



EDMONTON, ALBERTA

VOL. 24 NO. 3, Summer 2008

# Seminary Matters

## President's Message



Dear Brothers and Sisters, friends of the Seminary,

A new academic year is before us, one we receive with excitement and thankfulness to God as it is the year of our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary! As we look ahead, we also remember years past, and can only exclaim to God with the prophet Jeremiah: "Great is your faithfulness"! (Lam 3, 23). This is the Theme for 2008/2009. We know He will be faithful as He has promised as we move forward.

In 2009 several things will happen here with God's help. We will celebrate, next September, the twenty-five years of Concordia Lutheran Seminary's existence and its service to LCC. We will offer a revised M.Div. degree and also new programs, enlarging our student body. We will reach out to congregations, their pastors and lay leaders for theological and spiritual support. We will see the needed support and donations for our seminary increase and rise, resulting in a balanced

*President's Message cont'd on p. 3*

## The Sacred Convocation of Concordia Lutheran Seminary's Twenty-Fourth Academic Year

Each year, the community of Concordia Lutheran Seminary celebrates and gives thanks to God for the work accomplished. Even though it's a yearly event, Convocation reaches back to the four years of study that the graduating

ceremony to witness the granting of degrees, awarding of theological diplomas, and new placements. The Rev. Dr. Gerald Krispin, President of Concordia University College of Alberta, was the guest speaker.

Curtis Boehm and Murray Keith



students have completed and further by honoring people who have made significant contributions to the church and seminary through decades of service. This 24<sup>th</sup> Sacred Convocation of Concordia Lutheran Seminary awarded four degrees and one community award, placed two new pastors into parishes, and assigned three vicars into LCC parishes.

The Sacred Convocation is a public event. Faculty, staff, and students assemble with church and community members in pomp and

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message . . . . .	1
Sacred Convocation 2008 . . . . .	1, 2
Wagner Ministries . . . . .	3
Victor Greetings . . . . .	3
Luther Festivities . . . . .	4
Visiting Speakers . . . . .	4
CLS Guild . . . . .	5
Guild Membership . . . . .	6
New Staff & Board . . . . .	6



Dr. Manfred Zeuch, Dr. Gerald Krispin, Rev. Nolan Astley, Rev. Dr. Garry Dombrowsky, Rev. Donald Schiemann lead convocation

earned Master of Divinity degrees and Theological Diplomas. The professional degrees reflect four years of study including one year vicarage in LCC churches. The diplomas are granted by the seminary on the authority of the church to confirm completion of a program of study for the church's aspiring pastors. The Council of Presidents placed Boehm and Keith into parish ministry, to Grace Lutheran Church, Drumheller, AB, and to Zion Lutheran Church, Melville, SK, respectively. Three vicars received assignments in LCC parishes for hands-on training: Ling Pui Yeong (Trinity, Abbotsford, BC), Dan Barr (Redeemer, Kitimat, BC),



Ms. Audrey Maschmeyer, President of the CLS Guild addressing assembly

and Jeff Dul (Redeemer, Waterloo, ON).

Rev. K.M. Victor was granted the Doctor of Divinity, *honoris causa*, on the basis of his full lifetime of extraordinarily diverse service to Christ and His Church. Rev. Dr. Victor has worked as an evangelist in

India, with a number of outreach and service organizations, and with the India Evangelical Lutheran Church as Sunday School Secretary and Literature Secretary. Ian Adnams was granted the Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*, for his extensive and internationally recognized organization work and in communications for

Lutheran Church – Canada and other church bodies. Wesley Wagner



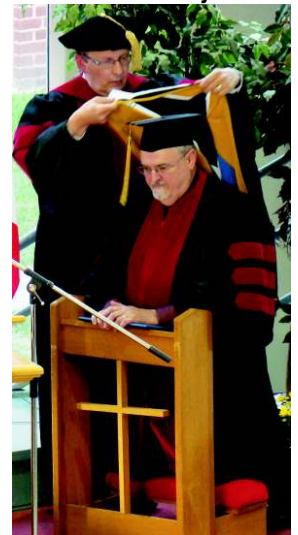
Graduates Curtis Boehm and Murray Keith

was awarded the Faith in Life Award for his work in LCC and through other Christian service organizations, especially Wagner Hills Farms in B.C.'s Lower Mainland.

Celebrations included friend and family gatherings throughout the weekend. The CLS Guild hosted much of the weekend including a luncheon recognizing

the graduates. FaithLife Financial assisted with funding and gifts of portable Communion sets. Ceremonies brought together over 200 staff, faculty, family members, and friends.

Since its founding in 1984, Concordia Lutheran Seminary has graduated over 120 students of theology. The LCC roster now boasts many of those grads as pastors of the church. The graduates confidently proclaim God's Word and administer the Sacraments. Even though the strain of need continues to demand more workers than are currently enrolled, the Seminary diligently and thoroughly forms students into the leaders who can sustain and promote ministry. The church community is asked to encourage its youth and young men to keep thinking about pastoral ministry and to pray that God will call them to serve as the church's shepherds. 🍁



Dr. Kettner placing academic hood on Ian Adnams



Dr. Zeuch and Prof. Kraemer address vicars Dan Barr, Jeff Dul, & L.P. Yeong

## Wes Wagner awarded for work with Wagner Hills Ministries

Wes Wagner lived on a little farm in Saskatchewan until he was fourteen, when his family moved to Vancouver. His parents wanted their fourteen year old son to go to school, but he got a job working in a factory for the next twelve years. Then he worked as a carpenter and finally as a building contractor. His life was enjoyable and profitable, but he sensed a need for something more fulfilling.



Social workers presented at his church the need for ministry to inner city people. One had taken some of these people out to a camp in the

country for a few days, where they seemed to come out of their shells, laughing, talking and behaving very differently than they did downtown. The young social worker commented, "It would be nice if we had a place out in the country where we could take these people." [The social worker was Rev. Neil Otke.]

Wes thought of his forty-five acre farm in Aldergrove, but dismissed the thought. Finally, a year later, he could no longer say, "No," to God, and recognizing his call as similar to Jonah being told to go to Nineveh, he asked people to serve on a board to get things started. That was twenty-nine years ago. Through what God started all those years ago at Wagner Hills Farm, He now touches over 100 lives every day in one way or another. 🍁

## Rev. Victor sent greetings from India

Greetings in the name of the Risen Lord,

It was the most joyous moment in my life, when I received your letter, of 2 April 2008....

I really consider this as a great honour bestowed on me by your esteemed institution, Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton. I bow before our Lord who has been guiding me in my Pastoral life for the last 49 years. I don't know whether I deserve this honour conferred on me. But I take it as a motivation for me to have more commitment to the Lord and the Church.

I thank you profusely for this great act and devote myself for the service of the Lord, with more vigour and vitality....

Yours in His glad Service,

[Rev. K.M. Victor] 🍁

*President's Message cont'd from p. 1*

budget. We will make partnerships and cooperate in new ways with sister seminaries in Canada (CLS-CLTS) and worldwide.

This year, we are receiving six new pastoral students at our seminary, five for the M.Div. and one in a special program. This fills our hearts with joy! We have good reasons to expect an even higher number of new students for fall 2009. We pray for this; we ask you to pray for this. LCC needs more pastors and servants! Here we are, ready to form them according to Jesus Christ's heart and mind: as servants of God's people, to preach and administer the Holy Sacraments. God bless the Seminary and all of you.

*Dr. Manfred Zeuch, President*



*Some of the audience for the Sacred convocation; visitors came from across Canada*



*The Concordia Community Chorus directed by Ms. Kathy Bauer with accompanists Ms. Roxanne Klassen and Mr. David Mitchell*

## Luther 95 Theses Festivities: Concordia Lutheran Seminary celebrates the anniversary of the posting of the 95 Theses with a Luther 2017 Countdown

Concordia Lutheran Seminary is preparing the festivities of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the posting of the 95 Theses in 1517, which launched the Reformation. The 2008 festivities are the introduction to a ten-year program leading up to the international celebration of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the posting of the 95 Theses by Martin Luther onto the church doors of Wittenberg. The Program continues each year around Reformation Day in October until 2017. Scholars are invited from around the world and from a variety of backgrounds and will speak about Luther and Lutheranism in the world. There will be cultural presentations as well, such as music, theatre, and lectures on cultural aspects of the Reformation and its consequences. The ten years of Reformation Services lead to the big celebration in 2017.

The public is being invited to participate in all the events on October 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. The preliminary schedule of festivities and lectures for this year (with a nod to Luther's life 500 years before) include Thursday afternoon's lecture on "Luther as a Missionary" and Friday afternoon's lecture, "Luther becoming a Reformer" presented by Dr. Robert Rosin, well-known Luther scholar from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO, U.S.A. Thursday evening will be a cultural evening. The festivities will end with the Seminary's yearly Reformation Worship Service at Grace Lutheran Church in downtown Edmonton.

For more details watch the Seminary's web site ([www.learngrowserve.ca](http://www.learngrowserve.ca)), or contact staff at the Seminary, 780-474-1468. 🍁

### Guest Lecturer: Dr. Robert L. Rosin

Professor of Historical Theology, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; Acting Executive Director of Institute for Reformation Research.

Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Illinois (B.A. 1972); Concordia Seminary St. Louis, Missouri (M.Div. 1976); Stanford University Palo Alto, California (M.A. 1977, Ph.D. 1986)

Instructor Concordia Seminary (1981-85); Assistant Professor (1985-90) Associate Professor (1990-97); Professor since 1997; Guest Instructor Martin Luther Seminary, Lae, Papua New Guinea (summer 1983); Acting Director of Library Services Concordia Seminary (1988-90); Faculty Marshal (1989-97); Guest Instructor Lutheran Theological Seminary Baguio City, Philippines (summer 1995); Editor, Concordia Seminary Publications since 1995; and Chairman of the Department of Historical Theology (1995-2004). Executive Director of the Institute for Reformation Research, St. Louis, Missouri, since 1997; Guest Professor Mekane Yesus Seminary, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (spring, 2001).

past June. The Mission Symposium is held every two years and draws pastors, professors, students and lay people from Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay. The theme for this year's symposium was "Evangelistic Methods, Theology and Practice." Prof. Kraemer, who represented LCC, focussed his presentation upon the challenges remote communities, particularly First Nation communities, present to evangelism. One challenge is pastoral formation of leaders within those communities.

For more information on this and other news notices see the Seminary's web site, [www.learngrowserve.ca](http://www.learngrowserve.ca). 🍁



*Dr. John Strand, alumnus of CLS and currently Professor of Philosophy and Associate VP Academic & Dean of Arts (Acting) at Concordia University College of Alberta speaking during a convocation on Christian Apologetics at the Seminary.*



*Rev. Richard Beinert, Pastor at St. James LC, Winnipeg and Adjunct Professor and alumnus of CLS taught a Spring session course at the Seminary on Early Christianity.*

### Prof. Kraemer at Missionary Symposium in Brazil

Prof. Jonathan Kraemer, Director of the Seminary's Missionary Study Centre, participated in the Mission Symposium of the Centro Internacional de Treinamento Missionário in São Leopoldo, Brazil this

## CLS Guild keeps working for Seminary students

The Guild of Concordia Lutheran Seminary has been working since the beginning of the Seminary's existence to take care of the students. It has provided more and more to the individuals and to the families that sacrifice more comfortable lifestyles in order to learn how to be "servants for Jesus' sake." Your congregation may have some ideas about looking after the students. Whether it's fundraising and supplying money to augment student finances or finding ways to deliver food and goods to the students at the Seminary in Edmonton, you can have a significant part to play in the lives of the students. We welcome your ideas and want to encourage you, wherever your congregation may be, to develop your project for helping students.

At its regular meeting recently, the Guild elected its

new Executive Committee. Audrey Maschmeyer was welcomed unanimously as the President of the Guild. Audrey contributes active long-term involvement with the Guild along with other community endeavors. She has been a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Bruderheim, AB. The other Executive members elected by acclamation are former Past President and now Vice-president, Marilyn Jansen; Guild Representative, Marlene Astley; Treasurer, Hilda Schoepp; and returning for another year as Secretary, Lillian Bulman. Special thanks are extended to other members of the past executive, Michelle Loveridge, Lorna Olson and hostess co-ordinator, Doreen Christensen. 🍁



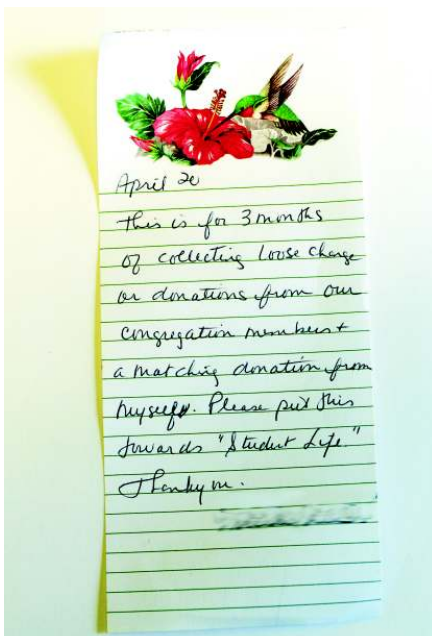
Seminary community gatherings include meals and celebrations like the "Spring" student year-end barbecue in the snow!

## Dr. Chambers leads archeological dig at Hippos

Dr. Stephen Chambers led a group of workers from across Canada to Hippos, Israel this year. His team worked with the archaeological project co-ordinated by the Institute of Archaeology at Concordia University - St. Paul. CLS students and a number of interested individuals joined him for the trip this year. Check out the blog at <http://www.virtualdig.org/>. 🍁

## Ways to support Concordia Lutheran Seminary:

- send in a general contribution of any size
- contribute to specific members of the Seminary community, either a student or a faculty position
- as a congregation or an individual, direct on-going giving to one of the Seminary's students in the Adopt-a-Student program
- commit giving to scheduled pledge times through Partners in the Gospel
- write wills, bequests, insurance beneficiary assignments to benefit the Seminary
- establish an endowment (or support an existing fund like The Fifth Faculty Endowment)
- gather as a group of Guild members in a local congregation
- collect perishable and non-perishable food stuffs for the students' Food Pantry
- invite Seminary staff, faculty, students, and volunteers to speak about the Seminary. 🍁



Some Seminary supporters offer sacrificial giving to look after the school's needs.

## Guild Membership successfully involves more supporters

The Seminary Guild continued its membership drive into the late spring this year. This was an opportunity for people in congregations across the country to give encouraging support for programs designed to help students. Over 800 individuals, couples, and a few church groups signed up as members. Many included additional donations, sometimes generously substantial, to the money submitted. Much of the thanks for the large numbers of subscribers go to Guild Representatives who unabashedly approached friends, relatives, and even unacquainted people in their congregations. The representatives diligently recorded names and contact information and collected the cash and cheques to send off to the Seminary's Development Department. With the receipts and thank you letters returned to them, they again contacted the members to put the acknowledgements into the members' and new donors' hands.

Some new members and Guild Reps have mentioned that churchgoers and even whole congregations do not know what the Guild does. Check out the Guild's activities under the "Support" tab of the Seminary's web site or contact the Development Department for more information. 🍁

### Upcoming events & more updates

*For more information about the Seminary and its activities like Seminary Sunday, Opening Service, and the Reformation celebrations check out the web site at [www.learngrowserve.ca](http://www.learngrowserve.ca).*

## New Members elected to the Board of Regents

The National LCC convention in early June elected two members and re-elected one member of the Board of Regents.

Rev. Robert Mohns, Pastor of Redeemer Didsbury, Alberta was re-elected to the Board. He has been serving the Board as Secretary. Rev. Mark Dressler (like Rev. Mohns an alumnus of CLS), Pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Saskatoon, SK,

and Mr. Jonathan Mayan, Principal at Zion Lutheran School in Cloverdale, BC were elected as new Board members at the recent LCC National Convention

The Seminary is grateful, too, for the work that has been done by retiring Board members Mrs. Kari Otke and Rev. David Gallas. 🍁

## A New Development Secretary Joins the Staff



Mrs. Sandra Esperanza has been appointed Development Secretary for CLS. Sandra brings special talents to the Seminary team with experience in retail

sales, care giving, and as a pastor's wife. After growing up in the British Columbia interior, she lived in Vancouver, Edmonton, and Winnipeg. Her family returned to Edmonton a few years ago where they currently reside.

Sandra is excited about her work within the warm and nurturing environment of the Seminary. Her gifts add to the joy and the support, faculty, staff, and volunteers provide to seminarians.

Feel free to contact Sandra about your donation needs and questions. 🍁

### Seminary Board of Regents

Rev. Nolan D. Astley  
Mrs. Rhonda Buck  
Rev. Mark Dressler  
Mr. Christopher Klarenbach  
Rev. Robert Mohns  
Mr. Jonathan Mayan  
Rev. Paul Schallhorn  
Rev. Don Schiemann

### Seminary Staff

Dr. Stephen L. Chambers, Dean of Student Life / Director of Financial Aid  
Rev. Daniel Deyell, Director of Development  
Rev. Dr. Garry Dombrowsky, Worship Chaplain  
Sandra Esperanza, Development Secretary  
Jane Huber, Library Technician  
Dr. Edward G. Kettner, Academic Dean / Director of Library  
Jonathan Kraemer, Assistant Professor / Director of Missionary Study Centre / Director of Vicarage & Field Work  
David Mitchell, Director of Music  
Jeff Nachtigall, Registrar and Director of Admissions & Recruitment  
Ray Smith, Treasurer  
Karen Sorensen, Administrative Assistant to the President  
Rev. Dr. Forrest Stroup, Pastoral Care Chaplain  
Rev. Dr. Manfred Zeuch, President / Dean of Chapel

Rev. Daniel Deyell, Editor  
Concordia Lutheran Seminary  
7040 Ada Boulevard  
Edmonton, AB T5B 4E3  
Phone: 780-474-1468  
Fax: 780-479-3067  
[ddeyell@concordiasem.ab.ca](mailto:ddeyell@concordiasem.ab.ca)  
<http://www.learngrowserve.ca>