The Importance of Excellence in Spiritual Formation
By Peter K. Lange

Excellence in Education and the Conversions of Our Love
By Jason D. Lane

Community of Excellence
By Jon D. Scicluna
May 2017…171 years since the closing of the first academic year at Concordia Theological Seminary. So much has changed in those years. Our seminary has been located in Fort Wayne, in St. Louis during the Civil War and in Springfield for over 100 years before returning to Fort Wayne on this campus in 1976.

That first class of 11 seminarians was instructed in Dr. Wilhelm Sihler’s parsonage in downtown Fort Wayne. Today’s student body enjoys a campus of nearly 200 acres, housing beautiful classroom buildings, a state of the art library complex and one of the most beautiful chapels in the world. These are all great blessings and certainly enhance and support the learning that takes place here.

One thing hasn’t changed in the last 171 years, and that is our dedication to forming servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful, reach the lost and care for all. Our faculty remains committed to forming faithful pastors, deaconesses and lay leaders by equipping them with a sound understanding of the Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions.

Pastors in the field, too, play a key role in this formation as they mentor students in fieldwork, vicarage and deaconess internships. Our support staff and generous donors make it possible for us to continue our daily work, and we are forever grateful for them.

This issue of For the Life of the World will give you a glimpse into how what we do here flows into the church-at-large. It’s not just about receiving the finest education at a world class seminary—it’s about preparing servants who will take the saving Word of Jesus Christ to a hurting world in need of salvation.

The Rev. Peter Lange, president of the Kansas District, shares how the worship life he lived and experienced here still supports him in his daily service. The Rev. Dr. Jason Lane tells how the academic excellence he acquired taught him a love of theology and prepared him to share this love with new generations of students. Our own Rev. Jon Scicluna gives a behind the scenes look at the selfless professionals who love and care for this campus.

Yes, we are truly blessed to be in this place at this time. And we look forward, with God’s blessings, to many more years of preparing servants for His Church.

With you in Christ’s Service,

Lawrence R. Rast Jr.
President
Concordia Theological Seminary
Fort Wayne, Indiana
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The Importance of Excellence in
SPIRITUAL FORMATION

By Peter K. Lange
I had no idea how fundamentally Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, would change me. I remember commenting to my family, sometime near the end of my first quarter, that I felt like I was in an entirely different world and that my thinking and world view were being reshaped to the very core. It was much more than academics, newly acquired knowledge, tools and skills for my eventual ministry. It was that, without even anticipating it or realizing that it would happen, I was being drawn into a much deeper thirst for God’s Word and a stronger desire to be immersed in His Word and worship as much as possible.  

It’s not that a life grounded in God’s Word and worship was new to me. I had been blessed with wonderful and pious parents, grandparents and extended family who were members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). I grew up in a home where we attended church every Sunday and on many other occasions as well. I attended 17 years of Lutheran schools prior to seminary where I was also blessed to be formed spiritually, along with the spiritual formation worked through my parents, pastors and fellow Christians.

Yet my new life at CTSFW was something different, and Kramer Chapel was at the heart of that. To see the whole campus pause every day at midmorning; to see so many professors take a break from their important teaching, writing and other duties; to see people from every level of seminary staff come together daily for 20-25 minutes of Scripture, hymns, homily and prayer—planned and led with the greatest of care—these things were deeply impressive to me. There I learned to appreciate daily prayer in a whole new way. And the modeling of worship that I observed on a daily basis became a very formative part of my own attitudes and approach to worship as a parish pastor.

But it wasn’t daily chapel life only. There were the special weekend and evening services where folks from miles around would come to hear God’s Word set to some of the most beautiful Christian music ever written. There was the Kantorei, in which I was blessed to sing, where I was further formed by daily rehearsals under the humble and able leadership of Kantor Richard Resch. And there was life in two local congregations, first as a fieldworker and later as a student member.

Yet my new life at CTSFW was something different, and Kramer Chapel was at the heart of that. To see the whole campus pause every day at midmorning; to see so many professors take a break from their important teaching, writing and other duties; to see people from every level of seminary staff come together daily for 20-25 minutes of Scripture, hymns, homily and prayer—planned and led with the greatest of care—these things were deeply impressive to me. There I learned to appreciate daily prayer in a whole new way. And the modeling of worship that I observed on a daily basis became a very formative part of my own attitudes and approach to worship as a parish pastor.

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But neither was my spiritual formation only worked through worship, music and congregational life. Certainly also through the great amount of reading required for classes—because it was theology, the study of God and His self-revelation to the world—certainly this academic reading also contributed tremendously toward my spiritual formation, as well as toward my knowledge and understanding of our Triune God. Even outside of class—through daily conversation

One of my greatest joys as a district president is to attend the annual spring Call Service at each of our seminaries and to witness the announcement of the divine calls extended to so many, and especially to those who will be entering the Lord’s harvest field in my own district. As I welcome new pastors into the Kansas District, I give thanks not only for the education and tools for ministry that they have been given, but for the spiritual formation that has been worked in them by the seminary—a formation that equips them to be not mere technicians or dispensers of God’s Word, but caring undershepherds of the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ.
with fellow students, faculty and staff, through the modeling by faculty and staff that I observed, and through dorm and personal devotions which became increasingly a part of my daily routine—in all these ways, and more, I was not only educated but shaped and formed into a pastor. That is, into a servant of Christ and His people who recognizes and confesses his sinful unworthiness, but lives from the Gospel, with a compelling desire to handle the Word of truth rightly for the benefit of those entrusted to his care and for all who don’t know Jesus.

Fast forward then to the morning after my ordination. The spiritual formation that the Lord had worked in me prior to and at CTSFW allowed me to begin Day One of my ministry with a *habitus* and a firm grounding in the things most essential. St. Paul wrote to the Colossians in chapter three of his epistle, “Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.” And I thank God that as the stresses, pressures, demands and burdens of the ministry gradually descended upon me—as the blissful life that I had known in the seminary of being able to focus primarily on filling my well with God’s Word and theology, suddenly shifted to a vocation of giving out those divine gifts that I had been taking in—I thank God that from Day One of my new calling I had the blessing of an enduring spiritual formation to keep me grounded in the Word of God, to keep replenishing the well from which I was now continually giving to others, and to give me a framework and perspective from which to consider each new issue that arose in pastoral ministry.

That was 27 years ago. And after 25 years of serving as a parish pastor in two successive congregations, the Lord saw fit to give me the new vocation of president of the LCMS Kansas District. Now even more in this work of oversight which is vital for the Church but regretfully, so often today, less tied to pulpit and altar and the daily giving out of Christ’s gifts—now more than ever I am thankful to have the grounding of a spiritual formation wrought through the seminary and others—a formation which the Lord nurtures each day by the continued giving of His gifts.

One of my greatest joys as a district president is to attend the annual spring Call Service at each of our seminaries and to witness the announcement of the divine calls extended to so many, and especially to those who will be entering the Lord’s harvest field in my own district. As I welcome new pastors into the Kansas District, I give thanks not only for the education and tools for ministry that they have been given, but for the spiritual formation that has been worked in them by the seminary—a formation that equips them to be not mere technicians or dispensers of God’s Word, but caring undershepherds of the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ. I give thanks for the various provisions that are available to continue nurturing this spiritual formation—resources such as Post-Seminary Applied Learning and Support (PALS), the blessing of a father confessor, of circuit conferences and study groups—whereby the excellent spiritual formation shaped during the seminary years can continue to be a blessing to the Church throughout each pastor’s ministry.
Before seminary, my standard of academic excellence was not school but church. Learning did not come by preparing for tests but in conversation about eternal things. Learning was not in gaining skills but in seeing reality as it is in Christ.

At a young age, I learned many of the hymns of the Church and committed to heart the Divine Liturgy, as well as Matins and Vespers. It was in church, in worship, in hearing sermons, in studying Scripture in Bible and confirmation classes, in singing and praying and discussing the faith with my mother, my siblings and friends in the home that I began to understand that learning is not merely about information or how much one can read, but the substance of what is read. Texts matter. Words matter. Textual preaching on Sundays and my pastor’s careful study of Scripture taught me to love the details of the written word. It matters whether a verb is passive or active and who is doing what. In short, my primary means of education was Sunday morning.
I grew up going to public schools from kindergarten to college. I didn’t love it nor was I encouraged to love it. Education was a task to be completed and forgotten. I passed my classes so I could get on with sports, but I never wanted to nor needed to do more for my education. Despite my apathy, my public schooling gave me many opportunities for which I’m very grateful, including four years of college basketball and the academic credentials to begin my studies at Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne. It was at CTSFW that I first encountered joy and wonder in a classroom.

In a recent book on university education called *Authentic Cosmopolitanism: Love, Sin, and Grace in the Christian University* (Pickwick, 2013), R. J. Snell and Steven Cone argue convincingly that education should center on the conversions of love. My academic studies at CTSFW were, in many ways, exactly that: conversions of love. I learned to love things that I never imagined were so lovely: Dr. Charles Gieschen converted me to the Greek language in the summer of 2002 and instilled in me a love of the...
Greek New Testament. I came to love those things that seemed too lofty for me: Trinitarian theology, Christology and the Sacraments with Drs. David Scaer, Roland Ziegler and Naomichi Masaki. I came to love those things that were too vast for me: Dr. William Weinrich taught me to love and cherish the Fathers of the Church. Professor John Pless taught me to hate Pietism and love our Lutheran heritage. Pless and Masaki taught me to sit at Luther’s feet.

Academic institutions as communities of learning have personalities. CTSFW certainly does. Those personalities create cultures that transform those who are part of them, for better or for worse. An institution’s personality, like an individual’s, is borne out of its loves and desires. Whatever we love most manifests itself in the way we think, speak and act. An institution loves and praises and what it hates and condemns defines its identity, its culture and its community. The CTSFW community loves and treasures the eternal gifts of Christ and the great heritage of the Lutheran Church. For four years (2002-2004; 2006-2008), I was part of the CTSFW community with its rich culture of worship and study. It has deeply shaped me as a Christian, pastor and now as a professor of theology.

The goal of every academic institution is to educate its students. But what is education? And how does education help us? Drawing on Aristotle and Augustine, C. S. Lewis suggests, in *The Abolition of Man*, that the primary work of an educator is not to teach function and act, but to train the affections or passions of man, to make a pupil like and dislike what he ought and to instill in him ordinate love (ordo amoris) in which every object is given its appropriate degree of love. For our Lutheran schools, universities and seminaries to be educating students as Lewis advises, we should not be concerned primarily with assessments and test scores, but with awakening our students’ desire for what is good, true and beautiful and their disdain for what is evil, false and ugly.

We must help them to see that in their education their souls are at stake, because they must distinguish between Christ and the world, the Spirit and the flesh, God and Satan.

Education of this sort suggests that human beings are not merely thinking things, receptacles for information. We are desiring beings. We are liturgical beings, created in the image of the Triune God and made to worship and receive every good thing from Him. But we find that our loves are disordered by sin and our worship is idolatry. We are in bondage to sin and slaves to this world and need to be set free. To use Plato’s analogy of the cave (*Republic*, Bk VII:514a-521a), we need to be led out of ourselves and our little lives to desire what we had not even known to desire in the first place. To summarize St. Paul in Romans 5: God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, still bent in on ourselves, worshiping created things rather than the Creator, Christ died for us to restore us to our first Love, so that we would love, above all else, His love for us in Christ.

My experience at CTSFW kindled in me a lasting love of academic theology that revolves around worship. My professors led me to love languages, texts and eternal questions that have their yes in Christ. My continued studies in the S.T.M. Program at CTSFW, my doctoral studies at the University in Hamburg, Germany, and the current blessing of teaching theology to my students at Concordia University Wisconsin, have been a natural unfolding of my experience in the CTSFW community. They gave me the desire to know more, to go further up and further in, and they equipped me with the tools to pursue academic theology as my life’s work.

Students continue to experience these same conversions of love in this place: in the classroom, in conversation and before the altar. For all this, I give thanks to God. 🙏

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*The Rev. Dr. Jason D. Lane (Jason.Lane@cuw.edu), serves as assistant professor of Theology at Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon, Wisconsin.*
In 1958, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) officially dedicated Concordia Senior College in Fort Wayne, Indiana, a peaceful and beautiful property located on nearly 200 acres designed by the award-winning architect Eero Saarinen. Saarinen said that from the beginning the common concern for designing the campus was to create a space appropriate to the intellectual and spiritual training of young men who would go on to professional studies in theology. He felt the campus must have a tranquil atmosphere of at least partial self-sufficiency and that the solution was to design a village as in the North European type with the chapel in the center placed on the highest spot and the other buildings placed around this central and all-important symbol.

The combined service of these faithful workers is 165 years!
(l-r) Front Row: Karla Santos, Deb Moyer, Mayra Carias
Back Row: Larry Moses, Mike Robinson, Ted Ambroie

Community of Excellence

You have heard it said, “It takes a village to raise a child.” In the case of Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, it indeed takes a village to form servants in Jesus Christ, and our village consists of a diverse group of dedicated professionals.
The original purpose of the senior college was to be the place where men who were preparing to enter into the Holy Ministry of the LCMS would complete their third and fourth years of the undergraduate program which would prepare them for an additional four years of residential, post-graduate seminary study. The opening service, which was held in September of 1957, must have been an exciting day for our Church as the beauty of this campus surrounding its centerpiece of Kramer Chapel was unveiled to the community.

A lot changed over the next couple of decades, but one thing that has never changed is our Synod’s commitment to forming undershepherds of Jesus Christ who are prepared to go into this ever-changing world to proclaim the never-changing message of Christ crucified for the forgiveness of sins.

In 1976, as part of a plan to continue her mission of providing pastors to her Church, the LCMS moved Concordia Theological Seminary from its outdated and outgrown facilities in Springfield, Illinois, to the campus of the senior college in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The campus today has become the crown jewel of Lutheran seminaries, both nationally and internationally, and to date thousands of servants have been sent into the harvest from this seminary.

None of this could have been done without the outstanding commitment of our internationally-recognized, world-class faculty and leadership team who, under our president, Dr. Lawrence R. Rast Jr., continue to execute our mission which states “Concordia Theological Seminary exists to form servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful, reach the lost, and care for all.”

You have heard it said, “It takes a village to raise a child.” In the case of Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, it indeed takes a village to form servants in Jesus Christ, and our village consists of a diverse group of dedicated professionals. Day by day...
they work inconspicuously behind the scenes to ensure that it remains the most beautiful and efficient place where future servants of Jesus Christ continue to be formed into the finest pastors, deaconesses and church workers our church body has ever received.

These professionals include those in the Business Office, Admission, Student Services, Advancement Office, Seminary and Community Relations, Public Safety, print and postal services, bookstore, Food & Clothing Co-op, gymnasium, library and Information Technology.

I think of these dedicated professionals as the spokes that make the wheels roll. And three of those shiny spokes are our Maintenance, Grounds and Housekeeping Departments, each of which are overseen by our maintenance superintendent, Larry Moses, who this year will have dedicated 40 years of his life to service of our beloved seminary. “Forty years—unbelievable!” I thought when we recognized Larry recently at an annual gathering of our support staff. Forty years! In this world of fast food and recyclable everything, nobody stays in one job for 40 years. And, as surprising as that is, when I looked deeper into the makeup of the Maintenance, Grounds and Housekeeping Departments, I discovered something just as amazing. Maintenance supervisor Mike Robinson has been serving the seminary for 31 years and Deb Moyer, housekeeping supervisor, has been serving for 30 years. Also in Housekeeping, Mayra Carias, 25 years; Ted Ambriole, 21 years; and Karla Santos for 18 years. It is true that these dedicated, cherished members of our seminary family have dedicated most of, if not their entire, adult lives to serving God’s kingdom in their chosen vocations, keeping the beautiful village that the world knows as CTSFW the crown jewel of our Church for over a collective century and a half. No easy feat as our campus sits on nearly 200 pristine acres of land which are home to 51 buildings, equaling 290,000 square feet of space, all pointing to Kramer Chapel and the purpose for which CTSFW exists.

When I ask any of this group what motivates them day in and day out, the collective answer is “ownership, pride and dedication.” It is clear that when you watch all of them performing their daily tasks, they understand the role they play individually supporting the work of Christ’s Church. The 22 full- and part-time members of these three departments are indeed the spokes of the wheel that are for the most part anonymous. Twenty-two committed servants of Jesus Christ, who simply come to work day in and day out and make this village shine, make this village beautiful. Truly, they make this village work!

So, the next time you think about your pastor or your deaconess, think also about the entire village that works faithfully behind the scenes in the formation of the servants in Jesus Christ that have been sent from this crown jewel into the vineyard to proclaim the Easter message of Christ’s crucifixion for the forgiveness of sins and His glorious resurrection—proof positive of His victory over the grave.

The Rev. Jon D. Scicluna (Jon.Scicluna@ctsfw.edu), CTSFW 2007, serves as chief operation officer at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana.
Learning Greek Well
By John G. Nordling

Is it naïve to expect the busy pastors of today to use hard-won Greek skills in the parish? Obviously, much depends on how pastors use Greek; if the intent is to snow the congregation with factoids demonstrating personal brilliance—then admittedly, not much is lost. However, years of rendering difficult Greek verbiage into clean, unencumbered English enables translators to think clearly—resulting in better communication from the pulpit, not worse. And at a time when communication on TV, radio and electronic devices is abysmally bad, it is a supreme joy for pew-sitters to feast their ears on sermons where English is beyond reproach. Not only the Gospel content itself, but also diction, clarity, balance, phraseology and so much else are garnered by preachers capable of giving ancient texts eloquence.

Second, Christianity seems to be in full retreat nearly everywhere. Undergraduates and even published scholars have difficulty reciting a biblical passage from memory—to say nothing about working in original languages. Ignorance of Scripture abounds, and radical egalitarianism insists that there be no God-created distinctions between the sexes—between man and woman. With such disparate forces at play it seems as if civilization itself is on the brink of collapse.

Still, we are the Lord’s and remain attuned to Jesus’ promise, “I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). In other times, beleaguered Christians prevailed by proclaiming the Gospel tirelessly and standing by the finer things (see Phil. 4:8–9)—like Greek! If nothing else, the expanded Wayne and Barbara Kroemer Library Complex at Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, testifies that a community shall prosper here many years hence comprised of professors and students committed to receiving significant knowledge from the lowly codex (book), just as the early Christians did (see “A Bookish Religion,” in L.W. Hurtado, Destroyer of the gods [Baylor, 2016] 105-141). In the future generations, there will be Lutherans, I predict, who shall have been given life and a sound upbringing by committed Lutheran parents and grounded in the faith by selfless pastors. This, I pray, will continue until our Lord returns because of our commitment to the Gospel and godliness are conducive to the civilized life as a whole.

What does Greek have to do with any of this? Quite a bit, I say. Learning Greek well suggests that short cuts to language acquisition will not do over the long haul. By grounding candidates in a number of Exegetical courses at diverse levels—Gospels, Pauline epistles, Greek readings—we prepare pastors for competence in textual study when they leave the seminary, something that rarely happens outside our circles. Of course, after seminary it is up to the pastor (and the Holy Spirit!) as to whether he will stick with the language and really grow. Forming weekly reading circles with other dedicated servants of the Word is one way of keeping Greek alive—as are the weekly podcast, attendance at January’s annual Exegetical Symposium or the biennial Lutheranism & the Classics Conference.

Greek has been highlighted here, but Hebrew, Latin, History, Catechetics, Dogmatics or any one of the fine theological disciplines prove the point. Our current culture collapse requires that pastors love these theological disciplines as never before and share them passionately with others. Each contributes to theological vitality in the parish and to confessing Jesus before others (Matt. 10:32).

In the ministry of the properly prepared pastor, the promise of our Lord Jesus Christ is fulfilled: “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand” (John 10:27–28).

The Rev. Dr. John G. Nordling (John.Nordling@ctsfw.edu) serves as professor of Exegetical Theology and organizer of the Lutheranism & the Classics Conference at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.
Getting to Know First-Year Student Jonah Domenichelli

**What’s your background?**
I was born in California and attended grade school through high school in the East Bay area of northern California. I attended Bellevue University, Bellevue, Nebraska, and hold a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Investigations. I also hold an associate degree in Fire Science as well as Criminal Justice through Community College of the Air Force. Upon joining the Air Force in 1996, I became a professional fire fighter and that was my vocation for the following six years. I married my wife, Renee, in 1997. Renee and I have been blessed with four children: Gabriel, Isabella, Abigail and Isaiah.

In 2001, following the attack of 9/11, I was recruited into a federal agency and spent the next 13 years conducting counter-intelligence/counter-espionage, felony-level criminal investigations, and planning and serving in protective service operations. After three tours to Iraq and one tour in Afghanistan, I retired from the Air Force after 20 years of faithful service.

**Who influenced you to study to become a pastor?**
The Rev. Randal Ehrichs and the Rev. Michael Meisner both influenced and encouraged me to study to become a pastor. Rev. Ehrichs recommended that I attend Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne. My former career(s) exposed me to a lot of hurt, hopelessness and despair in life. I have seen lives wrecked by death, tragic situations and other cultures all in need of the truth—the Gospel truth. I applied to seminary so that I could proclaim Christ and Him crucified for the forgiveness of sins to the faithful, the needful, the hurting and the destitute. We must constantly be reminded of God’s love in Christ, that we have forgiveness and eternal life in Him who gave His life on our behalf. This is why I came to Fort Wayne, to become a faithful pastor and preach and teach God’s Word.

**What do you think laypeople would find most surprising about the seminary experience?**
I think neither our academics nor our daily chapel attendance would surprise laypeople. Rather, I believe what laypeople would find most surprising is the confessional Lutheran faith we uphold and the fellowship we have with one another at CTSFW. That is not to say that we get along perfectly or that we all agree on the nuances of Lutheranism, rather that we are doctrinally sound, here to fight the good fight of faith and stand firm together in Word and Sacrament. This is not some arbitrary notion but our mainstay, our way of life and our identity at CTSFW. Compared to the world around us, CTSFW has remained...
How would you encourage someone who is considering studying to become a pastor?

I would tell him first and foremost this is the right place to go. I would highlight all that CTSFW has to offer, the high quality academics, the fellowship and the family support we have here. I would also mention that formation to become a pastor is more rigorous than the academics themselves. I would advise him of Luther’s words, Oratio, Meditatio, Tentatio. I would tell him that fierce and real temptations exist here also, all of which try to pull you away from what you’re doing and stand in the way of your formation. However, I would remind him as St. Paul reminds us in Romans 8, “in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us,” and, “If God is for us, then who can be against us?”

The theme for this issue is “Excellence at CTSFW.” What does that mean to you?

This world needs the Gospel. CTSFW stands firm to foster the renewing of one’s mind in Christ Jesus so that both pastors and deaconesses can go out into the world, teach the faithful, reach the lost and care for all those in need of hearing Christ and Him crucified. This is excellence. This is formation at CTSFW.

To learn more about church worker formation at CTSFW, go to www.ctsfw.edu/Future-Students. Connect with our Admission staff at Admission@ctsfw.edu or 800.481.2155.

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Deaconess Placements
September 27, 2016

SHARON M. CONOVER
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
Waterville, Maine
New England District

MICHELE E. DOMIN
Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
Haslet, Texas
Texas District

MARGARET A. P. RUEHLE
Wollaston Lutheran Church
Quincy, Massachusetts
New England District

SARA F. SCHULTZ
Emmanuel Lutheran Church (Soest)
Fort Wayne, Indiana
Indiana District

KIMBERLY R. SLININGER
Missionary at Large to Veterans,
Active Military and Families
New England District

GINA K. TEEPLE
Concordia Theological Seminary
Fort Wayne, Indiana
Indiana District

January 27, 2017

ELLE L. KONETZKI
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Sheboygan, Wisconsin
South Wisconsin District

JANET L. NICOL
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Chuckery, Ohio
Ohio District

* Elle was called to her eternal
  home on May 8, 2017.

Deaconess Internships
April 24, 2017

BRITTNI A. BROWN
St. Peter’s Lutheran Church
Arlington, Wisconsin
South Wisconsin District
Concordia Theological Seminary
Fort Wayne, Indiana
Indiana District

AMANDA L. HAHN
Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
Haslet, Texas
Texas District

CAROLE A. TERKULA
St. John’s Lutheran Church
Columbia City, Indiana
Indiana District

Hayden M. FOLKS
Wheat Ridge Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wheat Ridge, Colorado
Rocky Mountain District

COLIN E. FORD
Ascension Lutheran Church
Huntsville, Alabama
Southern District

PAUL R. G. GASCHLER
St. James Lutheran Church
Montague, Michigan
Michigan District

CARL D. HINGST
Lutheran Life Villages
Fort Wayne, Indiana
Indiana District

THEODORE A. HOHAM
Shepherd of the City
Lutheran Church
Fort Wayne, Indiana
Indiana District

BRIAN C. JOHNSTON
Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
Terre Haute, Indiana
Indiana District

KEITH A. KETTNER
Trinity Lutheran Church
Norman, Oklahoma
Oklahoma District

JEFFREY B. KYLER
Bethel Lutheran Church
Bismarck, North Dakota
North Dakota District

JOSEPH M. MCCALLEY
Trinity Lutheran Church
Saint Joseph, Michigan
Michigan District

MICHAEL J. MCSINLEY
Trinity Lutheran Church
Chariton, Iowa
Iowa District East

ANDREW P. MUNDRING
Messiah Lutheran Church
Danville, California
English District

ZACHARY J. PATTERSON
Reeder Lutheran Church
Gresham, Oregon
Northwest District

JAMES M. PETERSON
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Imperial, Nebraska
Nebraska District

PAUL C. RADKE
Grace Lutheran Church
Winter Haven, Florida
Florida-Georgia District

LoUcAN E. SAING
Faith Lutheran Church
Tullahoma, Tennessee
Mid-South District

LOUIS C. SCHLEER
Catalina Lutheran Church
Tucson, Arizona
Southeastern District

JESSE E. SCHLIE
Reeder Lutheran Church
Gresham, Oregon
Northwest District

LAWSON K. SHORT
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Lincoln, Nebraska
Nebraska District

WILLIAM G. SMITH JR.
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Moline, Illinois
Central Illinois District

MICHAEL D. TERKULA
St. John’s Lutheran Church
Columbia City, Indiana
Indiana District

TITUS A. UTCHT
Faith Lutheran Church
Green Bay, Wisconsin
North Wisconsin District

CARL E. WENDRUFF
Risen Savior Lutheran Church
Basehor, Kansas
Kans District

MATTHEW C. WOLLBERG
Mount Olive Evangelical Lutheran Church
Billings, Montana
Montana District

DAVID L. WURDEMAN
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Warrensburg, Missouri
Missouri District

PASTORAL CALLS
April 25, 2017

BRADLEY D. AKEY
Zion Lutheran Church
Seymour, Indiana
(Associate Pastor)
Indiana District

PHILLIP J. ALLMAN
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Midland, Texas
(Associate Pastor)
Texas District

ADAM P. E. BARKLEY
Luther Memorial Lutheran Church
Sheboygan, Wisconsin
South Wisconsin District
Placements

KEVIN P. BELTER
Redeemer Lutheran Church
Salt Lake City, Utah
Rocky Mountain District

MARK J. BLAKEMAN
Zion Lutheran Church
Fairmont, Oklahoma
Oklahoma District

ROBERT Q. BRUGGEMAN
Martin Luther Chapel
Pensauken, New Jersey
English District

DAVID D. CASEY-MOTLEY
Immanuel Lutheran Church
Preston, Maryland
Southeastern District

RENE G. CASTILLERO
Immanuel Lutheran Church
Sheridan, Wyoming
Wyoming District

CHRISTOPHER R. CLARK
St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
Cullman, Alabama
Southern District

KURT R. COCKRAN
Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church and School
Tucson, Arizona
English District

THOMAS J. COWELL
St. John’s Lutheran Church
Burt, Iowa
Trinity Lutheran Church
Algomna, Iowa
Iowa District West

GEORGE N. FIELDS
Christ Lutheran Church
Jackson, Mississippi
Southern District

ALEXANDER CHRISTIAN
GARBER IV
St. Peter’s Evangelical Lutheran Church
Eastpointe, Michigan
Southern District

JAMES M. GRADY
Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church
Zionsville, Indiana
(Assistant Pastor)
English District

WINSTON P. A. GRIESER
Abiding Faith Lutheran Church
Florence, Kentucky
English District

WILLIE T. GRILLS
La Iglesia Evangélica Luterana, Amigos en Cristo,
Friends in Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
Denison, Iowa
Iowa District West

STEVEN M. HACKMANN
Shore Haven Lutheran Church
Euclid, Ohio
Ohio District

BRIAN R. HELLER
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Wheaton, Illinois
Northern Illinois District

JACOB R. HERCAMP
St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church
LaGrange, Missouri
Missouri District

JUSTIN M. HILDEBRAND
St. John Lutheran Church
McCook (Ash Creek), Nebraska
Nebraska District

EDWARD B. HOLSCHUH III
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Alamo, Texas
Texas District

SANTIAGO E. KEINBAUM
Christ Lutheran Church
Lincoln, Nebraska
(Assistant Pastor)
Nebraska District

MATTHEW C. KOTERBA
St. Peter’s Lutheran Church
Wymore, Nebraska
Zion Lutheran Church
Jansen, Nebraska
Nebraska District

KELLY D. KRIEG
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Houston, Texas
(Texas District

STEVE T. LAW
Wollaston Lutheran Church
Quincy, Massachusetts
New England District

GABRIEL J. MARTIN
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Tawas City, Michigan
Michigan District

NICHOLAS D. MARTINEZ
Our Saviour Lutheran Church
Great Bend, Kansas
Grace Lutheran Church
Larned, Kansas
Kansas District

JUSTIN D. MASSEY
St. John Lutheran Church
Chester, Illinois
(Illinois District

KYLE A. MCBEE
Zion Lutheran Church
Humboldt, Iowa
(Iowa District

THOMAS T. PRESLEY
The Mid-South District—LCMS
Jonesboro, Arkansas
(Missionary-at-Large/Church Planter)
Mid-South District

DEAN G. RAGER
Nicolai Lutheran Church
Canby, Minnesota
Zion Lutheran Church
Boyd, Minnesota
Minnesota North District

ERIC M. RUOSENSKE
Concordia Lutheran Church
Jackson, Tennessee
Mid-South District

SCOTT A. SALO
Immanuel Lutheran Church
Hannibal (West Ely), Missouri
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Monroe City, Missouri
Missouri District

RYAN B. SCHNEIDER
Grace Lutheran Church
Vine Grove, Kentucky
English District

AARON D. SPRATT
Faith Lutheran Church
Juneau, Alaska
Alaska Mission for Christ
Anchorage, Alaska
Northwest District

ZACHARY M. VOSS
St. John Lutheran Church
Homestead, Iowa
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Wellman, Iowa
Iowa District East

DAVID J. WALSH
Redeemer Lutheran Church
Menahga, Minnesota
Christ Lutheran Church
Wolf Lake, Minnesota
Minnesota North District

DAVID M. WEIRAUCH
Redeemer Lutheran Church
Sidney, Ohio
Ohio District

TIMOTHY J. WILCOXEN
Zion Lutheran Church
Carlinville, Illinois
Southern Illinois District

MARCUS A. WILLIAMS
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Havre, Montana
Zion Lutheran Church
Chinook, Montana
Montana District

TRENTON N. WOLLLBERG
Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church
Onaway, Michigan
Midland District

AARON E. YAEGER
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Lynchburg, Virginia
Southeastern District

CHRISTOPHER J. YEAGER
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
Stevensville, Michigan
Southern District

STEFANIE L. KONETZKI
Deaconess Formation
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Our dear sister, Elle Konetzki, was called to her eternal home on May 8, 2017. Her family has established a memorial fund in her honor. Should you wish to donate, memorials may be sent to:

Concordia Theological Seminary
Memorial Fund for Deaconess Formation
6000 N. Clinton St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

@ @ @
Tell us a little about yourself.

I was born and raised in northwest Ohio where I attended a rural LCMS parish. I attended Valparaiso University and University of Cincinnati for degrees in organ performance and church music. I earned my M.Div. from CTSFW in 1986. Following completion of my M.Div. degree, I stayed on for one additional year, serving as acting kantor at Kramer Chapel, graduating with a S.T.M. in 1987. I then moved to Milwaukee where I began my doctoral studies at Marquette University. I completed my Ph.D. in Religious Studies in 1994, writing my dissertation on the topic “The Doctrine of the Trinity in the Hymns of Martin Luther.”

I’m married to Deb and we are the proud parents of sons, Matthew and Nathan.

How did you serve before becoming a CTSFW faculty member?

When I began my work at Marquette, I first served part time and then was called full time as senior pastor of St. Paul’s in West Allis, a suburb of Milwaukee. I served the congregation and school for eight years. I was then called to the LCMS International Center to serve as the executive director of the LCMS Commission on Worship. Much of my 11 years there was focused on the development and publication of Lutheran Service Book and the more than dozen supporting volumes.

In addition to serving as professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions, in what other roles have you served at CTSFW?

My call to the seminary also...
included the call to serve as Dean of the Chapel. Nearly three years ago I was also appointed the Dean of Spiritual Formation. In this role I work with many others to provide a continuity of service to the students from our first contact with them in the admission process, to the care of the students while they are here, to their final placement in a congregation.

**How has seminary education changed in the years you have been on the faculty?**

I arrived just a few years after the new curriculum had been rolled out. In that short time I’ve seen the faculty continue to make adjustments and fine tune the work we do in forming future pastors and deaconesses. Since my arrival the seminary has also become more involved in online teaching, something that was quite new to me.

**How has the student body changed in the years you have been on the faculty?**

I’m not sure that there has been a significant change in the student body; probably more so in me! From the vantage point of a professor, it’s amazing how quickly four years can go before a student is sent out into the ministry. I would like to think that I’m getting to know them better.

**What has been your favorite course to teach and why?**

That would have to be Liturgics I, simply because of the fact that I was so intimately involved in the development of the Synod’s worship resources. I must admit, though, that I’ve also found enjoyment in teaching Homiletics.

**What has been most challenging to you as a professor?**

There’s so much to teach and not enough time. But more important is the need constantly to remind myself that it’s not just a matter of knowledge that we want to cram into the students but a process by which they will learn how to think through issues and apply what they are learning to the needs of the people that they will one day serve.

**What has been the most rewarding to you as a professor?**

I have great colleagues on the faculty, but it’s the students that bring the most joy. In addition, the camaraderie that we all experience at the seminary is a joy to behold.

This issue deals with “Excellence at CTSFW,” especially in academics, spiritual formation and stewardship. Any thoughts?

It seems to me that our seminary has found the unique balance that will make for great servants in the Church. We have demanding scholarship but we also know how to have fun together. Holding it all together is the spiritual life exemplified by Kramer Chapel where we gather regularly to receive God’s gifts.

I have great colleagues on the faculty, but it’s the students that bring the most joy. In addition, the camaraderie that we all experience at the seminary is a joy to behold.
On Friday, May 19, 2017, the students, faculty, staff of Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, gathered with friends and family to celebrate the completion of the 171st academic year with Baccalaureate and Commencement.

In addition to the awarding of academic degrees, several special honors were bestowed:

**Alumnus of the Year:**
The Rev. Larry A. Peters
CTSFW 1980
Grace Lutheran Church, Clarksville, Tennessee

This award had been established by the CTSFW Board of Regents to honor a graduate who has distinguished himself by faithfully shepherding the people of God with excellence in preaching, teaching the faithful and reaching the lost while also strengthening his alma mater by recruiting, publicizing and supporting the Seminary’s mission.

The Rev. Larry Peters served St. John’s Lutheran Church, Sayville, New York, before becoming the senior pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Clarksville, Tennessee. He has served The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) as circuit visitor in New York and now in Tennessee, on district and Synod convention floor committees and is now a member of the LCMS Commission on Constitutional Matters. He has presented at this seminary’s Good Shepherd Institute and the LCMS Institute on Liturgy, Preaching and Church Music.

His marriage to Amy has been blessed with three children: Joseph, Rachel and Andrew.

**Doctor of Divinity Honoris Causa**
The Rev. Dr. Gottfried Martens
Trinity Lutheran Church
Berlin, Germany

A native of Hanover, Germany, the Rev. Dr. Gottfried Martens spent a year of study abroad here at CTSFW in 1983–84. In 1990, he completed his highly respected dissertation on ecumenical discussions of the doctrine of justification. He served as pastor of St. Mary’s Lutheran Church in Berlin-Zehlendorf from 1991-2013, including doing mission outreach among Russian German immigrants as well as refugees from Iran and Afghanistan. He began a new mission project in 2013 for Farsi and Dari speaking refugees which has grown into a congregation now known as Evangelisch-Lutherische Dreieinigkeits-Gemeinde in Berlin-Steglitz. Martens has served Selbständigen Evangelisch-Lutherischen Kirche (SELK), a denomination in fellowship with the LCMS, both on their theology commission and as an instructor at their theological school in Oberursel.

**Doctor of Humane Letters Honoris Causa**
Dr. Anthony M. Esolen
The Thomas More College of Liberal Arts
Merrimack, New Hampshire

Professor of English at Providence College for several years, Dr. Esolen is leaving that institution soon to take up a post at Thomas More College in Merrimack, New Hampshire, where he will help to inaugurate their Center for the Renewal of Culture.

He is an esteemed scholar and translator and has become one of our nation’s most astute cultural critics, speaking and writing boldly in defense of life, marriage and our Christian cultural heritage. He is the author of some 20 books, including, most recently, *Out of the Ashes: Rebuilding American Culture* and *Real Music: Reclaiming the Timeless Hymns of the Church*. He has become
well known among Lutherans, including being a favorite speaker to pastors at gatherings of Doxology. He has encouraged traditional creedal Christians to work and think together in opposition to the secular left.

Miles Christi (Soldier of Christ) Award

The Miles Christi Award has been created by the faculty of Concordia Theological Seminary in order to recognize and honor each year Lutheran laymen or laywomen who have glorified God through a real contribution in some field of human endeavor and who have displayed the characteristics of good soldiers of Christ (2 Tim. 2:3).

Mr. John M. Behrendt
Fort Wayne, Indiana

John Behrendt had a long career at Lincoln National Life Insurance, Fort Wayne, working in various executive positions for 30 years, including founding Lincoln Financial Advisors. After retiring from Lincoln, he helped found Phillips Financial Management, serving as its first chief investment officer and chief compliance officer until 2008.

He was a life-long Lutheran and a long-time member of Zion Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne. He served in several leadership roles within the LCMS, including as a member of the Board of Regents for Concordia Theological Seminary (2012–2016) and chairman of this seminary’s Finance and Investment Committees (2011–2016). After a battle with leukemia, he was called to be with the Lord on November 26, 2016. He and his wife, Ardis, were married for 50 years and their marriage was blessed with two daughters, Beth and Sarah, as well as five grandchildren.

Mr. W. Paul Wolf
Fort Wayne, Indiana

After serving in the United States Air Force, Paul Wolf began his banking career as a bank examiner for the Department of Financial Institutions. He served the next 39 years with Home Loan Bank in Fort Wayne, including 29 years as president and chief executive officer. During these years, he also has served in many volunteer roles for church and community: treasurer for Peace Lutheran Church and School, member of the Concordia Theological Seminary Finance and Investment Committees and assisted for many years with the weekly televised Worship for Shut-Ins service that originates from a studio on the campus of CTSFW.

He and his wife, Carolyn, have been blessed with four children, and are currently members of Concordia Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne.

The Carl and Erna Weinrich Chair in New Testament and Early Church Studies

Dr. James G. Bushur
Associate Professor of Historical Theology
Concordia Theological Seminary

This chair has been established through the generosity of Carl and Erna Weinrich, the parents of Dr. William C. Weinrich, professor of Historical Theology at CTSFW. This chair affirms the longstanding commitment at CTSFW to supporting faithful and gifted teachers of the Scriptures and church history who will help form the next generations of Lutheran pastors and deaconesses.

To honor the exemplary service and scholarship, Dr. Bushur has been named the first holder of this chair.

“As we celebrate the completion of this academic year, we also recognize and give our heartfelt thanks to our alumni and generous donors,” said CTSFW President Dr. Lawrence R. Rast Jr. “Their support is an integral part of all that is accomplished at CTSFW.”
Class of 2017 Presents Gift to CTSFW

As the class of 2017 considered class gift ideas, they decided to commission a translation of a work by one of the great Lutheran fathers. At the suggestion of Dr. Benjamin Mayes, then of Concordia Publishing House, they settled upon Johann Gerhard’s commentaries on 1 and 2 Timothy, considering these commentaries on the Pastoral Epistles to be a particularly fitting gift for a class of future pastors.

On April 4, following the morning chapel service, seminarians Adam McDowell and Phillip Fischaber presented the gift to the seminary. Fischaber gave a brief history of the project, explained why they chose these commentaries on the Pastoral Epistles to be a particularly fitting gift for a class of future pastors.

On April 4, following the morning chapel service, seminarians Adam McDowell and Phillip Fischaber presented the gift to the seminary. Fischaber gave a brief history of the project, explained why they chose these commentaries on the Pastoral Epistles to be a particularly fitting gift for a class of future pastors. “We know that this work will be a valuable tool for pastors and that we ourselves will benefit greatly from it throughout our ministry,” said Fischaber. He also praised the class of 2020 for deciding to commission a translation of Friedrich Balduin’s commentaries on Titus and Philemon. Fischaber concluded by thanking the faculty and staff for their work forming the class to serve the Church as faithful pastors and reading the book’s dedication to them.

Dr. Paul Grime, Dean of Spiritual Formation and Dean of the Chapel, thanked the class on behalf of the seminary praising the thoughtfulness and value of the gift saying, “This will reach pastors, laypeople—everybody for generations to come.”

CTSFW Students Receive Academic Awards

On Tuesday, May 9, 2017, awards were presented to Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, Indiana, students for excellence in their studies, writing and example to others:

Adam Barkley: Shepherd’s Staff Award, voted on by his peers and presented to the fourth-year student who exemplifies pastoral faith and life.

Kevin Belter: Systematic Theology Department Writing Award, for his paper “Incarncational Narrative, History, and the Resurrection.”

Jacob Benson: Lepper-Draves Scholarship to provide a stipend for a student, who will be in his fourth-year of study in the coming academic year, who has excelled in the study of Dogmatics and Confessional Theology.

René Castillero: Pastoral Ministry and Missions Department Writing Award, for his paper “A Critique of Peter Singer’s Practical Ethics From the Standpoint of Oswald Bayer’s Ethics as a Gift.”

Jacob Eichers: Gerhard Aho Homiletics Award, presented for the best sermon. His sermon, “Gifts to Gladden Our Hearts,” was based on John 2:1–11.

Jacob Eichers: Zondervan Biblical Languages Award, given to encourage continued studies of Scripture in its original language.

Phillip Fischaber: The Classical Association of the Middle West and South Award for Outstanding Accomplishment, given in recognition of excellence in Greek and assisting other students with their Greek studies.

Carl Hingst: Exegetical Theology Department Writing Award, for his paper “Establishing a Day of the Lord Motif in Genesis 6: An Intertextual Study of Genesis 6:5–22 and Isaiah 25:6–12.”

Blake Martzowka: Historical Theology Department Writing Award, for his paper “Comparative Study of the Concept of Theological Study in Aquinas and Confessional Lutheranism.”

Kyle Richardson: St. Timothy Award, given to encourage a second-year student in his continuing studies of the Holy Scripture.
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 12–14, 2017</td>
<td>Knowles, Oklahoma</td>
<td>Dr. Peter Scaer</td>
<td>The Gospel of Mark: The Mystery of Jesus</td>
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<td>June 12–14, 2017</td>
<td>Rochester, Minnesota</td>
<td>Dr. R. Reed Lessing</td>
<td>Job</td>
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<td>June 20–22, 2017</td>
<td>Plano, Texas</td>
<td>Prof. John Pless</td>
<td>Preaching the Law in an Antinomian World</td>
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<td>June 26–28, 2017</td>
<td>Kansas City Area–Basehor, Kansas</td>
<td>Dr. Roland Ziegler</td>
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<td>July 10–12, 2017</td>
<td>Rogue River, Oregon</td>
<td>Dr. Adam Francisco</td>
<td>Why Should I Believe You?: Christian Apologetics for Today</td>
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<td>July 10–12, 2017</td>
<td>Shawano, Wisconsin</td>
<td>Dr. Peter Scaer</td>
<td>Mysteries of the Gospel of Mark, the Churchly Gospel</td>
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<td>July 17–21, 2017</td>
<td>Grand Rapids, Michigan</td>
<td>Dr. Charles Gieschen</td>
<td>Portraits of Christ in the Book of Revelation</td>
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<td>July 24–26, 2017</td>
<td>Quartz Hill, California</td>
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<td>Making Sense of a Pluralistic World: A Tour of World Views in America</td>
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<td>July 25–27, 2017</td>
<td>Fort Wayne, Indiana</td>
<td>Dr. James Bushur</td>
<td>Seeing With Unveiled Faces: Early Christian Iconography and the Interpretation of Scripture</td>
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<td>July 25–27, 2017</td>
<td>Elgin, Illinois</td>
<td>Dr. K. Detlev Schulz</td>
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<td>July 31–August 4, 2017</td>
<td>Flathead Lake, Montana</td>
<td>Dr. Gifford Grobien</td>
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<td>July 31–August 4, 2017</td>
<td>Grass Valley, California</td>
<td>Rev. Chad Kendall</td>
<td>Early Christian Mercy to the Secular Culture</td>
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<td>August 8–11, 2017</td>
<td>Council Bluffs, Iowa</td>
<td>Dr. Naomichi Masaki</td>
<td>Formula of Concord in the Life of the Church</td>
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</tbody>
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Information Coming Soon!
- Denver, Colorado

Contact Us for More Information:
- Kara J. Mertz at CE@ctsfw.edu or 260.452.2103
- Prof. Jeffrey Pulse at Jeffrey.Pulse@ctsfw.edu
Visit our website regularly for additional site information:
www.ctsfw.edu/CE
Frustrated as a layman in a congregation with much conflict, I asked the district president, after his intervention work in the congregation, what I could do to help further. His answer was quick and to the point, “You need to go to the seminary!” I rephrased the question a couple different ways. The answer was the same, so I asked him to explain. His answer was also quick and to the point, “We need pastors who care about people and the well-being of the congregation more than they care about themselves. I think you care. The seminary will shape and prepare you for ministering to the people.”

Though married with four young children and few financial resources, the words of that district president weighed on my mind…A LOT. I had some knowledge of the Word of God, but not in the languages of Hebrew and Greek as found in the original manuscripts. I taught Sunday School, Junior Catechism and Youth Bible Studies. I poured through the Lutheran Confessions in the Book of Concord, read Walther’s Law and Gospel and Mueller’s Christian Dogmatics. But I was still ill equipped. I was at loss of what to do as a laymen in a conflicted congregation.

Dr. Robert Preus, then president of Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, answered my letter of inquiry. He provided answers and encouragement that were the beginning of mentoring I received from the professors and staff at CTSFW and still receive today. The professors gave me the tools needed as well as the skills to use the tools. They taught the languages of the Scriptures: Hebrew and Greek. They taught communication in the context of the culture; usable in every culture, time and place. They taught history of religion, a subject in which I was least interested but eventually came to highly appreciate, especially when I saw how applicable it still was to current issues. They taught the Confessions of the Church in ways that went way beyond what I could learn in my readings.

The seminary prepared me in ways that I could not have known before I experienced them. It provided the setting for meditation and for prayer, especially in daily chapel, while...
life in this fallen world provided the suffering needed to shape me (Oratio, Meditatio, Tentatio).

There is no replacement for accountable scholarship provided by the learned professors as well as fellow students sitting next to you in the classrooms. They shape you in the Word of God, not the traditions of man, the emotional experiences of man or the reason of man.

All the courses of learning at CTSFW are very important and necessary. But I consider my education in Greek and Hebrew, and the exegesis of the text, to be the first and foremost shaping of my preparation to be a pastor to God’s own people in the local parish. It taught me to communicate God’s Word rightly, both Law and Gospel, but especially the Good News of Jesus Christ. The people need to hear what God has to say to them and not what man has to say.

In the classroom I was held accountable to my exegesis. Accountability of practical things in the parish is one thing, but that is usually accountability to the current rules and standards of man. It is quite another when you are held accountable to and by the Word of God. The professors and students at CTSFW held me accountable when I was sitting next to them…oh, the stories I could tell.

My learning did not stop when I left CTSFW for the parish. It has continued in my regular attendance at continuing education courses offered by CTSFW in my region. Ironically, they are now being taught by some of my former sem-mates. I benefit greatly from their scholarship. These classes are highly supported by the members I serve as they have benefited from my reinvigoration and continued learning. As always, I look forward to this summer’s class.

The Rev. Mark A. Kliwer
(zionpastor.wmca.nv@sbcglobal.net), CTSFW 1987, has served as pastor of Christ Lutheran Church, Battle Mountain, and Zion Lutheran Church, Winnemucca, Nevada, since 1987.
The work at CTSFW truly exemplifies truth, honor, justness, purity, loveliness, that which is admirable and looks to be excellent and praiseworthy.

Granted, these directions from St. Paul are aims which cannot be kept perfectly by anyone, including the staff and students at CTSFW. However, the goals are stated and kept in the forefront, and the striving to meet these goals is evident as men and women go forth from the seminary and teach the faithful, reach the lost and care for all.

The women of the CTSFW Guild also strive to keep the words of St. Paul as a guide in offering encouragement and loving support to the students while they work toward becoming the preachers and teachers of God’s Word.

Please feel welcome to join the Guild to become a part of the support offered to the CTSFW students.

Joyce West (joyciew43@gmail.com) serves as president of the Guild at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.
Reformation 500
Resources for 2017

Throughout 2017

- Find resources for Bible studies, sermons, classroom helps, devotions, historical information and more visit [www.ctsfw.edu/Reformation-500](http://www.ctsfw.edu/Reformation-500).
- All issues of *Concordia Theological Quarterly* will focus on the significance of the Reformation.

500th Anniversary of the Reformation Service
October 31, 2017
Kramer Chapel
7:30 p.m.
Preacher:
*Dr. Matthew C. Harrison*
President, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LUTHER HOSTEL
A retreat on the campus of CTSFW

Christ for Us: Celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation
November 1–3, 2017

For more information contact us at: Retreats@ctsfw.edu or 260.452.2204.
With joy and gratitude, Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, is pleased to announce the creation of a new endowment fund to assist students as they study and prepare to become servants of Christ as pastors and deaconesses in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). The endowment, established by the LCMS Foundation, was made possible through a $50,000 matching gift from the John and Harriet Wiebe Mission Advancement Fund.

The LCMS Foundation’s dollar-for-dollar matching gift encouraged the membership of a congregation in Ojai, California, to match the gift for an additional $50,000. The match challenge was met, and a $100,000 endowment fund was established to provide financial assistance to those attending CTSFW.

“Our gratitude to God, the membership wanted to help ensure future generations had pastors, deaconesses, missionaries and chaplains,” said Gary Nahrwold, assistant vice president of Advancement at CTSFW. “This endowment will provide ongoing resources for financial aid and debt reduction for church workers preparing for service.”

The Wiebes, lifelong Lutherans with a passion for church planting and ministry outreach, left a significant estate gift and requested that the LCMS Foundation distribute funds to LCMS entities working to share the Gospel with others.

“What a blessing it is to have our seminaries preparing our men and women for a life of service to Christ,” said David Fiedler, LCMS Foundation president. “The people of the LCMS are generous, and through this matching gift opportunity provided by the Foundation through the Wiebe Mission Advancement Fund, an endowment has been created that will support the education and training being provided for our church workers at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, until that day that our Lord returns in His glory.”

To make a gift to this new endowment or to support the annual operations and scholarships of this mission, please connect with Gary Nahrwold at 260.452.2277 or Gary.Nahrwold@ctsfw.edu. For more information, visit www.ctsfw.edu/Support-CTSFW.
Singing the Faith—Past, Present and Future

18th Annual Conference
November 5-7, 2017

As the Church celebrates the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, the Good Shepherd Institute conference will take this opportunity to evaluate the past 500 years as we confess the faith in the present for the sake of the future.

The conference will open our second art exhibition, featuring artwork depicting the theme of Sola, reflecting the themes of the Reformation. And as a nod to the Reformation anniversary which will have just occurred, Sunday’s choral vespers will include another of Bach’s Reformation cantatas, 79, “God the Lord Is Sun and Shield.”

There will be plenary presentations on the history of the Reformation and the musical heritage of the Church, as well as a series of sectional focusing on detailed topics about art, music and preaching will provide practical ideas for today’s Church. The conference will conclude with thoughts on pastoral care from Dr. Arthur Just and a glimpse into the future by CTSFW Kantor Emeritus Richard Resch.

Concordia Theological Seminary–Fort Wayne, Indiana

Information coming soon to www.ctsfw.edu/GSI.

Questions? Email Music@ctsfw.edu or phone 260.452.2224.
Contend for the Faith: Jude’s Appeal for Faithful Teaching

By Roger A. Peters

**Jude 1 and 2: Greetings From a Servant**
Jude greets his readers, not as a kind of master or superior, but as a servant of Jesus Christ and the brother of James. Although Jude introduces such a serious letter that can come off as harsh, what is Jude saying about himself when he refers to himself as a servant? ____________________________________________________________________________

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In his eagerness to write concerning our common salvation, Jude “found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith.” Jude’s letter contains serious content, but he felt it necessary to write. Jude felt that he had been divinely called to write his epistle, that he was called through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and was motivated by his deep love for those beloved in God the Father. From Jude’s divine call to write such a serious letter, what can we learn about the way our pastors must feel in times when they are called upon to preach God’s Law to us? What is their motivation? ____________________________________________________________________________

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Jude’s letter is addressed, “To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ.” The adjective, called, is the main description of those to whom Jude is writing, while “beloved” and “kept” describe those who are called. What do we learn about the close relationship between God’s calling, His love and His safekeeping from Jude’s address? ____________________________________________________________________________

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Jude prays earnestly that God’s mercy, peace and love be multiplied to his readers. This implies that God’s mercy, peace and love are already ours through faith in Jesus. As God’s people, we pray continually that these things will be increased in us also.

**Jude 3: Jude’s Appeal**
Jude addresses his readers again as beloved. In doing so, he assures his readers that although the content of his letter may be unpleasant, it does not diminish his love for them which is rooted in God’s love and redemption. Jude’s readers are dear to him, but above all else, they are “beloved in God the Father.”

Jude is eager to write concerning our common salvation. While the word “common” can sometimes mean ordinary, Jude certainly does not have this meaning in mind. Our salvation is not ordinary but extraordinary! Our common salvation refers to the salvation that is shared by all God’s faithful people. This phrase connects Jude with his original readers. How does this phrase connect you with Jude and his original readers, as well as to the Church in all places and in all times? ____________________________________________________________________________

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Jude appeals to his readers “to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.” This faith that was delivered cannot be the personal, subjective faith in a person’s heart. While the personal faith of each Christian is more precious than gold, the faith Jude writes about is the objective, doctrinal contentment of the Christian faith. It is the message of the Gospel and the body of Christian Truth, which brings life and salvation to all those who believe it.

“Delivered” means that it was not invented by man nor discovered. Rather it was delivered to the saints as a gift. Compare Jude’s statement in verse three to 2 Peter 1:21
and 1 Cor. 11:23–26. By what means is the faith once for all delivered to the saints? _____________________________

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Jude 4–19: False Teachers
Jude is especially eager to write because of the false teachers that have crept into the Church. It is these false teachers against whom Jude’s readers are to contend for the faith. These false teachers are especially dangerous as they have “crept in unnoticed” and with their false teaching, they endanger the life-giving faith which has been delivered to the saints. Notice, therefore, the distinct contrast between the beloved in God who are “kept for Jesus Christ,” and these false teachers who were “designated for condemnation.” Although it is unpleasant to think about, the defeat of God’s enemies is good news for His saints.

Jude 20–25: Build yourselves up in faith, save others
Christians, however, keep themselves in the love of God by building themselves up in the most holy faith through continued study of God’s Word. How, then, are we able to “save others by snatching them out of the fire,” as Jude exhorts? _____________________________

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Jude’s appeal to contend for the faith is an appeal for faithful teaching. The faith that we contend for is the teaching of the Prophets, the Apostles and the Lord Jesus Himself. It has been delivered to the saints once and for all through the inspiration of the Holy Scriptures. We can never contend for the faith through acts of physical force, but through preaching the Word and making the strong confession of faith in accordance with the teachings of Scripture. We thank God that He has delivered the faith to His saints and that He keeps us in that one true faith with Jesus Christ. 

The Rev. Roger A. Peters (Roger.Peters@ctsfw.edu) serves as assistant to the director of Library and Information Services at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.
ON-CAMPUS VISITATION EVENTS

FOR FUTURE PASTORS AND DEACONESSES

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