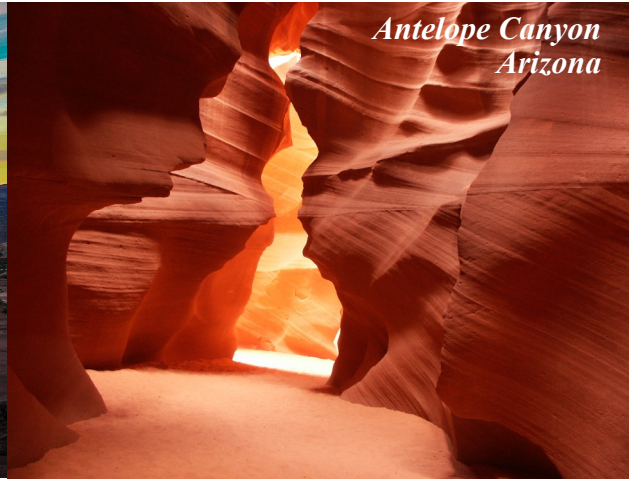


*Arches National Park  
Utah*



*Antelope Canyon  
Arizona*



*Join MLC Alumni and fellow WELS members  
for an eleven-day, ten-night guided tour:*

*© Canyonlands!*

**Nov. 7-17, 2020**

**\$1675 double**

**\$2175 single**

Includes shuttle service from MLC to MSP,  
nonstop, round-trip flight from MSP-PHX,  
deluxe coach transportation, admissions, guide fees,  
ten hotel nights, many meals, and much more.

*Bryce Canyon National Park  
Utah*



*Capitol Reef National Park  
Utah*



## ***Trip Highlights Include...***

Utah's "Mighty Five" National Parks  
(Arches, Canyonlands, Capitol Reef, Bryce, and Zion)  
Arizona's Grand, Antelope, and Oak Creek Canyons  
Monument Valley, Escalante, Lake Powell, and More

For more information, contact Steve Balza  
507.217.1731      [alumni@mlc-wels.edu](mailto:alumni@mlc-wels.edu)

*Monument Valley  
Arizona/Utah*





## TOUR OVERVIEW

W/ELS members are invited to join the MLC Alumni Association for an affordable, enjoyable, and educational tour that will lead us to marvel at God's incredible creation. We'll spend ten nights traversing some of our nation's most scenic spaces. Former MLC geography professor John Paulsen will share insights into various geologic and geographic features. Pastor Steve Hein of Prescott Valley, Arizona, will lead daily devotions and keep us connected to our Rock. Tour director Steve Balza will do his best to keep us comfortable, safe, and on schedule.

Lord willing, our journey will include visits to six national parks: Grand Canyon (South Rim), Canyonlands, Arches, Capitol Reef, Bryce Canyon, and Zion. We'll also see the nation's largest national monument (Escalante Staircase), traverse Navajo tribal lands (Monument Valley), and spend some time in the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.



*Steve Balza*



*Steve Hein*



*John Paulsen*

You can expect typical autumn weather with highs in the 50s and 60s, and lows reaching the freezing mark or below. As always, the spiritual climate will be warm. Christian fellowship opportunities will be abundant as we renew old friendships and meet new members of our faith family. Two opportunities for WELS worship are included at Christ Lutheran in Prescott Valley, Arizona, and Redemption Lutheran in St. George, Utah.



## Transportation/Accommodations

You may opt to start with us in New Ulm (departing MLC in the early morning on Saturday, November 7, and returning in the late evening on Tuesday, November 17); meet us in the Twin Cities for our American Airlines nonstop flight; or make your own flight arrangement to meet us in Phoenix. Those leaving from New Ulm may wish to take in MLC Forum's production of *Hello, Dolly!* on Friday night, November 6, before we depart.



*Master's Touch*

An optional \$100 hotel room is available at Best Western Plus in New Ulm for November 6 and/or 17 if you book and pay for it when you register. Those meeting us in the Twin Cities will have an option to park their vehicle free of charge at a nearby WELS church.

Those choosing to fly on their own should plan to arrive at Phoenix (PHX) airport by 12 noon on November 7. Your return flight should be scheduled to depart from

Phoenix (PHX) no earlier than 5 pm on Tuesday, November 17.

Our deluxe Master's Touch motor coach will be complete with every-seat outlets, DVD/AV system, reclining seats, and a restroom. Each person is limited to one suitcase (rollers recommended) as well as a small carry-on or personal item. We will load and unload the luggage from the motor coach, but you will be responsible for transporting your luggage to and from your room.

Our accommodations are all highly rated non-smoking 2-star or 3-star establishments with WiFi and breakfast included.



*La Quinta  
Springdale, Utah*



## Arizona Highlights

Where else would we begin and end our Canyonlands journey than in the Grand Canyon State? Upon arrival in Phoenix, we'll work our way north to Prescott, where we'll enjoy dinner in town and a reception/mixer at our Forest Villas hotel. The next morning, we'll worship at Christ in Prescott Valley, then head up to the Grand Canyon for an afternoon of exploring



*Horseshoe Bend*

and a sunset. At 7000 feet above sea level, the air is clean and cool. We'll overnight at the Cameron Trading Post before heading through Monument Valley into Utah. On our way back, we'll spend our final two

nights at Lake Powell Resort in Page. Your lake view room will put you steps away from some incredible scenery. In addition to a boat tour of Lake Powell and Antelope Canyon, we'll stroll through a secret slot canyon, and have time for some fabulous photos at the renowned Horseshoe Bend.



*Grand Canyon National Park*

## Utah's "Mighty Five"

Our time in the Beehive State will center on visits to five fabulous national parks. Each features unique wonders that will lead us to marvel at God's might and majesty. Our first two nights will be at the Mainstay Suites in Moab, a central spot for visits to Arches (home to over 2000 of its namesake features) and Canyonlands. Its main street location will allow you to dine, shop, or just stroll the streets of this tourist town. From there, we'll work our way west to Capitol Reef (one of the most underappreciated and least-visited parks) and an overnight at the Capitol Reef Resort. Your room at this remote motel will face the park, with a private patio for viewing the stars or the sunrise. Spectacular Hwy 12 will take us through



*Canyonlands National Park*

Grand Staircase Escalante and on to Bryce, where we'll settle in at the Best Western Grand. Take some time to shop at Ruby's General Store, conveniently located across the street. The next morning we'll experience Bryce Canyon, beautifully arrayed in brightly colored windows, fins, and spires called hoodoos. From there we head to Springdale for two nights at the La Quinta Inn and Suites. Our Saturday in Zion will include views of iconic sites such as the Court of Patriarchs, the Temple of Sinawawa, and the Narrows. We'll conclude our time in Utah with Sunday morning worship at Redemption in nearby St. George.



*Zion National Park*

## Scenic Drives, Mouthwatering Meals, and More

Although there will be plenty of photo-op turnouts and short hikes to various vistas, many of the top sites will be visible from the comfort of our motor coach. This region contains some of the top scenic drives in America, including Hwy 163 through Monument Valley, Hwy 128, Hwy 12, and Hwy 9 through Utah, and Hwy 89A in Arizona. We'll drive them all, while hitting the highlights of each national park along the way.



*Lake Powell Cruise*

Our plans also call for several tasty treats in special spots such as the Rainbow Room at Lake Powell. You'll get to try Navajo tacos, consider some western specialties (rattlesnake, anyone?), and enjoy daily breakfast buffets.

Other memory makers include a tour of Glen Canyon Dam, a cruise on Lake Powell, a stroll through a slot canyon, and shopping opportunities at Navajo trading posts in Cameron and Monument Valley.



*Rainbow Room*

## **COST/PAYMENTS**

Single occupancy (one person/room) cost is \$2175 and double occupancy (two persons/room) will be \$1675 per person. If you are traveling alone but would prefer having a same-gender roommate to split costs, please note that on your registration form, and we will do our best to accommodate.

**Discounts:** \$20 discounts are available for previous tour participants, seniors 62+, those who make full payment upon registration, and those with National Park passes. Subtract \$150 if you are providing your own transportation to and from Phoenix.

**Gratuities:** Tips for our bus drivers, step-on guides, attraction guides, and group meal servers are included in your cost. Tips for hotel room housekeepers, non-included meal servers, etc., are your responsibility.

**Payments/Cancellation Concerns:** Confirmed passengers must submit a \$500 payment by June 1. This deposit is fully refundable until August 15, when final payments are due. If the trip were to be canceled due to COVID-19 or similar concerns, our plan is to rebook for the identical dates in 2021. You would have the option to receive a full refund or to retain your spot for the trip next year.

## **INCLUDED MEALS**

Half of your meals are included - 10 breakfasts and 5 lunches or dinners. Remaining meals (about 15) will be on your own. An occasional bonus meal inclusion is possible, but not promised. You will be provided with complimentary water and occasional bus snacks throughout the tour.

## **NEW ULM HOTEL, DINNER, AND SHOW OPTION**

Those departing on the bus from New Ulm may wish to arrive a night early, enjoy a meal in the MLC cafeteria (\$5), and take in MLC Forum's production of the Broadway musical, *Hello, Dolly!* (\$10). You can also take advantage of an opportunity to stay at the Best Western Plus/New Ulm for \$100/room (including tax) on either Friday, November 6, or Tuesday, November 17. These special rates are only good for those who select these options on their registration form and pay with their initial deposit.

## **REGISTRATION, CONFIRMED PASSENGERS, AND WAITLISTS**

We believe the approximately 48 available spots may sell out quickly. The online-only registration found at <https://bit.ly/2020MLCTour> will open at 12 noon Central on Fri, May 15. This year, we are going to try a first come, first confirmed registration process. We intend to send an email notifying you of your status (confirmed or waitlisted) within a day. Confirmed passengers will need to submit a \$500 deposit by June 1. The balance will be due Aug 15. In the past, waitlist members who can keep their schedule clear have frequently made it on board. Waitlisted registrants do not need to send any deposit or payments until they are confirmed

## **MOBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being a high level of mobility required, we rate this tour a 4. All passengers will need to get in and out of the bus (about four stairs) on a regular basis. All passengers will also be required to transport their bag between the bus and hotel rooms. Hikes to various vistas (especially in Antelope Canyon) may require a fair amount of walking. As always, we encourage travelers to know their limitations.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

MLC is not offering academic credit for this tour. However, those interested in learning more about the various destinations we plan to visit are encouraged to peruse the tour web pages at <https://mlc-wels.edu/alumni/tours/>. The site is currently in development but will soon feature a recommended reading list, links to videos, reviews, and web pages that provide extensive information and images.

## **TRIP INSURANCE**

Trip insurance is not offered for this tour. If desired, individuals may purchase a policy through a provider of their choice.

## **QUESTIONS**

Visit the tour website or contact tour manager Steve Balza ([alumni@mlc-wels.edu](mailto:alumni@mlc-wels.edu) or 507-217-1731).