Life of the World
Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

Summer 2009, Volume Thirteen, Number Two

The Darwin-Luther Connection
By Dr. Ken A. Ham

Reasonable Response
By Dr. Roderick B. Soper

CTS Playscape: Entering the Biblical World
By Rev. Timothy R. Puls
Dear Friends of Concordia Theological Seminary:

Summer is a time when our seminary community enjoys remarkable beauty. The expansive grass fields—neatly cared for by our grounds crew; the award-winning Saarinen-designed buildings—pleasantly complementing each other; the soaring apex of the chapel—witness to the campus that worship defines us: all of these combine to form an inviting space that is rich in form and meaning.

Beauty is all around us for the world bears witness to the goodness of God’s creative work.

The Psalmist rejoices in this reality:

“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hand” (Psalm 19:1).

Our western culture frequently reflects the view that the world is the product of accident and chance.

How Sacred Scripture challenges such a view! Genesis Chapter 1 credits God for the beauty of creation. Over and over, God beholds His creative work and pronounces it “good” (Genesis 1:3, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25). Indeed, at the end of His creative work, God surveys creation and concludes: “it is very good” (Genesis 1:31).

Two features of Genesis 1 are noteworthy. First, God is the gracious giver. He gives the heavens and the earth, the sun and the moon, the sea and its creatures, the land animals and birds; all are gifts to support the life of Adam and Eve, the apex of His creative work. To Adam and Eve, God gives Himself in His very image (Genesis 1:26).

Second, the focus is on the intimate relationship that exists between God and Adam and Eve. This focus of Genesis 1 and 2 is precisely on their relationship as the meaning of the world’s story.

How the world of our day needs to recover the beauty of Sacred Scripture’s portrait!

God’s gracious hand saw that everything was “after its kind” (Genesis 1:11, 21, 24) i.e., His attention to detail preserved the orders of creation.

All around us, the elements of creation point to His creative goodness. One must repress every natural reaction to suggest that the world is simply a random product of an aimless universe.

As a microbiologist recently observed: “The simplest cell displays whole worlds of complexity—chemical, electrical, and substantive elements—all relate to each other in precisely the right way to preserve life. To suggest that the simplest cell came about by chance is like saying that a tornado swept through a junkyard and assembled a 747 jetliner.”

A recent book explores the importance of beauty in the Christian witness, namely, Aidan Nichols’ Redeeming Beauty (Ashgate, 2007). His preface shares the fact that an “Atheist Provost of King’s College, Cambridge . . . proposed to close the Chapel outside hours of service with a view to protecting visitors from ‘irrationality’” (vii).

Not only creation but the most beautiful works of humanity witness to the reality that we are God’s creatures. A cathedral, a portrait, a poem: all these can point to the richness of God’s creative work.

This issue of For the Life of the World addresses the creative work of God as a beautiful gift.

The heavens and humans display clearly His goodness—even in a now fallen and rebellious world.

Concordia Theological Seminary confesses this beauty but always points to the very center of God’s goodness, mercy, and beauty: the gift of His Son who entered creation to redeem and restore the world and all of humanity.

St. Paul captures how all of creation relates to Christ (Colossians 1:15–20).

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. (Colossians 1:15–20)

What a wonderful calling each and every Christian possesses! To call neighbors and friends to behold the beauty of creation and then to hold up the even greater beauty of Christ’s Incarnation, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension. In Christ, we behold what it is to be truly human. He shows us God’s beauty in the flesh—from conception to consummation.

May Christ’s beauty refresh, renew, and restore each of you.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Dean O. Wenthe
President, Concordia Theological Seminary
6 The Darwin-Luther Connection
By Dr. Ken A. Ham
Whether it’s liberal theology, evolutionism, the age of the earth, or moral issues (e.g., abortion and gay marriage), these are all ultimately battles over the same issue. In 2 Corinthians 11:3, the Apostle Paul warns us about an ever-present danger: “But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.” Take one look around our world. A need for a new reformation is evident, both for our culture and for the church. We must return to the Bible as our absolute authority.

10 Reasonable Response
By Dr. Roderick B. Soper
It is critical to understand that science states that natural selection is random and undirected, meaning God (if He is out there) did not have anything to do with it. In fact, science is a method of searching for truth that intentionally keeps God out of the picture. Therein, of course, lies the rub. The Genesis account of creation puts all of the work in the hands of God, telling us that God created all things out of nothing. Seems like we have diametrically opposed opinions about how we all got here. Can both be correct?

20 CTS Playscape: Entering the Biblical World
By Rev. Timothy R. Puls
Children entering the campus of Concordia Theological Seminary to play on the new playground really do enter the biblical world. Not only is it an enjoyable place to explore and exercise physically, but it is also a place that exposes and illustrates some biblical truths and narratives taken from the Holy Scriptures. Children as young as age 2 can sit on and play in Noah’s Ark, touch Jonah’s Fish, crawl in Daniel’s Den, or hop on the Seven Days of Creation. The more skilled explorers can hang from Peter’s Net, navigate their way up Jacob’s Ladder, or climb the Mt. Sinai Rock Wall.

26 What Does the Seminary Guild Do? We Serve in Love!
By Lynn Brege
The mission of the Concordia Theological Seminary Guild is to serve God by communicating the needs and encouraging support of the seminary and its students. We invite and encourage individuals and groups from our LCMS congregations to participate with us in this service.
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-op, and the gymnasium.

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

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

Concordia Theological Seminary
6600 N. Clinton St. • Fort Wayne, IN 46825-4996
1-800-481-2155 • www.ctsfw.edu • Admission@ctsfw.edu
Whether it’s liberal theology, evolutionism, the age of the earth, or moral issues (e.g., abortion and gay marriage), these are all ultimately battles over the same issue. In 2 Corinthians 11:3, the Apostle Paul warns us about an ever-present danger: “But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”
Paul, in essence, is warning Christians that there will be efforts to seduce people away from a simple devotion to Christ and His Word.

To understand this text better, we need to go back to Genesis 3:1: “Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God really say . . . ?’”

From the beginning, the battle was over the authority of the Word of God. The first woman, Eve, followed by her husband, Adam, gave in to the temptation not to take God at His Word. Instead, he relied on his human reason to determine truth. All his descendants inherited a sinful nature that would be prone to refuse to take God at His Word, and instead they would make human reason their supreme authority.

This battle against God’s Word has manifested itself in every era of history. This year, Charles Darwin’s 200th birthday is being celebrated, along with the 150th anniversary of his work *On the Origin of Species*. More than ever, secularists are using evolution to attack the reliability of the Bible.

On every side the Apostle Paul faced skeptics who questioned the clear proclamation of God’s Word. The early church faced several challenges to the authority of the Scriptures, including Gnosticism, which taught that man was his own god.

In the sixteenth century, the Roman Catholic Church’s sale of indulgences for forgiveness of sin and release from purgatory marked a climax in the elevation of human thinking above God’s Word. Luther nailed his 95 theses to the Wittenberg Church door, challenging such indulgences. This act sparked a debate about whether the Bible or the church is the ultimate authority, and it essentially began the Reformation.

The battle against God’s Word did not cease, as a series of men and events sought to undo the positive effects of the Reformation. Behind these attacks was an effort to make human reason supreme and steer people away from the authority of the Word of God. It was another manifestation of Satan’s attack in Genesis 3:1.

In the 1800s, new speculation about the age of the earth and the evolution of life raised questions about the accuracy of the Bible. The growing doubts gained international attention at the 1925 Scopes evolution trial. The trial marked a symbolic turning point in Christendom and in American society. The media reported that Christians could not adequately defend Genesis. In the decades that followed, increasing compromise about biblical authority in Genesis 1–11 has made the church so weak that the Bible no longer impacts the culture as it once did. The Bible’s influence is largely gone because the church has allowed human reason (including Darwinian thinking) to invade the church and push aside God’s Word.

Today a new reformation is needed. It’s time for a new generation of reformers to stand up and call the church back to trust in God’s Word where it is most under attack: the history of Genesis. Apologetics ministries, including the new Creation Museum, have already issued the call to turn away from the opinions of fallible men like Darwin and stand firmly on the entire Bible.

Believers need to nail Genesis 1–11 on church doors across America! And as we take God at His Word, we can then watch the power of His Word transform lives and influence the culture. Christians should be praying that the Lord will rebuild the foundations of His house that shifted from the firm ground of His Word because of the works of people like Charles Darwin.

**Human reason has replaced God’s Word, and compromise has crept into the church. A reformation is needed again to call the church to take God at His Word.**

Dr. Ken Ham is the founder and president of Answers in Genesis-USA and the high-tech Creation Museum near Cincinnati, Ohio. He has authored or co-authored many books concerning the authority and accuracy of God’s Word and the effects of evolutionary thinking, including the just released *Already Gone and the bestselling* *The Lie: Evolution.*
Dear friends,

With the simple words “Follow me,” Jesus called and still calls His disciples. His birth, life, death, resurrection, and ascension have forever changed the lives of those He calls. He still speaks to His people today through the precious words of Scripture. This November you can see the places you have read about in the Bible—the sacred sites touched by the Son of God.

We invite you to join us on a journey. No, this is more than a mere journey—it is a pilgrimage to the places where Abraham, David, the prophets, the disciples, and Jesus Himself walked the earth. We will walk where Jesus walked in Jerusalem and visit such awe-inspiring points like the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, Mt. Zion, and the Upper Room. We’ll also visit the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, the Shepherd’s Field, Nazareth, and Masada. Add to that the Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, the Mt. of Beatitudes, the site of the Sermon on the Mount, and Tabgha, the site of the miracle of loaves and fishes, and much more!

Please prayerfully consider making this pilgrimage with us. Though we have traveled to many parts of the world, nothing is quite like the Land of Israel where the holy Christian Church began. Groups like ours come from a unique community of pilgrims, travelling and praying and enjoying the fellowship of believers. In the process, we study and grow in our knowledge of the Bible and the One who gave it to us.

We invite you to join our group on this spiritual and educational adventure. Please send your registration and deposit back to us as soon as possible to secure a place on this tour. Remember: it is the Holy Land!

Blessings in Christ Jesus!
Dr. Daniel and Annette Gard

To request a detailed brochure with registration form, call or e-mail:
Tel: 260-452-2135 (study)
260-486-0957 (home)
Fax: 260-452-2270
E-mail: daniel.gard@ctsfw.edu
garddl@aol.com

$2399 from Chicago

Tour Features
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• Nazareth
• Sea of Galilee
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Join us for the experience of a lifetime.
260-452-2135 or 260-486-0957

For a tour brochure and registration application, please complete this form and return it to: Dr. Daniel Gard • Concordia Theological Seminary • 6600 N. Clinton St. • Fort Wayne, Indiana 46825.

Name: ___________________________________________________________
Address: _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
City: __________________________ State: _____ Zip: ______
Phone Number: _____________________________________________________________
E-mail: ____________________________________________________________________________
A Christian Leader for Today’s World

By Michelle Bauman

Miss America 2009 Katie Stam is the first LCMS member ever to win the competition. In October, she will be the first Miss America to ever set foot on Concordia’s campus.

“Welcoming someone to Concordia Theological Seminary in such an influential position, especially as a mentoring model for younger people, is truly an honor,” said Rev. Timothy Puls, Assistant Vice-President for Church Relations.

“Katie’s accomplishment is truly a testimony to her faith in Jesus Christ, her family and church. We pray for God’s blessings upon her year of service in this position.”

An LCMS Lutheran all of her life, Katie attended preschool at Zion Lutheran Church, in Seymour, Indiana; elementary school at St. John’s Sauers Lutheran School in rural Seymour; and was baptized and confirmed at Emanuel Lutheran Church in Dudleytown, Indiana. Katie is currently a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Seymour.

As the reigning Miss America, Katie’s primary goal this year is to raise money for the Children’s Miracle Network, a network of about 170 children’s hospitals across the United States and in Canada. Her work will provide hope and financial support for children with cancer.

In addition to her fundraising obligations, her work also focuses on bringing a message of hope, courage, and character to students of all ages. Her visit to Concordia Lutheran High School (CLHS) in Fort Wayne, Indiana, will give her yet another opportunity to do so.

“Concordia’s mission is to provide for lifelong learning and service among all those connected to the school. We are excited to have Katie share with our family her unique service opportunity, learn from her story, and consider how it can impact each of us in our lives of personal service,” said Terry Breininger, Executive Director at CLHS.

Katie’s faith has been evident from the very beginning. She has never shied away from spreading the message of Christ. This was especially evident in the talent portion of the competition as she chose to sing of Christ’s crucifixion in the famous “Via Dolorosa.”

Her faith has also given her reign a purpose. At a recent stop at Trinity Lutheran High School in Seymour, Indiana, Katie encouraged students to be Christ to others. “Try to show Christ’s love to others every single day. That’s the most important thing you can do.”

Being Christ’s messenger won’t always be easy for Katie. As she stated at the same stop, “I am Miss America to all people, to all opinions, to all beliefs, to all religions, and even to those who don’t have a religion.” Though she may not be able to be as open about her faith as she’d like to, she plans to always be a messenger for Him. Rev. Dr. Dean Wenth, President of Concordia Theological Seminary, believes her message and actions will benefit many.

“Our entire culture benefits when role models exhibit the virtues that inspire and stimulate persons to contribute their best efforts for the welfare of their neighbors, their community, and their country. Miss America, Katie Stam, is such a role model. The seminary is delighted to host her and to invite the community to hear her,” said Wenth. 📺
How can a Christian biologist give a credible response to Darwinism? Lutheran theology can give us truth that is just as reliable as science given the way these two ways of knowing search for it.

When an evolutionary biologist is discussing evolution, he or she is typically saying that life on Earth started with a few random events that led to the beginning of a cell. More changes happened to the single cell, and eventually one arrives at what we see today in the natural world. The mechanism for that change is described by Charles Darwin’s *Origin of Species* (published in 1859) as natural selection. This kind of selection works when random mutations happen to our DNA. These mutations offer reproductive benefits that give an organism an advantage over all other organisms resulting in its increased survival rate.

It is critical to understand that science states that natural selection is random and undirected, meaning God (if He is out there) did not have anything to do with it. In fact, science is a method of searching for truth that intentionally keeps God out of the picture. Therein, of course, lies the rub.

It is critical to understand that science states that natural selection is random and undirected, meaning God (if He is out there) did not have anything to do with it. In fact, science is a method of searching for truth that intentionally keeps God out of the picture. Therein, of course, lies the rub.
The Genesis account of creation puts all of the work in the hands of God, telling us that God created all things out of nothing. Genesis also tells us that God created all things perfectly. That means that the creation was good when God looked at it (good being God’s good, not man’s good). That was until Adam and Eve sinned by eating the forbidden fruit. God responded by telling us that He would send a Messiah who would pay the price for our sin and restore our relationship with Him.

Seems like we have diametrically opposed opinions about how we all got here. Can both be correct? No. That may surprise you a bit, but you have to understand that the way we understand truths in science can be very similar to the ways we understand truths outside of science. In theory, data is collected in science then interpreted objectively, void of human bias. That would be great if that’s what actually happened, but it is impossible. Origins scientists must extrapolate from what they observe in the natural world to describe how we all got here. It is in the extrapolation that science cannot separate itself from its bias.

Science has an inherent bias associated with its method. If we assume that only natural explanations can be used to describe the origins of the Earth, then we reject any explanation that is outside the natural world even if the data is indicating otherwise.

Relative to our theology, we also have a bias. We say that we must explain the origins of the Earth using God. I hope that you can see that the information used to explain how we all got here is not diametrically opposed, rather it is our biases, or our assumptions associated with how we explain what we see in the natural world.

The discussion we should be having is about whether or not it is reasonable to explain the origins of the natural world by insisting that we cannot use an explanation that may go beyond the natural world. From a Christian biologist’s perspective, I would say that it is unreasonable to explain the origins of all life for the following reason.

I know that DNA is the molecule responsible for making proteins. Proteins are needed for the existence of all life on the planet. Proteins are sequences of amino acids. To make a protein, you need to hook together amino acids in a very specific order. DNA houses the information needed to tell the cell what that order is. Knowing this, it is reasonable to say that DNA was created. No direct evidence exists that says that this kind of information can be a product of chance. Therefore, it would make sense to say that something outside of our world wrote the manual to make proteins. If the bias I operate with allows for explanations that go beyond what we see, then I can say with a high degree of confidence that God created all living things in the way Genesis describes.

Is the way science finds truth better than the way theology finds truth? Yes, if you are trying to develop a new microprocessor to make computers faster. But the answer is no if you are trying to understand the origins of all living things. In this endeavor, theology can answer questions of origins in much the same manner that science does.

Science has an inherent bias associated with its method. We assume that only natural explanations can be used to describe the origins of the Earth, and therefore reject any explanation that is outside the natural world even if the data is indicating otherwise.

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Dr. Roderick B. Soper is Assistant Professor of Biology, at Concordia University Irvine. He received his PhD from Curtin University of Technology in Perth, Western Australia.
Dealing with Darwinism Conference

On the occasion of Charles Darwin’s 200th birthday, as well as the 150th anniversary of his Origin of Species, you are cordially invited to join Concordia Theological Seminary for its Dealing with Darwinism conference. Participants will be treated to a variety of presentations covering the influence and impact of Darwin and Darwinism on modern science and Christianity.

Conference Schedule
Friday, October 9, 2009
6:00–7:00 p.m. Registration (Sihler Auditorium)
7:00–8:00 p.m. The Science of Charles Darwin—Dr. David Menton
8:00 p.m. Reception (Student Commons)

Saturday, October 10, 2009
8:00–9:00 a.m. Registration (Sihler Auditorium)
9:00–10:00 a.m. What a Difference a Day Makes—Dr. David Menton
10:00–10:10 a.m. Break
10:10–11:10 a.m. The Gospel in Genesis—Dr. Dean O. Wenthe
11:10 a.m.–12:40 p.m. Lunch
12:40–1:40 p.m. How Intelligent Is Intelligent Design?—Dr. David Menton
1:40–1:50 a.m. Break
1:50–2:50 p.m. Darwin and the Devolution of the Western Worldview—Dr. Adam Francisco
2:50–3:00 p.m. Break
3:00–4:00 p.m. Fearfully and Wonderfully Made—Dr. David Menton

Yes! I want to attend Dealing with Darwinism at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.

Name: ________________________________ _______________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________
City: __________________ State: ____ Zip:____________
Telephone:________________ E-mail address: _______________________ 

Seminar Fee: $50 for adults or $25 for students with valid ID (includes lunch and refreshments)

Registration: Mail the completed form below to: ATTN: Dealing with Darwinism, Concordia Theological Seminary, 6600 North Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46825. Or you may call 260-452-2172; e-mail retreats@ctsfw.edu; or visit our Web site at www.ctsfw.edu/retreats

Reception for Friday (please check one):
☐ I plan on attending. ☐ I cannot attend.

Payment Type:
☐ My check is enclosed (payable to CTS).
☐ Please bill my credit card.

Choose one:  ☐ MasterCard  ☐ Visa

Card #: ____________________________
Exp. Date: __________________________
Signature: __________________________
Keynote Speakers

Dr. David Menton

Dr. Menton was awarded “Professor of the Year” in 1998 while associate professor of anatomy at the respected Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis—now a professor emeritus (he holds a PhD in cell biology from the Ivy League school Brown University). As a full-time researcher and speaker with Answers in Genesis, Dr. Menton has seen audiences of all ages enjoy his well-illustrated (and often humorous) presentations on a variety of fascinating topics, such as the human body, feathers and birds, and the Scopes trial. Since AiG’s high-tech and popular Creation Museum opened in 2007, he has been interviewed by several media outlets, including ABC-TV’s World News Tonight with Charles Gibson in January 2008 and has lectured frequently at the museum.

Dr. Adam S. Francisco

Dr. Francisco graduated from Concordia University (Irvine, California) with the MA in Theology. Afterwards he moved to England where he studied Arabic and Islamic theology at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies. He earned both the MSt and DPhil for his work in the history of Christian-Muslim relations at the University of Oxford. Dr. Francisco was also the Albin Salton Fellow at the University of London from 2004–2005. He then joined the History Department of Concordia College (Bronxville, New York) until his recent appointment as Assistant Professor of Historical Theology at Concordia Theological Seminary. Dr. Francisco’s publications include Theologia et Apologia: Essays in Reformation Theology and Its Defense and Martin Luther and Islam.

Dr. Dean O. Wenthe

After graduating from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1971, Dr. Wenthe served as assistant professor at Concordia Theological Seminary of Springfield-Fort Wayne from 1971–1977. He received his ThM from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1974. He was pastor of the Zion Lutheran Church, Atlantic, Iowa, from 1977–1980. He received his PhD in Hebrew Scriptures from the University of Notre Dame with minors in Ethics and Judaica. He served on the Commission of Theology and Church Relations from 1977–1980 and is currently a member of the President’s Commission on the Sanctity of Life. Prior to being elected President of Concordia Theological Seminary, he served for seven years as Pastoral Assistant at Emanuel Lutheran Church, New Haven, Indiana.

Conference Fee

Fee includes Friday reception, Saturday morning light breakfast (muffins and coffee), and Saturday lunch.

- $50.00 adults
- $25.00 students (College and high school students must present ID at conference registration table)

Additional Conference Details

- The campus bookstore will be open 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. on Saturday.
- Material from Answers in Genesis will be available throughout the day in Sihler Auditorium.

Housing Information

Concordia Theological Seminary Guest Housing

There is lodging available on campus for $25 per room per night (Occupancy two per room max). Campus housing features dormitory style air conditioned rooms, common bathrooms, and limited housekeeping. Linens and towels are provided. Please contact the Facilities Coordinator at 260-452-2105 to make arrangements.

Area Hotels

Be sure to ask about such discounts as AAA, AARP, Senior Citizen, and Seminary.

- Hyatt Place, 111 W. Washington Ctr. Rd. (Airport shuttle service) 260-471-8522
- Hampton Inn & Suites, 5702 Challenger Pkwy. 260-489-0908
- Don Hall’s Guesthouse, 1313 W. Washington Ctr. Rd. 260-489-2524
- Hilton, 1020 S. Calhoun St. 260-420-1100
- Holiday Inn Express, 4111 Paul Shaffer Dr. at IPFW & Coliseum 260-482-3800
- Country Inn & Suites, 5926 Cross Creek Blvd. 260-490-6060
- Residence Inn, 4919 Lima Rd. 260-484-4700
Seminary Announces Calls, Vicarages

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, is pleased to announce its Spring 2009 calls to the pastoral ministry, vicarage assignments, and deaconess internships.

**CALLS**

**April 21, 2009**

J. PHILIPP AUGUSTINE  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
Sylvan Grove, KS

RONALD J. BACIC  
First Lutheran Church  
Little Rock, AR

MICHAEL G. BELINSKY, SR.  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
Benzonia, MI

RUSSELL D. BONINE  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Haven, KS

MATTHEW A. BUSE  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church & St. James Lutheran Church  
Dandenong & Moorabbin, Victoria

DAVID M. CARVER  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
Stevensville, MT

FREDERICK T. CORDTS  
St. John Lutheran Church  
AuGres, MI

MARK J. DeLASSUS  
St. John Lutheran Church  
Sherwood, OH

MATTHEW T. DENT  
Christ the King Lutheran Church (Assistant Pastor)  
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI

MARK W. DIER  
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Cushing, OK

MARK I. FAKIH  
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church  
Portsmouth, OH

RUSSELL E. FITCH  
St. Peter Lutheran Church & Zion Lutheran Church  
Hannover & New Salem, ND

NATHAN A. FUEHRER  
Immanuel Lutheran Church (Associate Pastor)  
Lethbridge, AB

MATTHEW J. HABERMAS  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Georgetown, ON

GLENN S. HANSEN  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Odebolt, IA

JONATHAN P. HUEHN  
Immanuel Lutheran Church (Pastor of Youth Discipleship-Assistant Pastor)  
Belvidere, IL

KENNETH L. HUMPHREY (AR)  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Morrill, NE

RUSSELL D. JOHNSON  
Trinity Lutheran Church (Associate Pastor/Principal)  
Nashville, IL

SHAYNE M. JONKER  
Faith Lutheran Church  
Roanoke, IN

DAVID W. KAISER (COLLOQUY)  
Mount Calvary Lutheran Church  
Watonga, OK

DAVID F. KANE (AR)  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
Chillicothe, OH

GEORGE A. KIRKUP  
St. John’s Lutheran Church  
Holbrook, NY

MARK S. LODER  
St. John Lutheran Church  
Winsted, MN

RYAN L. LOESLIE  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Merna, NE

JONATHAN J. LORENZ  
Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Sandusky, MI

MICHAEL J. MANZ  
Zion Lutheran Church  
Prairie City/Rockville, MO

JOSEPH E. MAZIKAS, JR.  
Trinity Lutheran Church & Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer  
Ashaway, RI & New London, CT

MARTIN P. MEASEL  
Christ Lutheran Church (Associate Pastor)  
Stevensville, MI

BRUCE P. MILASH (AR)  
Immanuel Lutheran Church (Augsburg)  
Shobnbier, IL

SAMUEL J. NEEDHAM  
Concordia Lutheran Church  
Vermillion, SD

TERRY L. NEUSTEL II  
Faith Lutheran Church  
Denver, CO

TERRYENCE E. O’BRIEN  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Pana, IL

DAVID P. RAMIREZ  
Zion Lutheran Church (Assistant Pastor for Youth)  
Lincoln, IL

CHRISTOPHER D. RICHARDSON  
Salem Lutheran Church  
White Hall, TX

JOHN B. RUTZ  
St. John Lutheran Church & St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Hastings & Oakland, IA

PHILIP J. SCHIELKE  
LCMS Board of Mission Services  
Missionary to Kazakhstan

MICHAEL J. SCHLEIDER  
Zion of Avilla Lutheran Church  
Alexander, AR

RODNEY L. SCHMELTZ  
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church  
Grabil, IN

VINCENT X. SHAW  
Mount Olive Lutheran Church  
Sebastopol, CA

JOHN W. SIAS  
Mount Calvary Lutheran Church  
Colstrip, MT

MARK D. SMITH (AR)  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Fort McMurray, AB

GREGORY A. SONNENSCHEIN  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church & Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Crawford & Harrison, NE

ADAM L. SORENSON  
Grace Lutheran Church  
Gordon, NE

MARK H. STEINER  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
Gulfport, MS

DAVID F. STRABLE  
New Life Lutheran Church  
Fort Wayne, IN

DOUGLAS J. TAYLOR  
Unity Lutheran Church & Trinity Lutheran Church  
Unity & Wilkie, SK

MARK M. TAYLOR  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Bridgeport, TX

NICHOLAS J. THACKERY  
Peace Lutheran Church & St. Paul Lutheran Church  
West Bend & Emmetsburg, IA

STEVEN E. WAGNER  
Board of Regents - Concordia Theological Seminary (Admission Counselor)  
Fort Wayne, IN

KEITH F. WITTE  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Liberty Center, OH

EMIL L. WOERNER  
Friends in Christ Lutheran Church  
Bryant, AR

CHRIS X. YANG  
St. Paul’s Lutheran Church (Assistant/Chinese Pastor)  
Falls Church, VA

WARD I. YUNKER  
Peace Lutheran Church (Associate Pastor)  
Winnipeg, MB

**Calls Pending**

DAVID H. KLINGE

**Graduate Studies**

ROY S. ASKINS  
MARCUS J. BAIKIE  
GEOFFREY R. BOYLE  
CHRISTOPHER R. GILLESPIE  
NED A. MOERBE

**VICARAGES**

**April 20, 2009**

THOMAS E. ARNOLD (DEL)  
Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Gresham, OR

PHILLIP A. BORNTRAGER  
St. Peter’s Lutheran Church  
Waterford, WI

THOMAS C. BROWN (DEL)  
Zion Lutheran Church  
Mitchell, SD

CHRISTOPHER B. BUCKLEW  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
Mobile, AL

JOHN C. BUMGARDNER  
Risen Savior Lutheran Church  
Buffalo, IL

PHILLIP J. CALLAHAN  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Hampton, IA

THOMAS B. CHANDLER  
Christ Lutheran Church  
Cincinnati, OH

TIMOTHY A. CHASE  
Peace Lutheran Church  
Fresno, CA

DEAN E. CHRIST (AR)  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Knoxville, IA

SEAN C. DAENZER  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Waco, TX

JEFFREY M. DOCK  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Terre Haute, IN

ANTHONY C. DODGERS  
West Portal Lutheran Church  
San Francisco, CA

CULLEN A. DUKE  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Hillsdale, MI

ARIC A. FENSKE  
Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church  
Monroe, WA

TIMOTHY A. FRANK  
St. Paul’s Lutheran Church  
Lincoln, KS

JOSHUA R. GALE  
Our Savior Lutheran Church & Umbrella of Hope Lutheran Church  
Gary, IN

EVAN C. GOEGLEIN  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Norman, OK

HARRISON A. GOODMAN (DEL)  
Immanuel Lutheran Church & Christ Lutheran Church  
Spencer & Lynch, NE

HENRY J. GRAF V (DEL)  
Faith Lutheran Church  
Vista, CA

NATHAN R. GREWE  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Janesville, MN
Seminary Announces Calls, Vicarages, and Deaconess Internships

**DEACONESS INTERNSHIPS**

**May 21, 2009**

- **SAMUEL S. VIRGAU**
  St. Paul’s Ev. Lutheran Church
  Lockport, IL

- **BOYD A. WRIGHT**
  Lutheran Church of the Cross
  Port Charlotte, FL

- **JEREMY T. YEADON (DEL)**
  Lutheran Homes, Inc.
  Fort Wayne, IN

- **CRAIG S. ZANDI (DEL)**
  Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church
  Fort Wayne, IN

- **PAUL E. ZIEGLER**
  Hope Lutheran Church
  Spokane Valley, WA

**VICARAGES**

**May 21, 2009**

- **MICHAEL C. LARSON**
  St. Paul Lutheran Church
  Melrose Park, IL

- **ADAM M. LEHMAN**
  Trinity Lutheran Church
  Reese, MI

- **TREVOR A. MANKIN**
  Messiah Lutheran Church
  Seattle, WA

**DEACONESS INTERNSHIPS**

**April 20, 2009**

- **SARAH BARKLEY**
  St. John Lutheran Church
  Clinton, IA

- **AMANDA BUNDY**
  Grace Lutheran Church
  St. Petersburg, FL

- **BETH DITTMER**
  Trinity Lutheran Church
  Wheaton, IL

- **ERIN JONES**
  Madison Heights, Michigan
  Plymouth, WI

- **DORIS KAYSER**
  LCMS Board for Mission Services
  South Bend, IN

- **SAMUEL S. VIRGAU**
  St. Paul’s Ev. Lutheran Church
  Lockport, IL

- **BOYD A. WRIGHT**
  Lutheran Church of the Cross
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- **JEREMY T. YEADON (DEL)**
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  Fort Wayne, IN

- **PAUL E. ZIEGLER**
  Hope Lutheran Church
  Spokane Valley, WA
Conference Highlights

SUNDAY, November 1

Bach Organ Recital
David Mulbury, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music

Bach Cantata Vespers: Seminary Schola Cantorum
Cantata #106 “Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit”
Mendelssohn: “O for the Wings of a Dove!”

MONDAY, November 2

Plenaries
“The Global Importance of Bach Today”
Uwe Siemon-Netto, Director, Center for Lutheran Theology and Public Life, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

“Bach as Preacher: Timeless, Yet Timely”
Robert Bergt, Artist-in-Residence, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

Sectionals
“Bach and The Lectionary: Then and Now”
Arthur A. Just, Concordia Theological Seminary

“Bach for Keyboard and Instruments in the Parish Today”
Kevin Hildebrand, Concordia Theological Seminary

“Bach for Parish Choirs Today”
Richard C. Resch, Concordia Theological Seminary

“Listening to Bach's Sacred Music: Twenty-first-Century Listeners, Eighteenth-Century Lutheran Context”
Daniel Zager, Eastman School of Music

Choral Evening Prayer (Kramer Chapel)
Children's Choir of Our Savior Lutheran Church,
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Director: Christina Roberts

Hymn Festival (Kramer Chapel)
Organist: Kevin J. Hildebrand
Choir: Seminary Kantorei
Commentator: David C. Fleming, Our Savior Lutheran Church,
Grand Rapids, Michigan

TUESDAY, November 3

Plenaries
“Bach among His Contemporary Christians:
Cross-currents of Theology, Liturgy, and Music”
Robin A. Leaver, Visiting Professor at Yale University and the Julliard School

“What Would Bach Do Today?”
Paul J. Grime, Concordia Theological Seminary

Choral Matins
Concordia Lutheran High School A Cappella Choir,
Fort Wayne, Indiana
Timothy LaCroix, Director
About the Presenters...

**Robert R. Bergt** has served as Artist-in-Residence and Bach Scholar at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, since 1995. His long and distinguished career has included tenures on the faculty of Concordia Seminary (1956–74), Southern Illinois University at Carbondale (1974–84), Valparaiso University (1984–88), and the Musashino Academia Musicae in Tokyo (1981, 1988–95). An accomplished violinist in his own right, he has conducted well-known orchestras throughout the United States, Europe, and Japan. In 1968, he founded the American Kantorei, a choir that was reestablished in 1995 and serves as the resident choir for Concordia Seminary’s Bach at the Sem series. Bergt is the recipient of numerous awards from around the world, including the Wittenberg Award in 2000 and the Distinguished Alumni Award from Concordia Seminary in 2009.

**Paul J. Grime** is Dean of the Chapel and Associate Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions at Concordia Theological Seminary. He served as Executive Director for the LCMS Commission on Worship from 1996 to 2007. During that time, he served as Project Director for *Hymnal Supplement 98* and *Lutheran Service Book*. Prior to his service on the Commission, he served eight years as Senior Pastor of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, West Allis, Wisconsin. He has music degrees from Valparaiso University (BMus) and the College-Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati (MMus). His theology degrees are from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (MDiv, STM), and Marquette University (PhD).

**Kevin J. Hildebrand** is Associate Kantor at Concordia Theological Seminary. He is an experienced teacher of both children and adults and is the director of the Youth Choir of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church and School, Fort Wayne. He has master’s degrees in music and theology from The University of Michigan and Concordia Theological Seminary, respectively. He is a frequent recitalist and hymn festival presenter and active composer, whose works are published by Concordia Publishing House and Morning Star Music Publishers.

**Arthur A. Just Jr.** is Professor of Exegetical Theology, Director of Deaconess Studies, and Co-Director of The Good Shepherd Institute at Concordia Theological Seminary. He is the author of *The Ongoing Feast*, the CPH *Commentary on Luke*, and the Lukian volume of the *Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture, Heaven on Earth: The Gifts of Christ in the Divine Service*, and *Visitatio*.

**Robin A. Leaver** is Professor of Sacred Music Emeritus at Westminster Choir College where he taught for almost twenty-five years. He is currently Visiting Professor at the Juilliard School in New York City; the Yale Institute of Sacred Music, New Haven; and Queen’s University, Belfast, Northern Ireland. He is a past president of both the Internationale Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Hymnologie and the American Bach Society. Internationally recognized as a hymnologist, musicologist, liturgiologist, Bach scholar, and Reformation specialist, Dr. Leaver has written numerous books and articles in the cross-disciplinary areas of liturgy, church music, theology, and hymnology, published on four continents. He has made significant contributions to Luther, Schütz, and Bach studies, and authored articles for many reference works. Dr. Leaver has written or edited four books on Bach. His latest book, *Luther’s Liturgical Music: Principles and Implications* (Grand Rapids), was published in 2007.

**David G. Mulbury** is Professor Emeritus at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. He holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Eastman School of Music, where he was a student of David Craighead. Other organ teachers include Edward Rechlin, Catherine Crozier, Robert Baker, Searle Wright, and Helmut Walcha, the famed Bach interpreter with whom Dr. Mulbury studied in Frankfurt, Germany, as a Fulbright scholar. He was the winner of the Young Artists Competition of the American Guild of Organists early in his career, and served on the faculty at the University of Cincinnati from 1968 until 2000. During the 1978–79 and 1979–80 seasons, he performed the complete organ works of Bach in a series of 17 recitals. He holds the FAGO and ChM certificates from the AGO and has made recordings for several record labels.

**Uwe Siemon-Netto** is Director of the Center for Lutheran Theology and Public Life (CLTPL) at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and a regular contributor to English and German-language newspapers, notably *The Atlantic Times*. Dr. Siemon-Netto has been an international journalist for 52 years, covering such world events as the 1961 construction of the Berlin Wall, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and the Vietnam War. He was also religious affairs editor of United Press International in Washington. Siemon-Netto holds a PhD degree in theology and sociology of religion from Boston University, and an honorary DLitt from Concordia Seminary. His published works include *The Acquittal of God, A Theology for Vietnam Veterans*, and *The Fabricated Luther*.

**Richard C. Resch** is Kantor of Concordia Theological Seminary and of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Co-Director of The Good Shepherd Institute, and an Associate Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions for the seminary. He has produced five CDs with the Seminary Kantorei; six CDs in collaboration with his wife, Barbara, and the St. Paul’s Lutheran Church Children’s Choir; one CD on the Kramer Chapel organ for the CTS Alumni Association; and a new CD for the Good Shepherd Institute—*Hymns of Comfort and Peace: Hearing God’s Promises in Times of Need*. He was also the Executive Producer of the Institute’s DVD *Singing the Faith: Living the Lutheran Musical Heritage*.

**Daniel Zager** is Associate Dean and Head of the Sibley Music Library, and Associate Professor of Music at the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, New York, where he teaches in the areas of sacred music and musicology. He holds the PhD degree in musicology from the University of Minnesota, and he has served as organist for LCMS congregations in Minnesota, Ohio, Illinois, and North Carolina. He was Editor of *Cross Accent: Journal of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians* (1999–2001), and since 2000 he has edited the *Journal of the Good Shepherd Institute* at Concordia Theological Seminary.
CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Calendar of Events

September 2009
September 6     First Sunday Brunch, 11:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
September 8     164th Academic Year Begins
September 13    Opening Service, 3:00 p.m.

October 2009
October 4      First Sunday Brunch, 11:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
October 9–10   Darwin Conference
October 16–17   Confirmation Retreat
October 20    Seminary Donation Day
October 21–24  Fall Invitational Campus Visit

November 2009
November 1     First Sunday Brunch, 11:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
November 1     Organ Recital, 4:30 p.m.
November 1     All Saints’ Choral Vespers, Schola Cantorum, 7:30 p.m.
November 1–3   Good Shepherd Institute
November 3–4   Advent Preaching Workshop
November 18–27  The Holy Land Tour

December 2009
December 6     First Sunday Brunch, 11:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
December 6     Choral Vespers, 4:00 p.m.

January 2010
January 3      First Sunday Brunch, 11:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
January 17     Kantorei Epiphany Lessons and Carols, 4:00 p.m.
January 18     Lenten Preaching Workshop
January 19–22  Symposia
January 20     Organ Recital, 12:45 p.m.
January 20     Choral Vespers, 4:45 p.m.

February 2010
February 7     First Sunday Brunch, 11:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

March 2010
March 7    First Sunday Brunch, 11:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
March 21   Choral Vespers, Schola Cantorum, 4:00 p.m.
March 24–27 Invitational Campus Visit

Please Note:
The Fall Invitational Campus Visit will be held October 21–24, 2009, instead of September 24–26, 2009, as previously listed.
The Military Project Expands in a Theological Direction

Plans are underway to bring the Divine Service on a regular basis to soldiers and chaplains in Iraq and Afghanistan. A CD will be sent every two weeks containing two Sunday services of radio broadcasts from Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Ossian, Indiana, where Rev. William Brege is pastor. “Voice of Bethlehem” is a thirty minute abbreviated service containing the sermon, hymns, prayers, and liturgy. This will be an opportunity to incorporate our LCMS military personnel into the Holy Christian Church while they are absent from their home congregations.

Besides sending “Body and Soul Care Packages” four times per year, the Military Project is contacting chaplains asking for specific requests as they bring the mercy of Christ to war-torn countries. In response to these unique needs, a movie screen, palm frond crosses, CDs of hymn accompaniments, and digital cameras have recently been sent. Currently a project of shipping quilts and health kits is underway for Chaplain James Lucas. He writes, “You might only help a small village, but with others also already doing similar things, we are making a wide impact on the communities that, I am not kidding, look like something out of a National Geographic archeological dig! I am astonished at how many people live in adobe style homes made of sun baked mud and grass blocks, stuccoed with a mud and grass plaster, dirt floors, curtains in windows instead of glass, children with no shoes, and on and on. It is like going into a time warp to drive through a typical rural Afghan village.”

Various churches and individuals from around the country are partnering with the Seminary in this project for Chaplain Lucas.

How can you help?

Please keep our soldiers and chaplains in your prayers. They are God’s instruments of protection. They leave family, home, and country so that we and our families can live in peace and security.

For information on current service projects, needed supplies, or to learn how to set up a military project, e-mail militaryproject@ctsfw.edu or call 260-452-2100.

Monetary donations should be mailed to Concordia Theological Seminary, Attention: Military Project Coordinator, 6600 N. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46825. All checks should be made payable to the CTS Military Project.

The Women of Bethlehem from Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana, under the direction of Carla Kay have faithfully collected basic supplies for the past four years and donated them to the Military Project of Concordia Theological Seminary. “Body and Soul Care Packages” are sent on a regular basis four times per year to our soldiers and chaplains in Iraq and Afghanistan.
Children entering the campus of Concordia Theological Seminary to play on the new playground really do enter the biblical world. Not only is it an enjoyable place to explore and exercise physically, but it is also a place that exposes and illustrates some biblical truths and narratives taken from the Holy Scriptures. Children as young as age 2 can sit on and play in Noah’s Ark, touch Jonah’s Fish, crawl in Daniel’s Den, or hop on the Seven Day Steps of Creation. The more skilled explorers can hang from Peter’s Net, navigate their way up Jacob’s Ladder, or climb the Mt. Sinai Rock Wall.

Numerous volunteers offered countless hours of labor toward the completion of this one-week project, including members of local Lutheran churches and schools; Thrivent Financial for Lutherans staff; retired pastors; business professionals; lawyers; physicians; farmers; CTS faculty, staff, and students; Fort Wayne TinCaps Baseball players; plus many Fort Wayne community parents and visitors from coast to coast.

Since the completion of the Playscape in early May, it is quickly becoming a fun and safe place for children of seminarians, local visitors, and many Lutheran schools to explore and enjoy. A group of second graders from St. Peter’s Lutheran School in Fort Wayne enjoyed a picnic lunch and field trip to the new Playscape in May. Their comments below echo what has been said by many children who come to play.

“I really liked Daniel’s Den. I liked it because it had a wooden lion in the tower part and no wooden people. I liked the top part too. The top part had no roof and had bars like a jail window. Daniel’s Den was great!” – Susan

“I really liked Noah’s Ark. I liked it because it had a speaker, and Micah and I talked to each other in it. I had a great time.” – Cade

“I really liked the tire swing. We spun around and around. It was awesome when we stood on it. I really liked it.” – Brett

“I really liked the Playscape. I loved the carpenter house because it had a phone. It was fun to play in. I loved the Playscape!” – Micah

“I really liked the sliding pole! I could slide straight or slide and twist or climb up on it. I really liked the sliding pole!” – Hannah

“I really liked the monkey bars. When I jumped up and grabbed the first bar, it swung back and forth and back, back and forth. I also liked to swing on the monkey bars and make it to the other end. I can’t wait to come back again!” – Josh

Concordia Theological Seminary would, once again, like to thank all of you who supported this effort with your prayers, finances, and muscle. You have opened a wonderful avenue to reflect and share the Gospel to those within the CTS family and the community as well. When you come to visit CTS, please take time to visit this magnificent structure.

Rev. Timothy Puls, the Coordinator of the Playscape Project, is the Assistant Vice-President for Church Relations at CTS and Editor of For the Life of the World.
Playscape volunteers TinCaps outfielder Blake Tekotte; Rev. Art Puls, emeritus pastor in San Diego, CA, and a faithful San Diego Padres fan (the affiliate of the FW TinCaps); and TinCaps third baseman James Darnell.

Leathers and Associates project coordinators Doug Hanover and Dave Johnson review plans for the Playscape.
The Evolution of a Young Theologian

For the past eleven years, Concordia Theological Seminary has sparked the theological potential of young men during Christ Academy. For two weeks, high-school-aged young men come to Concordia Theological Seminary and become part of the worshipping community. They study theology, and they grow in their faith as they meet brothers in Christ who are also considering the ministry.

This past June, twenty-four young men attended Christ Academy with a new director, Rev. Philip Zielinski. The curriculum for this summer’s academy was built around the subject of apologetics, defending the Christian faith. Using the foundation of the creation/evolution debate, these young theologians studied the scriptural, philosophical, and scientific ways that Christians can defend the biblical account of creation over and against the theory of evolution.

To reinforce the scientific aspects of apologetics in the creation/evolution debate, this year’s academy included a trip to the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky. Needless to say, the Creation Museum did not disappoint. Christ Academy received a private lecture from Dr. David Menton, a Missouri Synod Lutheran scientist working for the museum. Dr. Menton gave a fantastic address debunking the existence of the so-called ape men-type missing links in evolution (i.e. Lucy). Christ Academy students also heard a lecture by Ken Ham, the founder and CEO of Answers in Genesis. Students were free to walk through the museum and attend any lectures available to them. (See additional photos on page 7.)

Plans are already coming together for Christ Academy 2010 (June 20–July 3, 2010). Next year’s curriculum will be focused on an evangelical response to non-Christian religions and will include a day trip to Chicago to visit a Baha’i temple, a Jewish temple, and a mosque. Right now our future pastors are being confronted by non-Christian worldviews and next summer’s Christ Academy, with God’s grace, will begin forming servants of Jesus Christ who will teach the faithful, reach the lost, and care for all. For more information visit our Web site at www.ctsfw.edu/christacademy.

Meet the Newest Admission Counselor!

The Reverend Steve Wagner was born in Houston, Texas, and grew up in nearby Conroe. He studied Mathematics and Accounting as an undergrad at North Harris County College in Houston, Texas, and at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. He married his wife Barbara in 1998. He has two stepchildren, Brian, born in 1990 and Megan, born in 1992. He also has a son, Steven II, born in 2000. He graduated from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne in 2009 with an MDiv. Upon graduation, Steve was placed as an Admissions Counselor and was ordained on July 26, 2009 in The Woodlands, Texas.

On the Road for CTS

### Rev. Scott Stiegemeyer
- Sept. 8–11, 2009 - Ohio
- Sept. 21–25, 2009 - Missouri
- Oct. 5–9, 2009 - New England
- Nov. 9–13, 2009 - Colorado

### Rev. Steve Wagner
- Sept. 14–18, 2009 - Central and South Texas
- Sept. 28–Oct. 2, 2009 - Southern Wisconsin
- Oct. 12–16, 2009 - North Dakota and South Dakota
- Oct. 26–30, 2009 - Minnesota
- Nov. 16–20, 2009 - Western and Central Wisconsin

### Rev. Philip Zielinski
- Aug. 26–29, 2009 - Portland
- Sept. 9–11, 2009 - Ann Arbor
- Sept. 14–16, 2009 - Valpo
- Sept. 16–18, 2009 - CURF
- Sept. 28–Oct. 3, 2009 - Seward & Nebraska
- Oct. 5–8, 2009 - Selma & Alabama
- Oct. 14–17, 2009 - Bronxville
- Nov. 8–11, 2009 - CUW
- Nov. 23–25, 2009 - Saint Paul
- Dec. 1–4, 2009 - Irvine
- Dec. 7–10, 2009 - Austin

### Rev. Tom Zimmerman
- Aug. 25–29, 2009 - Northern Illinois
- Aug. 31–Sept. 4, 2009 - Southern Michigan
- Sept. 14–18, 2009 - Southern California
- Sept. 11–18, 2009 - Montana, Idaho, E. Washington
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Dr. David P. Scaer, chairman of the seminary’s department of systematic theology, is the author of articles dealing with the Reformation persons and themes in The New Westminster Dictionary of Church History, Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2008. Among the topics are “Gensio-Lutherans;” “Johann Gerhard;” Heidelberg Catechism;” “Herbert of Cherbury;” “Hessius;” “Hutten;” Jonas;” “Major;” Menius;” “Peucer;” “Pflug;” “Racovian Catechism;” and “Reformation Catechisms.” Editor of this volume is Carter Lindberg, professor emeritus at Boston University and a guest speaker at the seminary’s symposiums. This volume provides up-to-date immediate, authoritative, and introductory definitions and explanations of the major personalities, events, facts, and movements in the history of Christianity. This volume, volume one, covers the early, medieval, and Reformation periods. Also appearing in 2008 is In Christ: The Collected Works of David P. Scaer: Volume II: Popular Articles—Christ is All in All. A complete biography of articles and books appears in the appendix.

An Invitation by Dr. Dean O. Wenthe

The President’s Circle of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne provides friends of the seminary with the opportunity to express perspectives and offer encouragement, assistance, and support to CTSFW and its students and faculty, keeping in mind the seminary’s mission “to form servants in Jesus Christ who will teach the faithful, reach the lost, and care for all.”

The President’s Circle is hosted by Dr. Dean O. Wenthe, the President of Concordia Theological Seminary. The topic for the Friday, October 9, 2009, meeting will be “The Bible versus other Religious Texts.” If you are not currently a member and would like to explore the opportunity to become a part of the President’s Circle, please contact a current member or call the Office of the President at 260-452-2100 and ask about the President’s Circle.

You may also e-mail any questions or expression of interest to info@ctsfw.edu. Check us out on the Web at www.ctsfw.edu/cts/presidentscircle.php

Bailey, Riley, and Friends Visit with the Animals is the newest children’s book by author Rev. Al Wingfield. Bailey, Riley and their friends learn about God’s creation and caring for the pets and animals He has placed in our lives. Children will learn about caring for farm animals, pets, and even a Police K-9 Work Dog. For more information or to order your copy, call 260-452-2106 or e-mail al.wingfield@ctsfw.edu. CTS Family Press—Sharing the message of God’s Love!
It is with great pleasure and excitement that Concordia Theological Seminary announces “In the Steps of Martin Luther,” a tour of Germany along with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to attend the world famous Passion Play in 2010 in Oberammergau. Seminary hosts for this adventure are President and Mrs. Dean Wenthe and Kantor Richard and Dr. Barbara Resch.

The tour will take you on an eleven-day adventure (May 27–June 6, 2010) into history and the lands of central and northern Germany. You will walk in the footsteps of Martin Luther and witness sites important to his life and to the Reformation. You will also attend the Passion Play, a performance first done by the villagers of Oberammergau in 1634 in fulfillment of their promise to God for sparing them from the Black Plague. It has been presented every ten years since then!

In addition to the time spent in Oberammergau, tour participants will have the opportunity to visit Wartburg Castle in Eisenach, St. Severi Church in Erfurt, Luther’s birthplace in Eisleben, the Castle Church in Wittenberg, historic Berlin, Leipzig, Munich, and Augsburg, where the Lutherans offered their confession to the emperor.

But even if you are not a historian or a Reformation enthusiast, you will no doubt enjoy the magnificent scenery of the German countryside, towns, cities, and the experience of growing together in community, friendship, and faith with our group.

The price of the tour is $4069 (leaving from Chicago) or $4369 (leaving from Fort Wayne). This includes roundtrip airfare, first class and select hotels, private homes or pensions in Oberammergau, most meals, admission tickets for the Passion Play, the services of a professional tour director, and sightseeing in a deluxe motorcoach.

The tour promises to be a wonderful experience for all with time to enjoy the fellowship of old friends and new. Nawas International Travel is making all the arrangements and has earned a reputation for reliability and excellence in their fifty-nine years of business, many in which they have successfully served the seminary.

While the year 2010 seems a long way away, now is the time to make plans and reserve your place on the tour as space is limited. Don’t miss out on this opportunity to see the Passion Play and experience Luther’s Germany!

For more information as well as a brochure with all the details, you may contact CTS Tours via the Internet (www.ctsfw.edu), e-mail (CTSTours@ctsfw.edu), telephone (877-287-4338, Ext. 2241), or mail (6600 N. Clinton, Fort Wayne, IN 46825).
Herbert Girgensohn suggests that the Catechism’s explanation of the First Article guards us against two sins: pride and despair. Human beings, by nature, do not want God to be God. God’s almightiness means that I am not omnipotent. We are not self made and we cannot keep ourselves alive. Pride would ignore the Creator and claim to have a right to life apart from Him. Our culture calls this autonomy.

Then there is despair. If you see your life as defined by evolutionary chance, then there is no ground for meaning, identity, or purpose in existence. We live, we suffer, and we die. A brief moment of consciousness is embraced within the darkness of eternity.

Over and against both pride and despair, we confess creation as gift because we know the Creator. Life is neither our production nor an accident in the blind workings of a mindless universe. Oswald Bayer observes that in confessing the First Article, Luther is confessing justification by faith alone as he reminds us that all that the Father has done and continues to do in creation, “He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me.”

Luther assumes the truth of Genesis 1-2 in confessing creation; but in the Catechism the focus is on the fact “that God has made me and all creatures.” My life is set within the web of creation where all that I have (body, soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses) comes from the God who is the author and giver of every good and perfect gift. Note the words that Luther uses in describing God’s work: He gives, takes care, richly and daily provides, defends, guards and protects.

The response of faith can only be “to thank, praise, serve and obey Him.” That is how we live within the world that belongs to our Father. We thank and praise Him for daily bread. We become then, as Luther says, “daily bread to one another” serving and obeying God within our various callings by serving the neighbor.

Prof. John T. Pless is Assistant Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions and Director of Field Education at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Associate Director of Deaconess Studies, Rachel Thompson, paints one of the Seven Day Steps of Creation for the CTS Playscape.
The mission of the Concordia Theological Seminary Guild is to serve God by communicating the needs and encouraging support of the seminary and its students. We invite and encourage individuals and groups from our LCMS congregations to participate with us in this service.

In loving service, the Seminary Guild chooses a project each year to benefit the students or the seminary. Past projects include: refurbishing the Student Commons; purchasing laundry equipment, new mattresses and box springs for the dormitories; replacing furniture and updating the Mission Resource Center; and securing funds for the most recent project, The History Time Line.

We also help with the Christmas Market Place where children pick out gifts for their family members; we serve as hostesses for the Opening Service, Spring Call Service, and Graduation Receptions; and we give the fourth year wives and deaconesses a gift at the Student Wives Association Farewell. We make birthday cakes for the single students, supply T-shirts for the newborns, and assemble snack packs for the students during exam week. We supply items for the Food and Clothing Co-op, we have purchased turkeys and hams for Thanksgiving and Easter, and have also contributed to the Student Wives Association.

Please be our guest September 15th beginning at 1:00 pm for our first meeting of the 2009–2010 academic year. (Due to the Labor Day weekend, we will be meeting on the third Tuesday of the month.) This September Tea will be an informative afternoon when you will learn more about the Guild and how you can become involved. You can also check out our Web site at www.ctsfw.edu, select About CTS, and then select Seminary Guild.

We have a great year planned and look forward to serving our seminary and her students in love. Come be a part of this worthwhile mission and bring a friend!

What Does the Seminary Guild Do?
We Serve in Love!

By Lynn Brege

□ Yes, we are interested in becoming an Affiliate Guild. Please send more information to:
Name: ____________________________________________________________
Organization: ______________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State: ________ Zip: _________________

□ 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.
□ Donation Day gift.
2010 Calendars!

Concordia Theological Seminary is pleased to make available its annual wall calendars for 2010. While maintaining Scripture reading notations, liturgical color codes, seminary events, and artwork from our beautiful Eero Saarinen designed campus, new for 2010 will be a larger 12x12-inch format allowing you more space to jot down daily notes. To reserve your complimentary 2010 calendar, please contact the Public Relations Department at 260-452-2172 or publicrelations@ctsfw.edu.

FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD

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October 16-18 Confirmation Retreat

What do we make of God?

How do I explain the Trinity to someone of another religion? Do Christians today know more about themselves than God? How do we explain John 17:3? Do we all share the same god? The right understanding of God is the most pressing issue facing our pluralistic and growing secular society. Please join us in exploring the Christian understanding of God in a manner that we may talk to others about God in a very common and meaningful way. This Confirmation Retreat, led by the Rev. John Dreyer, is designed for youth who are currently receiving confirmation instruction in their home parish. As with all of our confirmation retreats, there will be time to enjoy worship in Kramer Chapel, recreation time in the campus gymnasium, and other fun activities.

Retreat Fee: $100 (includes on-campus housing and meals).

For more information or to register, call 260-452-2100 or e-mail retreats@ctsfw.edu.

Send your request to:

For The Life of the World

6600 North Clinton Street

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SUMMER 2009

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“You Must Go, but Abide in Christ!”

Graduation Marks the Close of 163rd Academic Year at CTS

Rev. Dr. John Nunes, President and Chief Executive Officer of Lutheran World Relief, addressed the faculty, staff, and student body of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, as it marked the close of its one-hundred-sixty-third academic year. While quoting the words of the famous Lutheran church father Wilhelm Sihler, he stirringly urged all the graduates to remember their purpose and foundation: “You must go, but abide in Christ!”

The baccalaureate service took place in the morning, and graduation ceremonies were celebrated in the early evening in Kramer Chapel. Members of the graduating classes of 1959, 1969, and 1984 also joined in the festivities as they gathered on campus for the reunion of their classes. PhD student Rev. Benjamin G. Lorenz served as the preacher for the baccalaureate service. His own son, Ben, is a member of the class of 2009.

As part of that evening’s graduation ceremony, the president of the fourth year class, Nathan Fuehrer, announced that this year’s graduating class had chosen to continue to fund the Predigtamt Fund as their gift to the seminary. Also, Bishop Walter Obare Omwanza of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya—whose son Isaiah was graduating with a Master of Arts in Religion degree—also greeted the assembly. He is well known internationally as a brave and articulate spokesman in defense of confessional Lutheranism. Indiana District President Rev. Dr. Daniel May also greeted the assembly on behalf of himself and Dr. Gerald Kieschnick, president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Degrees conferred upon the student body include Master of Arts, Master of Divinity, Master of Sacred Theology, Doctor of Ministry, and Doctor of Philosophy in Missiology.

The Doctor of Divinity, Honoris Causa, was awarded to three members of the clergy.

The Reverend Mindaugas Sabutis, Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lithuania, received the degree of Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree for his faithful service as a pastor and leader in the church, and for his shepherding of his fellow shepherds.

The Reverend John Fiene, Senior Pastor of Advent Lutheran Church in Zionsville, Indiana, was honored for modeling faithful pastoral service and for his leadership and dedication to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, the seminary, and the Indiana District.

The Reverend Shigeru Masaki of Japan converted to the Christian faith from Buddhism. He became a Lutheran through contacts with a Norwegian pioneer missionary family in Kobe. He is also the father of Dr. Naomi Masaki at Concordia Theological Seminary. He received the Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree for his lifetime of preaching, teaching, writing, catechizing, and evangelizing.

The Miles Christi (Soldier of Christ) Award was presented to two laypeople. This award was created by the seminary’s faculty in order to recognize and honor Lutheran laity who have glorified God through a real contribution in some field of human endeavor and have displayed the characteristics of good soldiers of Jesus Christ.

Mr. Stanley Veit of Fort Wayne, Indiana, is especially noted as a diligent worker for this seminary and for the Indiana District. He has been a tireless servant on behalf of Lutheran Social Services of Indiana and within the government in the areas of social work.

Dr. Christopher Barneckov of Fort Wayne, Indiana, established the Scandinavia House in Fort Wayne, which assists pastors from Scandinavia in pursuing graduate studies at Concordia Theological Seminary, serves as an informal liaison between confessional Lutherans in Scandinavia and in the United States, and provides English language updates on development in Scandinavia.

The Rev. Dr. John Nunes urges the graduates, "You must go, but abide in Christ!"
Following eight years of service to the seminary, the journey of life has taken a different path than I had expected. On June 30, I officially retired and began to serve as Executive Director of the Lutheran Social Services of New England Foundation. This change gives me the opportunity to give some service in my remaining years to the hurting and grieving, those afflicted by burdens that sometimes come to those who live in a fallen world. I would like, however, to leave some final thoughts for those who love and support Concordia Theological Seminary.

To begin, Concordia Theological Seminary has been, is, and will continue to be a place devoted to the proclamation of the blessed Gospel of forgiveness, life, and salvation through the meritorious work of our dear Lord, Jesus Christ. No greater message than that can ever be proclaimed, and the Church is blessed by such faithfulness.

The seminary continues to teach in its truth and purity the whole counsel of God, not doubting the truthfulness of the Scriptures but affirming them as the one reliable witness to the redemptive work of God in history.

The seminary continues its one-hundred-sixty-four-year emphasis on Jesus Christ as the only way to salvation, inculcating in its students the urgency of reaching out with the Gospel to all who still do not know Him. The centrality of this mission will always be pulsating within the seminary walls.

The seminary—in its teaching, in its fieldwork, in the opportunities it gives to students—demonstrates its commitment to compassion for those in need. Whether through humanitarian assistance to the victims of Hurricane Katrina or to the impoverished children of Madagascar, students repeatedly have the opportunity to learn firsthand how to care for all God’s people.

Concordia Theological Seminary also faces significant challenges. Our Church as a whole is in great need of more pastors. The small incoming classes at both seminaries these past few years are inadequate to replace the large numbers of pastors reaching retirement age. Encouragement to reflect on the possibility of pastoral preparation is essential on the part of pastors and parents alike if we will have a sufficient number of pastors to serve our current congregations and new mission starts.

The other major challenge remains funding the seminary’s mission. Education is expensive. The LCMS no longer has the capability in its budget to support our schools as it once did. That is simply the fact. The generous direct support of God’s people to the seminary is critical, especially in the turbulent times in which we presently live. If there is one point I can leave in the readers’ minds today, it is the urgency of financial support. The seminary must have it to serve the Church and its students in a viable manner. I would encourage every reader to give financial support at whatever level is possible on a yearly basis so that the seminary will continue to flourish.

These past eight years have been a time of joyful service. I have every confidence that Concordia Theological Seminary will flourish for many years. It has an incredibly capable and caring faculty and staff, a love for the Gospel, and a dedication to the Church. Its love and care for students is tremendous. The new library expansion—needed and planned for decades and now about to become reality—will bring a splendid dimension of educational excellence to students.

Above all, the seminary will flourish because of its love for our Savior, for His Church, His people, and for all who still live in darkness. Devotion to that mission will propel it forward for generations to come. To God alone the glory!

Rev. Ralph G. Schmidt is former CTS Vice President for Institutional Advancement and current Executive Director of the Lutheran Social Services of New England Foundation.
During the first week of June, members of the Concordia Deaconess Conference gathered for their annual convention at Concordia Theological Seminary. Over fifty deaconesses were in attendance. The Concordia Deaconess Conference is a professional organization for LCMS deaconesses. An annual gathering is held for professional growth, continued theological education, and friendly fellowship. The focus of the 2009 meeting was “Jesus at the Center” based on Hebrews 12:1–3. This passage clearly directs our gaze away from us to the cross of Christ. Deaconesses are the servants of mercy. They do not serve for their own personal glory but because Christ was first merciful to them.

Dr. Carl Fickenscher presented “Keeping Jesus in the Center of Your Life,” focusing on justification in Christ as the cause of our good works. Professor Jeffrey Pulse spoke about the order of creation as it expresses itself in our relationships. Pastor John Berg, as the official chaplain of the Concordia Deaconess Conference, led worship and taught a two-session Bible study on meditating on the Word of God. Deaconess Patricia Nuffer spoke about the Hands of Mercy that supports individuals with disabilities in Sudan.

The business meeting provided the opportunity to hear about the successes and challenges of the deaconess training programs at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, and Concordia University Chicago. Deaconess Pamela Neilsen gave her president’s report. She and representatives from the deaconess training programs attended a conference of South American deaconesses in Buenos Aires where Dr. Arthur Just was a keynote speaker.

A gathering of deaconesses is not complete without time for fellowship. President and Mrs. Wenthe held a reception for the conference attendees in their home. Following the reception, the deaconesses enjoyed an evening banquet. The banquet honored Deaconess Cheryl Naumann for the recent publication of her book In the Footsteps of Phoebe: A Complete History of the Deaconess Movement in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Also honored were deaconesses celebrating anniversaries of their commissioning, including Joyce Ostermann who has served the LCMS for 35 years.

Jesus is the center of deaconess service, as this year’s conference emphasized. It is the mercy of Christ that flows through the Christian’s acts of service. So we look to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.

Deaconess Rachel Thompson serves as Associate Director of Deaconess Studies at Concordia Theological Seminary.
CTS Hosts International Conference on Lutheran Unity

This past summer the International Studies office at CTS and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lithuania jointly sponsored an international theological conference in Klaipeda, Lithuania (June 16–19). The theme was: “Lutheran Unity: I Believe in One, Holy, Christian and Apostolic Church.”

Conference presentations examined the historical attempts at church unity and provided theological analysis of these endeavors. Various speakers reported on the current state of affairs on the world and local level. Numerous participants expressed the concern that the confessional priorities and concerns of many Lutheran churches and Lutheran people are given little attention in larger ecclesiastical federations and associations.

Presentations were given by Bishop Mindaugis Sabutis and Dr. Darius Petkunas (Lithuania), Bp. Hans-Jörg Voigt, Bp. Em. Jobst Schöne and Rev. Gert Kelter (Germany), Rev. Thor Henrik With and Rev. Alf Asp (Norway), Rev. Rune Imberg (Sweden), and Dr. Ronald Feuerhahn (St. Louis). Three professors from CTS delivered papers: Dr. Charles Evanson, Dr. Lawrence Rast, and Dr. William Weinrich.

CTS will co-host a second conference on Lutheran Unity with Lutheran Theological Seminary in Pretoria, South Africa (August 11–14). For more information, contact Dr. Timothy Quill, Dean of International Studies at 260-452-2713.

Dr. Charles Evanson Honored in Lithuania

On June 17, Dr. Charles Evanson was invested with a silver pectoral cross. Bishop Mindaugas Sabutis bestowed the cross during the Divine Service at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Klaipeda in recognition of his ten years of service to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lithuania as teacher and theological advisor. Bishop Sabutis stated, “Dr. Evanson has been rendering valuable service to the Lithuanian Church and he, the clergy and the people of the church do not think of him as only a guest among them.”

In the past twenty years, only he and five other foreign pastors have received this honor. In the nineteenth century, the Russian Tsar decreed that the Lutheran Churches in the Russian Empire should be given the privilege of investing pastors with a silver cross. In Lithuania, the privilege is extended only to pastors who have ten or more years of distinguished service and others singled out for honor by the bishop and consistory.
Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana, will again host its annual Symposia, January 19–22, 2010. Held every year on the Fort Wayne campus, presentations on Exegetical Theology and the Lutheran Confessions will highlight the four-day event.

Celebrating its 25th year, the theme for the Exegetical Theology Symposium is The Sacraments in the Scriptures. The 33rd annual Symposium on the Lutheran Confessions has chosen God: Past, Present, and Future as its theme.

Topics/Speakers include:

“‘The Sacramental Character of the Scriptures in Early Christian Interpretation’”—Prof. James G. Bushur

“The New Atheism and Its Impact”—Dr. Adam Francisco

“Baptism and the Lord’s Supper in John’s Gospel and Epistles”—Dr. Charles A. Gieschen

“Covenant and Communion: On the Sacramentality of Scripture”—Dr. Scott Hahn

“The Loci Method in Lutheran and Reformed Dogmatics in Regard to the Doctrines of God”—Dr. Benjamin Mayes

“Baptism and the Lord’s Supper in the Catholic Epistles” and “God as the Secondary Fundamental Doctrine in LCMS Theology”—Dr. David P. Scaer

“Baptism and the Lord’s Supper in the Pauline Epistles”—Dr. Peter J. Scaer

“The Holy Trinity: What’s the Point?”—Dr. William C. Weinrich

“The Sacramental Character of the Old Testament Scriptures”—Dr. Dean O. Wenthe

“Luther and Calvin on God: Origins of Lutheran and Reformed Differences”—Dr. Roland Ziegler


“God in Public Discourse: Reflections on the Theology of Stanley Hauerwas”—Dr. Joel Lehenbauer