



learn
grow
serve



President's Message

Christ is Risen ... indeed! Alleluia, Amen.

Even though Easter may seem distant in our rear-view mirror, in the waters of Holy Baptism, our Life in Christ is a daily resurrection life with Him. We are raised daily to walk in newness of life. As I listened to faithful pastors lead worship on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday (Vigil), and Easter Sunday, and each Sunday since, I know how important the seminary is for training men to be faithful, confident proclaimers of the life that is truly LIFE ... as *servants for Jesus' sake*.

This newsletter invites you to join us in person or our web broadcast of the **Sacred Convocation (Thursday, May 26, 7:00 p.m. MDT)** via link on our webpage) to hear firsthand where the vicars and candidates are placed ... and to worship with us and pray for the ministries of our Church.

Throughout the Easter Season of the Church year, we move forward in ministry beyond the choices for CEF, beyond the restructuring models, beyond the challenges of our culture and society. We intend to keep the CLS servant mission and ministry as the highest ideal across LCC. As an arm of the church preparing men to be "servants for Jesus' sake" in the pastoral office, we join with each of you in the recognition that our whole existence is one of service to God and Church.



DR. JAMES GIMBEL

We thank you for your prayers, encouragement and support of the past year. We pray that as God richly blesses each of you, part of your thankful response will be ongoing and recurring support of our ministry into the future. We are especially thankful for our generous donors who support this vital work.

In His Resurrection LIGHT ...

Rev. James Gimbel, President

EDMONTON

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Edmonton, AB T5B 4E3
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admin@concordiasem.ab.ca
www.concordiasem.ab.ca

Sent to be Servants 2 COR 4:5

WE SEND FOUR VICARS FOR A YEAR OF LEARNING

Scott (Becky) Brayall
Kai (Melissa) Buck
Andrew McDonald
William (Sarah) Rose

Check our website at www.concordiasem.ab.ca for details about where they are going.



KEITH HOVELAND

Hometown: Grande Prairie, Alberta

Keith, it has been a joy getting to know you this past year, and seeing how God has been at work in your life preparing you for service to His Church. Nevertheless, your path to the Holy Ministry has been long and challenging, and even in the final leg of the journey, new trials have arisen. Yet through it all, you have maintained your focus on the goal. Through all of the obstacles you have kept your eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith. As you have found, God is faithful in all things: blessing, guiding, building up, and directing your ways. May the Lord be with you and Carole and give you both the confidence to say with Paul “I can do all things through him who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13).

Dr. John Hellwege



OLEKSIY NAVROTSKY

Hometown: Mykolaiv, Ukraine

Oleksiy, what a blessing it has been to have you and your family as part of our community. God has given you the courage to come from Ukraine to a foreign country to study in another language, to broaden your experience and be prepared for further service to the church back home. At times it has been very difficult to be separated from your family congregation and your brothers in the ministry when your pastoral heart wished to be back home. Now that you are going home, I pray the Lord would bless you so that Christ would be glorified in the ministry He has given you, and that through you His church in Ukraine would be blessed. May God bless and keep you, Viktoriia, Nikita, and Illia as you travel your homeward way!

Prof. Jonathan Kraemer

SUMMER VICARAGE

Congregations around Lutheran Church-Canada are eligible to apply to the seminary for a student summer worker. Although it resembles the expectations of the Field Education, we call the program “Summer Vicarage.” Students will have both their Worship License and Preaching License, allowing them to conduct worship (though not communion) and preach with close supervision of a pastor. The congregation is expected to provide housing and a fair salary for summer work (a good rule of thumb is for 1/4 of the Synod salary scale for Vicars). We have one summer vicar assigned for 2016, working at All Saints Lutheran in Edmonton, and one request to Bethany, Campbell River was left unfilled. Congregational leaders can send their inquiries for Summer 2017 to Dr. Gimbel at jgimbel@concordiasem.ab.ca before February 1, 2017.

Pastor’s Sabbatical Week

CLS forms new pastors as servants for Jesus’ sake, as well as providing ongoing education opportunities for the laity (*Quest*). We also involve pastors in *Quest*, *Pastor’s Sabbatical Week*, open Convocations, co-publishing the *Lutheran Theological Review*. This June 6-10 we invite pastors for a “Pastoral Tune Up” time of intellectual stimulation and fellowship featuring Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing (parish pastor, former faculty member, author of the Jonah, Job, and Isaiah commentaries by CPH), Dr. Colleen Hammermaster (Counseling Psychologist

who provides wellness and healing foci for many pastors and Christians in LCC), Rev. Dr. Robert Bugbee (LCC President, speaking on preaching for today and giving a peek into what may be the future structure of LCC), and Revs. Darren Dressler and Michael Keith, who have had specialized training in ministry to those going through the grieving process.

If you (or your pastor) is not registered, please contact Rhonda Buck (rbuck@concordiasem.ab.ca) to do so immediately. This is a great way to provide ongoing education and renewal for ministry in your parish.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 26

Sacred Convocation

June 6 – 10

Pastor's Sabbatical Week

June 10

Vicar Orientation

June 30 – July 23

CLS Israel Trip

July 1

Canada Day – Office Closed

July 8 – 12

LCC Youth Gathering
St. Catharines, ON

August 1

Heritage Day – Office Closed

September 1 & 2

MDiv Student Retreat

September 2

Registration for All Students

September 5

Labour Day – Office Closed

September 6

Opening Service
at CLS Chapel

September 6

First Day of
Short Term I Classes

September 6 & 7

Board of Regents Meeting

September 6 – 9

1st Year MDiv
Student Orientation

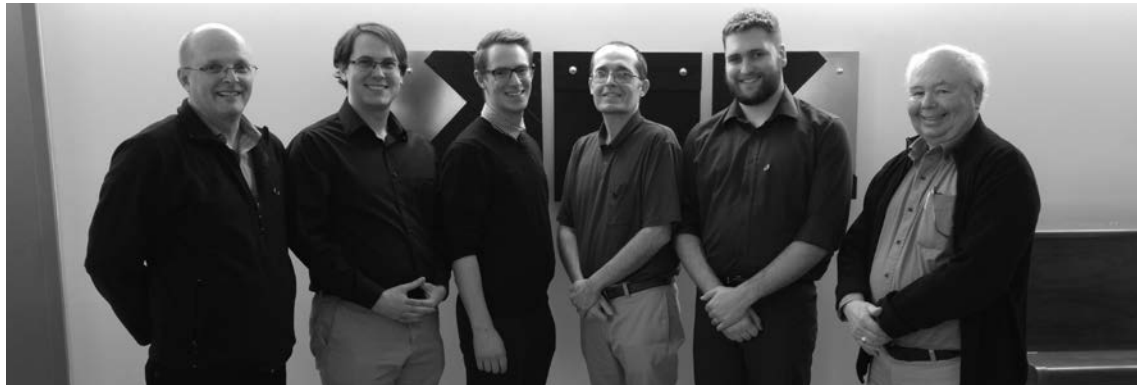
September 10

Founders' Day

September 19

First Day of
Semester I Classes

Take Wing



LEFT TO RIGHT: KENNETH STADNICK, ANDREW McDONALD, SCOTT BRAYALL, WILLIAM ROSE, KAI BUCK, GUILD PRESIDENT PAT MOORE

Five CLS second-year seminarians participated in the Take Wing program on the weekends of March 6 or March 13. Students are matched with a request that is likely to be in a different part of the country or a different setting from where the students have had previous life experience. Here are the matchups from this past year:

• **Scott (Kristopher) Brayall**

(home: Fort McMurray, AB)
to St. Peter Lutheran, Estevan, SK
"It was such a wonderful experience to be welcomed by these warm and inviting brothers and sisters in Christ"

• **Kai Buck** (home: Stony Plain, AB)

to Messiah Lutheran, Waterloo, ON
"I'd never really been out to the East District and am so glad that I could assure them that we are all of one belief and practice as a Church body"

• **Andrew McDonald** (home: Edmonton, AB) to Trinity, Richmond, BC

"I spoke Russian to a man at the morning service, and when I attended the Chinese service Sunday afternoon it inspired me to learn Mandarin as well"

• **William Rose** (home: Brownsville, Oregon) to Bethany, Campbell River, BC

"I attended a youth retreat and prayer breakfast while I was there, and the congregation was warm and inviting"

• **Kenneth Stadnick** (home: Comox, BC) to Faith, Grande Prairie and Emmaus, Sexsmith, AB

"This was my first time in a dual parish. They are wonderful people; the pace of ministry is busy serving two churches"

Upcoming Quest Courses

FALL 2016 – Tuesday Nights

September 27 and October 4, 11, and 18, 2016
@ 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Topic: *"Luther and the Third Use of the Law"*

Presenter: Rev. Ed Englebrecht
(Theological Editor, CPH)

WINTER 2017 – Tuesday Nights

January 31 and February 7, 14, and 21, 2017
@ 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Topic: *"C.S. Lewis for Today"*

Presenter: Rev. Dr. Joel Heck
(Published international C.S. Lewis scholar)

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: admin@concordiasem.ab.ca
Tel: (780) 474-1468, ext. 225

Adopt-A-Student

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AHEAD!

Each year there is a great deal of excitement for the students as we approach the date for the Sacred Convocation. For many of the students it is a pivot point, where they look back on and celebrate the accomplishments that led them to this point, and they look ahead to what God has in store for them. Students completing their second year of studies look forward to vicarage, and graduates look forward to receiving their first call to ministry.

This is also a good time for those in the Adopt-A-Student program to look back and look ahead. As we look back over this past year, there is much for which to give God thanks. Sponsoring groups and individuals supported students with prayer, letters of encouragement, care packages, and donations. This year there were slightly fewer sponsors, from 48 to 44, but support has remained strong. Ladies groups and LWML societies together were the largest category of sponsor, 24, while 16 congregations and 4 individuals also sponsored students. The sponsors were spread throughout the prairies and west coast: BC – 16; AB – 15; SK – 10; MB – 2 and ON – 1.

Looking even further back we can see there is a steady faithfulness on the part of many Adopt-A-Student sponsors. Of all the sponsors participating this year, 30 of them have been sponsoring

students for 4 or more years; 24 of those have participated every single year going back to 2010 and probably beyond. What wonderful responses to the faithfulness of God!

Now as we pivot from looking back to looking ahead, there will be a **large number of students entering the seminary in the fall**. We will have an **even greater need for Adopt-A-Student sponsors** than ever. As you approach the summer break, this is still an ideal time to think about adopting new students, whether you have done this every year, or whether you are just now considering it for the first time! If you would like to bring this opportunity to your LWML or congregation, please check out the information found on our website: www.concordiasem.ab.ca/enrolment/adopt_a_student.php. The registration form and pamphlet available for download there will give you all the details you need to join the Adopt-A-Student program and start personally and directly encouraging a student as he follows his passion to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

If you have any questions, or would just like to talk about the program, contact:
Director of Financial Aid,
Tel: (780) 474-1468
financialaid@concordiasem.ab.ca



FAREWELL

Professor Jonathan Kraemer, who has served CLS for the past decade (since 2006) has announced the acceptance of a Divine Call to serve All Saints Lutheran in Edmonton, beginning over the summer of 2016. *We thank God* for his ministry and service here as faculty member, in Old Testament and serving as Dean of Students and Director of Financial Aid. We wish him Godspeed on his next chapter of service to our Resurrected Lord.

Financial News – Thank You's

We depend upon you, faithful servants for Jesus' sake, in providing the nearly 50% of our budget in congregational and individual donations. *Thank you, dear donors!*

The November 2014 fire recovery is 99% complete. Our insurance covered over \$300,000 of the cleanup and recovery costs. This includes a repayment of roughly \$52,000 toward our out-of-pocket expenses at the time. Additional costs that we incurred have been offset by nearly \$24,000 in fire recovery support in Spring, 2015.

We hope that the remainder of the costs will be offset by healthy giving this Spring. *Thank you, our generous partners!*

CLS is thrilled to have the services of Rod Goldstone from OnCore Bookkeeping overseeing our financial picture.

We anticipate that, with healthy Spring donations in May and June, we can end the year with a balanced financial picture. *We thank God for you always in our prayers, through Jesus Christ our Lord!*

ATTENTION CHURCH SECRETARY/PASTOR

Are you receiving the correct number of CLS Newsletters? Please **contact Rhonda at admin@concordiasem.ab.ca** with the number of newsletters you would like to receive.



Honorary Award Recipient

FAITH IN LIFE – Mrs. Perpetua Alfazema

We are pleased to announce that the recipient of the Faith in Life award at the 2016 Sacred Convocation is Perpetua Alfazema.

Perpetua Alfazema was born in Mozambique but had to flee during the civil war to find refuge in Canada. In 1995, she and her husband returned to his home land Kapasseni, only to find the village in ruins. Also, when her husband Pastor Joseph Alfazema was ordained in 2006, they answered God's call to return to Mozambique to start six Lutheran churches and many social ministries. They were determined to help and started the Kapasseni project to revive the area. Perpetua studied to become a nurse and a social worker and started the Kuwangisana non-profit organization to help people living with HIV/AIDS, chronic diseases, work with orphans and vulnerable children, and to address poverty.

Perpetua is gifted with exceptional organizational and leadership skills, a social work background, nurse's aide training, community support training, and business administration training.

She is a very dedicated missionary, and the Executive Director of Kuwangisana Organization.

"When I received Dr. Gimbel's email and read that I have been chosen as the recipient of the "Faith in Life" award... I was shocked. I could not believe it! Then I started crying with joy and felt so encouraged. Indeed, this is good news not only for me, but for my family in Edmonton, our supporters, and the team here at Kuwangisana and various communities we serve. Even though they will not be there physically to witness me receive the award, I am sure they will be there spiritually and in prayers. Dr. Gimbel's message came in at a time when I, personally, had been feeling helpless, hopeless and desperate as we are facing many challenges here in Mozambique. We are experiencing food shortages and a drought. People are dying of hunger."

Thus, Concordia Lutheran Seminary is pleased to award Perpetua Alfazema with the Faith in Life award.

SEMINARY GUILD

Did you know that the Seminary Guild is a grass-roots corps of willing supporters across Canada who encourage, pray for, stand alongside of, and support our mission of forming servants for Jesus' sake? Direct support of the Seminary Guild makes you a *Friend of the Seminary*, and allows contributions of \$20 or more to support student scholarships, the food pantry for students and their families, books and vestment purchase, initial support for students beginning their seminary training, and transitional support for students as they begin vicarage. The Guild also sends students back out into the church to experience the Take Wing program. **Everyone is invited to attend Guild meetings.** There are only four meetings held during a school year – September, November, January and March. Our next meeting will be held on Sept. 26, at 11:30 am; chapel is at 10:45 am, and you are invited to join our seminary family for chapel, followed by our meeting. If you can join us, please bring a bag lunch, coffee will be available.

Will you become involved?

We ask for your prayers, as well as, whatever financial support you are able to give. Thank you and God bless.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING GREEK ONLINE DURING THE EVENING?

Dr. Chambers will be teaching a one-year Greek class starting in September, an ideal course for students preparing to enter the seminary, or anyone wanting to learn to read the New Testament in the original Greek. Meet with

your instructor and other students in weekly evening video conferences paired with online study materials.

Contact registrar@concordiasem.ab.ca for more details.

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.

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

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

Did You Know...

that Spring is the time to renew your annual commitment as a "Friend of the Seminary"?

Did You Know...

that you can make donations electronically through bank withdrawals on a regular basis saving postage and providing regular support?

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
- Guild (Friends of the Seminary): \$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.

