders for Christ



Website

www.telnetwork.org



TELL English promotional efforts target English speakers outside of the United States and cultivates online relationships using six TELL Facebook pages. Click to go to your page.

TELL World

www.facebook.com/TELLTrainingLeadersforChrist

TELL Africa

www.facebook.com/TELLAfrica.TrainingLeadersforChrist

TELL Southeast Asia

www.facebook.com/TELLSoutheastAsia

TELL South Asia

www.facebook.com/TELLSouthAsia

TELL Caribbean

www.facebook.com/TELLCaribbean.TrainingLeadersforChrist

TELL Europe

www.facebook.com/TELEurope.Truthbringspeace

TELL

Frequently Asked Questions

Does TELL have physical schools or churches that I can attend?

TELL is a digital program, taking place online only.

TELL is connected with national pastors around the globe, as well as some churches in select countries.

Please contact your instructor if you are interested in learning more.

Does TELL offer degrees or diplomas?

TELL offers Certificates for each TELL LIVE Course you complete. You will also receive an Academic Record to track your progress through the TELL Program.

TELL is not accredited by the state, but TELL is connected with seminaries around the world. After completing the TELL Program, you may be connected to one of these seminaries. Read more at www.wisluthsem.org/pastoral-studies-institute/.

How long is the TELL Program?

The entire TELL Program consists of 21 courses - each about 6 weeks long. This means that the entire TELL Program takes about 2 and 1/2 years.

You may choose to take every class back-to-back, or take a break for a while. Learn at your own pace!

How much does TELL cost?

The entire TELL Program is always free-of-charge. Please be aware of anyone asking for money on behalf of TELL. TELL will never request money from you.

What does TELL believe?

TELL is a ministry of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). You can read more about the beliefs of TELL and WELS at www.wels.net/about-wels/what-we-believe/.

Will TELL help me start a church?

TELL trains leaders for Christ. While TELL does not offer physical or monetary support, TELL will give you the knowledge to begin shepherding souls in your local community.



Contact Us



New students: +1 (512) 481-8752

Admissions: +1 (262) 423-1988

Registrar: +1 (262) 501-4827



Facebook Messenger:

TELL: Training Leaders for Christ



ask@tellnetwork.org

www.tellnetwork.org