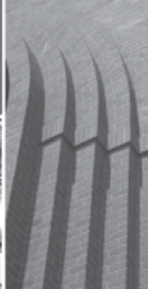




learn · grow · serve



Edmonton, Alberta

Seminary Matters

Spring 2011

Financial Appeal Yields Income, but Deficit Remains

Early this New Year, at the beginning of Lent, the Chair of our Board of Regents and our President made a special financial appeal. In response, donors contributed almost \$130,000, enough money to significantly reverse the shrinking operating fund of the Seminary. The seminary's students, faculty, volunteers and staff are extremely grateful for the help of donor support.

The mid-winter appeal was a result of drastically-lower-than-expected Christmas income. In past years, seminary supporters contributed over \$125,000 as year-end donations but this past year's Christmas appeal gathered less than \$60,000! Even with heavily imposed austerity in the Seminary's operations, the financial situation became much leaner than past years. The deficit crept over \$100,000. An appeal for funds to augment the contributions made in the previous months became a necessity. With the latest winter appeal in February, supporters again rallied to provide the money needed to operate the seminary. Curiously, though, the rally was short-lived so that the Seminary still needs \$162,000 to balance its academic year-end budget in June. That is in addition to the existing accumulated deficit from previous years.

Concordia Lutheran Seminary is one of two graduate schools for the preparation of pastors and church leaders in Lutheran Church-Canada. Its program provides the primary way for the

Synod's congregations to acquire qualified church leadership. Our churches across Canada depend on our two seminaries to form pastors who will proclaim God's word and administer the Sacraments to God's people. We depend on your on-going support to pay for the expenses. Please consider returning the enclosed envelope and response card with your donation this month.

Ways to Donate

It's possible to donate to the Seminary in a number of ways. Of course, we're always happy to see supporters and we will accept donations you bring in to the Seminary! You can make a donation to your local church; make sure it's designated for Concordia Lutheran Seminary. You can donate in the ways itemized on the response card included with this newsletter (please do not send cash in the mail!); for convenience use the envelope included.

Donors cannot currently make credit card contributions directly to CLS, but you can make online contributions through Canada-Helps and pre-authorized debit donations (see the enclosed card or call the Development office, 780-474-1468).

Endowment Funds and Planned Giving arrangements are now conducting through Lutheran Foundation of Canada. For contacts call the Seminary Development office or check the LFC web site at <http://www.lutheranfoundation.ca/index.html>

27th Sacred Convocation

You are invited to join in the celebration with the students and their families, with faculty, staff, volunteers, and other supporters of the Concordia Lutheran Seminary in the 27th Sacred Convocation on 27 May 2011. The Sacred Convocation, through the Church's call of candidates, sends the newly graduated Master of Divinity candidates, Lorne Reddemann and Ian Wemyss, into their first parish ministry this year. Five vicars will be receiving assignments in LCC parishes: Darren Dressler, Todd Guggenmos, Vincent Moore, Mark Schultz, and James Prophet. At the Sacred Convocation, the Seminary will recognize the completion of colloquy by Rev. David Morton who serves in the East Kootenay, BC, parish. Special recognition is also being given to Mrs. Betty Ann Kehler who will receive a Friend of the Seminary Award.

Our guest speaker will be The Rev. Mark Dressler, Pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Saskatoon, SK, and a member of the Seminary's Board of Regents.

The ceremonies will be held at Tegler Student Centre, Concordia University College of Alberta, 7128 Ada Blvd, Edmonton, AB, on Friday, May 27th at 7:00 p.m. A free-will offering will be gathered for the Seminary's operational expenses.

Spirituality Presentations

A series of webcasts of public lectures were made available for the church community in conjunction with a class held at the seminary this semester entitled, "Spirituality." The speakers came from the community to present wider perspectives on spiritual preoccupations and beliefs. Dr. Colleen Hammermaster, psychologist, who has worked at CUCA, and Edmonton area hospitals, and now works through her own practice spoke on spirituality and human strife. Dr. Joy Berg and Dr. John Hooper, professors at CUCA spoke on spirituality and musical arts. The Very Rev. Gregory Faryna, Chancellor of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton lectured about Eastern Christian Spirituality and displayed paraments from Orthodox worship. The Rev. Dr. Robert Bugbee, President of Lutheran Church-Canada spoke about The Pastor and Prayer. Dr. Patricia McCormack, Associate Professor, Faculty of Native Studies, U. of A. lectured on "Aboriginal Spirituality and Christian Faith in Canada." The Seminary's President, Dr. Zeuch, spoke about the elements of Lutheran Spirituality. The webcasts are available at CLSTV, <http://www.concordiasem.ab.ca>

Luther Countdown October 27th

Rev. Wilhelm Torgerson, Canadian-born pastor of the Selbständige Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche in Germany, will be the Seminary's guest at convocation on October 27 and the Missionary for Lunch on October 28 as festivities begin for Luther Countdown. Rev. Torgerson will be speaking about Luther in Europe. The Countdown will conclude with Rev. Torgerson preaching at the Reformation Service, October 29, 7 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church.

Greetings from President Zeuch

Dear seminary friends!

Eight hundred! What does this number say to you? Nothing at first sight, perhaps. If I say eight hundred hours? Yes, perhaps you guessed right: we professors and students at CLS have been sitting together for 800 hours this year studying theology: digging, discussing, growing in the knowledge of God's mysteries in His relation with us and the world. Eight hundred hours of theology studies in classrooms! This is not counting the hundreds of hours of faculty and students preparing and studying in their own offices! What for? Paul tells us, when he addresses the young pastor Timothy: "But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." (2 Tim 3:14-15). We study the sacred writings, which are the word of God. We also study the good theological writings that capable scholars wrote for the edification of the people of God, all over the world. To study theology is exciting for itself, and for one's own edification! But how much is it exciting to study it when preparing for the office of the holy ministry! Yes, the formation at our seminary includes foremost serious study, so that the good pastors coming out may truly edify the people that God has entrusted to their pastoral care.

Then, there is Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario. What is it about these provinces? This is where CLS's faculty members are going to teach the local lay people this year, in theology! It is the seminary going out of Edmonton and reaching out to the community. To the church. "Extension" is the name. Extension is part of the vision of our seminary: to reach out and equip the

people of God with theological, ethical, practical and spiritual resources. This happens through the teachings in special convocations and classes for the lay people. This happens in Edmonton, and will also happen in Winnipeg and Thunder Bay this year. Dr. Kettner and I will be teaching classes for the intensive program of the Central District theological Lay School. As CLS was last year in Saskatchewan (Saskatoon). CLS plans to go to British Columbia, and possibly to Quebec (for pastoral formation there). The goal is to spiritually enrich believers in Christ through in-depth study of the Bible, the Lutheran Confessions, and the practice of the Lutheran Church, be they future pastors or lay leaders.

Finally there is one and four. These numbers mean: there will be again one day of a pastors' gathering at CLS for a brotherly discussion with the faculty on subjects dear to all. This year's theme will be "Pastor and Synod". And four is the number of days in which CLS – through an invited instructor from CUCA – will provide in depth theological classes in the so called "sabbatical week for church workers and lay leaders" in Edmonton. The theme will be: "How do you present and defend your faith today in a skeptical environment? A course on Christian Apologetics". This will be in June and open to pastors, deacons and lay leaders. Do you see all these exciting things CLS is providing? This is part of what God is allowing us to do and what you are supporting with your prayers, support, suggestions and donations. Thank you for your support! With it, CLS can exist and work, and does it FOR YOU, for Jesus' sake.

Dr. Manfred Zeuch, President

Online Education Update

On Friday, March 11, Rev. Anthony Cook, assistant professor of practical theology director of Educational Technology, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO, visited CLS to discuss his experiences in distance education. The faculty of CLTS joined the discussion via video conference.

Rev. Cook said that "...pastoral formation is not about the delivery of knowledge, attitudes and skills, but it is the formation of the seminary student into pastoral ministry as a way of being." Rev. Cook reminded faculty members that they are training men to be in this world who will live in a peculiar and different way. "This is not business school where we're learning procedures. However, we can't say 'education doesn't work online' because we know it does. What we can say is we're not sure that the whole process of formation can be done without considerable reflection and work."

He encouraged the seminaries to pursue online classes that bring students together, not as a way to slash budgets, but as a plan for learning and applying the highest educational standards to the on-campus formation program. While little financial benefit is expected, faculty could gain valuable experience in course design and alternate delivery.

Dr. Stephenson, Dr. Mundt, and Dr. Zeuch will offer History, Introductory Theology, and Ethics courses; available to both campuses this fall using the hosted system both seminaries will share. This will eliminate the combined need for three guest instructors, and provide these faculty members to support each other as they learn to teach in this environment.

The Canadian seminaries have learned what methods and equipment are appropriate for the Canadian context by "doing" and making changes in small increments, always maintaining the balance between educational needs and good stewardship.

Rev. Cook commended the semin-

aries for their incremental implementation of this new delivery system and encouraged both seminaries in their planned cooperation.

Sabbatical Week

Concordia Lutheran Seminary and Concordia University College of Alberta, in Edmonton, are sponsoring a Pastors' and Deacons' Sabbatical Week, June 27–30, 2011. The topic is "How do you present and defend your faith today in a skeptical environment? A course on Christian Apologetics." Our major presenter is Dr. Jonathan Strand, Professor of Philosophy at CUCA.

The topic of apologetics is one that has become of great importance as our society has become more skeptical. How do we "give a reason for the hope that is within us" (1 Peter 3:15) in the face of skepticism and increasing hostility toward the Christian faith and Christians?

The speaker, Rev. Jonathan Strand, Ph.D., has a B.A. in Philosophy from U. Minnesota and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from U. Notre Dame. He received the M.Div. from the seminary of the Association of Free Lutheran Churches, and a Theological Diploma through colloquy from Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton.

A schedule for the week is available and includes the opportunity for participants to share the results of any research they themselves may be engaged in. It's a time for rest and reflection (including a Brazilian barbecue!). Contact the seminary for more information.

Guild activities

New and renewed Guild memberships are flowing into the development office. Thank you for supporting the Guild's work for seminarians by joining. If you haven't joined yet or if your congregation doesn't have a Guild representative, check out the seminary's Guild page at http://www.concordiasem.ab.ca/donate/cls_guild.php.

The Guild continues to provide voluntary and financial assistance for events like convocation reception and seminary picnics, and purchases like grocery cards that supply food to the students.

All Guild members are invited to the seminary barbecue at Rundle Park, Edmonton on September 1 to gather students and the rest of the community together at the beginning of the school year. Check the web site out for more information later this summer.

Central District Theological Lay School

Dr. Manfred Zeuch and Dr. Edward Kettner headed to Thunder Bay, ON and Winnipeg, MB respectively on May 13–15 courses for The Central District Theological Lay School. The School's goal is to spiritually enrich believers in Christ through in-depth study of the Bible, the Lutheran Confessions, and the practice of the Lutheran Church. Dr. Zeuch presented "Ethics for Daily Life," a general overview of the ethical realm we live in to most of the 10 commandments as a paradigm for Christian ethics. Dr. Kettner presented "The Catechism for Daily Life," demonstrating that the Christian faith and the Christian life go hand in hand.

The School is coordinated by the Central District of Lutheran Church-Canada, Regina, SK. Contact them for more information.

Opening Service & Founders' Day Service

Opening Service 2011 will provide the opportunity to praise God for the 28th academic year of Concordia Lutheran Seminary. We praise God for the whole community of students, volunteers faculty, staff, and supporters who come together to form servants "for Jesus' sake. And we thank God for the financial contributors who make it possible to keep the doors open and the people in the Seminary!

Founders' Day will be part of the Opening Service celebrations. Since the beginning of the ministry of Concordia Lutheran Seminary in 1984 Founders' Day is an opportunity to give thanks for the people who worked to keep the Seminary a vital formation centre.

Rev. Daryl Solie is our guest preacher. Rev. Solie is CLS's first M.Div. graduate (1985) and is currently pastor of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Regina, SK and Vice-President of LCC.

The service and celebration will be held at Concordia Lutheran Church in southeast Edmonton on Saturday, September 10, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.

2nd Annual Pastoral Gathering at CLS

In April of last year, twenty-two pastors attended an inaugural pastoral gathering, eager for conversation with their brothers on topics of unique interest to pastors. The goal of this gathering was not to engage in polemics, but to dialogue within a safe, fraternal environment. Those who gathered discussed uniformity in pastoral practice, pastoral education standards, and the church as leaven in the world, among other interesting topics. The feedback from these LCC pastors was unanimous; they said, "Please provide this opportunity again!"

The faculty of CLS also felt that the event should be continued and they hosted the 2nd Annual CLS Pastoral Gathering on Tuesday, May 17. Once again, pastors of LCC were invited to gather with CLS faculty to discuss topics of common interest, a safe place of sharing and mutual edification for the good of the church.

This year's general theme was "Pastor and Synod," and invited guest, LCC president emeritus Dr. Edwin Lehman, opens the gathering discussion.

As established last year, the discussions focus on a set of statements or theses, that are to be submitted in advance. Not intended to be a formal presentation that has to be defended, but a starting point for the discussion of the general theme, the "theses" guide the conversation so the discussion may be as rich as possible.

Suggestions of themes for next year's pastoral gathering are also welcome.

Board of Regents

- Rev. Mark Dressler (2014; Central) [Pastor, Saskatoon, SK]
 Christopher Klarenbach, Vice-Chair (2011) [Senior Property Accountant, Ivanhoe Cambridge, Calgary, AB]
 Rev. Thomas Kruesel (2011; ABC) [Vice-President, LCC; Pastor, Campbell River, BC]
 Jonathan Mayan (2011; ABC) [Principal, Zion Lutheran Church & School, Surrey, BC]
 Rev. Robert Mohns, Secretary (2011; ABC) [Pastor, Didsbury, AB]
 Mrs. Roberta Nixon (2011; Central), [Regina, SK]
 Rev. Paul Schallhorn, Chair (2011; East) [Pastor, Sarnia, ON]
 Rev. Don Schiemann, ex officio [President, ABC District, Edmonton, AB]
 Dr. Manfred Zeuch, President, Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton, AB

Seminary Faculty

- Dr. Stephen L. Chambers, Dean of Student Life
 Dr. Edward G. Kettner, Academic Dean / Director of Library
 Prof. Jonathan Kraemer, Assistant Professor / Director of Vicarage & Field Work / Coordinator of Co-Curricular Unit Program
 Rev. Dr. Manfred Zeuch, President / Dean of Chapel / Worship Chaplain

Seminary Staff

- Rev. James Avery, Director of Missionary Study Centre
 Rhonda Buck, Administrative Assistant to the President
 Rev. Daniel Deyell, Director of Development
 Sandra Esperanza, Development Secretary
 Jane Huber, Library Technician
 David Mitchell, Director of Music
 Caroline Moore, Treasurer
 Jeff Nachtigall, Registrar and Director of Admissions & Recruitment / Director of Financial Aid
 Rev. Dr. Forrest Stroup, Pastoral Care Chaplain

Rev. Daniel Deyell, Editor
 Concordia Lutheran Seminary
 7040 Ada Boulevard, Edmonton, AB T5B 4E3
 Phone: 780-474-1468; Fax: 780-479-3067
 developmentdir@concordiasem.ab.ca
 http://www.learnrowserve.ca