



Concordia Lutheran Seminary Guild

Devoted to Service through the use of Talents and Resources to
Support the Seminary and its Students, our Future Pastors

7040 Ada Blvd Edmonton, Alberta T5B 4E3 Ph#. 780-474-1468 CLSGuild@concordiasem.ab.ca

Newsletter 2012



2012 Seminary Student body: Steven Bartlett, Aaron Astley, Michael Montigue, Gary Braeuer, Roland Starke, Ryan Corsaut, Timothy Schneider, Keith Hoveland, Scott Gamble, Eric Moffett, Stephen Hoffman and Rod Parker(absent).

Take Wing

The Take Wing program gives congregations an opportunity to host a student for a weekend visit to their congregation. Each student is exposed to the life of a church community and ends up participating in a variety of tasks and events. Hosting congregations agree to the costs of caring for and accommodating the student while he visits their community. Every year Concordia Lutheran Seminary Guild sponsors students to participate in Take Wing. The guild covers the cost of transportation to and from the community and a small stipend for personal expenses.

This year two students participated, Roland Starke and Scott Gamble (pictured receiving their Take Wing pins from Guild president Patrick Moore). Here is what Roland and Scott thought of their experiences.

*Thank you for your support of the Take Wing program. It was truly a blessing to be

invited to participate in this program, and the experiences are something I will carry forward with me in my continued education and, God willing, my future service as a pastor. The chance to see a new and different context where the church is at work is always a great opportunity, and my time at the East Kootenay parish was no exception. The parish where I grew up was multi-point, so I was aware of some of the special challenges such an arrangement represents, but seeing the trials and blessings that a five-point parish encounters was a very eye-opening experience. I felt very blessed to be able to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in a setting quite different from the seminary. It was especially encouraging to meet personally some

of the people who have been praying for me during my time at Concordia, and thank them face to face. Again, thank you very much for making this possible. Roland Starke



*It was my pleasure to visit St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Medicine Hat, AB as part of this year's Take Wing program. I was fortunate enough to be able to carpool with my good friend, Dr. John Hooper of Concordia University College of Alberta, down to Medicine Hat, which made the 6 hour drive much more bearable. We pulled in late Friday night to my billets house, Darrell and Sandra Jesse. The Jesse's were fabulous hosts the whole weekend and we chatted till the wee hours getting to know one another the first night.

Saturday morning the long standing Men's Breakfast, which had been on hiatus, was reinstated for my visit, where I led a dozen men in a study of Law and Gospel in Psalm 32, and then we were fed a feast fit for kings, provided by the St. Paul's LWML. I spent Saturday afternoon immersed in board games and geocaching with the Klein family, and then returned to the Jesse's for another scrumptious meal with a table full of wonderful congregation members who needed no help in having a good time.

At that time, St. Paul's had been vacant for a year and a half so it was my privilege to both lead service and preach for them on Sunday morning. The congregation was very appreciative and it was a joy to share God's Word and Christ's salvation with them. On a whole the visit was excellent and well worth the long drive. Since the congregation was vacant it was a different experience than I was expecting: less of a snap shot of what a pastor does, and more of a snap shot of who a congregation is. Thank you so much to the Seminary Guild for providing such an invaluable weekend, and I hope that future Seminarians are blessed with as full an opportunity as I had. Scott Gamble



Seminary Wives

The wives of the 2011-2012 CLS Seminary Students enjoyed a relaxing and inspired weekend at their annual Retreat on the 4th & 5th of November, 2011. The over-night retreat was held again at the Star of the North Retreat Center in St. Albert, Alberta, and 6 women attended the event; Leah Astley, Linden Cooper, Michelle Gamble, Carole Hoveland, Tammy Parker and Kristen Schneider.

The gathering began on Friday evening, where the group welcomed two guest speakers, Rhonda Buck (wife of Rev. Rob Buck) and Claudia Edel (wife of Rev. Ken Edel). After beginning the evening with a devotion of prayer, song and Scripture led by 4th year Seminarian Tim Schneider, the 'Sem-Wives' and their guests enjoyed a lively evening of fellowship. Much laughter was shared through stories arising from answers to an 'ice-breaker Q&A sheet'; the group learned a great deal more about each other as a result!

On Saturday morning, Claudia Edel and Rhonda Buck each shared their personal life-experiences within their husbands' ministry. This provided the Sem-Wives with a wonderful opportunity to take away valuable lessons, advice and inspiration for their own future journey as a pastor's wife. Professor Jonathan Kraemer joined the group for the afternoon, and led very insightful Bible study which focused upon a woman's call, or vocation, as the wife of a pastor. The group enjoyed an interactive discussion about how the role of a Pastor's Wife is woven throughout their husband's ministry, and what form those roles may take within the parish. To close the retreat, Prof. Kraemer led the group in a short service of Prayer and song.

The Seminary Wives and their families are blessed in many ways each year through the efforts, support and prayers of the Concordia Lutheran Seminary Guild; many thanks to the Guild on their behalf!

Carole Hoveland, Seminary Wives Representative to Concordia Lutheran Seminary Guild

Blessed Busy-ness

Concordia Lutheran Seminary Guild has the pleasure of assisting the Seminary staff, faculty and students with many activities throughout the year. Hosting and providing refreshments at events like the President's Banquet, Sacred Convocation, BBQ for students, Love Life Conference, Quest and Timothy lectures. Supporting and providing for Take Wing, Seminary Wives Retreats, grocery gift cards and other special requests-like purchasing student resources, kitchen supplies and the like. Guild members are secret prayer partners, praying for students throughout the year and representatives of the Seminary in their own church body. Recently the Seminary Chapel floor was refurbished with funds supplied from the guild and plans are being made to replace some ceiling tiles as well as some repairs to the air conditioning system. Thanks be to God for providing Concordia Lutheran Seminary Guild with so many blessings!

WHAT YOU CAN DO:
PRAY! RECRUIT! BE A MEMBER! BE INFORMED! CONTRIBUTE!





What does the Seminary Guild mean for us?

*The support that we received from the Seminary Guild was amazing! It helped us get through Seminary as a newly wed couple and trying to live off a limited income. We appreciated and frequently used the food pantry at the seminary, as well as the extra vouchers for buying groceries. The Seminary Guild also hosted various events, such as a year end BBQ for families at the Seminary, which provided a time to connect and rejuvenate amidst a busy school schedule. Elizabeth was blessed to participate in the Seminary Wives retreat, which was also sponsored by the Seminary Guild. We are thankful for their prayers and support during our time at Seminary and how they continue to bless Seminarians and their families today.
Kevin and Elizabeth Platz Grace Lutheran Church, Port Alberni, BC

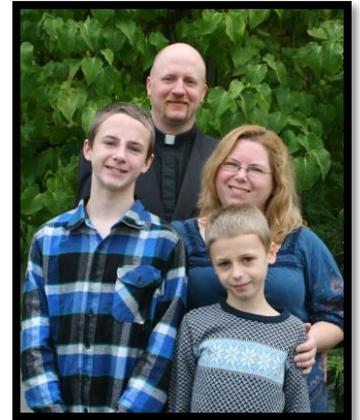
*The Seminary Guild has been a great support to all of the families and the guys at the seminary.

As being one of the Sem. Wives representatives I have had the privilege to have gone to a few of their meetings. Going to the meetings showed me how much they truly care for the men that are going through the seminary to become our future pastors.

The support that the Guild gives to the seminary, the men and their families is huge. They pray for us and send us encouraging cards at different times of the year. The Guild also helps with the food closet and at different times of the year they give gift cards to the men and their families to help with the different holidays. The Guild also give gifts like books for the men for their classes and every year they support the fiancés and wives by holding a retreat for the ladies.

The Guild helps with different areas of the seminary area as well, and their help is too numerous to mention but the seminary would not be where it is without it.

The Seminary, the men and their families are truly blessed to have the Guild. Todd, Kirsten, Lane and Alec Guggenmos



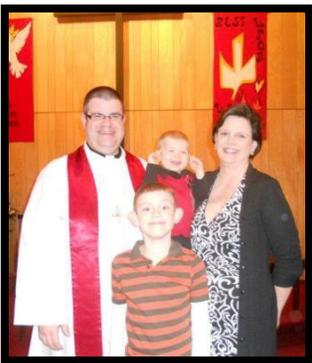
*During the four years that my husband attended the seminary, the guild was such a blessing to us. As my husband was a mature student I was one of the older women there. The women in the guild were so friendly and accepting that they made us feel welcome. Whenever we had a social I knew I could go up to any one of the women in the guild and have an easy friendly conversation.

In addition to this, the guild helped us financially. They promoted the pantry to the churches so that the members of the congregations could donate food to the pantry for the seminary students. The guild would let the congregations know if

there were specific items needed like diapers or baby food. There were a few times when the guild went grocery shopping for the seminary students and got us perishable items or gave us grocery gift cards so we could do our own shopping. Also each year the guild gave the students gifts of books for their courses or computer programs needed for their classes. They would also pay for the end of the year dinner for the seminary wives so we could celebrate the ones who were being placed or going on vicarage. During the year if the seminary wives wanted to do something special that might cost a little extra, the guild was always willing to help. They wanted our time at the seminary to be a special time.

I think the biggest thing the guild did for us was to pray. It was so comforting to know that this group of women were always praying for us and our families. They would pray for the students to do well in their studies and pray for their families as well. If you wanted them to pray for something specific you just had to let them know and they would. We went through

a tragedy while we were at the seminary and the guild lovingly supported us through that difficult time. They were there for us and they are always there. I knew that they were praying for us through that time. Every time there was something happening with the seminary whether it was a celebration, a time of grief, or just a time to get together, the guild was there, cheering us on, giving us a shoulder to cry on or helping us be strong. The women of the guild not only helped and supported us but also became our dear friends. Pastor Lorne, Rita, Seth and Jadon Reddemann



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Did you know?



Concordia Lutheran Seminary Guild meetings are held four times a year and are open to any member of the guild that wishes to attend. Meetings are held at Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton, Alberta. Upcoming meetings are scheduled for the following dates: September 24, 2012, November 26, 2012, January 21, 2013 and March 18, 2013. Meetings start at 1 pm lasting until approximately 3:30 pm which includes time for fellowship, coffee and a light snack. If you are in Edmonton on any of these dates and would like to attend, Welcome! the door is always open!



Concordia Lutheran Seminary has recently made changes to their accounting procedures. As a result, there has been a change in receipting procedures. Receipts will still be issued for donations received, but similar to most charitable organizations, the receipts will be issued only at year end. Please pass on this information to guild members in your congregation. Thank you for your assistance!

Has your Concordia Lutheran Seminary guild representative changed in your congregation? Does your representatives information need updating? Please send all your updates, no matter what they may be, to Concordia Lutheran Seminary Guild at CLSGuild@concordiasem.ab.ca or by contacting Concordia Lutheran Seminary at 780-474-1468. It is very important that our records be kept up to date, your assistance with this task is invaluable!

Are you the Concordia Lutheran Seminary Guild representative for your congregation? Would you like to represent Concordia Lutheran Seminary in your congregation by becoming a seminary guild representative? Do you have questions about what you can do? Do you know where to get your questions answered? Are there things you want to know about the Seminary or the guild but don't know who to ask? How can we help you? Concordia Lutheran Seminary Guild now has its own email address: CLSGuild@concordiasem.ab.ca. Send us your questions, concerns or just a note to chat and we will do our best!

The things that you do



LWML ladies of Redeemer Lutheran Church of Kelowna, B.C. recently hosted a dessert auction. The ladies worked many hours preparing desserts which were then auctioned off to support Concordia Lutheran Seminary Guild. A wonderful time was had by everyone in attendance and a total of \$1000 was raised to support the Seminary Food Pantry. Many thanks to everyone who participated!

If you have an event that you would like to share, please forward your information (and any pictures) to CLSGuild@concordiasem.ab.ca. We will do our best to share **The things that you do!**

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