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Edmonton, Alberta

Seminary Matters

Fall 2010

Development Director's Message

We're in the new church year and the time of church celebration. Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany invite us to sing, give gifts, and get together as God's people. At the Seminary we are rejoicing as God provides the many blessings of students taking classes, gifted professors and staff members working devotedly, increased endowments and endowment earnings coming in to the seminary, and so much more.

We have a small student body; give praise for the seminarians God has brought to us and pray that others will hear God's call on their lives. We have devoted volunteers who attend to the needs of the students; pray that they will have enough hands to do their work. We praise God for the skilled faculty who share the teaching load and many additional administrative duties; pray that the seminary will be able to receive the funding for the needed additional faculty.

Hear the messages of this Christmas season and remember the wonderful gift that has been given to us. Immanuel, God is with us, because God loved us and provided His Son for our salvation. May God bless you this season as He has blessed our seminary community.

God's blessings to you.
Daniel Deyell

Dr. Steve Chambers led a group of volunteers from CLS and the wider Lutheran Church–Canada community to take part in an archaeological excavation at Hippos, Israel, this past July. It was in many ways the best dig season yet.

This team was the biggest so far—10 people from across Alberta and B.C. All of them saw and became acquainted with the land where Scripture unfolded. Day-trips throughout the Galilee region were complemented by a weekend in Jerusalem that included a half-day visit to Bethlehem. Everyone agreed they'll read the Bible with a new level of understanding, having visited these places.

On the dig-site, the experience was equally riveting. Previous work had exposed Hippos' "North-East Church," which functioned as a pilgrimage site



Hippos, site of archaeological dig

and monastery between the 5th and 8th centuries. This year the dig expanded to uncover a mansion that was connected to this church-complex. Featuring a columned courtyard and a garden with a fountain and multiple pools, this mansion is so finely built

that only six similar residences have been excavated in all of Israel. What a rare treat it was for CLS' team to take part in such ground-breaking work.

A wide selection of high-quality goods was found in this building, too, including an extremely rare painted



Painted Tyche head

portrait of the goddess Tyche, or "Fortune," who functioned as the city's protectress. A carved-bone figure of a dancing woman associated with the worship of Dionysus was also found, plus fine-quality garment clasps, jewelry, knives, and glassware. CLS volunteers marvelled at the glimpses of upper-class life in the Greco-Roman world that each of these artifacts provided.

In all these ways, members of the CLS group enjoyed once-in-a-lifetime

Hippos, continued on Page4

Chapel Art Donation

The Seminary received a donation this summer of art for the Chapel.

Cornelis [Neil] Prinsen, a retired art teacher from Vancouver and a Christian artist who has shown internationally, heard that the Seminary wants to inject art into its physical environment. He offered a relief sculpture that fits wonderfully into the chapel space

and brings a focus for reflection as people gather for worship.

“Golgotha” is a triptych in mixed media based on the earlier works of the stations of the cross. Neil uses the tau cross because, he says, “I was afraid the other cross is used so much



Neil Prinsen with “Golgotha” during installation process.

and has become a cliché. I didn’t want it to be nice. The varnished cross at the front of churches is too nice. I use metal because it’s hard, difficult,

tough, like machines of war, hostile. Rough wood is used to keep the image rough. Blackness echoes darkness over whole earth and the darkness of the crucifixion. Red is a reference

to blood. I wanted to use text but not to be read. It’s in black on black and runs on in letters to make the words less obvious, they are there to be discovered. The work exhibits a pattern that would every now and then make itself clear.”

W. T. Janzow Funeral

With a note of sorrow the CLS community greeted the news of the passing on 21 August 2010 of Rev. Dr. Walter “Ted” Janzow. Most of the faculty and staff currently serving know of Dr. Janzow only

by reputation, never having the opportunity to meet him personally. But we all give thanks to God for his work which established this seminary and

set the stage for its ongoing task of preparing servants for Jesus’ sake.

God granted Dr. Janzow a long, fruitful and varied ministry: parish pastor, district president, professor, college president, church relations liaison, seminary president. To each of these positions Dr. Janzow brought

his trademark faith-filled enthusiasm and demonstrated his commitment to service in the name of his Lord.

Dr. Janzow faithfully worked in establishing Concordia Lutheran Seminary in Edmonton. He brought in knowledgeable professors and an efficient staff, and worked to provide a sound and solid educational environment for those early students. He worked tirelessly to develop relationships with the congregations of Lutheran Church–Canada

and to establish the seminary’s reputation as a quality confessional theological institution, and in these endeavours he succeeded admirably. Of course in all that he did he credited our Lord with the glory.



Trinity Lutheran Church, Walton, NE, resting place of Dr. & Mrs. Janzow

Nestingen at Timothy Lectures – 2010

The 2010 Timothy Lectures at Concordia Lutheran Seminary on October 7th featured as its guest Dr. James A. Nestingen, Professor Emeritus of Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota speaking on Repentance, Confession, and Absolution. Dr. Nestingen combined humour, lively anecdotes, and insightful assessment of his experiences as a pastor and as a professor to bring a lighthearted, yet caring presentation to his audience. Over fifty people, seminarians, currently serving and retired pastors, and avid lay people from a variety of Lutheran backgrounds listened with engagement, interspersed with eager questions and roaring laughter. Nearly twenty more tuned in to the webcast of the lectures online at www.concordiasem.ab.ca/CLSTV.php.

The lectures were powerful in their candor and their relevance to circumstances pastors now find in their parishes. Dr. Nestingen used examples from his own ministry to share that people need to confess and more importantly need to hear absolution coming from God’s servants. He was clear in his exhortation that people in the church and outside the church seek God’s forgiveness and want pastors, as well as other Christians, to bring and speak to them the Gospel that Jesus has died to take away their sins.

Dr. Nestingen returned to repeatedly the “flood” concept, using it as an analogy for the overwhelming and all-encompassing love that God showers upon humanity. One attendee commented, “Dr. Nestingen’s passionate presentation on the need and joy of personal absolution was just wonderful. It was an important lecture for our students to hear as ones who will be called to speak God’s forgiveness in Christ; to join people’s broken narratives to Christ’s narrative.” The em-

Open Studies

You may have thought that you would like to take some classes or at least one in-depth course that presents more challenge than the Quest class you took a while ago. The Open Studies Program may meet your need.

The Program provides learning opportunities for people who want to study but who do not wish to enter a seminary degree program or do not qualify for a seminary degree program for non-academic reasons. Open Studies students are permitted to register in credit courses but are not admitted to a program leading to a degree or diploma.

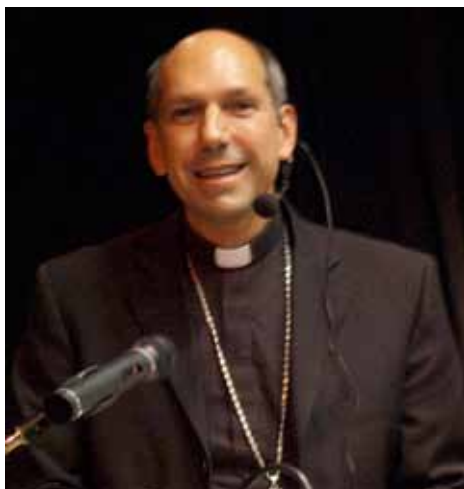
Though credits taken while admitted to the Open Studies program may be counted toward a subsequent degree program, Open Studies students are not considered to be on the 'ordination track' in LCC. Students whose ultimate goal is to obtain a degree are encouraged to contact the seminary registrar or an advisor at the appropriate institution for detailed program advice.

The selection of courses available to Open Studies students includes courses in all disciplines. Check the course listings for courses with enrolment limitations. All students must meet all prerequisites (including biblical languages for exegetical courses). Open Studies students are subject to the Academic Probation Policy.

Nestingen, continued from Page 2

phasis of the lectures returned repeatedly to the absolution that is available to be pronounced by God's people to those who are hurting in their sins. The Lectures and the responses from attendees reiterated the value of the Seminary's weekly offering of private absolution, a preparation for Holy Supper the following Wednesday and an on-going opportunity for renewal amongst the people of the seminary community.

Luther 2017 Countdown: The 95 Theses Festivities – 2010, Luther's trip to Rome



Bishop Bolen speaking at Luther Countdown

The "Luther 2017 Countdown" edition of 2010 was celebrated with a Reformation service on Saturday, October 30 at Riverbend Lutheran Church in Edmonton, with Dr. Stephen Chambers as preacher, and with a lecture presented by the Most Rev. Dr. Donald Bolen, Roman Catholic Bishop of Saskatoon on Tuesday, November 2. A Roman Catholic was asked to speak because 2010 is the 500th anniversary of Luther's trip to Rome. Dr. Bolen is well-known for his engagement in ecumenical and inter-denominational dialogue. He spoke on the topic, "Reconsidering Martin Luther: Catholic Reflections in a Time of Dialogue." The lecture was

attended by Lutheran and Catholic seminarians and by lay people and clergy from across denominations, as well as many who viewed the lecture via webcast.

It was evident that Dr. Bolen was qualified to speak because of his academic background, his inter-community contacts, and because of his deep passion for dialogue, whether among those of his own denomination or with people in a wide spectrum of confessions. One could hear his passion as he encouraged attendees to engage in ecumenical dialogue and deeper interpersonal engagement. Both his presentation and the response by Dr. John Maxfield of Concordia University College of Alberta demonstrated a desire for dialogue, but not at the expense of confessional integrity on the part of either side.

Dr. Bolen presented a mediating view of Luther, acknowledging the harsh assessment Rome had expressed toward him in the past, yet at the same time celebrating a more moderate view currently in place in the Roman Catholic Church as Rome engages in dialogue with Lutheran theologians. The day was enlightening and helpful to all.



Nestingen answering questions from attendees to Timothy Lecture



Take Wing

The time for seminarians to “Take Wing” is fast approaching. The Take Wing programme gives congregations an opportunity to host a second-year student for a weekend visit to their congregation, during the last weekend of January. Each student is exposed to the life of a church community and ends up participating in a variety of tasks and events from Friday to Sunday.

Hosting congregations agree to the costs of caring for and accommodating the student while he visits their community. The CLS Guild covers the cost of transportation to and from the community and a small stipend for personal expenses. Over the last two years the seminary has not been able to fill all the requests from LCC churches for a student. If you haven't been able to book a student or if you're now in a position to host a student and haven't had a Take Wing participant, please contact the development department to begin making arrangements for your seminarian visitor.

New Administrative Assistant



Mrs. Rhonda Buck has joined the staff of CLS as Administrative Assistant to the President. Rhonda recently moved from Winnipeg with her family

where she worked at the LCC National Office. She was also a member of the CLS Board of Regents. As the assistant to the President she has responsibilities for volunteer supervision, communications, facility supervision and administration.

Financial State & Fundraising Opportunities

The Seminary was blessed with sustained financial support over the last year, even when financial markets have been tumultuous. Yet the seminary remains *the* place where the church sends candidates for study, so that they may return some day as pastors, men prepared and formed for the public ministry of word and sacrament. This work of pastoral preparation requires continuous resource input, including substantial financial support. The school depends on direct monetary donations from the people of the community. As noted in the Annual Report this year, that means annual support of \$600,000 which works out to \$2,000 per day. That is a lot of money, but it ensures the day to day operations of that institution which prepares the pastors who guide and administer the congregations that are the heart of the health of the Synod.

Donors can contribute to the Seminary in a number of ways. Monetary donations are always welcomed and received as cash, cheques, and online credit transactions. Some donors want to make a regular commitment through the personal automated deposit available through their banks. Many people have the opportunity to make large, single donations as a God has blessed them, or through another financial instrument like bequests and annuities.

If you have questions about any donations you would like to make, contact the development office at the seminary or a representative from the Lutheran Foundation of Canada.

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opportunities to grow in knowledge, insight, and faith. No wonder Dr. Chambers is so eager to have another CLS-sponsored group join him on the dig next time—in July 2012!

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