



learn
grow
serve



Life After 30: Train Yourself for Godliness...

This Fall we begin Year 31 of our mission to “form servants for Jesus’ sake” focusing on our theme of the year, “train yourselves for Godliness.” These words of St. Paul encourage Timothy – and our Seminary faculty/staff, and students – to train for ministry. CLS is fully engaged in training for ministry in our life after 30.

It is an exciting beginning to this year. Our enrollment last year was six; this year, we have 12. These students are all “in training” for ministry, and we are excited to be part of their journey. Of our twelve, we have two students returning from vicarage, three students on vicarage, two students on special tracks for the M.Div. degree (one from the Ukraine), one student in second year, and four new first year students. We are also thrilled to have so many faces involved in the Seminary family this year.

Lutheran Church–Canada has committed significant resources to ensure that we train Canadian pastors for Canadian Lutheran congregations. This commitment takes tremendous resources. We continue to need operations dollars for our ministry, but our greater need is financial aid. Please consider supporting these men AND their families with your prayers and your financial support. We are so thankful for the Seminary Guild



LEFT TO RIGHT: WILL ROSE, AARON ASTLEY, JASON LEGACY, KAI BUCK, SCOTT GAMBLE, SCOTT BRAYALL, KENNETH STADNICK, ALEXEY NAVROTSKY, ANDREW MCDONALD

and its role; those Guild memberships are just the start; thanks to those Guild members who provide significantly more money than the minimal membership dues in order to help these students.

Thanks to our Adopt-a-Student donors for engaging with our students and providing significant financial and personal support.

And thanks for you, our readers and partners who provide support, whether earmarked for operations or financial aid, allowing us to apply our training in a godly performance of our mission – forming servants for Jesus’ sake.

Life after 30 is exciting, and filled with opportunities to serve Christ. Thanks for your partnership as we live in “training for Godliness,” all “for Jesus’ sake.”

Dr. James Gimbel, President

EDMONTON

7040 Ada Boulevard
Edmonton, AB T5B 4E3
(780) 474-1468
admin@concordiasem.ab.ca
www.concordiasem.ab.ca

Entrance Scholarship Program Renewed and Expanded!

Entrance scholarships at Concordia Lutheran Seminary are available again for the 2015-2016 Academic Year and there are more of them. Scholarships of \$2,500 are available for up to five applicants to the M.Div. program. What started as a one-time opportunity for four students has been renewed and expanded, in part because of the generosity of the Concordia Lutheran Seminary Guild.

The qualifications for the Entrance Scholarship are the following:

- undergraduate degree at an accredited institution
- earned credit in both Greek and Hebrew
- a member in good standing of a congregation of Lutheran Church–Canada.

CLS STUDENTS 2014-2015

Year 4

Aaron Astley
Scott Gamble

Vicarage

Cody Cooper
Keith Hoveland
Eric Moffett

Year 2

Jason Legacy
Alexey Navrotsky
William Rose

Year 1

Scott Brayall
Kai Buck
Andrew McDonald
Kenneth Stadnick

Did You Know...

our CLS student families total 42 people this year, 19 of which are children?



ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2014-2015
LEFT TO RIGHT: KAI BUCK, SCOTT BRAYALL, ANDREW MCDONALD

APPLY TODAY!

Students must submit their application to the M.Div. program by February 1st, 2015, one month before the regular March 1st deadline in order to be considered for the scholarship. No special application form is required.

For more information see:
www.concordiasem.ab.ca

Or contact Professor Jonathan Kraemer,
Director of Financial Aid at:
jkraemer@concordiasem.ab.ca
Tel: 780-474-1468, ext. 223

Friends of the Seminary – CLS Guild

Those who live nearby consider it a special privilege to serve on and support the CLS Guild at our meetings. But the Guild extends wherever people pledge to “be friends” and support the Seminary and its mission and students. This role formalizes what it means to be a friend of the Seminary. Being a Friend of the Seminary allows us to witness firsthand the joy and thankfulness from the students and their families for our financial support; through pantry donations, gift cards, Easter and Christmas gifts, gifts of books for new students and for graduates, scholarship awards, sponsorship of the Seminary Wives Retreat and various events throughout the year.

The Guild Take Wing program promotes an experience for second year students in a ministry situation that is outside their previous ministry exposure. Students are hosted by a congregation for a weekend and allowed to share in their particular ministry that is unique to them. This November Jason Legacy will be going to Trinity Lutheran Church, Richmond, BC. Thank you to Rev. Steven Harold, Rev. Wayne Zhang and the congregation of Trinity for extending this wonderful invitation.

We know that due to distance, many of our Friends of the Seminary cannot see firsthand the blessings their support provides, so we wish to thank you all on behalf of the Seminary for your constant and generous support. Even from a distance, you are cherished as Friends of the Seminary.

Seminary Student in Focus

Name: Aaron Astley

Year: 4

Home District: ABC District

I never wanted to go to Seminary. I grew up in Lloydminster AB/SK and people at church often told me I should be a pastor, but I always said no. Instead I wanted to be a high school teacher. But during my time at university the idea of seminary training started to become more and more a reality. At that time I also met and eventually married my wife Leah who supported and encouraged me as I considered this change of plans.

Now, almost four years after my graduation from university, we have a beautiful 1.5 year old daughter Hannah, I have completed my vicarage in 100 Mile House, BC, and I am beginning my final year at the Seminary.

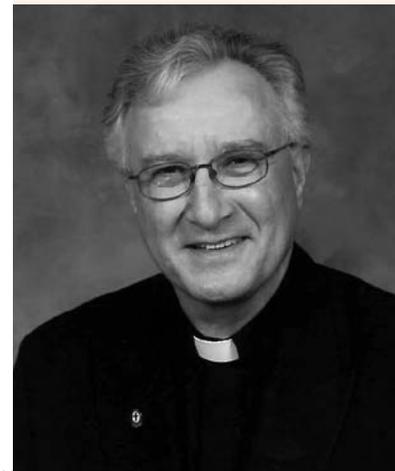
For me seminary has been a blessing in more ways than I could ever understand or express. Coming into my seminary studies I didn't know very much and I really had no idea what I was getting myself into. By the time my first year ended I had learned things I never expected to learn. I grew in my personal faith and have discovered the joy of sharing God's Word with His people. Vicarage showed me the joy of proclaiming the Good News of Christ Crucified on a regular basis. And now, as the last year of my studies begins I am excited about the possibility of serving as a pastor in Lutheran Church-Canada.



LEFT TO RIGHT: LEAH, HANNAH AND AARON ASTLEY

This time of learning and growth has not been without its challenges, but in all of those challenges the Lord has provided. And even now, as I have doubts about my abilities to do this work, I am reminded of St. Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 12:9: "But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'"

Aaron served his vicarage in 2013-2014 at Christ the King, 100 Mile House, BC.



CLS WELCOMES NEW CHAPLAIN

Rev. William Ney

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED A CHURCH WORK VOCATION?

Is God calling you to serve as a Pastor, a Lutheran Teacher or a Director of Parish Services (DPS)? Or do you know of someone who should consider a vocation as a full-time church-worker?

www.IsGodCallingMe.ca

Following Through with Adopt-A-Student

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 13

Thanksgiving –
Office Closed

October 14, 21, 28 & November 4

Fall Quest Course

October 20-22

All Church Workers'
Conference – Nordegg, AB

November 11

Remembrance Day –
Office Closed

November 24

Guild Meeting

December 10-12

Dr. Gimbel at
New President Seminar –
New Orleans

December 12

Last Day of
Semester I Classes

December 15-17

Final Exams

December 24 - January 2

Christmas Break –
Office Closed

January 5

First Day of
Short Term II Classes

January 20, 27 & February 3, 10

Winter Quest Course

As a church we have prayed for new students to come to seminary and God has answered those prayers! We have encouraged them, prayed for them, and maybe even supported them financially. Once they enter seminary, though, is the job done? No, of course not! They need our support now more than ever and they are so thankful when they receive it. The students often share stories of how that support does follow them all the way through seminary. The support comes not only from family and friends, but from their home congregation and from others in LCC.

A donation made to Financial Aid is one way to follow through with your support. The Adopt-A-Student program at CLS is another. With the Adopt-A-Student program, congregations, groups and individuals who desire to pray for students, write notes of encouragement, and possibly also give them gifts (financial and otherwise), are matched with students participating in the program. The student in turn pray for their sponsors, keep in touch with them, and, as they are able, to visit them.

Following through with your support is especially important this fall as we enter a new school year. The blessing of having new students means that there is also a need for new Adopt-A-Student sponsors. Would you prayerfully consider becoming a sponsor?

If you would like to know more about becoming an Adopt-A-Student sponsor, please take a look at the information on the CLS website at: www.concordiasem.ab.ca/enrolment/adopt_a_student.php

Or contact Professor Jonathan Kraemer, Director of Financial Aid at: jkraemer@concordiasem.ab.ca
Tel: 780-474-1468, ext. 223

ADOPT-A-STUDENT 2014-2015

As the Adopt-A-Student program is starting up again this new academic year, it promises to be another great year. Already (as of September 6) there are 28 groups out of the 46 who participated last year who have again made the commitment to walk with their student through this year. Of course, there is always room for more, whether they are an LWMLC group, a congregation, a Sunday school, a youth group, or just an interested individual.

Distance Education

Do you use videoconferencing to keep in touch with family and friends? Skype and FaceTime and other forms of video-calling have become commonplace for many technology users. At CLS we like to use videoconferencing to extend our reach beyond the limits of the traditional seminary community.

Dr. Chambers' night class in New Testament Greek has students from Edmonton, Calgary, Mississippi, Colorado, and even Kakabeka Falls, Ontario. Dr. Kettner, professor emeritus, returns to teach Theological Method to a large class of first year Master of Divinity students (as well as

some Open Studies students from other locations) from the comfort of his new home in Kansas City. Every week, CLS seminarians join Dr. Winger and his class of CLTS seminarians for a Pericope Seminar (and a chance to get to know fellow Lutheran seminarians on the other side of the country). And many of you – wanting to join us by videoconference, but not quite interested in the rigor of graduate study – are probably looking forward to the next Tuesday night Quest class with Dr. Gimbel, starting on Oct. 14.

Sometimes a little technology goes a long way.

Upcoming Quest Courses

FALL 2014

Tuesday nights: October 14, 21, 28
and November 4, 2014
@ 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

“Our Legacy of Faith: Relationships with God”

Presenter: Dr. James Gimbel,
President, Concordia Lutheran Seminary

This four-part Quest series explores the lives of four biblical characters who lived such unique relationships with God that each of them is one of our special ancestors in the faith. CLS President Dr. Jim Gimbel leads an engaging study of these familiar figures, asking participants to reflect on the way God relates to us today and shapes us as we live out the legacy of faith like those who have gone before.

- Abraham: a friend of God
- Moses: spoke with God face-to-face
- David: a man after the Lord’s own heart
- John: the disciple whom Jesus loved

Quest classes are open to pastors, lay leaders, and all Christians as a service of CLS. The face-to-face course at CLS is webcast to those outside of driving distance with the same opportunity to hear and interact online.

REGISTRATION

Cost: No registration fee – donations welcome. To register for the **free classes** contact Rhonda Buck, Administrative Assistant to the President at:
development@concordiasem.ab.ca
Tel: 780-474-1468, ext. 225

WINTER 2015

Tuesday nights: January 20 and 27, 2015
& February 3 and 10, 2015
@ 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm MST

“Defending the Faith”

Presenter: Dr. Jonathan Strand
(Principal, School of Theology, Ethics, and Leadership, Concordia University College of Alberta)

Session One:

The Concept, Theology, and Practicalities of Defending the Faith

What is ‘defending the faith?’ What is the theological basis for defending the faith? And how might we defend the faith most effectively?

Session Two:

The Case for God

How an understanding of scientific reasoning, and a careful consideration of the world, provide strong evidence of the existence of God.

Session Three:

The Case for Christ and Scripture

How the concept of God, and the historical evidence, indicate that Jesus really was God-in-the-Flesh. How Jesus’ teachings then indicate that the Bible is the Word of God.

Session Four:

Dealing with Objections

How to respond to objections such as: ‘The evil in the world proves that there is no such God.’ ‘If God existed He would make his existence obvious.’ And ‘Science has shown that Christianity is not true.’



DR. JAMES GIMBEL



DR. JONATHAN STRAND



WHAT A CREW! THE 2014 ARCHAEOLOGY VOLUNTEERS, ON THE DIG-SITE AT HIPPOS.

Why Archaeology?

You might have heard about the disruption Dr. Steve Chambers had to deal with during the July 2014 archaeological trip to Israel. On the same day he and the CLS-sponsored team of 16 volunteers arrived, the war between Hamas and Israel broke out, requiring a major re-alignment of their whole plan.

The commotion naturally raises questions about why the seminary sponsors this project at all. What value has the school received from the trips it has sponsored every other year since 2006? Are they worth the dollars, time, and hassle each of them costs?

There are two kinds of value CLS's archaeology project creates, for several distinct constituencies. The most obvious value is the immediate benefit

people receive on the trip itself. Ten days' work in the hot sun, digging up antiquities, teaches an enormous amount about the past. And touring numerous sites of biblical and historical significance uncovers the roots of our faith with a unique kind of vividness and power. Even when these experiences turn into memories, their value endures.

The second kind of value is the changed perspective that people acquire, behind and beside those particular experiences. Nobody comes back from the Holy Land unchanged. Forever, God's plan of salvation for His people has become more than a story on the page—it's now a living reality, anchored in particular places where specific people lived under his care. The Bible opens, and faith grows!

These values accrue to two distinct sets of people, too. The core group are the 10 seminary students who have taken part in this trip. Because of what they've learned and experienced, all of the congregations they will serve throughout their entire ministry will also benefit. And besides them, CLS's trips have also included 31 laypeople and 4 churchworkers from all across LCC. All of them too have gone back to their parishes and homes changed by what they have done and seen in Israel.

Is the program worth it? On balance, we certainly think so!



DAILY DEVOTIONS WITH THE SEA OF GALILEE IN THE BACKGROUND

Did You Know...

of the 5 trips, 46 people have participated (ages ranging from 15-75 years); 29 from AB, 8 from BC, 6 from ON, 3 from SK, and 45 of 46 were from LCC?

Concordia Lutheran Seminary Honorary Awards

The faculty and Board of Regents of Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton, invite individuals, congregations, and Boards of Lutheran Church-Canada to submit the names of persons to be considered for one of the Seminary's honorary degrees and awards.

The purpose of these honorary degrees and awards is to acknowledge outstanding service to the church, the Seminary, and the community. Available degrees are: Doctor of Laws (LL.D), Doctor of Letters (Litt.D.), and Doctor of Divinity (D.D.). Available awards are: Faith in Life, Friend of the Seminary, and Doulos Dia lesoun.

A description of the awards and degrees and the forms required for each are available at: www.concordiasem.ab.ca.

Desirable qualifications for each position are listed on each nomination form.

Completed forms must be received by January 1, 2015. Degrees and awards will be presented at the Seminary's Sacred Convocation on May 29, 2015.

For more information, please contact Professor Jonathan Kraemer, Faculty Secretary at: Concordia Lutheran Seminary
7040 Ada Boulevard
Edmonton, AB T5B 4E3
Email: jkraemer@concordiasem.ab.ca
Tel: 780-474-1468, ext. 223
Fax: 780-479-3067

Being a Supporter of CLS means ...

a variety of things ... as you respond to God's grace and our needs from your own manner of responding.

Prayer support can mean remembering our faculty, staff, and students in your personal prayers ... or requesting prayers periodically for the formal public worship.

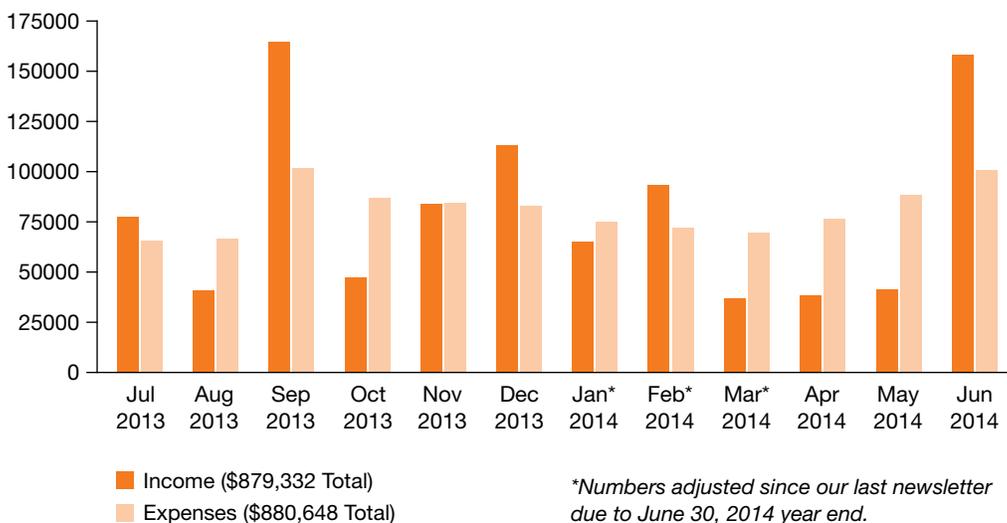
Encouragement can mean becoming personally engaged with a student and his family through the Adopt-a-student program, or sending an occasional card to the student body or CLS community with words of encouragement.

Financial support can be through a Seminary Guild/ Friends of the Seminary membership, an annual gift, a cheque sent monthly, a life-insurance policy payable to the seminary, including CLS in your will, the establishment of an endowment, or using our **secure pre-authorized debit** system that allows you to contribute regularly or periodically without postage, your bank to our bank.

We are SO THANKFUL for your support in all of these ways!

Financial News

INCOME AND EXPENSES BY MONTH (in dollars)



Yes, I want to make a donation to Concordia Lutheran Seminary

Your Seminary exists to serve you and your congregation. Out of love for the Lord's church, we invite you to sustain your Seminary with your interest, your prayers, and your gifts.

*So let each one give
as he purposes in his
heart, not grudgingly
or of necessity; for God
loves a cheerful giver.*

2 Corinthians 9:7

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____

Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Your Congregation (Name and City): _____

Enclosed is our gift given in support of: *(please specify if applicable)*

- Please apply my gift where most needed
- In memory of: _____
- In honour of: _____
- To the _____ Endowment Fund
- "Friends of the Guild" (membership): \$10/person \$25/family other: _____
- Student Financial Aid
- Please contact me about pre-authorized debits

*Please make cheque payable to Concordia Lutheran Seminary and send to:
7040 Ada Boulevard, Edmonton, AB T5B 4E3*

If you require a tax receipt, please provide all contact information.

Did You Know...
that you can set up
pre-authorized debit,
use Canada Helps or
PayPal to support CLS
on a regular basis?

