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Have you ever experienced total darkness? Some years ago my family and I had the pleasure of joining a group of travelers on a ranger-escorted trip to the bottom of New Cave, an undeveloped cave complex in Carlsbad Caverns National Park. How different it was from the beautifully illuminated trails of the developed main cavern!

Here our flashlights provided the only means of seeing ahead. Water dripped from the ceiling of the cave. Narrow passageways required one to get on hands and knees. At the very bottom of the cave, the ranger asked everyone to turn their flashlights off. He went on to say that we were now experiencing total darkness. He invited us to wave our hand in front of our eyes. It was impossible to see any motion. The ranger then commented that total darkness was so disorienting that if some cosmic condition rendered all of our flashlights dysfunctional, even he could not lead us out of the cave. Immediately a few flashlights went on! The thought of being trapped and lost in total darkness was very unsettling.

Our world is draped in darkness. Sacred Scripture describes its origin. When Adam and Eve refused the gift of God’s image and wanted to be like God, their minds and souls were darkened. Every generation of their children has been marked by that darkness. Before the flood, God’s description of human beings is striking: “The Lord saw how great man’s wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time” (Gen. 6:5-6).

Our Lord was equally direct: “For from within, out of men’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance, and folly” (Mark 7:21-22).

Current events are evidence that the human heart is still producing deeds of darkness. From the murder of the unborn to acts of violence against children, against civil society, and even against the elderly, the darkness covers humanity.

What a wonderful calling in such total darkness to invite people to see pure and radiant light—total light! St. John describes that light: “In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness …” (John 1:4, 5a). John the Baptist announced that light: “The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world” (John 1:9).

Human rebellion—sin—brought darkness. Christ atoned for every sin of every human being. His perfect atonement and His glorious resurrection dispels the total darkness within us and around us. He provides, by contrast, total light.

Indeed, I recall the ascent from the dark depths of New Cave and the incredible clarity and beauty of the desert sun coming through the cave’s opening high above us. It was radiant and pure light.

In a much more profound fashion, the light of Christ penetrates every aspect of our being and brings life and salvation to us as a free gift. Like a laser, Christ drives out the darkness in the obliteration of our sin by His most holy sacrifice. How noble and rewarding for us now to announce and broadcast the light of Christ throughout all the world! The prophet Isaiah holds up our mission:

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.
See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the Lord rises upon you
and His glory appears over you.
Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

(Isaiah 60:1-3)

By virtue of being in Christ we have become light in this dark world. So, St. Paul can describe us: “For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light” (Eph. 5:8).

This issue of For the Life of the World focuses on outreach and mission. Our prayer is that its pages and all the activities of Concordia Theological Seminary might invite men and women everywhere from total darkness to total light, from death to life in Christ.

May His light shine forth with clarity and compelling beauty in our darkened world!

Sincerely yours, in Christ’s service,

Rev. Dr. Dean O. Wenthe
President, Concordia Theological Seminary
4 Doctrine and Mission: Not Either/Or, but Both/And!
By the Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast, Jr., Associate Professor of Historical Theology and Assistant Academic Dean at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana
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By the Rev. Dr. Douglas L. Rutt, Associate Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions and Ph.D. Supervisor at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana
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10 A Perspective of Mission Life
By the Rev. Theodore M. R. Krey, Missionary Pastor, church planter, and theological educator in Venezuela
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Are you interested in missions or are you interested in doctrine? Sometimes today our doctrine and our mission are set in an adversarial relationship, as though it is an either/or proposition. At the very least, many folks appear to believe that one will emphasize either doctrine or mission in one congregation or pastoral ministry. Others might say that we should try and balance the two. But I still think that misses the point. What Scripture and the history of the church tell us is that there should be—in fact, there is—a complementary and inseparable relationship between doctrine and practice.

On this point our Synod has been very consistent. As a very young adult, I recall hearing Dr. J. A. O. Preus, President of the Synod from 1969–1981, describe the 1975 Synod Convention at Anaheim as an “evangelism convention.” Other presidents have encouraged the Synod to “Tell Everyone What He Has Done,” “Tell the Good News about Jesus,” and to be “Ablaze: To the Ends of the Earth.” That emphasis on proclaiming the Gospel of Christ to a world in need has characterized our Synod from its inception. Even as it organized itself in April 1847, the newly formed Missouri Synod expressly made missions and evangelism a priority. But should it not be the priority, some might ask?

Emphasis on proclaiming the Gospel of Christ to a world in need has characterized our Synod from its inception. Even as it organized itself in April 1847, the newly formed Missouri Synod expressly made missions and evangelism a priority. But should it not be the priority, some might ask?

My reading of the work of the founders shows that they did not see a negative or tension-filled relationship between doctrine and mission. Rather, they saw doctrine and mission as indivisibly connected. Doctrine drove their mission—not legalistically, but in the sense that what they firmly believed led them vigorously to confess. To put it another way, because they were convinced that the doctrine they had learned from the Lutheran Confessions was true, because it was based on the Bible, they could not but speak that
message to a world that needed to know the transforming truth. While it is true that they were moved in part by a desire to correct the errors in the Lutheran church of their day, at the same time they had a broader view, a vision that included taking the Gospel to a world in need.

In this respect, even though the Synod was newly formed, it wasn’t doing anything new. Those involved in the Synod’s formation had already been enthusiastically involved in missions and evangelism based on pure doctrine before they formed the Missouri Synod. When they did establish the Synod, they simply kept on doing what they had already done: preach the pure Word of God as rightly confessed in the Lutheran Confessions to nurture the faith of believers and to call the lost to Christ. While examples abound, no two are more noteworthy than F. C. D. Wyneken and August Crämer.

F. C. D. Wyneken came to the Fort Wayne, Indiana, area in the summer of 1838. Pressed to serve as pastor of St. Paul in Fort Wayne and Zion in Friedheim, Indiana, Wyneken agreed on the condition that he be allowed to continue his missionary work. Wyneken immediately began his great work of seeking out the spiritually neglected Germans of the western frontier. Quickly realizing that the task was too large for one man, Wyneken appealed to Germany for help. Many responded, but one no more robustly than Pastor August Crämer, who helped established the colony of Frankenmuth, Michigan. Crämer and his coworkers had a twofold purpose: to organize congregations among the German immigrants and to reach out with the Gospel to the Native American population. While Crämer’s work among the Germans remains visible today, his efforts among the Native Americans were only modestly successful. However, his vision for outreach characterized the remainder of his life’s work. He was called to Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, in 1850 and there maintained the close linkage of doctrine and practice that Wyneken had helped establish when the seminary was founded in 1846.

Which is all to say, Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne (and St. Louis [1861-1875] and Springfield [1875-1976]) has been a missionary seminary from its beginning. And that strong relationship of doctrine and mission continues in the present. Today faculty continue to proclaim the Good News of
Christ crucified and risen again throughout the world. From Siberia to Africa to South America to the Orient and also in the United States, members of the CTS community continue to proclaim Christ and take the unchanging, pure Gospel to the ends of the earth.

Sometimes the founders of our Synod are criticized for being “parochial” and “shortsighted” because they placed so much emphasis on work among the German population of the United States. It’s true, they did focus on Germans initially. At the same time there was a consistent awareness that they needed to expand their work as much as possible so that the message of Christ could be taken to the ends of the earth. Further, we must remember that when the Synod was formed, it was a very small enterprise (with a few thousand members), not the large Synod it is today (approximately 2.5 million members). Indeed, other Lutheran synods in America doubted whether it would survive at all. However, the conviction of the founders was that they would faithfully speak the Word in the various forums in which they found themselves, trusting that God would accomplish His purposes through this proclamation.

If we step back and think about it, we’ll realize just how indebted we are to them for their faithfulness. God specifically used these gifted people to establish and maintain the proclamation of the Gospel in the context of our Synod. Personally speaking, a missionary of the Missouri Synod met my great-grandfather at the docks on his arrival from Germany in the late 1800’s. That missionary steered my great-grandfather to a Missouri Synod congregation in Connecticut. From that small meeting came great results. It is not too much to say that the fruits of that missionary’s efforts continue to be realized in the Gospel proclamation that I and others of my family have received and passed along throughout the more than 100 years since.

And that helps put things in perspective for us. Our faithful proclamation today will have long-standing effects in the lives of those with whom we share the Gospel. Fifty, 100, 150 years and beyond, the Good News we proclaim today will continue to transform lives as the Holy Spirit continues to call, gather, enlighten, and sanctify the whole Christian church on earth.

A quote from C. F. W. Walther, first President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, captures this outlook well:

Let us above all and in all matters be concerned about this, that the pure doctrine of our dear Evangelical Lutheran Church may become known more and more completely among us, that it may be in vogue in all of our congregations, and that it may be preserved from all adulteration and held fast as the most precious treasure. Let us not surrender one iota of the demands of the Word. Let us bring about its complete rule in our congregations and set aside nothing of it, even though for this reason things may happen to us, as God wills. Here let us be inflexible, here let us be adamant. If we do this, we need not worry about the success of our labor. Even though it should seem to be in vain, it cannot then be in vain, for the Word does not return void but prospers in the thing whereto the Lord sent it. By the Word alone, without any other power, the church was founded; by the Word alone all the great deeds recorded in church history were accomplished; by the Word alone the church will most assuredly stand also in these last days of sore distress, to the end of days. Even the gates of hell will not prevail against it.¹

I’m not more interested in doctrine than in missions—I’m interested in doctrinal missions. In His Word the Lord has revealed His truth to us and now calls us to share that truth with others. The more informed we are doctrinally speaking, the more energized we will be for mission. It’s not either/or, it’s both/and!


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From the bottom of his heart, the Psalmist’s desire is to see the news of God’s almighty deeds published throughout the world—that the nations would experience God’s saving health and justice, and joyously sing His praises.

Here the Psalmist expresses God’s desire that all would be saved and come to knowledge of the truth (1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9).

A Lutheran understanding of mission will point to God in His Trinitarian economy as the original and ongoing source of mission. It is the mission of God, yet God uses fragile and sinful human beings to carry out that mission. Paul was called as God’s “chosen instrument” to take His name “before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel” (Acts 9:15). An instrument does nothing on its own, but depends upon a user to make use of it for a specific purpose. Scripture is replete with other examples of reluctant messengers whom God nevertheless used powerfully in His mission (Moses, Jonah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, to mention a few).

An understanding of God as the Source of mission has its roots in the creation of the world. God called the world into existence: the heavens, the earth, and all creatures (Gen. 1), and pronounced it all good. Man was given a privileged place in God’s creation. He was told to name, as God had named; he was told to exercise dominion, as God exercises dominion (Gen. 1, 2).
There was a close and harmonious working relationship between man and God.

But then a catastrophic disruption occurred in this created order. God’s creatures, Adam and Eve, desired to be like God the Creator Himself (Gen. 3:1-6). In an incomprehensible act, man thrust himself into the jaws of sin and death and the perfection and goodness of the created order were destroyed. Natural man is now spiritually blind, dead, and an enemy of God. He has neither the desire nor the power to do anything to bring himself back to the true God, and yet in His love and mercy God continues to seek and save the lost (Gen. 3:9, 15; Luke 19:10). God even now asks the question He asked of our first parents Adam and Eve, “Where are you?” (Gen. 3:9).

God, the sending One, sent His Son (Matt. 10:40; Luke 4:18; John 17:3, etc.). Jesus Christ, “true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary,” broke forth into this sin-infested world to confront death face to face and arise victorious over it, thereby creating the possibility for a re-creation, the restoration of mankind to its original condition. Luther says it beautifully in his Small Catechism, “[He] has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death.” Now, by grace through faith, the creatures God originally created in His image have the opportunity to participate anew in the divine nature (2 Pet. 1:3-4) through a renewed knowledge of God.

Because man can do nothing to come to God, God’s desire is that this Word of salvation would go forth to the entire world—to all nations. This message of the Gospel is universally necessary, for “all have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23); and it is universally sufficient, because Christ “died for all” (2 Cor. 5:14). In Christ Jesus every human being has been atoned for.

But there is also an exclusive dimension to the Gospel. The Scriptures make it quite clear—that faith in Jesus Christ is the only way to a restoration of the perfect relationship that existed in the beginning. Jesus Himself said, “No one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6). The Apostle Peter boldly preached this truth before the highest of the Temple authorities in Jerusalem, “And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12). St. Paul wrote to Timothy, “For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, . . .” (1 Tim. 2:5-6). The Scriptures are clear, “Apart from faith in Christ, there is no hope” (Mark 16:16).

In our post-modern, pluralistic, and relativistic age this exclusive dimension is a stumbling block to many. In a society where 75 percent of Americans believe that there is no such thing as absolute truth and that many religions can lead to eternal life, the “exclusive dimension” of the Gospel is a “scandal.” It is not hard to see how the universalism of the post-modern world can sap the church of its missionary motivation.

Yet, in spite of all the objections and obstacles that humans and their vain philosophies put in the way, God continues to send. God the Father sent His Son. The Father and the Son send the Holy Spirit. And now, God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit sends the church into the world to bear witness to the mighty deeds, to His “saving health” among all nations.

And so the church goes out, not with political power, not with economic power, not with the sword, not with acts of terrorism that, as some Muslims believe, will usher in the kingdom of Allah, but with the simple means of His Word and Sacraments. The Father “draws people by the power of His Holy Spirit.
through the hearing of His holy, divine Word, as with a net, through which the elect are snatchèd out of the jaws of the devil.” Only in the revealed Word is the truth of God’s salvation made known. It is through the Word that the Holy Spirit works to effect a change in man, making him willing to give up his trust in self and to receive the free gift of forgiveness, life, and salvation through faith in Christ.

Especially Holy Baptism is called the “missionary” sacrament, for the church is called to “disciple all nations” by “baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to observe all things” He has commanded us (Matt. 28:19-20). Through Baptism God grants to the sinner all that He has done for him in Christ. It is the initial sacrament, as Luther said, “which snatchès us from the jaws of the devil and makes us God’s own.” The Word and Sacraments are the tools that the church has at her disposal for her part in the extension of God’s kingdom. Other tools cannot and will never be a substitute for them.

The goal of reaching out to the hurting, confused, and lost world is expressed in the prayer our Lord taught us when He said we should pray “Thy kingdom come.” Martin Luther demonstrated the global dimension of this petition when commenting in his Large Catechism, “This we ask, both in order that we who have accepted it may remain faithful and grow daily in it and also in order that it may find approval and gain followers among other people and advance with power throughout the world,” to which Luther added, “All this is nothing more than to say, ‘Dear Father, we ask You first to give us Your Word, so that the Gospel may be properly preached throughout the world and then that it may also be received in faith and may work and dwell in us. . . .’”

In a world torn by sin, violence, and destruction we remember that God’s Word does and will continue to go forth. It will “advance with power throughout the world” to bring His saving health to the nations, so that now, in an incomplete way and in the perfect fulfillment of the last day, the prayer of the Psalmist and Saint John’s vision of heavenly worship will be realized, “After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; and cried with a loud voice, saying, ‘Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb’” (Rev. 7:9-10).

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I was sent by The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS) upon graduation from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, to Venezuela in 2001. The Venezuelan Lutheran Church is a small synod of 25 Lutheran congregations spread across the country. She celebrated her 50th anniversary in 2001.

My task as a missionary is multifaceted. I am a church planter which simply means that I am, by the grace of God, to start or help start a church here in Maracay, Venezuela. I am also a theological educator, that is, one who trains pastors and laypeople alike in theology. Third, I am responsible for the volunteers and other career missionaries that we have in the field, and I work with the national church on a variety of issues.

Mission work is God’s work. The holy Christian and apostolic church finds her mandate to “teach all nations” in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The very heartbeat of the church is that by grace through faith we are saved, a message that intrinsically must be carried to all peoples—that Christ died for all and rose again for all. It therefore follows that the church is sent by Jesus to all nations to preach Him, the Christ, the Gospel of salvation. An example of this is the Lutheran church in Venezuela.
Today’s reality of shrinking mission budgets within the LCMS has directly led to my handling a variety of tasks. Three years ago there were seven LCMS pastors here in Venezuela. Today there are two. One of the major frustrations of missionaries is that many different tasks fall upon them which sometimes prevent them from doing any particular task thoroughly. One who is asked to teach courses at the seminary level, visit his members, evangelize, care for fellow missionaries, and interact with the national church quickly realizes that mission work is God’s work and that anything that one is able to do and complete is only by the grace of God.

A missionary is one who is thrust into a strange culture, a strange people, a strange language and then comes to the realization that he is the strange one and everyone around him is normal. Waiting two or three hours in line to pay utility bills or going to bank machines that have no cash quickly frustrates one who is accustomed to all the conveniences of North America. Withdrawing money from the bank can be an all day ordeal when there are 150 people in line ahead of you. Then again, simply talking to people and teaching them about Christ are difficult when every single building has walls 10 to 15 feet high and no one trusts any one else. Misplaced trust can often mean being robbed or even being seriously injured.

A missionary is hard put to avoid other religions, spiritual beliefs, and a host of ingrained superstitions in his field of endeavor. In a city like Maracay with a population of a million plus, religious parades and public veneration of saints is a common occurrence. One also may experience outright competition. When our storefront services were started, a Catholic chapel directly opposite us which had been closed for a year, was reopened.

Truly, the goal of all mission work is to proclaim the Gospel, Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sins, and the love of the heavenly Father. The fulfillment of mission work is that the new believer, delivered from all evil, lives and dies with true faith only to live for all eternity.
A Lutheran missionary in a Roman Catholic country is encouraged and well prepared when he opens his Book of Concord. As a new missionary I saw people worshiping the dead and knew people were in the cemetery praying to their dead. It is wonderful to find an already formulated and articulated answer in Augsburg Article XXI. Then, too, in my visits I frequently hear people say, “I don’t believe in the priest.” At that moment the church of the Reformation clearly proclaims, through her missionary, that we don’t believe in the priest either, but that our authority and norm is not the church but Scripture alone. There are countless other issues that I daily encounter in speaking with people, such as receiving only one kind of the sacrament, priests who are forbidden to marry, obligatory confession, penitence, and the mass. It is a delight to have beautiful statements already articulated which permit me to proclaim clearly and articulately the true Jesus Christ and what His Church believes.

About ten years ago the pope came to visit Venezuela. The pope greeted the people in the main square by saying, “The Lord be with you,” and his audience shouted, “And with thy spirit.” Liturgy in such a country for a missionary is simply not an issue. Due to the influence of Roman Catholicism, a Lutheran missionary who follows our two synodical hymnals finds that converts view a mission church with more respect and comfort when she practices the liturgy, although the instruments and musical arrangements vary.

Truly, the goal of all mission work is to proclaim the Gospel, Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sins, and the love of the heavenly Father. The fulfillment of mission work is that the new believer, delivered from all evil, lives and dies with true faith only to live for all eternity. I am reminded of a young boy named Eddy. I visited Eddy in the hospital at the request of one of my members. He had a high fever. I talked to him of Jesus and the following day he was baptized. Again, we talked and he told me that he believed in Jesus Christ. The next day, I went to visit Eddy and he was already with his heavenly Father. As a missionary, I am frequently reminded of the urgency of the work that the church has and that “Today is the day of salvation.”

Simply put, a missionary is one who dedicates his life to proclaiming Jesus Christ to all, especially the unbeliever. To this end, a missionary will consistently visit, listen, proclaim, encourage, and pray with those who do not yet know Christ. Often, very often, people will listen and not respond to the Gospel. This means frequent frustration, disappointment, and sometimes depression. However, the missionary moves on to other homes and begins the process all over again, trusting in Christ and His Word. One thing that a missionary learns is to rely upon the Lord for all things and that nothing happens before the Holy Spirit moves hearts and minds to believe in Jesus Christ. The missionary must always remember that the Word of God always does what it is supposed to do.

The greatest single joy that any missionary encounters is when an individual comes to faith in Jesus Christ. I was privileged to continue the mission work that my former partner, the Rev. Richard Schlak, began. God has blessed our mission here in Maracay with 27 new brothers and sisters in Christ over the past two years. We have grown from a confirmed membership of 24 to 51 adults, in addition to 27 baptized souls. God is good and He is faithful as He continues to work through Word and Sacraments. To Him we give all the glory.

Challenges always abound on the mission field. Here in Maracay, we soon hope to build a sanctuary for our mission. Many churches established by missionaries over 15 years ago still do not have a church sanctuary. Funds are not quickly forthcoming when an individual here makes about $200 per month to support his family.

I ask that you would continue to pray for your missionaries serving across the world. The struggles and challenges that they are faced with are daunting and difficult. Ask that the Lord would encourage, strengthen, and enable them to preach His Word clearly and with power. Pray that the Lord would empower them with an unconditional love for those to whom He has sent them. Pray particularly that His Word would fall on hard hearts in which the Holy Spirit might work repentance, confession, and true faith in Jesus Christ. Pray that our prayers might be linked in an endless plea for mercy unto yet unreached and dying souls. Pray that the glory of our Triune God may redound, and souls yet void of His love may brighten unto the joy of their salvation with never ending grace and love in Christ our Lord. Pray ceaselessly!

Should you wish to contact me, please do so at tkrey@hotmail.com.

The Rev. Theodore M. R. Krey is a Missionary Pastor, a church planter, and theological educator in Venezuela.
Epiphany and Mission

Epiphany is the great missionary season of the church year. If Christmas celebrates the Father giving the gift of His Son into our flesh to be our Savior, then Epiphany is the unwrapping of that gift for the whole world. The Father puts the gift on display as the star draws the Magi, Gentiles, to worship God incarnate. At the beginning of the Epiphany Season is Jesus’ baptism in the Jordan. Here the Father declares Jesus to be His well-loved Son and the descent of the Spirit marks the Son as the Christ. At Epiphany’s end there is the Transfiguration. Again there is the voice of the Father announcing that Jesus is His Son, calling drowsy disciples to hear Him as Moses and Elijah speak of His forthcoming exodus at Jerusalem. Between the Lord’s baptism and His Transfiguration, there are His words and signs. He shows forth His glory and His disciples believe on Him as His word changes water into wine.

Epiphany points to the God who comes near, not to damn but to save. He comes not to deliver retribution for sin but to rescue from sin. He comes not to blind with heavenly glory but to show forth His glory as the Sun of Righteousness who sheds the tender rays of mercy on those whose lives are shrouded in darkness. The Prophet Isaiah announces the Lord’s coming: “Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples, but the Lord will arise upon you, and His glory will be seen upon you” (Isa. 60:1-2 ESV).

Epiphany continues as the glory of the Lord is heralded to the nations in the preaching of the Gospel. One of the fathers of Concordia Theological Seminary, Wilhelm Lothe, rightly observed: “For mission is nothing but the one church of God in motion. . . . Mission is the life of the catholic church. Where it stops, blood and breath stop; where it dies, the love which unites heaven and earth also dies. The catholic church and mission—these two no one can separate without killing both, and that is impossible” (W. Lohe, Three Books About the Church. Trans. by James L. Schauf [Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1969], p. 59). Called out of darkness to live in the light of Christ, the church moves in every dismal place where Christ is not named as Lord to make Him known in preaching and baptism. Gathered around His sermon and sacrament, Christians receive the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Enlivened by these gifts, Christians move back into the world to show mercy, to confess Christ to the glory of the Father. The movement of God’s mission is from heaven to earth and it continues into all the earth, to all nations. As Luther put it: “The Gospel and Baptism must traverse the world” (quoted in Werner Elert, The Structure of Lutheranism. Trans. by Walter Hanson [St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1962], p. 386).

Mission is not a frenzied commotion but a movement into the world where our Lord’s Epiphany continues as He is made known as the Savior to whom every tongue shall ultimately confess in eternal joy or everlasting shame, to whom every knee shall bow in delighted adoration or unalterable submission. Mission is God’s church in motion, reflecting His light in the increasing darkness of this dying world. God’s mission moves from font, pulpit, and altar out into the world. But it does not stop in the world. Mission moves back into the church as those who were once far off now have access to God through faith in Christ. Mission begins in the church and comes to consummation there as well.

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Epiphany continues as the glory of the Lord is heralded to the nations in the preaching of the Gospel. One of the fathers of Concordia Theological Seminary, Wilhelm Lothe, rightly observed: “For mission is nothing but the one church of God in motion. . . . Mission is the life of the catholic church. Where it stops, blood and breath stop; where it dies, the love which unites heaven and earth also dies. The catholic church and mission—these two no one can separate without killing both, and that is impossible” (W. Lohe, Three Books About the Church. Trans. by James L. Schauf [Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1969], p. 59). Called out of darkness to live in the light of Christ, the church moves in every dismal place where Christ is not named as Lord to make Him known in preaching and baptism. Gathered around His sermon and sacrament, Christians receive the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Enlivened by these gifts, Christians move back into the world to show mercy, to confess Christ to the glory of the Father. The movement of God’s mission is from heaven to earth and it continues into all the earth, to all nations. As Luther put it: “The Gospel and Baptism must traverse the world” (quoted in Werner Elert, The Structure of Lutheranism. Trans. by Walter Hanson [St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1962], p. 386).

Mission is not a frenzied commotion but a movement into the world where our Lord’s Epiphany continues as He is made known as the Savior to whom every tongue shall ultimately confess in eternal joy or everlasting shame, to whom every knee shall bow in delighted adoration or unalterable submission. Mission is God’s church in motion, reflecting His light in the increasing darkness of this dying world. God’s mission moves from font, pulpit, and altar out into the world. But it does not stop in the world. Mission moves back into the church as those who were once far off now have access to God through faith in Christ. Mission begins in the church and comes to consummation there as well.

In these Epiphany days we sing:

Hail, O Source of ev’ry blessing,  
Father of all humankind!  
Gentiles now, your grace possessing,  
In your courts admission find.  
Grateful now we fall before you,  
In your Church obtain a place,  
See your glory and adore you;  
Praise your truth and laud your grace  
Lutheran Worship 84:1

The Rev. John T. Pless is an Assistant Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Editor of For the Life of the World magazine.
Fresh out of Concordia University, Mequon, Wisconsin, and enrolled at Concordia Theological Seminary, 23-year-old Brandon Froiland is looking forward to a life of serving our Lord through His church.

How does such a young man come to know that this is the vocation he was meant to pursue? “At the end of my junior year (in high school), I heard about Christ Academy, a two-week program for high-school-aged men interested in the vocation of pastor. Fifteen other men and I took part in the first annual Christ Academy in 1999, where we learned theology and experienced worship life at the seminary. Needless to say, I was hooked and I wanted to serve God’s people in Word and Sacrament ministry,” explains Brandon. He returned to Christ Academy as a student in 2000 and then went on to serve as a proctor at Christ Academy while he was in college. Now in his first year at seminary, Brandon is serving as the Assistant Director of Christ Academy 2005.

While Christ Academy taught him a great deal about becoming a pastor, his four years at Concordia-Mequon provided him with another aspect that will serve him well throughout his life. “I met two of my best friends at Concordia University Mequon: Jacob Gaugert and Gary Schultz. While we have some different interests in the realms of theology, we have been great friends through many tribulations and good times as well,” shared Brandon. “I am thankful to have two very talented men who went to college with me and who are attending seminary as well. I rejoice knowing that we will have each other to rely on in these seminary years and beyond when we are in the parish.”
Christ Academy and Concordia-Mequon weren’t the only positive influences on Brandon. He has great support from his family who is very involved at his home congregation of Faith Lutheran Church, Greenfield, Indiana. His father, James, serves as an elder; Diane, his mom, has served in many areas of the parish; and younger brother Chris was active with Brandon in youth group and now attends the campus ministry at Purdue University. Brandon also credits some of his interest in the ministry to his pastor, the Rev. David Koeneman, who encouraged him early on to consider the ministry and allowed him to participate in worship services by reading the lessons. In fact, the entire congregation is solidly behind Brandon, “The members of Faith have given me reassurance in my desire to pursue the Office of the Holy Ministry. They have offered prayers and generously given financial support for their son in the seminary.”

Transitioning from college to the “seminary experience” has held its challenges, but Brandon is adjusting well and learning how to prepare for deadlines and tests that are a little more demanding than in college. The plus for him is that while the workload is more intense, it is solely focused on theology which he truly enjoys. Even with more demands on his time Brandon as found time to play on the King’s Men basketball team at the sem. (Brandon is the one going up for the shot in the photo.) “I have enjoyed playing basketball this year under Coach Tim Puls. He demands our best on the court as well as encourages us to work hard in the classroom. Playing alongside my teammates has been a great bonding experience and an opportunity to meet seminarians that I may not have met without playing on the team,” said Brandon.

With nearly half a year’s experience behind him at CTS, what sage advice does Brandon have for men considering becoming a pastor? “I would encourage any young men interested in the ministry to attend Christ Academy or Christ Academy College. Also, men of any age should visit the seminary and talk to the admission counselors and professors.” Brandon also suggests talking with your relatives and close friends about your thoughts, as well as discussing the possibilities with your pastor. Finally, while in the decision making process Brandon emphasizes the importance of being involved in your home congregation or a church near your campus if you are in college.

Plan Ahead!

Are you thinking about attending CTS? Make plans to visit with us during these special events:

2005 Symposia Series
January 18-21, 2005
(260) 452-2204

Spring Prayerfully Consider Visit
March 17-19, 2005
(800) 481-2155

Serving the Church—A Vocational Retreat
April 28-May 1, 2005
(800) 481-2155
Never underestimate the influence of a pastor, or in this case three pastors. The Rev. Doug Bauman explains the influence his pastors had on his decision to choose the Holy Ministry as his vocation. “In my freshman year of high school, my family was founding members of a mission congregation, Shepherd of the Plains Lutheran Church, Fairfield, Nebraska. Three pastors served that congregation while I was in high school and college who influenced me a great deal: the Rev. Richard Hoogerhyde, the Rev. Fred Berry, and the Rev. Brent Kuhlman.” Because of their guidance and encouragement Rev. Bauman enrolled in the pre-seminary program at Concordia University, Seward, Nebraska, and graduated in 1997.

Rev. Bauman had another great influence in his life and that is his wife, Michelle. “Michelle has supported and encouraged me both at the seminary and now in the parish,” says Rev. Bauman. Upon graduation from Seward, he waited one year before enrolling at CTS so Michelle could finish her degree in Lutheran Secondary Education. Soon thereafter they were off to Fort Wayne. “I chose to come to CTS because I was impressed with the faculty, both with their expertise and also their desire to interact with seminarians in both formal and informal settings. I also appreciated the centrality of worship at CTS,” commented Rev. Bauman. “In addition, Michelle and I enjoyed the campus and the many cultural and recreational activities that Fort Wayne offers.”

In May 2002 Rev. Bauman received his Master of Divinity degree and by June 2002 he was installed as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Columbus, Indiana. St. Paul’s is a rural congregation of some 403 baptized members located in southern Indiana. During his short tenure Rev. Bauman has already discovered many joys in service to his Lord and congregation. “First of all, I have been blessed with an extraordinary staff that is faithful to the Lord and the people they serve. Secondly, the people of St. Paul are faithful and in the Word. They have a desire to learn. Our Sunday morning Bible
Class attendance is over 60 people, and on Wednesdays I teach two Bible studies, one in the morning and one in the evening which have a combined attendance of 45,” says Rev. Bauman. “I do enjoy preaching and teaching, both adults and the youth in confirmation. I especially enjoy calling on the sick and shut-ins and having that opportunity to visit with them and serve them with God’s Word and Sacrament.”

Rev. Bauman and the members of St. Paul’s continually reach out to the local community. One way is with their preschool that currently has 27 students. Another is with outreach to the sizeable Hispanic population in the area. “Even though St. Paul is a rural congregation, located two miles from Columbus, there are a number of Latinos (Hispanics) who live in mobile home parks near the church. Rev. William Stache, the previous pastor, began meeting with them and holding Bible studies in their homes,” explains Rev. Bauman. “Even though I had never taken Spanish, we began to have a Spanish service at our church. My inability to speak Spanish well and the language barrier are definitely challenges. In addition to worship and Bible study, we have offered English as a Second Language (ESL) classes for Hispanic adults, and we have a Day Camp during the summer for the Hispanic children.”

Being involved with people from all different walks of life, from preschoolers to senior citizens and those of other cultures, Rev. Bauman shares what he believes is most important for pastors to do for their congregations, “Teach, teach, teach! God calls His church and His people to be faithful—to be faithful to His Word and to be faithful in reaching out to others with the saving Gospel. Our people need to be solidly grounded in the truths of Holy Scripture so that they know the truth and through the hearing and studying of God’s Word be strengthened in their own faith, and also then be encouraged to speak and to share that Word with others.” In keeping with that idea to teach and prepare God’s people, St. Paul congregation has several men who are serving the church. “We presently have three men who have just finished or are presently studying for full-time church work. Tim Krieg graduated from Concordia University in River Forest in May 2004 and is presently teaching at Child of Christ Lutheran School in Hartland, Michigan. Art Schwenk is currently a second year student at CTS, and Peter Brock, after he finishes his undergraduate work, plans to enroll at CTS in the fall of 2006,” shares Rev. Bauman.

What are Rev. Bauman’s plans as he considers the future of his ministry at St. Paul? He answers with these simple, yet strong words, “Keep serving the flock that the Lord has placed under my care with His life-giving Word and His precious Sacraments.”

Rev. Bauman and his wife, Michelle, have been blessed with two sons: Nathaniel (3) and Simeon (8 months). Michelle teaches English at Trinity Lutheran High School, Seymour, Indiana.
Life-Changing Studies

Christ Academy, like Concordia Theological Seminary, is centered on Christ crucified, who is present in His Word and Sacraments to forgive and dwell in His Church. Students of Christ Academy will study Exegetical, Systematic, Historical, and Pastoral Theology. Seminary professors, Concordia University professors, and pastors teach the classes.

- “Christ Academy helped me to be more articulate about the Faith.”
- “The professors, while being extremely smart, always listened to what I had to say.”

Worship, the Center of the Experience

Students are engaged in the daily prayer life of the seminary. Attendees will join both professors and seminarians in daily worship services, which take place four times a day.

- “The liturgy and what we learned in the classroom went hand in hand.”
- “I loved the worship life here. Profound architecture and profound practices. Worship was excellent.”
- “Great! Services kept me focused throughout the day.”

Clarity of Direction

Having a focus that’s uniquely Lutheran, Christ Academy explores the many facets of pastoral ministry and its application in the real world.

- “Christ Academy has helped me to look at life in a different perspective: that it is lived for Christ and our neighbor, in serving Him and our neighbor through love which Christ showed in His life, death, and resurrection.”
- “My life is changed because of Christ Academy. There is no doubt in my mind that I will attend this seminary ...”
- “I definitely want to become a pastor.”

Fun Activities

Lifelong friendships are made at the Academy. These friendships are strengthened through activities such as the trip to Cedar Point Amusement Park, the tour of churches, flag football, soccer, capture the flag, etc. Activities are designed to engage students in the whole of Christian life.

- “God has allowed me to make many friends, friends that have helped guide me through my life and friends I may one day share in the joy of being a pastor.”

Christ Academy – June 19–July 2, 2005
This is a wonderful opportunity for college-age men to “urban backpack” in the land of Luther. This select group of men will begin their tour in Berlin, the “new” capital of a once divided Germany. We’ll then travel through Wittenberg, Erfurt, and Eisenach, finishing our journey in the resort town of Ruhpolding.

**Departure**
Depart from Fort Wayne or Chicago for our overnight transatlantic flight to Berlin, Germany.

**Berlin**
Arrive in Berlin; enjoy a relaxing day at St. Mary Lutheran Church; visit some area sites; enjoy a great meal at the “pub down the street.”

**Erfurt**
Train trip to Erfurt. Afternoon walking tour of the various Luther sites, including the Augustinian Monastery. *Overnight in Erfurt.*

**Eisenach**
Day trip to Eisenach. Spend the morning in the city and then hike up to Wartburg Castle. *Overnight in Erfurt.*

**Ruhpolding**
Train trip to Ruhpolding. This place has everything from mountain biking to white water rafting to hiking. Really cool place. Relax and take in the Alps. *Overnight in Ruhpolding.*

**Leipzig**
Train trip to Leipzig. We will spend the afternoon walking around the city and enjoying the various sites. We will attend Evening Prayer at St. Thomas church where Bach was Cantor. *Overnight in Leipzig.*

**Ruhpolding**
Free day for trips, etc. Maybe you will want to go into Munich or over to Salzburg, Austria. Maybe you will want to go hiking. *Overnight in Ruhpolding.*

**Wittenberg**
We will go on a half-day walking tour of Wittenberg with the entire group. This will include the various Luther sites and the Luther house. Afternoon is free for sightseeing. *Overnight in Leipzig.*

**Ruhpolding**
You will have a free afternoon to go somewhere else, maybe to Innsbruck, Austria, or for example simply walk by a mountain stream. We will have a great final toast to our trip. (Talk to previous travelers about our first evening in Berlin . . . the best.) *Overnight in Ruhpolding.*

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**Included in Price:**
- Round trip airfare via a scheduled IATA carrier.
- 2nd class German Rail Pass.
- Hotel: tourist class and traditional European hotels, with private hostel stay in Berlin.
- One Christ Academy counselor for every five participants.

**Not Included in Price:**
- Meals and beverages, except as noted in itinerary.
- Tips at hotels and for local city guides.
- All government fees and departure/airline taxes (est. $65-$80).
- Passport fees.
- Expenses of a personal nature.
- Passenger protection program (optional).

**Tour Price from:** $1700.00 per person including round trip airfare from Fort Wayne or Chicago

**Reservations are limited and can be made through Luther Tours at:**
888-458-8486
Discourses in Matthew—Jesus Teaches the Church
by Dr. David P. Scaer, Chairman, Systematics Department, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Concordia Publishing House gives the following description for Dr. Scaer’s book. “Focusing his exploration on Jesus’ Five Discourses, Dr. Scaer demonstrates that Matthew was written as catechesis, a method in concert with its content and organization. The discourses summarize the message the disciples are to carry to ‘all nations’ and each discourse builds on its predecessors to culminate in the narrative of Jesus’ death and resurrection, which is the Gospel’s interpretive key.”

Handling the Word of Truth: Law and Gospel in the Church Today
by The Rev. John T. Pless, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana

In his endorsement of the book, Dr. Harold L. Senkbeil says, “In the church, each generation stands on the shoulders of its predecessors. Christians in the 21st century will stand taller as a result of this concise summary of C. F. W. Walther’s classic theses on the proper distinction between Law and Gospel. Professor Pless mines the riches of Scripture, the Lutheran Confessions, and the pastoral works of Luther and Walther to unearth gems vital for both Christian life and preaching. Professor Pless is no mere archaeologist; his long pastoral experience ensures that every nugget connects struggling contemporary Christians to the unswerving light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

Both books are available from the CPH Bookstore located on the CTS campus. Order online by going to www.ctsfw.edu, click on Bookstore, or call 1-260-452-2160.

Seminary Hosts Society of the Holy Trinity

On November 10-11, 2004, the seminary hosted a group of pastors from the Society of the Holy Trinity (STS). These pastors, most of whom are in the ministerium of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, came to exchange views and to discuss issues on “The Lutheran Ministry in Light of the Great Tradition.” Six papers were delivered with informal discussion following. The papers were: “The Nicene Notes of the Church and the Fullness of Ministry,” by Dr. Frank Senn (STS); “Lutheran Hermeneutics,” by Dr. Charles Gieschen, Chairman, Exegetical Department, CTS; “The Ecumenical Character of the Lutheran Ministry,” by Dr. William Lazareth (STS); “Called and Ordained: Reflections on the New Testament View of the Office of the Ministry,” by Dr. William Weinrich, Academic Dean, CTS; “Lutheran Traditions Concerning the Ministry,” by Dr. Lawrence Rast, Associate Professor of Historical Theology, CTS; and “Luther’s Marks of the Church and the Life and Practice of the Parish Pastor” Rev. Phillip Max Johnson (STS). “It was a stimulating and rewarding experience, especially since the faculty of Concordia Theological Seminary impressed the broader Lutheran community with its theological expertise and churchly commitment,” commented CTS President, Dr. Dean O. Wenthe, pictured here with Dr. Johnson and Dr. Senn.
The seminary community welcomed the Rev. Dr. Gerald Kieschnick, President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, to campus on November 8, 2004. President Kieschnick delivered the homily at morning chapel, met with administrators over lunch, and engaged in discussion with faculty and students throughout the afternoon. It was a full and festive day of Hoosier hospitality for President Kieschnick!

### Candidates and Vicars Receive Assignments at Fall Call Service

On October 29, 2004, two candidates received calls and five men received their vicarage assignments during worship in Kramer Chapel.

**Receiving their placement into the Holy Ministry were:**

- **Christopher B. Davis** who will serve First English Lutheran Church, Dorset (Park Rapids), Minnesota, Minnesota North District.
- **Lowell S. Sorenson**, called to Immanuel Lutheran-Hay Creek, Red Wing, Minnesota, Minnesota South District. Pictured with his wife, Sara.

**Receiving vicarage assignments were:**

- **Bruce W. Cairns** to Calvary Lutheran Church, Elgin, Illinois, Northern Illinois District. Pictured with his wife, Sheila.
- **Terry L. DeGiovanni** to Holy Cross/Faith Lutheran Churches, Seeley Lake/Condon, Montana, Montana District.
- **Kevin M. Koester** to Concordia Lutheran Church, Berwyn, Illinois, English District.
- **Mark D. Lovett** to Christ the King Lutheran Church, Billings, Montana, Montana District. Pictured with his wife, Kristina.
- **Kenneth O. Stensrud** to Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Ennis, Montana, Montana District. (No picture available)

We rejoice with these men as they take the next step in their journey of serving our Lord, Jesus Christ, through His church here on earth. Please join the faculty and staff of CTS in keeping these men, their families, and the members of the congregations they serve in your prayers.
Prayerfully Consider
Spring Invitational Campus Visit

March 17-19, 2005

For more information, contact the Office of Admission at the following address and phone number:

6600 N. Clinton St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46825
admission@mail.ctsfw.edu
(800) 481-2155
CTS Online: www.ctsfw.edu

Worship with the seminary community at chapel services held four times a day.

Visit seminary classes to experience firsthand the dynamic learning environment.

Learn more about financial aid for your specific situation by meeting with our Director of Financial Aid.

Explore the affordable Fort Wayne housing market by meeting one on one with our Relocation Coordinator, reviewing the homes available for sale from other seminary families, and visiting local neighborhoods and apartment complexes.

Locate Lutheran and public schools with resources provided by our Relocation Coordinator and by visiting the schools themselves.

Identify potential employers, schools, real estate agents, insurance agents, health care services, and campus resources at the Display Fair.

Acclimate yourself to the campus and learn about its architecture with a tour of the chapel, the classroom buildings, the Food and Clothing Co-ops, Christ’s Child Learning Corner, and the gymnasium.

Enjoy multiple opportunities for fellowship with our President, faculty, staff, and students.

For the Life of the World
Continuing Education Benefits You and Your Congregation!

CTS’s Regional Continuing Education Programs for parish pastors and professional church workers bring the best of the seminary to you. Through these specialized courses you will grow in your knowledge and understanding of Biblical and theological matters; join with other pastors and professional church workers who, like you, are searching for Biblical insights into challenges faced in the parish; and return to your congregation armed with new information after a relaxed, informal retreat to the study of God’s Word.

St. Cloud, MN May 23-26, 2005
THEMES IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN
William C. Weinrich, D.Theol.
Rev. Richard Bolling, Coordinator
Lutheran Student Fellowship
201 Fourth St. S.
St. Cloud, MN 56301
320-259-1577
lsf@sicloudstate.edu

Kearney, NE June 6-10, 2005
THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENT OF C.F.W. WALTHER
Cameron A. MacKenzie, Ph.D.
Rev. North Sherrill, Coordinator
Zion Lutheran Church
2421 Ave. C
Kearney, NE 68847
308-234-2410
npsherrill@citlink.net

Highlands Ranch, CO May 31, June 1-3, 2005
1 CORINTHIANS AND A PAULINE MODEL FOR MINISTRY
Peter J. Scaer, Ph.D.
Rev. Bruce Skelton, Coordinator
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
9770 S. Foothills Canyon Blvd.
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126
303-683-1300
holycrosspastor@aol.com

Hickory, NC June 6-10, 2005
HISTORY AND THEOLOGY OF THE LC-MS
Lawrence R. Rast, Ph.D.
Rev. Ray Ohlendorf, Coordinator
Salem Lutheran Church
4046 NC Hwy. 16N.
Taylorsville, NC 28681
828-632-4863
rohledorf@juno.com

Topeka, KS June 9-10, 2005
LUTHERAN MISSIOLOGY
Klaus Detlev Schulz, Th.D.
Rev. Peter Lange, Coordinator
St. John Lutheran Church
901 SW Filmore St.
Topeka, KS 66606
785-334-7132
pklange@cjnetworks.com

San Francisco, CA June 13-17, 2005
LUTHERAN ETHICS TODAY
John T. Pless, M.Div.
Rev. Stewart Crown, Coordinator
Trinity Lutheran Church
1295 Middlefield Road
Palo Alto, CA 94301
650-853-1295
pastor@comcast.net

Jackson, WY June 13-17, 2005
THE MISSIONARY MESSAGE AND THEOLOGY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT
Walter A. Maier III, Ph.D.
Rev. Marvin Temme, Coordinator
Our Savior Lutheran Church
2973 East B St.
Torrington, WY 82240-2039
307-532-5801
mltemme@communicom.net

Seattle, WA June 20-24, 2005
PAUL AND HIS OPPONENTS IN GALATIA
Arthur A. Just, Ph.D.
Rev. Ernie Lassman, Coordinator
Messiah Lutheran Church
7505 35th Ave. NE
Seattle, WA 98115-5917
206-524-0024
elassman@aol.com

Harrison, AR June 20-24, 2005
THE DOCTRINE OF CHURCH AND FELLOWSHIP
Klaus Detlev Schulz, Th.D.
Rev. Eric Stefanski, Coordinator
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 2612
Harrison, AR 72601
870-577-0742
revkst@cat4t.org

Norwalk, CT June 20-24, 2005
JUSTIFICATION AS AN ECUMENICAL ISSUE
Kurt E. Marquart, M.A., D.D.
Rev. Robert Beinke, Coordinator
St. Peter Lutheran Church
208 Newtown Ave.
Norwalk, CT 06851
203-847-1252
stpeterlcpastor@yahoo.com

Madison, WI July 11-15, 2005
THE HOLINESS OF GOD IN SACRIFICAL WORSHIP
John W. Kleinig, Ph.D.
Rev. Michael Frese, Coordinator
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
310 Center Ave.
Adell, WI 53001
920-944-9005
emmanuelchurch@core.com

Austin, TX July 25-29, 2005
LAW AND GOSPEL IN TODAY’S SERMON
Carl C. Fickenscher, Ph.D.
Rev. Bryan Sullivan, Coordinator
Grace Lutheran Church
801 W. 11th St.
Elgin, TX 78621-2006
512-281-3367

Pittsburgh, PA July 25-29, 2005
TOWARD A LUTHERAN SPIRITUALITY
Daniel L. Gard, Ph.D.
Rev. Jamison Hardy, Coordinator
Our Savior Lutheran Church
608 Country Club Dr.
Pittsburgh, PA 15228
412-561-7299
jamhard1@yahoo.com

Flathhead Lake, MT August 1-5, 2005
THE CHRISTOLOGY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION
Charles A. Gieschen, Ph.D.
Rev. George Draper, Coordinator
Trinity Lutheran Church
731 Knapp St.
Wolf Point, MT 59201
406-653-3060
frgeorge@midrivers.com

Albuquerque, NM August 1-5, 2005
THEMES IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN
William C. Weinrich, D.Theol.
Rev. Warren Graff, Coordinator
Grace Lutheran Church
7550 Eubank Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122
505-823-9100
wwgraff@juno.com

For more information, contact the Continuing Education Office at (260) 452-2191 or e-mail continuedue@ctsfw.edu. *To register online visit www.ctsfw.edu.
## 2005 Symposia Coming to CTS

### Exegesis & Confessions—January 18-21, 2005

Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana, will again host its annual Symposia, January 18-21, 2005. Held every year on the Fort Wayne campus, presentations on Exegetical Theology and the Lutheran Confessions will highlight the four-day event.

Celebrating its 20th year, the theme for the Exegetical Theology Symposium is “Who Is Jesus? The Church’s Response to Christological Controversies.” The 28th annual Symposium on the Lutheran Confessions has chosen “The Third Use of the Law: Revisiting a Perennial Issue” as its theme.

### EXEGETICAL THEOLOGY

**Tuesday, January 18, 2005**

**NOTE:** The plenary sessions on Tuesday will be related to Dr. Larry Hurtado’s book, *Lord Jesus Christ* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003). Those attending the Symposium are invited to read this book in advance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:05 a.m.</td>
<td>“Current Christological Controversies and the Church’s Response”</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>“A Review of Dr. Hurtado’s <em>Lord Jesus Christ</em>”</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>“Devotion to Jesus in the Context of Second Temple Jewish Monotheistic Piety”</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:15 p.m.</td>
<td>“The Meaning of Matthew’s Confession of Jesus in the 1st and 21st Century Church”</td>
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<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Panel Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Vespers</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
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### THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS

**Wednesday, January 19, 2005**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Short Exegetical Paper Sectionals</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>“The Rich Monotheism of Isaiah as Christological Resource”</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>“Entering Holiness: The High Priestly Christology of Hebrews”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:50 a.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Thursday, January 20, 2005

**Did Scott Murray Get It Right?**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>“Hitting or Missing the Mark”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>“Looking into the Heart of Missouri”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>“The Author Meets His Critics”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Itinerarium: Chapel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Friday, January 21, 2005

**Registration is $150.00.** $30.00 of each registration fee is a non-refundable deposit. Full payment or a non-refundable deposit must accompany all registrations to guarantee your registration. The deadline for registration is January 9, 2005. Registration forms and additional information can be found online at www.ctsfw.edu. Click on events, click on Symposia, or call 1-260-452-2247.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:50 p.m.</td>
<td>Introduction - “Keeping Up to Date with an Old Issue”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>“The Third Use of the Law, a Contribution of the Formula of Concord”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:50 p.m.</td>
<td>“The Place of the Third Use of the Law in Reformed Theology”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:40 p.m.</td>
<td>“A Third Use of the Law: Is the Phrase Necessary?”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Schola Cantorum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Registration forms and additional information can be found online at www.ctsfw.edu. Click on events, click on Symposia, or call 1-260-452-2247.
CTS Offers Lenten Preaching Seminars

Concordia Theological Seminary will offer a Lenten Preaching Seminar on Monday, January 17, 2005, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Dr. Daniel L. Gard, Associate Professor of Exegetical Theology, and Dr. Harold L. Senkbeil, Associate Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions, will present exegetical and homiletical studies for a midweek Lenten series under the theme, “Lamb of God, Pure and Holy.” The series will also include sermonic studies for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday. The Rev. John T. Pless, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions, will provide liturgical resources for Lent and Easter.

The registration fee for the seminar is $25.00. For additional information contact the Office of the Good Shepherd Institute at 260-452-2143.

New Opportunity to Explore the Ministry at CTS

On April 28-May 1, 2005, Concordia Theological Seminary will host its first Serving the Church–A Vocational Retreat. This retreat is designed for second-career men and women who are just beginning to consider a life in service to the church. It will offer participants an opportunity for reflection and contemplation upon vocation within the church as a pastor or deaconess.

“It is time for the people to recover a lost sense of tradition and enter into theological formation to serve the church full time. The teaching of the Scriptures, the catechism, and the liturgy of the church may indeed give the foundation that our people need and want,” commented the Rev. Scott C. Klemisz, CTS Director of Admission. “Service to Christ and His church is important in a postmodern culture with an ever-shrinking set of absolutes. The church has the ability to give the world an absolute that cannot be found in an experiential movement, but can be found in the theological reality of Jesus Christ.”

CTS has a long-standing tradition of preparing men for the ministry since its founding in 1846 and is now in its second year of training women to serve as deaconesses. This rich theological foundation can serve as the same foundation on which your future life of service can be built.

Participants will be afforded the opportunity to hear members of the CTS faculty and professional church workers from within our Synod discuss the possibilities available for those considering serving the church as a pastor or deaconess. There will also be daily opportunities to worship in Kramer Chapel with the entire seminary community. Cost for the retreat is $100 and includes on-campus housing and meals. For additional information call the Admission Office at 1-800-481-2155.

In late November 2004, Dr. Timothy C. J. Quill, Dean of International Studies, traveled to Madagascar to visit its seminary and local congregations.

In his comments about the visit the Rev. David Rakotonirina, Vice President, Synod of Antananarivo, Malagasy Lutheran Church, Madagascar, said, “We visited the Seminary in Atsimoniovoko Antsirabe before going to teach in Fiamantsoa. Last Sunday, he (Dr. Quill) preached two times and helped me to serve during the Lord’s Supper. We had six infants baptized. It is the first time to have this Sacrament in this new Lutheran church. Pray for our hard task.”

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CTS Deaconess Program Continues with Outstanding Growth

Interest in the Master’s-level Deaconess Program at Concordia Theological Seminary continues to grow at a healthy rate. This fall CTS welcomed 13 new students to the program for the 2004-05 academic year. Women enrolling in the program will participate in a rigorous program of theological study taught by the CTS faculty. The program also includes a focus on human care to better prepare each student to reach out to those in need. Deaconess students will have the opportunity to fulfill their fieldwork at a local LCMS congregation and complete a one-year internship in a congregation or recognized institution.

“Concordia Theological Seminary is privileged to prepare women for deaconess service. In this second year of our program we are delighted to welcome a diverse group of women to study theology and prepare for service in the church through teaching, visitations, and embodying Christ’s mercy and charity,” commented Dr. Arthur A. Just, Jr., Director of the Deaconess Program. “Our deaconess students are already a great blessing to our campus life, and we look forward to catechizing the church about the benefits of having deaconesses serving in our parishes.”

The faculty and staff are also pleased to welcome two new staff members, Ms. Sara Bielby and Mrs. Deanna Cheadle, as Deaconess Interns to counsel and nurture both prospective and on-campus students. “What a great privilege to be here at the seminary to serve prospective students as they consider entering the deaconess vocation,” said Mrs. Cheadle. “I look forward to establishing relationships with these students as they contemplate joining deaconesses who have, for centuries, announced the good news of Jesus Christ to the young and old, and the sick and the dying.”

For more information about the Deaconess Program at CTS, phone 260-452-2210 or e-mail Deaconess@mail.ctsfw.edu.

Dedicated Servant Receives Second Miles Christi

For the first time ever the Miles Christi (Soldier of the Cross) Award has been presented to a previous recipient. Mr. Arnold Kemmerle of Santa Rosa, California, was first presented the award in 1986 by Dr. Robert Preus. Since that time Mr. Kemmerle has continued his work in furthering the fiscal health of CTS by establishing the Concordia Theological Foundation. He has also served on the Board of Regents Finance Committee.

In addition to his contribution to CTS, Mr. Kemmerle serves His Lord and church in a variety of ways. He served on the Concordia Publishing House Board of Directors and is active in service to his home congregation. “His vision for the church extends internationally in that he has helped sponsor outreach, particularly in Haiti,” commented Dr. Lawrence Rast, Assistant Academic Dean, during the presentation. “In light of these remarkable contributions, it is a great honor to present Mr. Arnold Kemmerle with a second Miles Christi Award, the first person to receive two such awards in the history of our seminary.”

The Miles Christi Award was created by the CTS faculty in order to recognize and honor Lutheran laymen or laywomen in the church who have glorified God through a real contribution in some field of human endeavor and who have displayed the characteristics of good soldiers of Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 2:3).
**Seminary Guild Hosts Successful and Entertaining Donation Day**

On Tuesday, October 19, 2004, approximately 100 women from the Seminary Guild and the Ohio and Indiana District Lutheran Women’s Missionary Leagues (LWML) came together on the campus of Concordia Theological Seminary to share the gifts God has given them with the students and their families. Our annual Donation Day dawned with gray overhanging clouds and a very cold wind, but hearts were warmed as we gathered to worship in Kramer Chapel and enjoy the presentations in Sihler Auditorium.

Guests had opportunities to tour the campus, share refreshments with students, and shop in the newly remodeled campus Bookstore. President Wenthle was present to welcome the ladies to campus and greetings were also offered by the two LWML District Presidents, Elfrieda Spencer from Ohio and Marge Gruber from Indiana. The Food and Clothing Co-ops Director, Cynthia Hall, thanked the ladies for their generous donations, and the Student Wives Association (SWA) showed their appreciation by staging a style show using items they had obtained from the Clothing Co-op. Lisa Schilling, the SWA President, and her models presented a wonderful array of fashionable clothing for both children and adults of all shapes and sizes.

Following lunch, our special guest was the Rev. Johann Adam Detzer (a.k.a. Rev. Dale Kern of Stryker, Ohio), who “came to life” and shared how the Gospel of Christ had compelled him to immigrate from Bavaria to America in the 1840’s and become a circuit-riding preacher to settlers in the newly tamed wilderness of Northwest Ohio. Our student guests from St. Paul’s and Unity Lutheran Schools had fun trying to sing German hymns led by Rev. Detzer and experiencing what catechism instruction might have been like at that time. All were impressed with how the Lord was able to use this man to help establish The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod and over 54 congregations in Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, and Nebraska.

Planning has already begun for our next Donation Day which will be Tuesday, October 18, 2005. If you live within driving distance of the seminary or plan to be in the area, we invite you to participate with us. Please watch this page for further registration information.

Our local projects are underway, funded by active and associate member dues and our sun-catcher sales. In March the SWA will be teaming with the Guild in a Pancake Breakfast fundraiser. Ticket sales will begin in late January and can be purchased in advance from the Student Wives or Guild members. This promises to be a fun and exciting new venture, and we appreciate their assistance.

As to our major project, replacing chairs in the Student Commons, we are happy to report that we are now past the halfway point toward the goal of $3,000! This was made possible through a generous donation from a special friend of the Guild. We are most humbled by and appreciative of this gift. We pray others will be moved to support this project as well.

**Concordia Theological Seminary**

**Affiliate Guild Registration**

- Yes, we are interested in becoming an Affiliate Guild. Please send more information to:
  - Name: __________________________________________
  - Organization: ____________________________________
  - Address: _________________________________________
  - City: __________________________ State: ________ ZIP: ________________

- We are enclosing a donation payable to Concordia Theological Seminary Guild, Box 8, 6600 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, IN 46825-4996.

- Please contact me with more information.
- We have enclosed our yearly $25.00 check for our group to be an Affiliate Guild.
- I have enclosed my yearly $10.00 check to be an individual affiliate member.
- I have enclosed a check to support the renovation of the Commons area.
- Donation Day Gift.
One of the realities with which Concordia Theological Seminary must deal is the loss of most of the funding known for many years as “synodical subsidy.” In the early 1970’s, this funding amounted to approximately 70 percent of the seminary’s general operations budget. Today, due to far more limited funds with which The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has to work, the subsidy the seminary receives from Synod covers only about two percent of its budget. That, obviously, challenges the seminary to find alternative sources of funding.

Two primary sources of funding are possible. The first possibility is student tuition. The seminary has resisted imposing a high tuition on students because this shrinks the number of students who can afford to come to the seminary. In recent years, when second career students account for over 60 percent of the student body, this would be especially difficult. Second career students leave jobs and income, sell their homes, and uproot their families to come to the seminary. Sometimes they have children in college at the same time they are in seminary. Trying to support a family while they are in school full time and paying a significant tuition would discourage many.

The second possibility for funding is through gifts. Gifts from God’s people, both individuals and congregations, have provided the overwhelming majority of funding in recent years. The largest portion of these gifts have come from individuals, some giving very generously for a cause they support with all their hearts.

Still, the task has been most daunting. Raising enough funds is a challenge every year. Recognizing the enormity of the task, the Board of Regents unanimously approved sending a letter with their signatures to all congregations of Synod, asking them to consider including the seminary as a line item in their budget on a yearly basis. The Regents understand that if all congregations sent a yearly gift to the seminary from their budget, the load would be considerably lessened.
GIFT ANNUITIES—GIFTS THAT KEEP ON GIVING

In recent years when interest rates have been quite low, more and more people with a love for the seminary and a desire to support it in the long term have done so by giving a gift annuity. A gift annuity offers both a gift to the seminary as well as income for the donor, a combination that many individuals and couples have found very attractive.

What benefits does a gift annuity offer you?

• It provides a gift that the seminary can use when the Lord calls you home to heaven.
• It gives you a guaranteed rate of income for the rest of your life.
• Part of the annuity payments you receive will be tax-free.
• It gives you a substantial charitable deduction for the year you give your gift and up to an additional five years if you cannot use all of it the first year.
• If you give appreciated assets to fund your gift annuity, it provides some relief from capital gains taxes.

The following table shows sample rates for gift annuities offered by the seminary:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
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<tr>
<td>70</td>
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<td>85</td>
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<td>11.3%</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Ages</th>
<th>Rate</th>
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<tr>
<td>65 &amp; 65</td>
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<td>75 &amp; 75</td>
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<td>80 &amp; 80</td>
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<td>7.9%</td>
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<td>90 &amp; 90</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
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For a personalized illustration of how a gift annuity would work for you, please send the coupon below to: Rev. Ralph G. Schmidt, Concordia Theological Seminary, 6600 N. Clinton, Fort Wayne, IN 46825; or call 260-452-2268; or send an e-mail to schmidtgr@mail.ctsfw.edu. We will be more than happy to show you the benefits that would specifically apply to your circumstances as you seek to support the seminary and provide for your own needs at the same time.

Please send me:

☐ Information on Gift Annuities.
☐ Information on other ways to give.

Name: ________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________

City: ____________________________ State: _______ ZIP:____________________

Phone: ____________________________________________________________________

Please send your donation to: Concordia Theological Seminary, Attention: Advancement Office, 6600 North Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 46825 or call 877-287-4338, Advancement Office, Ext. 2268.
Alumni Advisory Board Election:

The Concordia Theological Seminary Alumni Association will promote and support the work of Concordia Theological Seminary by:

- Petitioning our Almighty God through prayer for wisdom and guidance.
- Serving as vehicles of communication between the seminary and members of our congregations.
- Actively recruiting potential students.
- Supporting each other in the execution of the Great Commission.
- Providing input and ideas that will help the seminary educate pastors who are better equipped for the challenges of the ministry.
- Participating in requests for financial assistance.

To aid the Association in achieving its mission, a group of Alumni are elected to the Advisory Board. “The mission of the Concordia Theological Seminary Alumni Association Advisory Board is to support the seminary in its mission and serve as an avenue of communication between the Alumni Association and the seminary.”

Alumni Advisory Board Election:

This year representatives will be elected to the Alumni Advisory Board for Regions 7, 8, 9, and 10. The following have been duly nominated. Alumni may vote for one person from their region. The election will occur during Symposia week, January 18-21, 2005. “Absentee Ballots” will be accepted until February 15, 2005. Please send your “Absentee Ballot” to Alumni Relations, Concordia Theological Seminary, 6600 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, IN 46825.
CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Calendar of Events

Events
2005 Symposia Series
January 18-21, 2005
1-877-287-4338, ext. 2247

Sunday Brunch
February 6, 2005
March 13, 2005
April 3, 2005
11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Katherine Luther Dining Hall

Christ Academy–College Pre-Seminary Event
February 17-21, 2005
1-800-481-2155

Prayerfully Consider Campus Visit
March 17-19, 2005
1-800-481-2155

Vicarage Placement Service
April 25, 2005, 7:00 p.m.
Kramer Chapel

Candidate Call Service
April 26, 2005, 7:00 p.m.
Kramer Chapel

Music
Epiphany Lessons and Carols
January 16, 2005, 7:00 p.m.
Kramer Chapel

Organ Recital
January 19, 2005, 1:00 p.m.
Kramer Chapel

Symposia Choral Vespers
January 19, 2005, 4:45 p.m.
Kramer Chapel

Passion Choral Vespers
Seminary Schola Cantorum
March 12, 2005, 4:00 p.m.
Kramer Chapel

Easter Choral Vespers
Seminary Kantorei
April 3, 2005, 4:00 p.m.
Kramer Chapel

Retreats
Confirmation Retreat
April 15-17, 2005
1-877-287-4338, ext. 2204

Serving the Church–A Vocational Retreat
April 28-May 1, 2005
1-800-481-2155

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You can support this magazine through a $20.00 yearly donation to the following address:
For the Life of the World
Public Relations
Concordia Theological Seminary
6600 N. Clinton St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46825.

Please make checks payable to CTS.

If you would like to see For the Life of the World on the World Wide Web, go to web site: www.LifeOfTheWorld.com. The current issue, as well as previous issues, can be found at this interactive portal.
Christ Academy - College

Be sure to join us for Christ Academy College, February 17-21, 2005. This is a pre-seminary retreat designed to bring college men together not only to study theology, but to establish a sense of community of college men who are seeking the office of the Holy Ministry.

Christ Academy - Germany

This is a wonderful opportunity for college-age men to “urban backpack” in the land of Luther. This select group will begin in Berlin, the “new” capital of a once divided Germany, then travel through Wittenberg, Erfurt, and Eisenach, finishing the journey in the resort town of Ruhpolding. This unique event runs June 7-17, 2005.

Christ Academy - 2005

The ultimate high school men’s event will be held from June 19-July 2, 2005. The curriculum, centered on four divisions of seminary education, encourages men to think freshly about their faith and the world around them. This unique opportunity is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for high school men.

For more information about any of these events, or to get an application, please call 1-800-481-2155. You can also find information in the Events section of the seminary’s web site, www.ctsfw.edu.