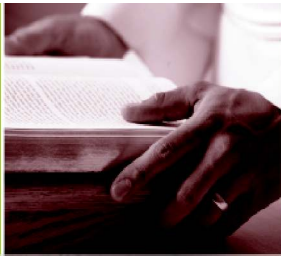


Edmonton, Alberta



Seminary Matters

Spring 2010

President's Message



Dear friends,

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus!
With His grace we closed one more academic year, the 26th. After two difficult and challenging years, CLS has seen the Lord guide and strengthen its mission and endeavours in constant faithfulness. This school of prophets, school of servants for Jesus' sake, is and will continue to be a blessing for the church as it forms men for the Holy Ministry and reaches out to pastors and lay people in the church for ongoing theological education.

God has opened a new variety of windows for service in the church, as CLS has been put in contact with students of different aspirations: M.Div., colloquy, Pastoral Alternative Training, Open Studies, and a possible "certificate program" (currently in study). In a new era of alternate delivery all our faculty has taught six courses in the classroom that have been transmitted via distance technology to students in

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26th Sacred Convocation of Concordia Lutheran Seminary

Three pastors and four vicars were sent out from Concordia Lutheran Seminary this year at the 2010 Sacred Convocation. After four years of working on assignments, student work assessment, Hebrew and Greek exegesis, Concordia Lutheran Seminary rejoices in presenting three candidates for the office of the Holy Ministry (Dan Barr to Immanuel in Tomahawk, AB; Jeff Dul to Trinity in Churchbridge, SK; and Ling Pui Yeong to Trinity in Toronto, ON). Another graduate received the degree of Master of Divinity (Roger Schremmer).

Having completed two years of study, the four vicars received their placements for one year of intensive practical learning under the mentorship of an experienced pastor. These are Stephen Bartlett to Zion/Immanuel in Rimbey and Usona, AB; Steven Hoffman to Trinity in Winkler, MB; Michael Montague to



This year's M.Div. graduates (l to r): Dan Barr, Jeff Dul, Roger Schremmer, L.P. Yeong

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Rev. Les Stahlke, this year's recipient of the Doctor of Divinity degree, presented a 3 volume, 1606 edition of Catalogi Hæreticorum from to the Seminary

Redeemer/Shepherd of the Hills Mission in Didsbury and Airdrie, AB; and Timothy Schneider to Bethany in Campbell River, BC.

Over 230 people gathered for worship, praising God for the workers who have come to be sent out to the church. The Seminary granted an honorary Doctor of Divinity to the Rev. Lester Stahlke of Edmonton, founder of Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots and the president of GovernanceMatters.com Inc. The Faith in Life Award was presented to Mrs. Margaret Towriss of Port Coquitlam, BC, retired school teacher and principal.

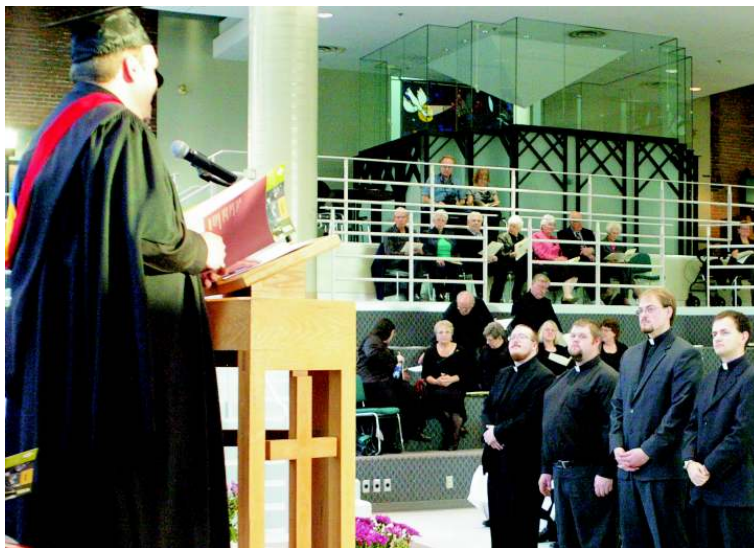
The ceremonies took place on May 7th at the Tegler Centre, CUCA. The Rev. Thomas Kruesel, third vice-president of Synod, member of the Board of Regents, and pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church, Campbell River, BC presented the address for the service. A free-will offering of over \$5700 was gathered for the Seminary's student financial aid fund.



Dr. Colleen Hammermaster represented the Laity of the Church in her address on Foundations



Guest speaker Rev. Tom Kruesel greets Mrs. Margaret Towriss immediately after she receives the Faith in Life Award



Professor Jonathan Kraemer speaks to the new vicars as they prepare to receive their assignments. The vicars left to right: Stephen Bartlett, Steven Hoffman, Michael Montague, & Timothy Schneider

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

Canada and the U.S.A. at the same time. Courses and lectures have been web cast nationwide for lay people and pastors.

A new approach since last fall on formation and assessment has proven effective and is being improved. More windows are being opened; more challenges are in front of us. LCC has far more vacancies than our seminaries are currently supplying. More joint, nationwide recruitment is urgently needed. Financially, donations and endowment earnings have gone up this year. Thanks to all of you and thanks to God, in the name of LCC! Our goal is, with rigorous budgeting and with your help, to pay off CLS' accumulated deficit of roughly \$150,000 before the end of next year.

We joyfully announce the arrival of the new administrative assistant to the president, Mrs. Rhonda Buck. She will start working this summer, filling a position that has been vacant for 1 year and 4 months. I thank all our staff, faculty, and volunteers for the extra effort made this year and a half to cope with this situation.

With cordial greetings from Edmonton,

Dr. Manfred Zeuch, President

CLS webcasts for the 2010/2011 year

Did you know that some of the key events held at (or sponsored by) CLS can be viewed on CLSTV from anywhere in the world with a decent internet connection? Go to <http://www.concordiasem.ab.ca/CLSTV.php> to join us for events such as guest lectures and convocations, and the year end graduation.

Paying off CLS debt before 2011

We are rejoicing! Donors from across the country have responded over the last year and a half to the news that Concordia Lutheran Seminary suffered from financial shortage. Hearing the need, individuals, companies, and congregations gave hundreds of thousands of dollars to cover the costs of running this graduate school. Through their giving people are expressing their excitement for the seminary's mission and goals, its reason for forming students, the proclamation of the Gospel and the ministry of God's grace in this world, especially in Canadian LCC churches.

The response came in donations from \$10 to \$500,000. People are giving out of their gifts and out of their tithes. People are giving sacrificially, sharing not just extra money that could have been used for that regular latté, but giving a donation that takes money away from their regular buying power. Even with the generous support, we still need to gather in more money. As President Zeuch mentioned, we are obligated to pay off the deficit of roughly \$150,000 incurred over the last years' economic downturn.

Thankfully, it appears that some surplus will be left over in this year's budget to pay more than half the deficit, but we want to eliminate the deficit completely.

Concordia Lutheran Seminary depends on the direct donations of supporters; the Synod provides just a small portion of the funds needed for the budget. The Seminary receives no government funding. Over \$50,000 a month is needed to cover on-going expenses. That doesn't include special contributions to endowments or money for capital projects. Endowments help seminary administration with budget forecasting by providing normally consistent earnings. Capital funds are becoming increasingly more important now that our building is twenty years old and starting to show maintenance

needs.

The bottom line (as accountants like to say) is continuous need for significant contributions by donors who see the vision and want to support the mission of Concordia Lutheran Seminary. That's the reason for a response card and envelope included in every mail-out sent by the Seminary. Through faithful on-going support CLS continues to send out pastors as "servants for Jesus' sake."



First year students completed courses that qualified them to receive licenses to preach. Left to right, Cody Cooper, Todd Guggenmos, Vince Moore, Mark Schultz

Adopt-a-Student

Most Seminary students come to the Seminary already having completed a degree program taking three or four years. The students whether married or single come to Edmonton for two years, go to a church for vicarage for a year and then return for a final year at the seminary in Edmonton. The transitions, although often burdensome, help students to come to terms with real-life pastoral situations. The vicarage congregation, Synod, and the seminary closely supervise and participate in the

formation of the seminarian as a future pastor.

The Seminary's Adopt-a-Student program connects community supporters with specific students. The seminary identifies the student to adopt and encourages him to make contact with supporters by supplying information about his studies and himself, including biographies, background and photos. The seminary asks supporters to communicate with the student and to pray regularly for him. Hopefully, too, the student shares his living situation and the adopter supports the student materially as well. All of the donations given through the Adopt-a-Student program go to the adopted student.



Rev. James Avery, Director of the CLS Missionary Study Centre talks to Rev. Rolan Syens, featured speaker at the Seminary's first Mission Symposium, before an audience that took in presentations, exhibits, and opportunities to talk about missions in the Lutheran Church.

Take Wing

“Take Wing,” sponsored by the Guild, links second year students with church hosts, benefiting both the students and their sponsor churches. The program provides return airfare and a stipend for each student for a weekend at an LCC parish. This year students left on Friday, February 5 and returned February 7.



Students Steven Hoffman, Darren Dressler, Timothy Schneider, & James Prophet receive pins from Guild President, Patrick Moore (2nd from right), for their participation in Take Wing

The students who travelled out of the seminary were Steven Hoffman to Trinity Evangelical, Winkler, MB with Pastor Alex Klages, James Prophet to Grace, Drumheller, AB with Pastor Curtis Boehm, Stephen Bartlett to Prince of Peace, Calgary, AB with Pastor Keith Haberstock, Tim Schneider to Prince of Peace/Killarney Park, Vancouver, BC with Pastor Mark Chiang, and Darren Dressler to Bethany,

Campbell River, BC with Pastor Tom Kruesel. Because they have preaching credentials, they were available for pulpit supply in their host congregations. They had a full weekend of activities: meeting with youth, fellowship groups, and weekend potlucks, as well as preaching.

Guild Activities

Patrick Moore is the new President of CLS Guild. Patrick (known as Pat) and his wife Linda live in Fort Saskatchewan and attend All Saints Lutheran Church. Pat has been active with the Guild since its inception, including past presidency. The Moores are known for their hospitality and especially for providing their backyard barbecue for the Guild executive social in late summer. Other executive members include past president Marilyn Jansen; co-secretaries, Lillian Bulman and Ellen Raaflaub; and treasurer, Hilda Schoepp.

As it has done for years, the Guild continues to provide direct support

to the students and their families by raising funds for them, collecting and distributing food, and providing prayer and social support to them. A special thank you goes out again to Guild supporters and especially the Guild representatives from the churches. People from across Canada have responded generously to the membership drive. Many members add donations to the regular \$10 membership fee, making a substantial increase to the annual revenues of the Guild. They also bring or send in special packages for the students including food stuffs for the student food hamper.

Open Studies/ Distance Education

Once again, CLS plans to offer a class or two from the regular M.Div. program as synchronous, online options for Open Studies students. The course offerings aren't finalized yet, but if you are interested in taking a class alongside some first year seminarians, have a completed Bachelor degree (any discipline), and have a home internet connection suitable for 2-way video conferencing, contact Jeff at the seminary for more information. Classes completed in the Open Studies program (whether on campus or via video conference) are applicable to the Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies (GCTS).

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