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Paul Devantier

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CONCORDIA SEMINARY

SPRING/SUMMER 2010



Nurturing the nature of
Concordia Seminary

CONCORDIA SEMINARY

THE MAGAZINE OF CONCORDIA SEMINARY, ST. LOUIS

FEATURES

4 **Caring for God's groaning creation**

Non-Christians are often genuinely surprised to hear that Christians care about the well-being of creation. Young people within the church long to know that their church acknowledges and affirms their values of frugality, recycling, and general concern for the earth. The church can show this by the way it tells the Gospel story.

8 **Theological education has an international connection**

"Concordia Seminary has more opportunities than we can meet to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the insights of the Lutheran confessions around the world today." Five seasoned Concordia Seminary professors share their international visitation and teaching experiences, from Africa to Russia to China.

14 **Call Day 2010 insert**

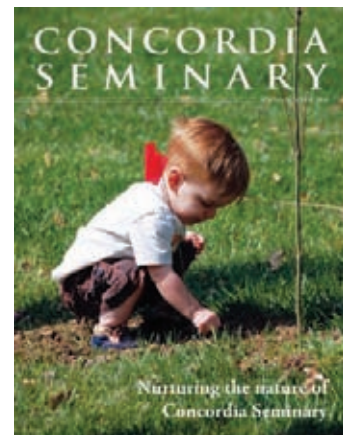
On April 27, calls to serve as pastors in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) were issued to 112 students at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. In addition, 88 students received assignments to serve as vicars. One student received a deaconess internship and four students received deaconess calls.

26 **2010-2011 Seminary Guild Project List**

For their 78th year, the Guild announces their 2010-2011 Project List, totaling an ambitious \$20,000 of projects to "cultivate a deeper interest in Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and to provide items for the campus and students which are not ordinarily furnished by the Seminary."

27 **A blessing times three**

David Ficken (2007 CSL graduate) and his wife, Kris, adopted three young children from Ethiopia through Christian World Adoption.



Cover Photograph

Samuel Tinetti, son of seminarian Ryan Tinetti, planting a tree on Earth Day at Concordia Seminary by Emily Boedecker

IN EVERY ISSUE

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|----|--------------------|
| 3 | From the President | 22 | Events |
| 8 | Faculty and Staff Notes | 24 | Student Spotlight |
| 10 | <i>How Will They Hear?</i> | 26 | Alumni and Friends |
| 12 | News Worth Noting | | |

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Executive Editor

Rev. Dr. Paul Devantier

Graphic Artist

Jayna Rollings

Assistant Editor

Emily Boedecker

Photographers

Emily Boedecker
Carl Dearnoff
Nathan Misch
Nancy Olson
Harold Rau

Proofreader

Nathan Misch

From the PRESIDENT

Poison Ivy loves me! Every year it stalks me and this year is no different. I'm writing with my forearms and legs red with rashes. My yearly rendezvous with Poison Ivy occurs on the north boundary of the Seminary's property. Part of that north border is called the "Alley" because of the concrete pavement leading to the remains of a garage, the place where professors like Walter A. Maier parked their Model A's or whatever they drove back then. The Alley and the whole north border of the Seminary has been overgrown for decades, a jungle of noxious honeysuckle, out-of-control euonymus, and my stalker, Poison Ivy. Each summer Diane and I clear out more and more of the Alley, trying to follow God's command: "Fill the earth and subdue it." (Gen. 1:28) The bad stuff rooted out, we plant flowers, vegetables, and bushes. Oh, I love the asparagus and rhubarb we planted!

Our greatest gardening delight is when neighborhood people happen upon the Alley. "Can we walk here?" they ask. "By all means," we answer. "We want you to feel welcome on the whole campus." Concordia Seminary is the largest green space in the city of Clayton and we want our neighbors to come, enjoy it, and—here's the point—get to know us and our mission. Diane and I have met scores of neighborhood people and each meeting gives us an opportunity to tell them about the Seminary and share our views.

What does that have to do with the formation of pastors? A lot! Young people are skeptical about the institutional church. Surveys show they think we're hypocritical, judgmental, and out of touch with reality, among other things. (*Unchristian* by David Kinnaman, p. 34) Dr. Charles Arand, our leading scholar on stewardship of God's creation, says that ecology is the one place where we can connect credibly with young people.

Poet Robert Creeley said: "I did however used to think, you know, in the woods walking, and as a kid playing in the woods, that there was a kind of immanence there—that woods, a place of order, had a sense, a kind of presence, that you could feel; that there was something peculiarly, physically present, a feeling of place almost conscious...like God." (*Robert Creeley and the Genius of the American Common Place* by Tom Clark, p. 40)

Mr. Creeley talked about God's immanence in nature. Our students learn that God's immanence, His presence with us, Immanuel, is especially in the Gospel and Sacraments of Sunday morning. In this anti-institutional era, a time when the church is not respected like it used to be, we have to show ourselves credible. Ringing the church bell isn't enough. Meet the people where they are but don't leave them there. Tell them the story of nature's God and creation's Redeemer. "Creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay." (Rom. 8:21) No Poison Ivy in heaven!



Dan A. Meyer



In the past, people outside the church often thought that conservative Christians were not much concerned about taking care of the environment. After all, Christians are on their way to heaven. So why should they worry about the earth? In addition, many Christians believe that the earth is going to be destroyed anyway. So there is one more reason for them not to worry about it.

Non-Christians are often genuinely surprised to hear that Christians do care about what they care about, namely, the well-being of creation. In addition, young people within the church long to know that their church acknowledges and affirms their values of frugality, recycling, and general concern for the well-being of creation. The church can show this by the way it tells the Gospel story.

Such an account begins by telling the Christian story in a way that speaks about God's concern for his entire creation. Martin Luther points the

way. In the Small Catechism we confess, "I believe that God has made me *together with all creatures...*" (italics added). Together we were made from the soil of the earth and together we were called "living creatures." (Gen. 2) Birds, fish, mammals, reptiles are all our fellow creatures.

When human beings sinned, the earth and all of God's creatures suffered together with us. The earth now became God's agent of judgment as well as his agent of blessing. But when God promised to renew all things he made a covenant that included the earth and all its creatures. (Gen. 9; Is. 11, 43; Hos. 2) God kept those promises in Jesus. By his death and resurrection he has reconciled all things to himself. (Col. 1:15)

The Holy Spirit made us new creatures by uniting us with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The entire creation now groans and sighs in longing anticipation for the children of God to be revealed in glory. (Rom. 8) For then it will be set free from its bondage to corruption. In the

Caring for God's groaning creation

by Dr. Charles P. Arand, professor of systematic theology

meantime, we have been set free to embrace our original commission (Gen. 1:28; 2:15) to care for God's creation even as we carry out the second great commission to proclaim a Gospel that brings the new creation into the world. (Matt. 28)

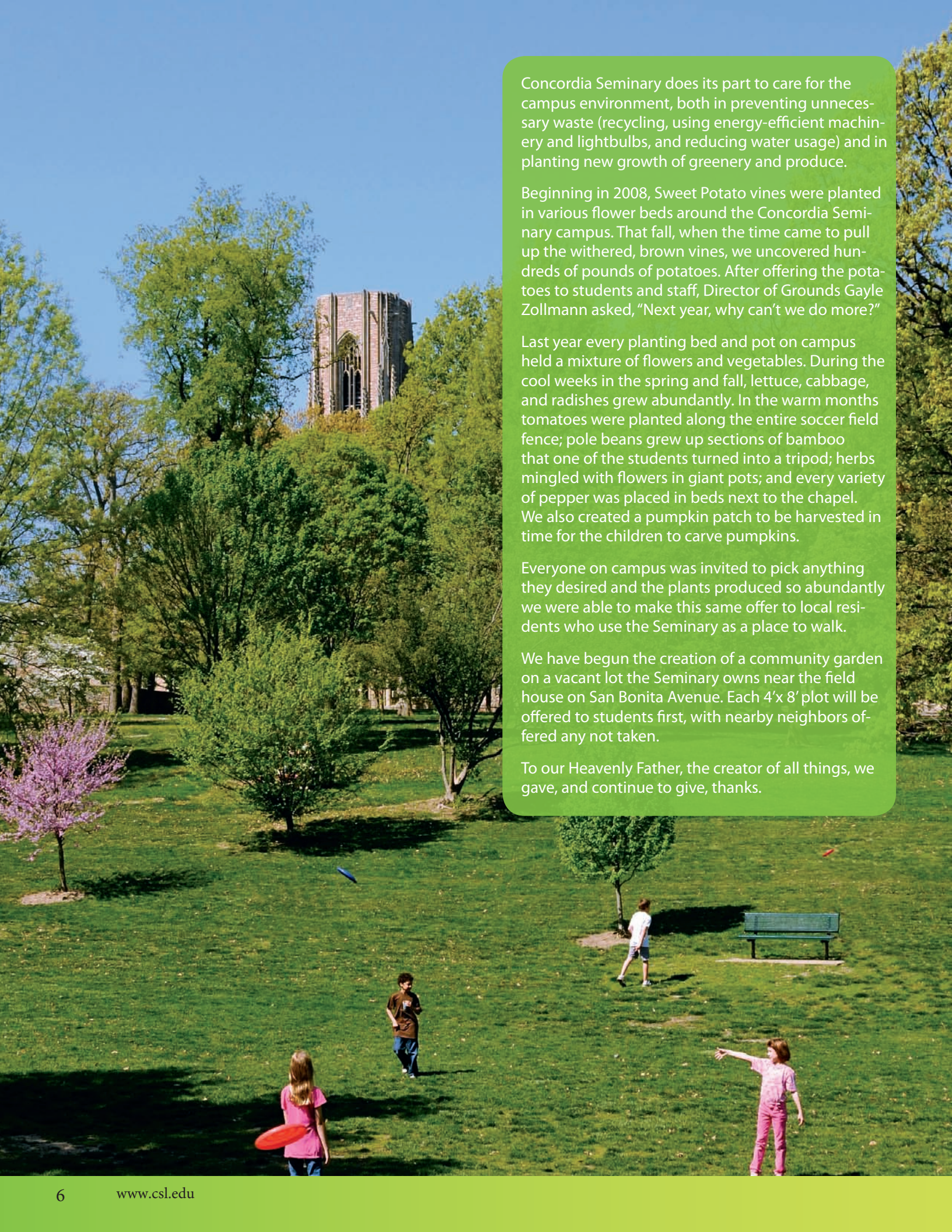
And so we care for a groaning creation. We care for this groaning creation as "insiders" rather than "outsiders." God did not give this task to angels. He gave it to creatures who themselves share a connection with all other creatures of the earth. In caring for the earth we enter into God's own creative work. As Christians, we undertake this task knowing that this creation will be made new even as our bodies will be made new in the resurrection.

In order to articulate and promote a deep Christian appreciation of life within creation, we are exploring the possibility of establishing an Institute for the Care and Renewal of Creation. The Commission on Theology and Church

Relations has provided a good foundation with its forthcoming document, "Together with All Creatures: Caring for God's Living Earth." An institute or center would continue that work by providing an opportunity to work with and draw upon the gifted faculties at our Concordia Universities in theology, science, literature, art, and ethics. It would work with congregations on how we can live out our creation theology within our communities.

Together as seminaries, universities, and congregations we could bring a vibrant theology of creation to expression in the life of the church as it touches on issues in our society related to the environment, ethics, politics, and economics. As one Lutheran pastor has put it, "Our faith should be at home with this earth, which after all is the realm of the new creation through Christ's work of redemption."¹

¹ Joel Kurz, *The Cresset* Easter I (2007): 59



Concordia Seminary does its part to care for the campus environment, both in preventing unnecessary waste (recycling, using energy-efficient machinery and lightbulbs, and reducing water usage) and in planting new growth of greenery and produce.

Beginning in 2008, Sweet Potato vines were planted in various flower beds around the Concordia Seminary campus. That fall, when the time came to pull up the withered, brown vines, we uncovered hundreds of pounds of potatoes. After offering the potatoes to students and staff, Director of Grounds Gayle Zollmann asked, "Next year, why can't we do more?"

Last year every planting bed and pot on campus held a mixture of flowers and vegetables. During the cool weeks in the spring and fall, lettuce, cabbage, and radishes grew abundantly. In the warm months tomatoes were planted along the entire soccer field fence; pole beans grew up sections of bamboo that one of the students turned into a tripod; herbs mingled with flowers in giant pots; and every variety of pepper was placed in beds next to the chapel. We also created a pumpkin patch to be harvested in time for the children to carve pumpkins.

Everyone on campus was invited to pick anything they desired and the plants produced so abundantly we were able to make this same offer to local residents who use the Seminary as a place to walk.

We have begun the creation of a community garden on a vacant lot the Seminary owns near the field house on San Bonita Avenue. Each 4'x 8' plot will be offered to students first, with nearby neighbors offered any not taken.

To our Heavenly Father, the creator of all things, we gave, and continue to give, thanks.



CELEBRATING EARTH DAY

For the past few years, CSL has celebrated Earth Day by increasing campus awareness of recycling and promoting environmental conservation.



RECYCLING

A recent assessment of Seminary waste showed that 70 percent of trash can actually be recycled. We now encourage comingled recycling, which includes all paper products, glass, and plastic.



GARDENING

In addition to the vegetables planted in campus common areas, the Seminary started a community garden that students and area neighbors are welcome to harvest.



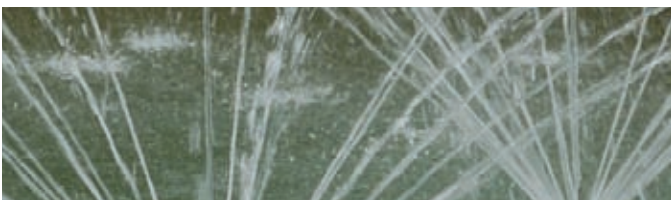
TREE PLANTING

The CSL community routinely plants new trees in the park on DeMun Ave., and along the tree line on Big Bend Ave. bordering the west side of campus.



COMPOSTING

Leaves and plant materials are regularly composted and reused as fertilizer for the next year's plantings.



SAVING WATER

We have cut back on fountain running time to save energy and the cost of water treatment chemicals.



CONSERVING ELECTRICITY

Nearly all incandescent lighting has been replaced with spiral CFL's, cutting energy consumption by about 75 percent in those locations. Also, maintenance has minimized operation times of building HVAC equipment when buildings are vacant.

Theological education has an international connection as Seminary faculty travel abroad

It has been said that the Seminary is a seedbed, a place to plant the Word and see it grow. Key to the process, and guided by the Holy Spirit, Concordia Seminary faculty plant the Word and nurture its growth for future pastors to serve in Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) congregations and institutions. Less known are their activities that nurture branches of the Church throughout the world. And, in the process, they also grow in their understanding of theology and service.

“Concordia Seminary has more opportunities than we can meet to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the insights of the Lutheran confessions around the world today,” remarked Dr. Robert Kolb, emeritus mission professor of systematic theology. “Our special combination of biblical scholarship, confessional commitment, and an openness to working in the 21st century world, which the Holy Spirit is setting before us, presents challenges we dare not pass by.”

Since 1994, Concordia Seminary has sent Kolb annually to teach overseas, working in conjunction with the area or regional directors of LCMS World Mission. In 2009, Kolb taught for six weeks at Kobe Lutheran Seminary, Kobe, Japan. He also conducted seminars on the Lutheran framework for theological thinking and Martin Luther, as well as lecturing and preaching in 25 congregations, pastors’ conferences, and missionary conferences. He spent a week in Estonia, conducting a seminar for pastors and laity with the Estonian Lutheran Center for Missions.

Another example of the Seminary’s influence is that Dr. Makito Masaki, president of Kobe Lutheran Seminary, is a 2008 graduate of the Concordia Seminary doctoral program.

“Among partner churches and others, we are always welcome because we bring the message of new life in Christ with clarity and scholarly backing into dialog with local people and their needs,” Kolb commented. This year, he will teach in India in July, Estonia in August, and Sweden in November.

Between February and March, Dr. Robert Rosin, professor of historical theology, was in Saldus, Latvia and Bratislava, Slovakia. The travel was what he calls “the other half of my job,” an arrangement between the Seminary and LCMS World Mission. He teaches in fall and spring at the Seminary and serves as Coordinator for Theological Education in Eurasia for LCMS World Mission during winter and summer.

Whether in St. Louis or in Eurasia, he is teaching. He taught at St. Gregory’s School in Latvia, and attended a team planning meeting in Slovakia. (Due to effects of the Icelandic volcanic eruption on air travel, he had to cancel an April trip to Oberusel, Germany, where he was to participate in a Lutheran-Roman Catholic dialog on behalf of the International Lutheran Conference.)

“One sees a different side of church in very different circumstances with different challenges and opportunities,” Rosin said. “And one hopes those there see the same and view the LCMS as a positive voice of the evangelical theology of Lutheranism.” This year, he will teach in England, Latvia, Siberia, and Poland.

Dr. Henry Rowold, emeritus mission professor of practical theology, spent nearly four weeks in late February and early March



Dr. Robert Rosin (third from the left) at a retreat/planning meeting for career and volunteer missionaries from Central Europe in Bratislava.



While visiting the Centre Luthérienne d'Études Théologiques (Lutheran Center for Theological Studies) in Dapaong, Togo, West Africa, Dr. William Schumacher (right) presents recent books by members of the CSL faculty to Rev. Dr. Emile Dongo, director.

Theological Studies Center in Dapaong, the group catalogued the entire seminary library. “CSL students who visit Africa for the first time have their worlds opened up in significant ways and they grow in appreciation of being part of a global church,” Schumacher observed. “Our partners in Togo received us graciously and appreciated the encouragement of the fraternal connection.”

in Hong Kong, where he facilitated progress on a project to translate some works of Luther into Chinese. A former missionary to Hong Kong and Taiwan, Rowold also used that time to nurture long-time relationships.

“Luther is a figure who transcends cultures and still proclaims the Gospel with clarity, even in what some might consider as unlikely a place as the People’s Republic of China,” he added.

For the past 10 years, Dr. William Schumacher, mission associate professor of historical theology, has conducted ongoing study and consulting in African Lutheran seminary education. He spent a 2006–2007 sabbatical in Kenya, Tanzania, Nigeria, Ghana, Togo, Cameroon, and South Africa, visiting Lutheran theological education programs to gather information about their staff, students, curriculum, needs, and future goals.

“My ongoing connection with the worldwide church, especially churches in Africa, shapes my whole approach to my teaching here in St. Louis,” Schumacher said. “Our American students need to realize they are connected to Lutheran Christians around the world.” As dean of theological research and publication, he also keeps an eye on African partners as he works with the faculty’s publications. The Seminary has entered into an agreement with LCMS World Mission to divide Schumacher’s time between St. Louis and seminaries in Africa. With that arrangement he will travel to South Africa, and possibility Ethiopia, this August.

In March 2009, Schumacher took a small group of CSL students to Togo as part of their cross-cultural requirements. During their visit to the Lutheran

During a March trip to Panama, Dr. Leopoldo Sánchez brought greetings from the Seminary to the president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Panama and exchanged thoughts on the challenges and promises of becoming a strong national church. Sánchez, who was born in Panama, is assistant professor of systematic theology and director of the Center for Hispanic Studies. He observes that the national churches appreciate the contributions of U. S. missionaries, but are also conscious that their future requires approaches to mission and ministry that apply to a culture only their national pastors and leaders know deeply. “More and more original Lutheran theology is coming out of Spanish-speaking lands and this is really good news for the Lutheran Church in the global South and even the very existence of Lutheranism into the future,” he said.

Sánchez believes exchanges among Lutherans around the world create conditions for the global Lutheranism of the future. It is a future, he adds, where leadership, scholarship, and missions in the Lutheran Church will come not only from the North, but mostly from the global South. “Concordia Seminary has an important role in fostering these exchanges,” he said.

Last year, the Center for Hispanic Studies partnered with LCMS World Mission and LCMS World Relief and Human Care to send instructors to Panama. Besides its focus on forming U. S. Hispanics for ministry, the Center has supported theological educational initiatives in countries such as Argentina, Chile, Cuba, and Venezuela. “The people of Panama and other places have come to know, appreciate, and celebrate the contributions of Concordia Seminary through the Center,” Sánchez added.

Calling all congregations!

Through the *How Will They Hear?* Campaign, your congregation, or groups from your congregation, can help provide future pastors, deaconesses, missionaries, and other church leaders so others may hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Some congregations have already begun this important endeavor by including Concordia Seminary in their budgets.

One congregation, Marco Lutheran Church in Marco Island, Fla., has utilized their church's financial resources to help students through the Adopt-A-Student program for the past several years.

When asked why the congregation became interested and supportive of the Adopt-A-Student program, one member responded, "All of our pastors have come from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Each has had a warm personality coupled with positive preaching and support. We like what CSL produces. There is no substitute for good preaching, personality, warmth, and a friendly manner to reach out with the Good News of Jesus Christ."

Pastor Kevin Koenig is a wonderful example of God-given abilities coupled with strong theological training. Under his leadership, the congregation continues to reach out to the Marco Island community through special cultural events, festivals, music cantatas, family ministry, and a missions program for Guatemala. These efforts, coupled with pure preaching, wonderful worship services, and great fellowship, allow Marco Lutheran to remain strong and vibrant for the future.

The former pastor of Marco Lutheran, the retired Rev. Ron Biel, often spoke to the congregation about the need to support seminarians, noting the high cost of education often discourages potentially good students from becoming pastors. At his urging, an endowment was formed when the congregation received a sizable bequest from a member. The endowment now funds



Pastor Kevin Koenig, left, and Jim McNaughton (chairman of Marco Lutheran Foundation) accept a Pils print of the Seminary from Dr. Dale Meyer.

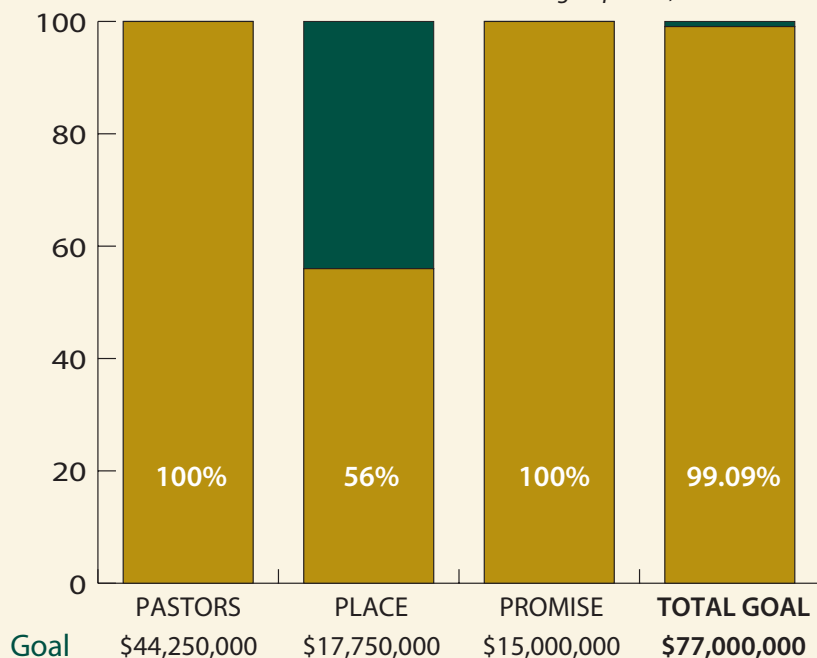
several mission projects, including gifts to Concordia Seminary to help prepare future pastors.

Individual members have also been encouraged to support the work of the Seminary in their estate plans to ensure the efforts can continue long after they return to the Church Triumphant.

For additional information on how you or your congregation can help, please call Seminary Advancement at 1-800-822-5287.

How Will They Hear? Campaign Update

Gifts and Commitments Received through April 30, 2010



Concordia Seminary's five-year *How Will They Hear?* Campaign will end on June 30, 2010. If you would like to support this effort, please send your donations by the end of the month in order for them to count toward the \$77 million goal. Thank you for your stewardship!



Their Adopt-A-Student is now their pastor

Jeff Ries is the pastor of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tacoma, Wash. This is the congregation where Jerry and Ginny Stone, Pastor Ries' Adopt-A-Student sponsors when he was a seminarian, have been members for 20 years.

This is a wonderful example of how the Holy Spirit works to extend the Kingdom of God and encourage and give joy to His people. This compelling story also demonstrates the blessings of the Adopt-A-Student program for both seminarians and donors alike.

Jerry and Ginny Stone became interested in Adopt-A-Student almost 10 years ago. "My mom's most cherished dream was to have a pastor in the family," Ginny explained, "but unfortunately she lost my two brothers at birth and I am her only living child. She was not able to have any more children. Jerry and I wanted to honor her memory so, we joined the Adopt-A-Student program."

The Seminary selects a seminarian for each Adopt-A-Student sponsor. Seminarians and sponsors pray for one another and sponsors provide financial support essential to the students' preparations for the Holy Ministry.

Often sponsors and students stay in touch long after graduation. The very first student Jerry and Ginny "adopted" is now a pastor in Michigan. Recently the Stones received an e-mail with an attached photo from him announcing the birth of his third son.

Jeff Ries became Jerry and Ginny's second adopted student when he began his preparation for the Holy Ministry at Concordia Seminary in 2002. Although they did not know one another, Jeff, Jerry, and Ginny began to enjoy one of the greatest blessings of the Adopt-A-Student program: corresponding with one another. The Stones learned that Jeff and his wife, Rhonda, were also from the Pacific Northwest. Once, when Jeff and Rhonda were home for Christmas vacation, they had dinner with the Stones.

Upon graduation, Pastor Ries was ordained at his home church in Oregon. The Stones were invited to attend. "It was a most memorable day, to be able to attend the ordination of one of our students."

Several years later, while Pastor Ries was serving as a pastor in Missouri, he was placed on Zion-Tacoma's call list.



At his installation at Zion in Tacoma, Pastor Jeff Ries is congratulated by Jerry and Ginny Stone.

In summer 2009 the Holy Spirit guided the congregation to call Pastor Ries. He accepted and was installed as Zion's pastor on Sept. 13, 2009.

Reflecting on their great experiences with the Adopt-A-Student program, Ginny said, "What we enjoy most about the Adopt-A-Student program is getting to really know these young men personally. Words cannot express how rewarding it is to be in the Adopt-A-Student program."

For more information about Adopt-A-Student, call 1-800-822-5287.

Adopt-A-Student blesses seven future pastors

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Hermann, Mo., was blessed by a generous gift from a nonmember who often worshipped there. In turn, the congregation has used part of that gift to bless seven future pastors through Concordia Seminary's Adopt-A-Student program.

Pictured are the congregation's pastor, Rev. David Rawlings; Liz Schroeder, director of music at Shepherd of the Hills; and the seminarians. Concordia Seminary celebrated this gift during chapel services on Friday, April 9.



Front row, from left: Liz Schroeder, David Vanderhyde, Micah Miller, Rev. David Rawlings, Rev. Wally Becker; back row, Robert Nahmensen, Eric Ekong, Chad Starfeldt, Tristan Engle, and David Graves.

Loum wins “Cutting Edge” award

Rev. John Loum, director of the Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology (EIIT) on the campus of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, recently received the “Cutting Edge” award from the Lutheran Society for Missiology (LSFM).

“As St. Paul was truly a missionary of his day,” Loum commented, “this award has given me real zeal and momentum for mission work and the spread of the Gospel among all nations and peoples just like St. Paul did.”

The Lutheran Society for Missiology is a society of Lutherans who are interested in the Apostolic mission of God in today’s world. The Society began in 1991 out of a concern to promote biblical attitudes for missions and currently boasts over 5,000 members worldwide.

The Society provides a forum for missiological research and critical reflection from a Lutheran perspective; publishes books and articles, especially case studies, which treat issues related to the study and practice of mission work; serves as a portal for accessing information from other Lutheran, and also evangelical, mission societies; and promotes cutting-edge approaches to mission efforts through publications, recognition, and awards.

Rev. John Loum poses with his “Cutting Edge” award given by the Lutheran Society for Missiology in May 2010.



Seminary golf team makes progress

The fledgling Preachers golf team, reconstituted last year after decades of inactivity, played well this spring after a nice showing several months earlier. The Seminary linksmen have a short fall schedule plus a longer spring season, and there is no doubt that

competition is paying off. Ben Delin, this year’s #1, often shot near par, as did #2, Ron Millard. Seminarians Jason Swan, Ben Johnson, Justin Smith, Bart Rall, graduate student Joel Oesch, and vicar Erich Kaelberer rounded out the squad, with all posting consistently better scores than the 2008-2009 team.

The Preachers had two dual competitions, losing both but giving Logan College a close match, and five men participated in the Maryville Invitational, an 11-team tournament, for the second straight year. “Our guys really work to improve,” said Coach James Voelz, professor of exegetical theology. “Some even share my passion for overanalyzing the golf swing!” Coach Voelz is regularly assisted by his son, Jonathan, who is a golf professional. The Preachers’ home course is in Forest Park, a mere five minutes from campus.

Joel Oesch, a graduate student at Concordia Seminary, lines up his putt.



Second-year seminarian, Benjamin Johnson, talks with Coach Voelz at a spring invitational meet.

The American Mind Meets the Mind of Christ features 10 faculty authors

"An important and valuable mission text for our time...a serious attempt to bridge the gap between the church and the postmodern age. I did not agree with everything, but I did pay attention to everything—and the essays made me think." Robert Scudieri, retired director of North American Missions, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

A collaborative effort between the departments of theological research and publication, communications, and 10 faculty members created the new book from Concordia Seminary Press, *The American Mind Meets the Mind of Christ*, edited by Robert Kolb. The book features nine essays by Joel Biermann, Tony Cook, Reed Lessing, David Lewis, Dale Meyer, Joel Okamoto, Paul Robinson, Leopoldo Sánchez, and David Schmitt.

The description reads as follows: "Whether it is an altar to an unknown god or the New Atheists, Christians have always faced the challenge of translating the Gospel message within the surrounding culture. This is no less true for the tangled web that is 21st century America. Edited by global scholar Robert Kolb, these essays engage numerous facets of American culture—from politics to science, the movies to new media—to find the interconnections between the 'American mind' and the mind of Christ."

Perfect for summer reading or small book discussion, the book costs \$14.99 and is available for purchase at the Concordia Seminary bookstore and by contacting theological research and publication at 314-505-7117.



Rusnak wins annual hymn competition

Fourth-year seminarian Jonathan Rusnak won the 2010 Pamela Anne Prevallet Memorial Fund Annual Hymn Competition with this original hymn text, set to the tune



Jonathan Rusnak

of "Lord of Our Life" in the *Lutheran Service Book* #659. Rusnak graduated with his M.Div. in winter 2010 and has since started his advanced studies in the S.T.M. program. The annual hymn competition is open to students of Concordia Seminary who are serving their vicarage as part of their preparation to serve in the pastoral ministry.

Rusnak discovered strength and confidence in Psalm 31 during his vicarage. He explained, "At any time of uncertainty in life, the language of

Rock, Refuge, and Fortress is helpful in conveying the faithfulness and steadfast love of our God." In his experience, the message in this hymn resonated well, especially with those in the hospital.

The competition began in June 2000 by Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Prevallet in remembrance of their daughter, and serves to foster the creation of new liturgical hymns for the church. The Pamela Anne Prevallet Memorial Fund at Concordia Seminary holds the copyright to the texts of the winning hymns. The use of these hymns in congregations is encouraged. For more information, contact Dr. Kent Bureson, dean of the Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus, at 314-505-7569 or e-mail buresonk@csl.edu.

In You, O Lord

Text: by Jonathan Rusnak (paraphrase of Psalm 31)
Tune: Iste Confessor (LSB 659)

In You, O Lord, my Refuge and my Fortress,
I put my hope and trust You to deliver me.
Hear when I pray to You.
Be a Rock of Refuge,
Strong to save me.

Lord, I am weak and carry many burdens.
Life is but gone and I am sick with sadness.
Though I am sinful,
You are always faithful.
I trust in You, O Lord.

Into Your hand, Lord, I commit my spirit.
My days You hold; my life is in Your keeping.
Look on Your servant.
Let Your face shine on me,
O Lord of steadfast love.

Blessed be God, the Lord of all creation.
He has redeemed me in His Son, Christ Jesus.
He will preserve me.
Let my heart take courage,
As I wait for the Lord.

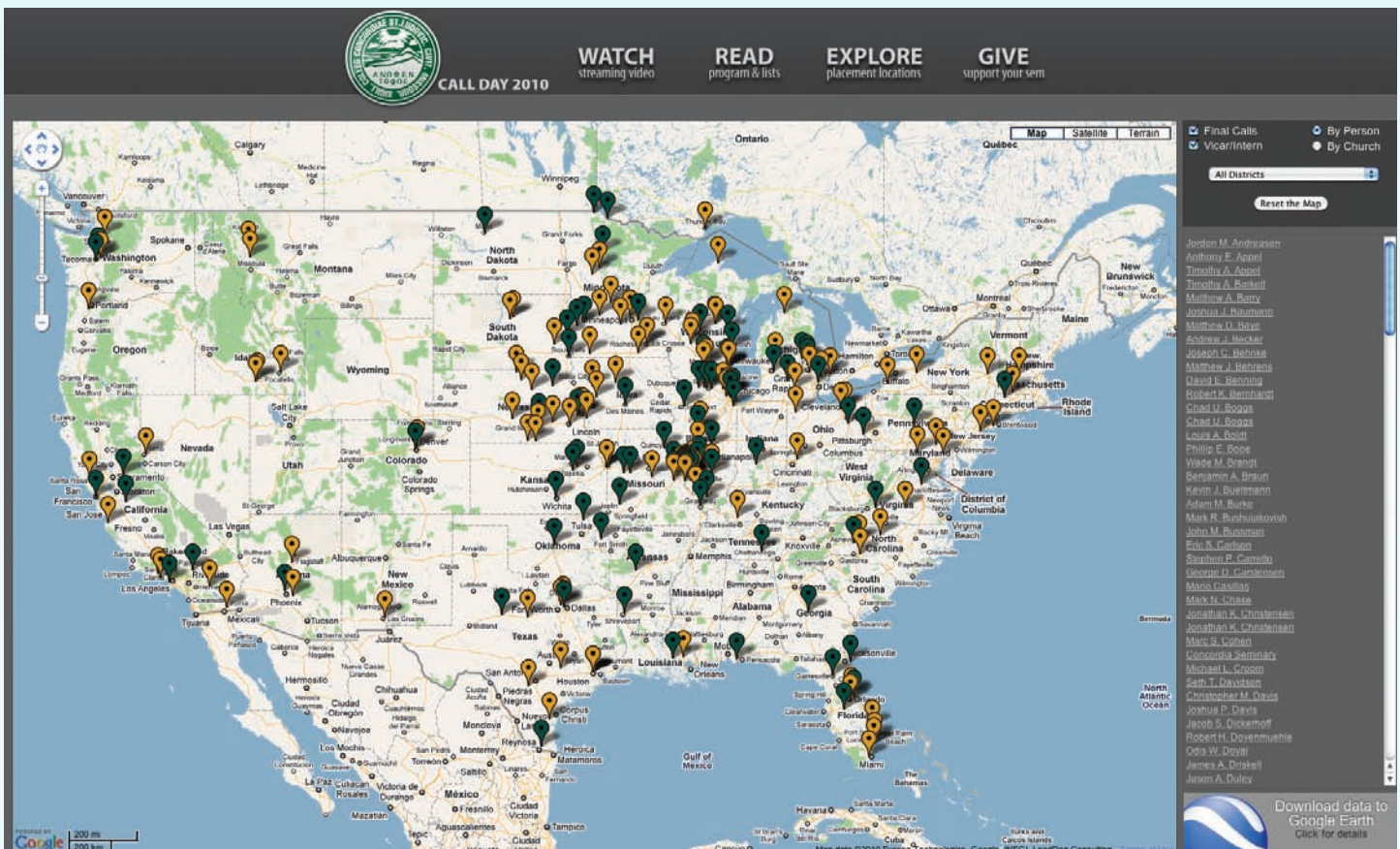
CALL DAY 2010

On April 27, Concordia Seminary introduced new interactive features of its website designed specifically to highlight Call Day. On the site, viewers could watch streaming video of both the vicarage and call services, read and print the service folders, and view maps that pinpoint where each student has been called or assigned through the use of

interactive mapping technologies. Each pinpoint included the student's photo and the church's information. To access the site, look for the "Call Day 2010" icon on Concordia Seminary's website at www.csl.edu (the link is still available).

"This is a great opportunity to use some of the new technology that has been

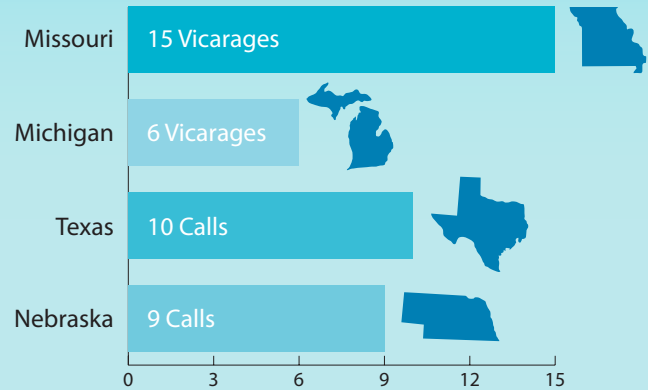
deployed here at the Seminary," stated John Klinger, chief information officer. "Providing this service and resource is another way that we are trying to bridge the gap so that someone can watch and listen to their son, brother, father, or friend's first assignment or call and then see where they will be going to proclaim the Gospel."



On the day that the Seminary community looks forward to all year (especially second- and fourth-year students), Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, celebrated 200 calls and vicarage assignments with family and friends filling every pew and chair in the Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus. Dr. David Bueltmann, Central Illinois District president (and father of alternate route vicar, Kevin Bueltmann) preached at the vicarage service, and Dr. Glen Thomas, executive director of the Board for Pastoral Education, preached at the call service.

- 112 TOTAL CALLS**
- 85 M.Div. Calls
- 11 CHS Calls
- 13 DELTO Calls
- 3 EIIT Calls
- 4 Deaconess Calls
- 8 Calls Pending
- 5 Deaconess Calls Pending
- 89 TOTAL VICARAGES/ INTERNSHIP**
- 88 M.Div. Vicarage Assignments
- 1 Deaconess Internship

DISTRICTS WITH THE GREATEST NUMBER OF CALLS AND VICARAGE ASSIGNMENTS



CALLS INTO THE PASTORAL MINISTRY

ATLANTIC DISTRICT

- † **Carstensen, George**, Zion, Schenectady, New York
- † **Vetrano, Justin** (DELTO), Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Garden City, New York

BOARD FOR MISSION SERVICES

- † **Klawitter, Brandt**, Board for Mission Services (MAF), Saint Louis, Missouri
- † **Trump, Shauen**, Board for Mission Services, Saint Louis, Missouri

CALIFORNIA-NEVADA-HAWAII DISTRICT

- † **Felcher, Lonnie**, Vineyard of Faith Lutheran Ministries, Windsor, California
- † **Oetting, Jonathan**, Our Savior, Sparks, Nevada
- † **Tinetti, Ryan**, Faith, Seaside, California

CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT

- † **Hoehler, David**, Saint Paul Evangelical, Shobonier, Illinois
- † **Hoffman, Zachary**, Saint Peter's Evangelical, East Peoria, Illinois
- † **Jensen, William**, Board of Directors, Central Illinois District, Springfield, Illinois

EASTERN DISTRICT

- † **Novack, William** (DELTO), Saint Paul Evangelical, Fredonia, New York
- † **Podeszwa, Michael**, Prince of Peace, Freedom, Pennsylvania
- † **Zuber, Clayton** (DELTO), Epiphany, East Avon, New York

ENGLISH DISTRICT

- † **Appel, Anthony**, Ascension, North Olmsted, Ohio
- † **Uglum, James**, Chapel of the Cross, Saint Peters, Missouri

FLORIDA-GEORGIA DISTRICT

- † **Carretto, Stephen**, Saint Paul, Boca Raton, Florida
- † **Díaz, Luis** (CHS), Our Savior Evangelical, Lake Worth, Florida
- † **Gauthier, Brian**, Redeemer, Stuart, Florida
- † **Sanabria, Miguel** (CHS), Florida-Georgia District, Orlando, Florida
- † **Vázquez, Andrew** (CHS), Saint Paul, Miami, Florida

IOWA WEST DISTRICT

- † **Fritz, Ross**, Trinity, Manilla, Iowa
- † **Kaiser, Seth**, Trinity, Glenwood, Iowa
- † **Peck, Adam**, Saint Paul, Ida Grove, Iowa
- † **Peitsch, Nathan**, Saint Paul Evangelical, Fort Dodge, Iowa



Michael Nielsen shares his call information to Saint James and Saint Paul's Lutheran Churches in Necedah and New Miner, Wisconsin, with Dr. Meyer.



Seminarians (from left) Stephen Carretto, Aaron Gehrke, Dwain Thomsen, and Matthew Baye gather outside the chapel before the call service.

KANSAS DISTRICT

- † **Eberlein, Scott**, Trinity (East and West campuses), Mission/Shawnee, Kansas
- † **Kammrath, Luke**, Trinity (East and West campuses), Mission/Shawnee, Kansas
- † **Kleimola, Ryan**, Trinity (East and West campuses), Mission/Shawnee, Kansas

LUTHERAN CHURCH—CANADA

- † **Lee, Brian**, Calvary, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada

MICHIGAN DISTRICT

- † **Baye, Matthew**, Saint Peter, Macomb, Michigan
- † **Elliott, Peter**, Christ, Boyne City, Michigan
- † **Frentz, Steven**, Bethel, Howard City, Michigan
- † **Hanson, Michael**, Trinity, Jackson, Michigan



Nathan Hausch, left, and Mark Chase were both called to the Pacific Southwest District.

- † **Kruse, Paul** (DELTO), Immanuel Evangelical, Saint Clair, Michigan
- † **Northend, William**, Faith, Grand Blanc, Michigan

MID-SOUTH DISTRICT

- † **Croom, Michael**, Faith, Hopkinsville, Kentucky

MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT

- † **Booe, Phillip**, Saint John's, Perham, Minnesota
- † **Cohen, Marc**, SonRise, Avon, Minnesota
- † **Enterline, Gregory**, Redeemer, Willmar, Minnesota
- † **Heinecke, Timothy**, Saint John's Evangelical, Park Rapids, Minnesota

MINNESOTA SOUTH DISTRICT

- † **Behnke, Joseph**, Saint Matthew, Worthington, Minnesota
- † **Grannis, Michael**, Saint John's, Norwood Young America, Minnesota
- † **Haak, Joel**, Trinity, Rochester, Minnesota
- † **Krueger, Brian**, Holy Cross, Austin, Minnesota
- † **McMurry, Todd**, Grace, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota

MISSOURI DISTRICT

- † **Becker, Andrew**, Saint John's, Arnold, Missouri
- † **Hayter, Mathew**, Saint Paul, Union, Missouri
- † **Powell, Samuel**, Trinity, Jefferson City, Missouri

MONTANA DISTRICT

- † **Whaley, Kyle**, Mount Calvary/Zion, Polson/Saint Ignatius, Montana

NEBRASKA DISTRICT

- † **Boggs, Chad**, Zion/Grace, Red Cloud/Franklin, Nebraska
- † **Davis, Joshua**, Faith, Hastings, Nebraska
- † **Félix, Obdulio** (CHS), Iglesia Luterana Jesus Es el Señor, Omaha, Nebraska
- † **Makelin, Terry**, Saint Paul, Chambers, Nebraska
- † **Marwang, Riek** (EIT), King of Kings, Omaha, Nebraska
- † **McCall, George (Timothy)**, Emmanuel, York, Nebraska
- † **Rasmussen, Victor** (DELTO), First, Lexington, Nebraska
- † **Riang, James** (EIT), Christ, Lincoln, Nebraska

- † **Serr, William** (DELTO), Grace/Immanuel, Burton/Jamison, Nebraska

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

- † **Hartman, Jay** (DELTO), Christ, Troy, New Hampshire
- † **Sahlberg, Eric**, New England District, Springfield, Massachusetts

NEW JERSEY DISTRICT

- † **Sadlo, Chris** (DELTO), Our Redeemer Evangelical, Fords, New Jersey

NORTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT

- † **Eyer, John**, Saint Paul/Zion, Shawano/Gresham, Wisconsin
- † **Gehrke, Aaron**, Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical, Houghton, Michigan
- † **Kohn, Daniel** (DELTO), Bethlehem, Altoona, Wisconsin

NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT

- † **Graham, Bo**, Our Savior Evangelical, Carol Stream, Illinois
- † **Matz, Brett**, Lutheran Church of Saint Luke, Itasca, Illinois
- † **Neider, Erik**, Immanuel, Crystal Lake, Illinois
- † **Peterson, Matthew**, Saint Peter, Schaumburg, Illinois

NORTHWEST DISTRICT

- † **Edwards, Michael**, Zion, Auburn, Washington



Called to Fairbanks, Alaska, Jonathan and Nicci Walla pose for a photo with their family.

- † **Kyes, James** (DELTO), Chapel on the Hill, Granite Falls, Washington
- † **Pike, Joel**, Trinity/Zion, Rupert/Burley, Idaho
- † **Richard, Donald**, Saint Paul, Sherwood, Oregon
- † **Steckel, Michael**, Faith, Juneau, Alaska
- † **Suelzle, Michael**, Grace, Pocatello, Idaho
- † **Walla, Jonathan**, Zion, Fairbanks, Alaska

OHIO DISTRICT

- † **Kaiser, Benjamin**, King of Kings, Mason, Ohio
- † **Schmidt, Joshua**, Saint John, Defiance, Ohio
- † **Shrum, Stephen**, Saint Mark Evangelical, Cleveland, Ohio

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

- † **Barkett, Timothy**, Christ the King, Newbury Park, California
- † **Chase, Mark**, Christ's Greenfield, Gilbert, Arizona
- † **Hausch, Nathan**, Rock of Ages, Sedona, Arizona
- † **Meyer, Joel W.**, Saint Paul's, Holtville, California
- † **Ruiz, Francisco** (CHS), Light of Life (Iglesia Luz de Vida), Indio, California
- † **Velasco, Marcelino** (CHS), Centro Cristiano Emanuel, Santa Paula, California

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

- † **Lozano, Mariano** (CHS), Mission, Las Cruces, New Mexico
- † **Timm, Gary**, Gethsemane, Northglenn, Colorado

SELC DISTRICT

- † **Zehnder, Zachary**, Holy Cross, Lake Mary, Florida

SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT

- † **Pater, Paul**, Saint John's, Howard, South Dakota
- † **Tews, Daniel**, Emmanuel/Christ, Gettysburg/Lebanon, South Dakota

SOUTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT

- † **Benning, David**, Immanuel, Brookfield, Wisconsin
- † **Krystowiak, Dustin**, Immanuel, Madison, Wisconsin

- † **Nielsen, Michael**, Saint James/Saint Paul's, Necedah/New Miner, Wisconsin
- † **Vera, Steven**, Bethlehem, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT

- † **Dovenmuehle, Robert**, Holy Trinity Evangelical, Statesville, North Carolina
- † **Driskell, James**, First Saint John's Evangelical, York, Pennsylvania
- † **Gretarsson, Emil**, Concordia, Hagerstown, Maryland
- † **Martin, Brian** (DELTO), Saint John's, Farmville, Virginia
- † **Mietzner, Kyle**, Grace, Greensboro, North Carolina
- † **Sedney, Blaise** (DELTO), Saint Matthew, Bel Air, Maryland
- † **Xiong, Danny** (EILT), Ascension, Charlotte, North Carolina

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

- † **Boldt, Louis**, Saint Paul, Hammond, Louisiana

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT

- † **Ill, Peter**, Saint John, Chester, Illinois
- † **Stratmann, David**, Emmaus, Dorsey, Illinois

TEXAS DISTRICT

- † **Appel, Timothy**, Grace, Smithville, Texas
- † **Casillas, Mario** (CHS), Lutheran Inter-City Network Coalition, Houston, Texas
- † **Doyal, Odis Jr.** (DELTO), Divine Savior, Devine, Texas
- † **Fernández, Rodrigo** (CHS), Lutheran Inter-City Network Coalition, Houston, Texas
- † **Guerra, Lincon** (CHS), Lutheran Inter-City Network Coalition, Houston, Texas
- † **Jofré, Pedro** (CHS), Lutheran Inter-City Network Coalition, Houston, Texas
- † **Richardson, James Martin**, Crown of Life, Colleyville, Texas
- † **Stinnette, Eric**, Redeemer, Cisco, Texas
- † **Thomsen, Dwain**, Lamb of God, Flower Mound, Texas
- † **Ulmer, Matthew**, Saint Paul, Bishop, Texas

CALLS PENDING

- † **Geddie, Dave** (CCMC)
- † **Genter, John**
- † **Klawonn, Steven** (DELTO)
- † **Madson, Mark**
- † **Orozco, Enrique** (CHS)
- † **Schmidt, David** (CCMC)
- † **Takagi, Jun** (CCMC)
- † **Zittlow, Todd**

DEACONESS ASSIGNMENTS

MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT

- † **Lieske, Michele**, Saint Paul, Montevideo, Minnesota

SOUTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT

- † **Gibson, Dawn**, A Place of Refuge Ministries, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- † **Willman, Katie**, A Place of Refuge Ministries, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT

- † **Stancliff, Jane**, Blessed Savior, O'Fallon, Illinois

ASSIGNMENTS PENDING

- † **Brandt, Carla**
- † **Forseth, Ashley**
- † **Hirsch, Juliana**
- † **Monroe, Patricia** (DIT)
- † **Morales, Ligia** (CHS)



Ryan Tinetti, originally from the Michigan District, will move to California for his first call to Faith Lutheran Church in Seaside.

VICARAGE/INTERNSHIP ASSIGNMENTS 2010

VICARAGE ASSIGNMENTS

CALIFORNIA-NEVADA-HAWAII DISTRICT

- † **Hochgrebe, Ryan**, Light of the Hills, Cameron Park, California
- † **Ray, Donald**, Good Shepherd, Turlock, California

CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT

- † **Buelmann, Kevin**, Saint John, Green Valley, Illinois
- † **Edge, David**, Saint Paul, Decatur, Illinois
- † **Holdorf, Zachary**, Salem, Salem, Illinois
- † **Pay, Garen**, Saint John, East Moline, Illinois

EASTERN DISTRICT

- † **Urlaub, Bradley**, Good Shepherd, State College, Pennsylvania

ENGLISH DISTRICT

- † **Carlson, Eric**, Our Savior, Chicago, Illinois
- † **Harbaugh, Darren**, West Portal, San Francisco, California

FLORIDA-GEORGIA DISTRICT

- † **Eden, Timothy**, Saint Paul, Boca Raton, Florida

- † **Kollmann, Christopher**, First, Gainesville, Florida
- † **Misch, Stephen (Nathan)**, Mount Calvary, Warner Robins, Georgia
- † **Rasmussen, John**, Bethlehem, Jacksonville Beach, Florida
- † **Schultz, John**, Grace, Winter Haven, Florida

INDIANA DISTRICT

- † **Johnson, Andrew**, Faith, Bloomington, Indiana

IOWA WEST DISTRICT

- † **Kimball, Devin**, Trinity, Des Moines, Iowa

KANSAS DISTRICT

- † **Behrens, Matthew**, Ascension, Wichita, Kansas
- † **Fries, John**, Saint Paul/Saint John, Alta Vista/Alma, Kansas

MICHIGAN DISTRICT

- † **Bernhardt, Robert**, Saint Lorenz, Frankenmuth, Michigan
- † **Davidson, Seth**, Messiah, Clio, Michigan
- † **Hummel, Jacob**, Good Shepherd, Saginaw, Michigan
- † **Oetting, Timothy**, First, Charlotte, Michigan

- † **Strussenberg, David**, Saint Matthew, Grand Rapids, Michigan
- † **Sutton, August (Trevor)**, Saint Paul, Royal Oak, Michigan

MID-SOUTH DISTRICT

- † **Bussman, John**, Faith, Tullahoma, Tennessee
- † **Johnson, Benjamin**, Lake Pointe, Hot Springs, Arkansas

MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT

- † **Christensen, Jonathan**, Bethlehem/Bethlehem, Baudette/Warroad, Minnesota
- † **Synnott, Matthew**, Trinity Evangelical, Bemidji, Minnesota
- † **Yearyean, Timothy**, Nicolai/Zion, Canby/Boyd, Minnesota

MINNESOTA SOUTH DISTRICT

- † **Kasper, Robert (Gabe)**, Woodbury, Woodbury, Minnesota
- † **Whitmore, Justin**, Trinity, Rochester, Minnesota

MISSOURI DISTRICT

- † **Brandt, Wade**, Beautiful Savior, Bridgeton, Missouri
- † **Gehrke, Wesley**, Zion, Palmyra, Missouri
- † **Grenz, Greyson**, Our Savior, Sedalia, Missouri
- † **Griffith, Christopher**, Blessed Savior, Florissant, Missouri
- † **Hardaway, Matthew**, Immanuel, Saint Charles, Missouri
- † **Herberts, Dean**, Our Redeemer, Overland, Missouri
- † **LeClair, Edward**, Lutheran Senior Services, Webster Groves, Missouri
- † **Moquin, Eric**, Immanuel, Washington, Missouri
- † **Mueller, Jacob**, Immanuel, Lockwood, Missouri
- † **Onken, Adam**, Bethlehem, Warrensburg, Missouri
- † **Schroeder, Ryan**, Salem, Affton, Missouri
- † **Snoberger, Adam**, Trinity, Troy, Missouri
- † **Taney, Michael**, Saint John's, Saint Louis, Missouri
- † **Williams, Tyler**, Lutheran Senior Services, Webster Groves, Missouri



Second-year seminarians anxiously await the announcement of their vicarage assignments.

† **Wollenberg, Nathan**, Hanover, Cape Girardeau, Missouri

NEBRASKA DISTRICT

- † **Erdman, Michael**, Immanuel, Osmond, Nebraska
† **Fickenscher, James**, Trinity, Grand Island, Nebraska
† **Muther, Paul**, Good Shepherd, Gretna, Nebraska

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

- † **Braun, Benjamin**, Saint Paul's, New Hartford, Connecticut

NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT

- † **Baumann, Joshua**, Our Savior, Minot, North Dakota

NORTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT

- † **Koglin, Adam**, Pilgrim, Green Bay, Wisconsin
† **Weden, Andrew**, Saint Paul Evangelical, Stevens Point, Wisconsin

NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT

- † **Bushuiakovish, Mark**, Immanuel, Elmhurst, Illinois
† **Millard, Ronald**, Saint Paul, Matteson, Illinois
† **Miller, Joshua**, Saint John's/Risen Savior, Pecatonica/Winnebago, Illinois
† **Weaver, Brian**, Immanuel Evangelical, Freeport, Illinois
† **Woodrow, Joshua**, Christ the Rock, Rockford, Illinois

NORTHWEST DISTRICT

- † **Matthews, James**, Grace, Tacoma, Washington
† **Schroeder, David**, Resurrection, Des Moines, Washington

OKLAHOMA DISTRICT

- † **Dickerhoff, Jacob**, Holy Trinity, Edmond, Oklahoma
† **Harrison, Todd**, First, Tahlequah, Oklahoma
† **Wolters, Luke**, Redeemer, Bartlesville, Oklahoma

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

- † **Harris, James**, Ascension, Apple Valley, California
† **Roettjer, Andrew**, Apostles, Peoria, Arizona
† **Spelbring, Christopher**, First, Venice, California

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

- † **Hengst, Adam**, Bethlehem, Lakewood, Colorado

SELK DISTRICT

- † **Larsen, Daniel**, Saint Luke's, Oviedo, Florida
† **Rosenkoetter, Brian**, Saint John/Saint Mark, Massillon/Stuebenville, Ohio

SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT

- † **Janneke, Kory**, Faith, Sioux Falls, South Dakota
† **Stefanic, John James (J.J.)**, Mount Calvary, Brookings, South Dakota

SOUTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT

- † **Davis, Christopher**, Grace Evangelical, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin
† **Duley, Jason**, Trinity, Howards Grove, Wisconsin
† **Sherman, Travis**, Saint Peter's, Arlington, Wisconsin

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT

- † **Loos, Benjamin**, Redeemer, Fredericksburg, Virginia
† **Prothro, James**, Good Shepherd, Roanoke, Virginia
† **Roma, Thomas**, Concordia, Conover, North Carolina

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

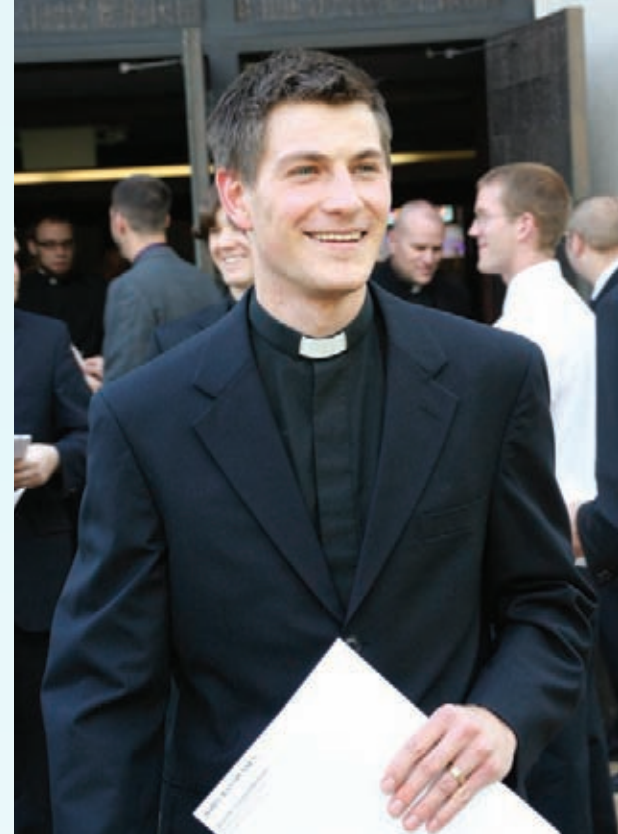
- † **Barry, Matthew**, Saint Mark's, Elberta, Alabama
† **Hill, Nathaniel**, Trinity, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
† **Welter, Austen**, Immanuel, Bossier City, Louisiana

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT

- † **Andreasen, Jordon**, Zion, Litchfield, Illinois
† **Hemler, Jonathan**, Signal Hill, Belleville, Illinois
† **Holden, Jason**, Our Savior, Carbondale, Illinois
† **Musegades, Michael**, Zion, Staunton, Illinois

TEXAS DISTRICT

- † **Burke, Adam**, Saint Paul, McAllen, Texas
† **Rose, Kevin**, Faith, Sweetwater, Texas
† **Scheiwe, Logan**, Our Redeemer, Irving, Texas



John Rasmussen received a vicarage assignment to Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Jacksonville Beach, Fla.

ASSIGNMENT PENDING

- † **Hadley, Jonathan**, Assignment Pending

DEACONESS INTERNSHIP ASSIGNMENT

MISSOURI DISTRICT

- † **Griffith, Jennifer**, Lutheran Senior Services, Webster Groves, Missouri



Christopher Spelbring, with daughter, Anna, celebrates his assignment to Venice, Calif.

Academic year culminates in 171st Commencement exercises

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis' Commencement exercises for the 2010 graduating class took place on Friday, May 21. The day began with a Theological Diploma service at 10:00 a.m. in The Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus, and ended with Commencement at 7:00 p.m. in the main quadrangle of the Seminary campus. Approximately 130 academic degrees were conferred upon the graduates.

During the morning service, all graduates who have been certified by the Concordia Seminary faculty as eligible to receive calls to serve as pastors or deaconesses in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod received theological diplomas. In the evening, academic degrees and honors were conferred.

In addition, five honorary degrees and awards were given to esteemed persons chosen by the faculty: James F. Ralls, Jr. (*Christus Vivit* award); John D. Wittenmyer (*Christus Vivit* award); Alan F. Harre (Distinguished Alumnus Award); Richard L. Alms (honorary doctor of divinity degree); and José A. Pfaffenzeller (honorary doctor of divinity degree).



Richard Alms (left), José Pfaffenzeller, Alan Harre, James Ralls, Jr., and John Wittenmyer (with Dr. Meyer, third from left) were celebrated with awards and honorary degrees during Commencement.

Dr. Joel Biermann, associate professor of systematic theology at Concordia Seminary, delivered the sermon for the Theological Diploma service. Mr. James

F. Ralls, Jr., J.D., Kuhlman, Reddoch & Sullivan, P. C. and chairman of the Board of Regents of Concordia Seminary, delivered the Commencement address.



Members of the master of divinity class of 2010, after receiving their hoods, prepare to walk across the stage for their diplomas.



2010 Summer Workshops



Center for Hispanic Studies

Promoting Theological Education Through Hispanic Eyes.

June 10-12 *Cristo, redentor de la familia: Ministrando a la familia hispana/latina en el contexto norteamericano* (Christ, Redeemer of the Family: Ministering to the Hispanic/Latino in a North American Context) – Mark Kempff, San Jose, CA (Spanish only)

June 21-23 Christ, Redeemer of the Family: Ministering to the Hispanic/Latino in a North American Context – Mark Kempff, St. Louis, MO (English only)

June 25-26 *Cristo, redentor del matrimonio: Herramientas para la consejería pre-matrimonial y matrimonial* (Christ, Redeemer of Marriage: Tools for Premarital and Marital Counseling) – Benito Pérez López, Tampa, FL (Spanish only)

June 21-23 Isaiah, The Fifth Gospel – Dr. Reed Lessing, Dearborn, MI

July 12-14 Pastoral and Professional Decision Making: “Can We Think Gracefully?” – Dr. David Wollenburg, Cedar Crest, NM

July 26-28 Two Kinds of Righteousness: A Better Paradigm than Law and Gospel – Dr. Joel Biermann, Phoenix, AZ

August 2-4 Practicing Ambidexterity – Dr. Joel Biermann, Cary, NC

August 2-4 Exploring Exodus: The Origins of Biblical Israel – Dr. Reed Lessing, Cleveland, OH

August 2-4 The Practice of Preaching – Dr. David Schmitt, Austin, MN

August 2-4 The Johannine Epistles and the Apostle of Love – Dr. Louis Brighton, St. Louis, MO

August 9-11 Faith and Creative Writing – Rev. Travis Scholl and Peter Mead, St. Louis, MO

August 9-11 Exploring Exodus: The Origins of Biblical Israel – Dr. Reed Lessing, West Fargo, ND

August 9-11 Help for the Mid-Size Congregations – Dr. David Peter, West Des Moines, IA

August 9-11 The Church in the New Testament – Dr. Jeffrey Kloha, Seymour, IN

August 9-11 Together with All Creatures: Caring for God’s Living Earth – Dr. Charles Arand, Atwood, KS

August 16-18 In the Shadow of the Cross: Jesus and the Disciples in Matthew 16-20 – Dr. Jeffrey Gibbs, Alexandria, MN

The cost for each summer workshop is \$125 (the Hispanic workshops cost \$75 each), which includes 1.5 CEU credits. Payment is due 21 days prior to the beginning of each workshop, and workshops have a minimum required enrollment. Housing and meal information may be obtained from the host pastor. For more information or to register for workshops, contact continuing education and parish services at 314-505-7486; ce@csl.edu; or www.csl.edu.

LutherHostel 2010, October 2-5

LutherHostel 2010 will be held Oct. 2-5 on the campus of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. LutherHostel is an event designed to provide growth in biblical knowledge and understanding, fun and fellowship, and a chance to gain helpful insights for daily living. It is offered for adults age 55 and above.



Paul Maier, featured speaker at LutherHostel

The featured speaker is Dr. Paul Maier, the Russell H. Seibert Professor of Ancient History at Western Michigan University, the second vice-president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and a much-published author of both scholarly and popular works. “Christ or Caricature?” focusing on modern-day depictions of Jesus will be the theme of his presentations. Scheduled activities for LutherHostel

2010 will feature a reception and dinner with President and Mrs. Dale A. Meyer. Other activities include faculty presentations, class visitation, student-led evening devotions, opportunities for informal interaction with faculty and students, a private demonstration of the organ in The Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus, and a tour of selected St. Louis area sites. An optional tour of Lutheran historical sites in Perry County, Mo., is available on Oct. 6, immediately following LutherHostel.

The registration fee for the event is \$325 per person and includes all meals (Saturday supper through Tuesday lunch, including all refreshments, the Oktoberfest dinner, and a candlelit banquet). On-campus dormitory housing is also available. For more information, contact



Walter and Leota Schoedel, hosts of LutherHostel

the office of continuing education and parish services at ce@csl.edu or 314-505-7486. A brochure and registration form is also available on the Seminary’s website at www.csl.edu. Registration deadline is Sept. 20.

Prospective student visitation opportunities

GREEN AND GOLD DAYS

October 15

Concordia Seminary is pleased to announce a visitation event for college students thinking about becoming pastors or deaconesses: Green and Gold Days. Throughout the year, Concordia Seminary will host three one-day events for these college students. Each Green and Gold Day will provide a quick opportunity for college men and women to come and see all the Seminary offers. Each guest will have a seminary student host with whom they will attend classes, worship in chapel, and speak with members of the faculty. There is also an opportunity to tour campus and share in a time of fellowship with faculty and students at the end of the day.



CONTEMPLATE...

October 7-9

Contemplate... is an event for college-age or older potential students. It will provide visitors with an opportunity to learn more about life in the Concordia Seminary community. Campus tours will take place on Thursday afternoon. The “Welcome Reception and Dinner” Thursday evening offers a unique opportunity to meet Seminary faculty in a casual setting. At this time, visitors will also be paired with a student ambassador who can speak with them and answer questions from a student’s perspective. After dinner, there are sessions designed to give an overview of the formation of ministry. On Friday, there will be additional sessions that will focus on the spiritual and personal aspects of the decision-making process, as well as provide visitors with

opportunities to choose from presentations on the academic program, resident field education, vicarage or internship year, financial aid, and housing. In the afternoon visitors will have the opportunity to sit-in on Seminary classes. Further dialog with students will take place later that evening during the “Student Panel Discussion.” The structured event will conclude on Saturday morning with presentations on the admissions process, tours of the married and single student housing, and time to schedule individual appointments with admissions counselors and/or the Life Transitions Office. A farewell brunch closes the formal planned activities.

To learn more or to register for these events, please call the admissions office at 1-800-822-9545 or e-mail admissions@csl.edu.

UPCOMING FACULTY SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Dr. Dale Meyer, preacher, Trinity Lutheran, Hoffman, Ill., June 13

Dr. Reed Lessing, "Jeremiah: Surviving Life's Disasters," Camp Arcadia, Arcadia, Mich., July 4-10

Dr. William Schumacher, participant in international seminar on "Mission and Ecumenism in the Global Village: 100 Years after the Conference of Edinburgh," Institute for Ecumenical Research, Strasbourg, France, July 6-13

Dr. David Schmitt, Seminary advisory delegate to LCMS Synodical Convention, Houston, Texas, July 10-17

Dr. Reed Lessing, "The OT and Idolatry: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Money, Sex, and Power," LCMS National Youth Gathering, New Orleans, La., July 17-21

Dr. Jeffrey Gibbs, plenary speaker, "Bringing Good News to Life—in the Church!" National Lutherans for Life Conference, Green Bay, Wis., July 24

Dr. Dale Meyer, preacher, Concordia Lutheran Ministries, Pittsburgh, Penn., July 25

Dr. William Schumacher, teacher at Lutheran Theological Seminary—Tshwane, Pretoria, South Africa, Aug. 9-20

Dr. David Schmitt, plenary speaker, "The Use of Scripture in Recent Study Bibles," CSL Theological Symposium, St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 21-22

Dr. Jeffrey Gibbs, presenter, "Resurrection Theology in the Church Today," Southern Illinois District Pastoral Conference, Grafton, Ill., Oct. 4-5

Dr. Dale Meyer, preacher, Trinity Lutheran, Lombard, Ill., Oct. 10

Dr. David Schmitt, preacher, Lutheran Laymen's League conference, Sacramento, Calif., Oct. 24

Dr. Reed Lessing, preacher, Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, Detroit, Mich., Oct. 31

Dr. Dale Meyer, preacher, Zion Lutheran, Piedmont, Calif., Oct. 31

Upcoming on-campus events

JUNE 2010

June 8-10	Alumni Reunion
June 8	Carillon Concert
June 15	Carillon Concert
June 19-24	<i>Vocatio</i>
June 21-23	Christ, Redeemer of the Family: Ministering to the Hispanic/Latino in a North American Context – Mark Kempff, St. Louis, MO (English only)
June 22	Carillon Concert
June 29	Carillon Concert

AUGUST 2010

August 2-4	The Johannine Epistles and the Apostle of Love – Dr. Louis Brighton, St. Louis, MO
August 7	Lay Bible Institute "Muslim Outreach"
August 9-11	Faith and Creative Writing – Rev. Travis Scholl and Peter Mead, St. Louis, MO

SEPTEMBER 2010

September 1-4	New Student Orientation
September 4	Field Day for Students
September 5	Opening Worship/ <i>How Will They Hear?</i> Campaign Wrap-Up Reception
September 7	First Day of Classes
September 17	Seminary Guild Meeting
September 20	Day of Exegetical Reflection
September 21-22	21 st Annual Theological Symposium: "Scripture in the Church: Formative or Formality?"
September 23	Witness Workshop

OCTOBER 2010

October 2-6	LutherHostel
October 7-9	Contemplate...
October 10	<i>Bach at the Sem</i> concert
October 15	Green and Gold Day
October 22	Seminary Guild Meeting

New faith, new career

Jeffrey Morey
CNH District

Jeffrey Morey entered the Specific Ministry Pastor program (SMP) at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis in spring 2010. While the same could be said for a number of men in the program—most are second-career students, Morey has a claim most do not: he is a “second-faith” student, too. “The uniqueness of my background is that I was raised in the Jewish tradition,” Morey said, “but as we know, our Lord doesn’t call the qualified, he qualifies the called.” Morey and his wife, Mary (who was raised in the Roman Catholic Church), enrolled their child at Grace Lutheran School in Modesto, Calif., in the mid-1990s. Morey started going to the Sunday services more out of curiosity than anything else. “I had always known about Jesus Christ, but really didn’t think much about Christianity.” Mary started taking new member classes at Grace and he soon followed after the pastor of the church told her that her husband “just has to believe!” in order to be in Heaven with her someday. “I started the new member classes, and during the process, which was during the Lenten season that year, I was sitting in church one Wednesday night listening to the pastor preaching,” Morey said. “I looked over, and to my dying day I will swear to you I saw Jesus hanging on that cross (the type that many churches put up during Lent). A short time later, I was baptized, confirmed, and became a new member.”

In Morey’s previous career, he served people in another way—in the restaurant management industry. After graduating from a culinary academy in 1974 as a certified chef, he diversified his skills. “I have been an executive chef for a number of dinner houses, a supervisor for both the Marriott Corporation and American Airlines in their flight kitchens, a manager for General Mills in their Red Lobster operations, a manager and chef for the C&C organization in their steakhouse operations in California, and then in 1991 we bought our own dinner house.” Still, as time went on, he felt more and more drawn to church

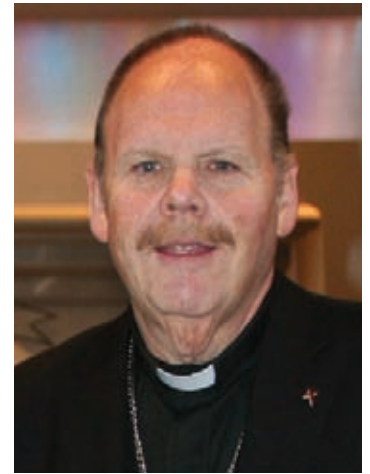
**...respond to what
God is calling you
to do with your life.**

work. He became more active in his congregation. He was helping as a Bible class leader and serving in other ways, as well. He enrolled in the Leadership Advancement Process (LAP), a training program offered through the Northwest District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and in 2008 was commissioned and certified as a deacon.

He began serving Trinity Lutheran Church in Stockton, Calif., that year, and has been serving the congregation since.

The new SMP program made further study for the ministry a viable option for Morey. The SMP program allows church workers (teachers, directors of Christian education, directors of Christian outreach, deacons, and others) to continue their service in a specific ministry while studying to become ordained pastors. While Morey is not a traditional master of divinity student, he still spends a great deal of time studying and honing his skills. He studies around 30 hours per week in addition to his work at Trinity. His homework load sometimes includes as many as 300-400 pages of reading a week, in addition to journaling and spending time working with, and learning from, his mentor, Rev. Timothy L. Huber, pastor at Grace Lutheran Church in Modesto, Calif.

Under the supervision of his mentor, Morey, who is now known as a “vicar,” serves the people of Trinity, Stockton, in many ways. He fills the pulpit, plans church activities, teaches Bible and confirmation classes, and cares for congregational members in a variety of ways. It is a busy life, but one Morey enjoys.



Jeffrey Morey

Specific Ministry Pastor program

The Specific Ministry Pastor program (SMP) provides an opportunity for men already involved in some form of church work to study for the pastoral ministry. With the support of the ministries in which they are involved and under the supervision of an ordained pastor in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, they take classes online from Seminary professors. Eventually, their studies lead to certification for ministry as ordained pastors in a specific ministry.

The specific ministries may include mission starts, working in human care organizations, serving in specialized urban or rural settings, or in other ministry situations.

“We are pleased that the Specific Ministry Pastor program is able to provide men for the pastoral ministry in response to local needs,” commented Dr. David Wollenburg, director of SMP. “Many of these men would not be preparing for pastoral ministry if they were required to leave their current ministry to study at the Seminary in St. Louis. Now they can continue the ministry in which they are involved and study for the pastoral ministry at the same time.”

The courses of the SMP program of Concordia Seminary are supported by state-of-the-art technology designed to engage the student while building an interactive learning community.

Each course is designed to include a blend of Internet-based instruction, mentor interaction, practical ministry application, and two hours of live weekly instruction provided by one of Concordia Seminary’s faculty members.

The combination of interactive technology with live Seminary instruction provides a learning experience that maximizes the unique characteristics of each student’s specific ministry situation.

For more information on SMP, please contact distance education at 314-505-7764 or smp@csl.edu.

The SMP program gives him the opportunity to become an ordained pastor without leaving the congregation he is serving as a vicar. Occasionally, he meets with other SMP students and professors for week-long sessions at the Seminary in St. Louis, but most of his time is spent in his congregation.

It may have taken him awhile to answer the Call, but the SMP program made it possible for Morey to live out God’s plan. “For someone who feels God calling them to the Office of the Holy Ministry, this is a program that I feel has the blessings and the power of the Holy Spirit behind it and with it at all times.” And Vicar Morey’s advice to others who may be drawn to the ministry? “Do not hesitate to ‘step outside the box,’ and respond to what God is calling you to do with your life.”

The SMP program engages students with state-of-the-art technology through an interactive online community of students, mentors, and professors.

Concordia Seminary Guild

2010-2011 CONCORDIA SEMINARY GUILD ADOPTED SERVICE PROJECTS

Pieper's <i>Christian Dogmatics, Vol. 1</i>	\$1,904.00
Clergy Shirts	\$2,236.80
<i>The Minister's Prayer Book</i>	\$1,568.00
Seminary Chorus	\$500.00 *
Food Bank	\$800.00
Library	\$1,500.00
Student Emergency Fund	\$1,000.00
Family Nights	\$600.00
Sustainable Gardening on Campus	\$400.00
Deaconess Studies	\$600.00
Pedersen Fieldhouse	\$1,000.00
EIIT	\$1,000.00
Coffee after Chapel	\$500.00
Direct-to-Student Aid	\$2,000.00
Seminary Women's Association	\$500.00
Campus "Greening"	\$400.00
SMP	\$600.00
Student Etiquette Dinner	\$1,500.00
Dorm Counselor Fund	\$1,000.00
Student Services	\$1,000.00
TOTAL	\$20,608.80

* Adopted project

A Guild membership is from July 1 to June 30 of the following year.

Name (or Society) _____

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Telephone (_____) _____

Name of Congregation _____



**CONCORDIA
SEMINARY
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Individual Membership (\$8) _____

Society Membership (\$15) _____

Project Fund Donation _____

TOTAL _____

Please make check payable to Concordia Seminary Guild and send to:

Nina Boehme
4410 Kerth Circle Crossing
St. Louis, MO 63128

With a Guild membership, you will receive the *Guildlines* newsletter.

Project donations will be used for any of the Guild projects, unless they are specified for a particular project.

Thank You for Your Support!

For questions concerning the Seminary Guild, please call 314-505-7362.

A lasting impact

When I was notified that I was going to receive Direct-to-Student Aid through the Concordia Seminary Guild, I was not sure what exactly the Guild did for the Seminary. I remembered receiving Pieper's *Christian Dogmatics, Vol. 1* and a clergy shirt my first year at the Seminary; beyond that, I was unaware of the scope of their work until I arrived at their luncheon in February to say "thank you."

Upon arriving at the luncheon I was handed a program with a list of all of their projects for the coming year. I realized that the Seminary Guild was benefiting my time at the Seminary more than I knew.

The Guild's financial support for the Seminary Chorus has impacted my worship life at the Seminary; their donations to the Food Bank, Seminary Women's Association, and Family Nights have directly affected the lives of my wife and daughter. They provide for the intramural, club, and intercollegiate sports that contribute to my family's fitness. The support of Coffee after Chapel and the Student Etiquette Dinner provides means for fellowship and guidance.

Finally, their provision of *The Minister's Prayer Book* for each graduating student is a lasting way that they bless the life of each person who graduates from our Seminary. It would be stunning to see how many of these books adorn the desks of pastors around the world.

The Seminary Guild has a far reaching and deep significance for our Church. The support they provide allows those of us at the Seminary to do many activities that would otherwise fall by the wayside. Their quiet humble service in God's kingdom has a powerful impact.

Ryan Kleimola, 2010 graduate, was called to serve at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mission/Shawnee, Kansas.

A blessing times three

My wife, Kris, and I began looking into adoption while I was attending Concordia Seminary. We chose to work with CWA (Christian World Adoption) and began our home study with Lutheran Social Services following my placement after graduation in May 2007 to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Plover, Wis. We learned about CWA's Ethiopia program and became very interested in adopting a sibling group. As we worked on our home study, we prayed about this and we were approved to adopt up to three children under the age of 11. In January 2009, CWA approached us with a sibling group of three, and we said yes to a six-year-old boy named Abush, an eight-year-old girl named Tigist, and a ten-year-old girl named Rebeka.

As anyone who has gone through the process of an international adoption knows, the process has its emotional highs and lows. After all the paperwork we found out in July 2009 that the Ethiopian court approved our adoption.

Suddenly in late August, we received a call and were told that our U. S. Embassy date was scheduled in Addis Ababa on September 9, 2009. That meant traveling in fewer than 10 days! Everything we were waiting for was a short time away—three children looking forward to a new home with a father and a mother, and two very eager parents wanting to finally meet and hold their children.

We quickly called our travel agent and booked two tickets to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and five returning home!

The Lord continued to guide our path during these very short 10 days prior to travel and He placed in our lives the name of an Ethiopian Lutheran pastor living in the U. S., Dr. Tilahun Menedo. We contacted Dr. Menedo

and he put us in touch with his good friend, the Lutheran Seminary president in Addis Ababa. Through Dr. Menedo (currently serving as the new president of Concordia, Selma, Ala.) and Seminary President Abraham Mengesha, we had a guest house to stay at in Addis Ababa. President Mengesha had arranged for

housing at the Mekane Yesus (Dwelling Place of Jesus) Guest House in Addis. Kris and I stayed there for two nights, and then

moved to another guest house that had additional room so we could stay with our children.

We thank God every day for His wisdom and timing in our adoption journey.

We met our children on Sunday for a short visit and finally had the opportunity to take the children home with us to the guest house on Monday. Our Embassy date arrived on Wednesday. As we stood at the window with the Embassy employee reviewing all paperwork and placing the final stamps of approval, Abush looked at me and said, "Dad." The employee behind the window quickly looked up, smiling, and said she knew we were a family! The children's U. S. Visas were approved and we walked down the long flight of steps as "The Ficken Five."

People often ask how we are doing, having adopted three older children. Kris and I just say we are incredibly blessed with three gifts from the Lord. Our children are very bright and resilient. And the most important thing is that they know the Lord. We thank God every day for His wisdom and timing in our adoption journey. Although His timing wasn't always what we thought it should be and wanted things to move more quickly at times, we now look back and see how everything was perfect.

David Ficken, 2007 Concordia Seminary graduate



Kris and David Ficken are pictured in Ethiopia, shortly after meeting their newly adopted children Tigist (left), Abush, and Rebeka.

CONCORDIA SEMINARY

801 SEMINARY PLACE, ST. LOUIS, MO 63105

21ST ANNUAL

Theological Symposium

AT CONCORDIA SEMINARY

September 21-22, 2010

“Scripture in the Church:
Formative or Formality?”



PLENARY PRESENTERS

Stephen Fowl, professor of theology,
Loyola University Maryland

Timothy Saleska, associate professor
of exegetical theology, Concordia
Seminary, St. Louis

Joel Okamoto, associate professor
of systematic theology, Concordia
Seminary, St. Louis

SECTIONAL PRESENTERS

Joel Lehenbauer	Robert Sundquist
Charles Arand	Jeffrey Kloha
Paul Raabe	Peter Nafzger
David Schmitt	Gerhard Bode

Registration deadline is September 10, 2010

To register or for more information about fees,
contact continuing education and parish services at
314-505-7486 or e-mail ce@csl.edu.