Serving Future Servants in Body, Mind and Soul
By Andrea L. Schultz

Come Away by Yourselves
By Kent R. Schaaf

We Are Your Seminary: Here to Serve
As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 4:10-11

This year the 35 districts of our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod will hold their conventions. In fact, our friends in the Southern, North Dakota, Southern Illinois and Northern Illinois Districts have already met! If you have or will be attending a convention this year, you will no doubt see me and other representatives from Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, who are sharing our message of We Are Your Seminary: Here to Serve. In good Lutheran fashion, you may ask yourself, “What does this mean?”

Serving the Church
For over 150 years CTSFW has formed distinctively Lutheran pastors who faithfully proclaim the Word of God and administer the Sacraments. They are your pastors who serve God’s people from life’s first heartbeat until their final breath, pastors who serve in the public square as witnesses to eternal truth sometimes at great personal cost. And now, more recently, deaconesses are being formed at CTSFW who will serve alongside your pastors and offer their unique gifts embodying mercy, especially to the fatherless and the widow, the alien and the stranger in our midst.

Serving Students
We have a community of faith where students are formed by the finest theological faculty anywhere in the world. A faculty that cares deeply about our students and invests significant time with them outside the classroom. We are reducing the burden of debt through financial education, the Food & Clothing Co-op and doing everything we can to keep the seminary’s expenses low. And, as you will read in this issue, by partnering with you to pay their education costs through the seminary tuition grant, student adoption and scholarship assistance.

Serving You
We are serving clergy and laypeople alike by offering continuing education courses hosted by congregations around the country. For those seeking even more advanced study, we offer several graduate degrees, including our new Ph.D. in Theological Studies. We also continue to provide weekly content through the CTSFW Facebook page (www.facebook.com/CTSFW) for worship planning, sermon preparation and daily worship services from Kramer Chapel. And for those who are able to join us on campus, we offer a variety of conferences and workshops for laypeople, church musicians and youth, including Christ Academy, Confirmation Retreats, Good Shepherd Institute, Symposia Series, Lutheranism and the Classics, Luther Hostel and more.

Our mission at CTSFW is to serve by forming servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful, reach the lost and care for all. We are acutely aware that so much of that service would be impossible without your continued support. On behalf of the CTSFW community, I thank you for your prayers on behalf of our students, faculty and staff; for sending us the sons and daughters of your congregations to be formed for service to Christ; and the Church, and for your generous financial gifts which make possible everything we do.

With you in Christ’s service,

Lawrence R. Rast Jr.
President
Concordia Theological Seminary
Fort Wayne, Indiana
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By Andrea L. Schultz
Physical and financial aid gives students the stability they need to focus on their studies, rigorous academics equip them with the Word, and fieldwork, vicarage and internships make servants of scholars. The spiritual formation that comes from a daily life shaped around the Word strengthens each man and woman to run with endurance the race set before them.

7 Come Away by Yourselves
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Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, provides resources for church workers, laypeople, youth and adults on campus, throughout the country and online. Take a look to see what is available for you.

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For the Life of the World

Four years of study at Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, is a vast undertaking. When a student begins preparing for a future either as a shepherd in the Office of Holy Ministry or in the role of diakonal servant, he or she has begun a journey that will challenge them financially, academically and spiritually. They are formed through this process. Formed to teach the faithful, reach the lost and care for all.

It is through God’s grace and mercy that we first serve His servants-in-training. Physical and financial aid gives students the stability they need to focus on their studies, rigorous academics equip them with the Word, and fieldwork, vicarage and internships make servants of scholars. The spiritual formation that comes from a daily life shaped around the Word strengthens each man and woman to run with endurance the race set before them (Heb.12:1-2).

In the words of members of the CTSFW community, here is a look at how we care for each student in body, mind and soul.

Body

When our students pray the Lord’s Prayer in chapel each day, the answer to their plea for daily bread often comes through the CTSFW Financial Aid Office. Financial aid helps students pay their tuition with the tuition grant.
program and provides additional resources to cover living expenses through programs like Student Adoption. This is often the role of the Financial Aid Office, to act as a conduit that connects future servants with the people they will someday serve. “The support that our students receive confirms to them that others care and value the time and effort they spend learning how to serve Christ and His people,” says the Rev. Mark C. Sheafer, director of Financial Aid. “These gifts provide students with the encouragement they need while preparing for their future ministry. I consistently hear from students how these donations enable them to concentrate more on their studies and families, and spend less time being concerned about money and paying the bills.”

Another ministry of care at CTSFW is the Food & Clothing Co-op. The Co-op allows current students to acquire items for their family through the use of points, earned by volunteering their time at the Co-op. Students receive food, clothing and household items donated by generous supporters or purchased with the financial gifts given to the Co-op.

As a former student wife, the director of the program, Katherine Rittner, has an inside view of this blessing. “Coming to CTSFW as a family of six, the ability to feed and clothe my family without cost was a lifesafer for us. There are no words that could ever convey the thankfulness and eternal gratitude for those who care enough to provide for the bodily sustenance of those called to serve the Church. Knowing what my family received helps me daily when talking to future and current students as well as donors.”

CTSFW boasts a faculty made up of world-class theologians. Yet this boast is built on another, more powerful one: our foundation on the very Word of God. “To use a biblical image found in Ezekiel and Revelation, our students inwardly digest the Scriptures during their respective programs so that the Scriptures, especially as they reveal Christ, form all that they do and say as Lutheran pastors and deaconesses. Their study of doctrine, the Confessions, history and ministry practice all grow from their rigorous immersion in the Scriptures,” explains CTSFW Academic Dean Dr. Charles A. Gieschen.

Furthermore, all pastoral and diakonal students are required to participate in two years of fieldwork in a local congregation, which begins in their first few weeks at CTSFW. The Rev. Prof. John T. Pless, director of
Field Education, explains the value of such a marriage between academics and experience. “It provides an opportunity for our students to be mentored by a practicing pastor. Students acquire and deepen some basic pastoral skills, learning as they serve the Lord’s people. A wonderful collateral benefit of field education is that, in many cases, congregational members open their hearts and homes to students and their families. With prayers, hospitality and gifts these pastors and laypeople support and encourage these future shepherds.”

After two years of study and fieldwork, students then leave the familiar campus grounds to spend a year either in vicarage or on a diakonal internship, once more under the guidance of an experienced pastor. “They learn to take what they have learned in the classroom and in fieldwork and begin to apply it on a daily basis,” says the Rev. Dr. Gary W. Zieroth, director of Vicarage and Internship. “Vicars are given more preaching and teaching experiences, they conduct the liturgy, and visit members, hospitals and the homebound. They are able to work with the youth of the congregation and in outreach programs of the church. Our deaconess students assist the pastor in congregational or other settings to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through works of mercy, providing spiritual care and teaching the Christian faith, as well as visiting the sick and imprisoned, or serving in family or other caring ministry.”

**Soul**

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.” So God promised us long ago in Is. 55:10-11.

By being in the Word, day in and day out, spiritual formation occurs among our students. It also takes place through daily worship in the heart of the CTSFW campus: Kramer Chapel.

First-year seminarian, Ian Kinney, put it this way: “The entire campus is centered around the Chapel and the worship that goes on here. Even architecturally the Chapel is the direct center of the campus. So it’s tough to be on campus and not see the Chapel and hear it when the bells start to ring.”

The Rev. Dr. Paul J. Grime, dean of both Spiritual Formation and of the Chapel, sees worship in light of his roles as both a teacher and a shepherd. “Gathering together each day in Kramer Chapel provides the students the opportunity to grow in their familiarity with the rich expressions of the Gospel that are a part of our Lutheran heritage. But even more importantly, daily worship brings them the comfort and hope of God’s Word, gifts they themselves need as much as their future parishioners.”

Thanks be to God. It is by His gracious will that the Church cares for her future servants. One day these students will teach, reach and care for all. It is our privilege that, through the faculty, staff and congregational members supporting these men and women from across The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we first teach, reach and care for them.

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**Andrea L. Schultz**  
(Andrea.Schultz@ctsfw.edu)  
serves as a marketing specialist at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana.
I love theology, most pastors do. I love immersing myself in the original texts of Holy Scripture and crunching on the Lutheran Confessions. However, good, deep study of theology usually gets put on the back burner of pastoral life. This is a problem not just for me, but for most pastors. Whether or not our congregations realize it, it’s a big problem. There are times I wish I could find myself simply getting away and refreshing myself with my Greek text, the Lutheran Confessions and taking deliberate time to pray and relax. While at the Seminary all I longed for was to be in the parish. And now that I’m in the parish, I long to be simply back at the Seminary sitting at the feet of the wonderful theologians, praying and learning more theology.
Jesus says to the disciples in Mark 6:31 “...Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest awhile...” Earlier in Mark 6, Jesus had sent His disciples out two-by-two, having given them authority to engage in the ministry of the Kingdom of God (6:7). They did as Jesus had said, calling people to repentance and healing the sick (6:13). Later, they returned to Jesus to report on their trip (6:30). Though Mark does not give us the details of this conversation, we do read one thing Jesus said to His disciples, “And he said to them, ‘Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while.’ For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat” (6:31).

Most pastors would agree that the parish life can be filled with so many people and things coming and going. And yes, many of us have found ourselves with no time even to eat. This is why it is good for us to hear Jesus’ words for His disciples as if they were for us as well “...Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest awhile...” (6:31). This is an invitation to retreat, to back off from the demands of parish life, to have a time of solitude, learning and rest.

Concordia Theology Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, has a long-standing history of providing pastors this opportunity of retreat, renewal and rest. From the regular meetings of the Symposia in January and the Good Shepherd Institute (GSI) in November, to the various workshops and conferences throughout the year, CTSFW is heeding the call of Jesus to “come away to a quiet place.”

However, living in Northern California I find it’s not always easy to get back to the wonderful CTSFW campus in Indiana. To be sure, I can certainly watch the Symposia or Good Shepherd Institute livestream on my computer at home, and that is a tremendous blessing in its own way, but that element of retreat and refreshment is sometimes missing. This is why I love that CTSFW is going beyond its location in Fort Wayne and spreading its campus and community across the country with its continuing education courses. If you are not familiar with the continuing education system, it’s very simple. Over the summer various professors and pastors travel to various congregations across the country and hold seminary-level classes for pastors, deaconesses and even laity. Just like a doctor or tradesman find themselves taking time off of their regular duties for continuing education, the Seminary is providing the same opportunity for pastors and deaconesses. This is where continuing education brings the Seminary closer to home. I regularly attended these continuing education courses when I served in Charlotte, North Carolina. And now that I’m in Northern California, I find myself hosting one of these classes...
every year! My congregation in Grass Valley, California, has been blessed with ample facilities and a gorgeous location nestled in the Sierra Nevada Mountains of Northern California to provide pastors the opportunity for retreat, renewal and rest. We are preparing for our fourth year of hosting a continuing education course, which will take place in July 2018 (see a full schedule of courses on page 13). We have had pastors and deaconesses from all over the country come to our campus to find retreat, renewal and rest. What amazes me even more is that our congregation has gone above and beyond simply opening doors of the church for our guests. We also have laity opening the doors to their homes to host pastors, feed them and provide virtually all their amenities for the short time they spend with us in Grass Valley. Other parishioners share their gifts with our attendees by teaching them things like gourmet cooking or blacksmithing. Others encourage our attendees by telling them that they are praying for them on a regular basis. It’s a wonderful example of how a small patch of God’s Kingdom can help provide that necessary time of retreat and rest for pastors.

Jesus’ words of “Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest awhile” should not be overlooked by our pastors or congregations. And let’s face it, not many pastors will announce to their congregations that they have very little time for retreat, let alone the time for purposeful study of theology. However, I am happy to be a voice “calling in the wilderness.” Most of us pastors don’t have time; theology is on our back burners and it’s a problem. I encourage you to go ahead and ask your pastor about it. Ask him if he has regular opportunities for retreat and rest and a worthwhile opportunity to revisit the wonderful theology learned at the Seminary. You might be surprised at his answer. But don’t just ask your pastor, try and provide the opportunity for him to get away. If you can pay for your pastor’s registration for Symposia, GSI or a continuing education course, great! If you can help him further by covering some of the other costs of travel, lodging and food, even better! But the biggest gift you can give to your pastor is the time. Time that should never be counted as vacation, but simply time to retreat like Jesus and the disciples did. Thanks be to God that CTSFW is providing us so many wonderful opportunities for retreat, renewal and rest. Take time today to help make that possible for your pastor.

The Rev. Kent R. Schaaf (pastor.schaaf@gmail.com), CTSFW 2002, serves as pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Grass Valley, California.

The photos on pages 8 and 9 are from continuing education courses held at Grace Lutheran Church, Grass Valley, California.

In addition to recharging their theological batteries during class and worship, attendees were able to try their hand at blacksmithing.
What Does This MEAN?

We Are Your Seminary: Here to Serve
By Jeffrey H. Pulse

Concordia Theological Seminary exists to form servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful, reach the lost, and care for all…and in four years we pass ‘em and place ‘em! Done! These were my thoughts when I graduated and was placed into the parish ministry 32 years ago. The Seminary community has done their job, finished their work, fulfilled their obligation and I am now beyond their sphere. I suspect these are the thoughts of many, if not most, as they walk down the aisle of Kramer Chapel and out the doors into the real world on their commencement day.

Since that day I have learned much! And, much of that education has been the result of the continuing work of Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne. I was blessed to have the opportunity to complete my Masters in Sacred Theology (S.T.M.) degree from CTSFW, and now the Seminary offers other higher degrees such as the Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) and the new Ph.D. in Theological Studies. However, there have been other opportunities to continue my education along the way, and CTSFW has been instrumental in most of them.

Many are familiar with our long-running Symposia on the Lutheran Confessions as well as the Exegetical Symposia held back-to-back every January. Over the decades they have given pastors and laypeople the opportunity to learn and engage great scholars. The Good Shepherd Institute yearly gathers to discuss good music, art and liturgical practice, and now we have included a symposia on the Lutheran Classics held every other year.

However, the need for continuing education is much greater, and not all have the opportunity and/or ability to come back to the CTSFW campus and walk the hallowed halls. Our Seminary’s response is our Continuing Education (CE) Department. Every year, across the United States, CTSFW sends out professors and other instructors to conduct classes on a wide variety of topics requested by those in the field. Most take place in the summer months, but there are offerings throughout the year—24-30 sites from California to Massachusetts, from Michigan to Texas and from Florida to Washington. These CE events last from two-five days and are open to pastors, deaconesses and laypeople (see www.ctsfw.edu/CE for a location near you!). We also partner with Doxology and various districts of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in offering CE credits for other educational opportunities.

Our Seminary takes education and continuing education seriously! Perhaps you might ask; “Why should I bother with more education? What good does it do me? Why should I invest in these opportunities?” Good questions…answers? As I have heard from other pastors and deaconesses, and in my own experience, when one returns from one of these CE opportunities not only are we refreshed and encouraged by fellowshipping with one another, our congregational Bible studies, our teaching and preaching are energized and our congregations are blessed.

Many years ago I asked my elders for permission to continue my education by applying to a Ph.D. program. I thought I would have to give it the hard sell since it would require me to be absent from the congregation for several weeks out of the year. Surprisingly, they responded in the most positive way! They said, “Pastor, whenever you come back from these classes and symposiums, you are excited and have a lot of amazing things to share in Bible study; go ahead and apply!”

We Are Your Seminary: Here to Serve…and to continue to serve the Church with all manner of opportunities to grow and be strengthened in knowledge and faith. Come join us and see!

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey H. Pulse (Jeffrey.Pulse@ctsfw.edu) serves as associate professor of Exegetical Theology and director of Continuing Education at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana.
## 2018 Continuing Education Opportunities

**SPONSORED BY CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY—FORT WAYNE, INDIANA**

### June 4–6
**Knowles, Oklahoma**  
Rev. Chad Kendall  
*Early Christian Mercy to the Secular Culture*

### June 4–8
**Seattle, Washington**  
Dr. John Nordling  
*Leading Ladies of the New Testament*

### June 5–7
**Peoria, Illinois**  
Dr. Naomichi Masaki  
*The Lutheran Way with the Liturgy*

### June 11–13
**Davenport, Iowa**  
Dr. Dean Wenthe  
*Scripture and Sacramentology*

### June 11–13
**Rochester, Minnesota**  
Dr. Peter Scaer  
*Luther and the Christian Life*

### June 18–22
**Grand Rapids, Michigan**  
Dr. William Weinrich  
*Gospel of John*

### June 25–27
**St. Cloud, Minnesota**  
Dr. Jeffrey Pulse  
*Book of Job*

### June 25–29
**Cheyenne, Wyoming**  
Dr. Roland Ziegler  
*Luther’s Antinomian Disputations*

### June 26–28
**Plano, Texas**  
Dr. Charles Gieschen  
*Who Is Jesus? Confronting Current Christological Controversy*

### July 9–11
**Shawano, Wisconsin**  
Prof. John Pless  
*Hermann Sasse as Pastoral Theologian*

### July 9–13
**Cedar Falls, Iowa**  
Rev. Chad Kendall  
*Credo: Bringing Meaning and Balance to the Secular Mind*

### July 16–18
**Riverton, Utah**  
Prof. John Pless  
*Confessing Christ in Crisis*

### July 16–18
**Rogue River, Oregon**  
Dr. Peter Scaer  
*1 Corinthians*

### July 16–20
**Grass Valley, California**  
Dr. Charles Gieschen  
*Confronting Confusion About the End Times*

### July 23–25
**Gonzales, Louisiana**  
Prof. John Pless  
*Oswald Bayer as Resource for Pastoral Theology*

### July 23–27
**Fort Wayne, Indiana**  
Rev. Chad Kendall  
*Early Christian Mercy to the Secular Culture*

### July 30–August 1
**Charlottesville, Virginia**  
Dr. Dean Wenthe  
*1 & 2 Peter*

### July 30–August 3
**Flathead Lake, Montana**  
Dr. James Voelz  
*The Gospel of Mark for Teaching and Preaching*

### August 6–8
**Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania**  
Kantor Richard Resch  
*Theology and Church Music*

### August 8–10
**Council Bluffs, Iowa**  
Dr. Naomichi Masaki  
*Formula of Concord in the Life of the Church*

### August 20–24
**Denver, Colorado**  
Dr. Peter Scaer  
*The Gospel of Mark*

### August 28–30
**Almena, Wisconsin**  
Dr. John Kleinig  
*Psalms*

### September 10–12
**Fort Wayne, Indiana**  
Dr. John Kleinig  
*Access to Heaven on Earth in the Divine Service: The Theology of Worship in Hebrews*

### November 14–16
**Pensacola, Florida**  
Dr. David Scaer  
*Life of Children in the Church: Baptism and the Lord’s Supper*

### Information Coming Soon!
- Albuquerque, New Mexico  
- Atlanta, Georgia  
- Elgin, Illinois  
- Fergus Falls, Minnesota  
- Freedom, Pennsylvania  
- Gallatin, Tennessee  
- Lakewood, Washington

### Doxology Partner Opportunities:
- Illinois  
- Kansas  
- South Dakota

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**Contact Us for More Information:**

- Kara J. Mertz at CE@ctsfw.edu
- Prof. Jeffrey Pulse at Jeffrey.Pulse@ctsfw.edu
- Phone 260.452.2103

Please visit our website regularly to check for additional site information: [www.ctsfw.edu/CE](http://www.ctsfw.edu/CE).
The Fall 2017 edition of *For the Life of the World* contained an excellent article describing the history of Deaf Missions in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). The article highlighted more than a century of Deaf Ministry work in bringing the Word of God to deaf people through deaf education and the training of church workers. The Lutheran School for the Deaf in Detroit, Michigan, faithfully taught deaf children about their Savior Jesus Christ for many years, and as a result dozens of deaf churches were planted throughout the Synod. Some of these still exist today. Did you know that there was another Lutheran School for the Deaf in America?
The 1944 (Saginaw) LCMS Convention commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Synod’s ministry to deaf people by resolving to raise funds to establish a deaf school. In 1947, a corporate charter by the State of New York was issued to a small group of committed pastors and laymen as Lutheran Friends of the Deaf (LFD), a charitable and non-profit corporation.¹ “LFD’s goal was straightforward and simple: to establish a high-quality educational program for Deaf children on the East Coast within a loving, Christian environment.”² In 1949, LFD purchased Mill Neck Manor from Mrs. Lillian Sefton Dodge, who no longer needed the property as a weekend getaway and believed in the mission of LFD.³ After converting the mansion, the Mill Neck Manor Lutheran School for the Deaf was dedicated on September 23, 1951.⁴ School began three days later for 21 young boys and girls, ages three to 11.⁵

LFD has now expanded from its humble beginnings when it was solely a deaf school. Today the campus on Long Island is home to the Mill Neck Family of Organizations, which includes deaf education, community services for adults and children, hearing health services, interpreter services, international services, grants and deaf ministry. LFD was the founding organization of the Mill Neck Family of Organizations, but now focuses on Deaf Ministry and services. LFD is a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) within the LCMS whose current staff consists of a full-time LCMS pastor and three part-time LCMS deaconesses. LFD provides resources, instruction and support services to the global deaf community for access to the Word of God, so that they will receive forgiveness, life and salvation in Jesus Christ.

Through the years, there have been many committed supporters of Lutheran Friends of the Deaf, but one stands out both in LFD’s history and also that of Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne. The Rev. Dr. George R. Kraus served as the first chaplain of Mill Neck Manor Lutheran School for deaf children, from 1951 to 1965, while also pastoring a local congregation for the deaf and then served on several boards governing the Mill Neck Organization beginning in 1975.⁶ While still a supporter and advocate of LFD, Kraus became associate professor of Pastoral Theology at CTSFW in 1982,⁷ bringing his years of Deaf Ministry experience to the Seminary. The missions that he began at CTSFW are still happening today.

² Mueller, Planted in Faith, 5.
³ Mueller, Planted in Faith, 13.
⁴ Mueller, Planted in Faith, 18.
⁵ Mueller, Planted in Faith, 20.
⁶ Mueller, Planted in Faith, 141.
⁷ https://media.ctsfw.edu/Person/Details/147#
Tell us a little about yourself.

I am originally from Monticello, Indiana. After graduating from Valparaiso University in 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts in Music and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration Management, I received a job offer in Denver, Colorado. I was a business operations analyst for an engineering company that built data storage units for satellites. However, during my time in Denver I held a variety of jobs, such as working in a performing arts center, a jazz club and a website software company. I lived there for seven years prior to beginning my seminary studies in 2014.

During my first year at Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, I was introduced to a wonderful woman named Stefanie, who would eventually become my wife. We have been married for over two years, and during this time God has blessed us with two children, William Paul (July 2016) and Lilian Jo (December 2017).

Who/what influenced you to study to become a pastor?

I never imagined I would be at the Seminary training to be a pastor. Growing up my interest was primarily in music. However, I am not surprised that I ended up here. My parents are very strong in their faith and ultimately had the greatest influence on mine. From them I learned the importance of reading God’s Word, praying, attending church regularly and serving others. During my time in Denver, my desire to learn more about God’s Word and the Lutheran Confessions increased. Numerous pastors took notice of this and encouraged me to look into the Seminary. After many conversations with family and friends, and prayers to God, I decided to head back home to Indiana to attend the Seminary here in Fort Wayne.

Why did you choose CTSFW?

My priority in selecting a seminary was that I would receive a solid education. From my research of the faculty at CTSFW and discussions with others, I was confident I would receive that here. Additionally, in my visitations to the Seminary, I noticed the close community between individuals, whether they were faculty or student. In my four years this has been confirmed. I have treasured the countless conversations with fellow classmates and professors. The relationships I have built through these conversations will no doubt continue into the future. Finally, I saw that my spiritual needs would be cared for while at CTSFW. Throughout the week I am able to go to chapel to hear the Good News of Christ crucified for me and to receive His body and His blood for the forgiveness of sins. With the stress of classwork and home, to be able to receive these gifts from God on a daily basis has been a wonderful blessing.
What have been your greatest challenges and rewards thus far in your seminary experience?

Being a second career guy, it was quite a shock to move into the dorms after having my own place for several years in Denver. Yet, what was initially a challenge turned out to be a wonderful reward as I was able to develop closer relationships with my classmates.

After getting married and moving off campus, the challenges changed. Specifically, how do I balance these different vocations of being a student, a husband and a father? Additionally, whether it’s paying bills, putting food on the table, dealing with a newborn or with the death of a loved one, the challenges of life continue alongside of the schoolwork. Yet, the greatest reward for my family and me has been having a loving community to help and support us with these challenges. You can always find a classmate or a professor to help give you a word of encouragement and point you back to God. The CTSFW Food & Clothing Co-op has helped me provide for my family by putting food on our table and clothes on our backs. The Seminary is constantly looking for ways to help reduce the amount of student loans. Throughout these four years, CTSFW has provided for my family and me in countless ways, and for this I give all glory and thanks to God.

How would you encourage someone who is considering studying to become a pastor?

When I was considering whether or not I should apply to the Seminary, the one thing I noticed was that this question was constantly on my mind. I had a love for reading Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions but was uncertain this was the route for me. Occasionally I would talk myself out of applying but the thought would come back. It wasn’t until I applied to CTSFW that I finally felt at ease. The questions I have for someone considering studying to become a pastor are: Do you have a love for studying Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions? Do you enjoy sharing it with others? Do you find yourself trying to answer this question on whether or not to apply to the Seminary? If so, I would encourage that individual to do so. It is a great joy to be studying these texts on a daily basis and to be able to engage with such learned individuals that one will find 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.
The Rev. Dr. Naomichi Masaki was born and raised in Kobe, Japan, where Christians occupy less than one percent of the population and Lutherans being a tiny minority among them. He says one of the greatest blessings of the Lord is that He gave him Lutheran parents. His father, the late Rev. Dr. Shigeru Masaki, was a Lutheran pastor, evangelist, church-planter, seminary professor, Lutheran Hour speaker and author of numerous books.

After completing an M.A. in Counseling and Social Work in Japan, he was encouraged by the late Dr. Robert Preus to study at Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne. He completed his M.Div. degree in 1991 and S.T.M. in 1998 (both from CTSFW). He joined the Department of Systematic Theology at CTSFW in 2001 and earned his Ph.D. in Doctoral Theology from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 2005. He is married to Yohko and they have three children, Yoshitomo, Satomi and Emi.

How did you serve before becoming a CTSFW faculty member?

I served as a missionary-at-large of the New Jersey District. My task was to bring the Gospel to the Japanese people in the New York metropolitan area, especially on the New Jersey side. Supported by and working with pastors and the saints in the area, we created occasions where Japanese people, especially mothers with children of the young executives of big corporations from Japan, could come to our congregations comfortably and meet with Lutheran ladies who volunteered to assist them in their daily lives on this foreign soil. The Lord blessed our efforts so that hundreds of people listened to the Word of God, participated in Bible studies and catechism classes, were baptized and when a little mission congregation, Megumi (Grace) Lutheran Church, was born, they also received Holy Communion and pastoral care before being transferred back to Japan after three to five years.

I have had the privilege of teaching Lutheran theology in over 20 countries, and the list of places to teach seems only to be increasing. What I have observed, worldwide, is a hunger and thirst for the pure Word of God, straightforward teaching and doctrine that is confessed in the Book of Concord.
Within The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), I served on the Board for District and Congregational Services and on the Liturgy Committee of the Lutheran Hymnal Project for the Commission on Worship.

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

We are aware that the context of our teaching has been radically changing in the past years. Nevertheless, our faculty is convinced of the fact that it is the Lord Jesus who creates and shapes a pastor and who forms deaconesses and other servants. He does this concretely as He uses His instruments, that is, faculty, in expounding on the Scripture and addressing and giving out His body and His blood in the liturgical life on campus. The most vigorous study of His doctrine is reflected in the vitality of life in Jesus in the chapel, classrooms, dining hall, Student Commons and everywhere at CTSFW. Such a conviction among the faculty, in my opinion, is only deepened by their global experiences. I have had the privilege of teaching Lutheran theology in over 20 countries, and the list of places to teach seems only to be increasing. What I have observed, worldwide, is a hunger and thirst for the pure Word of God, straightforward teaching and doctrine that is confessed in the *Book of Concord*.

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

As a member of the Systematic Theology Department, I get to teach all the required courses in Lutheran Confessions, dogmatics and Luther studies. In addition, I have taught liturgics, New Testament Greek Readings and many advanced courses in Luther, doctrine, confessions, liturgy and 19th century confessional revival. I love teaching all of them! As each article of faith is interrelated as an organic whole, in every course we learn to confess Jesus deeper. In all of these, I can say that my interest continues to lie in the way in which our Lord serves the sinners with the Gospel today. In other words, how the same Lord Jesus who has achieved our salvation on Calvary keeps bestowing the same in the Church. I enjoy teaching both *Gnadenmittel* (means of grace), especially the Lord’s Supper and *Gnadenmitteltaum* (the office that delivers the means of grace), i.e., the Office of the Holy Ministry.

**The theme for this issue of For the Life of the World is “We Are Your Seminary: Here to Serve.” Any thoughts to share?**

When we say, “We are your seminary: here to serve,” we say it because it is the Lord who is at the center of CTSFW, not just as an object of our faith and our service but the subject of serving us with His gifts and dwelling among us. The question is not what our Seminary is but *whose* Seminary we are? My prayer is that CTSFW continues to serve our students, church workers in the field and beloved saints in the Church, joyfully acknowledging that here at CTSFW it is the Lord Jesus who serves you.

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Naomichi Masaki

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*The Rev. Dr. Naomichi Masaki*
Dig Deeper This Summer

Phoebe Academy
For high-school-aged young women
June 17–24, 2018

Christ Academy
For high-school-aged young men
June 17–30, 2018

Before you figure out what you are going to do for the rest of your life, figure out what you are going to do THIS summer. Come and join our community at Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, as we explore future callings as pastors or deaconesses, dig deeper into God’s Word and the Lutheran Confessions, and make long lasting friendships.

Registration Now Open!
www.ctsfw.edu/PAHS
www.ctsfw.edu/CAHS

Contact: Rev. Matthew Wietfeldt
- ChristAcademy@ctsfw.edu
- PhoebeAcademy@ctsfw.edu
- 260.452.2178
A central goal of Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne’s strategic plan has been 100% tuition coverage for our students. The Seminary is privileged to announce that years of targeted work have borne fruit: beginning with the 2018-19 academic year, tuition for all incoming, residential pastoral ministry and deaconess students will be paid in full.

“In 2013, with the help of a grant from the Lilly Foundation, we did an exhaustive study of student debt that drove us to establish 100% tuition support as one of the goals of our strategic plan,” said the Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast Jr., president of CTSFW. “Where there is a plan, God provides. On October 31, 2017, the Board of Regents of CTSFW approved full tuition support for the class entering the Seminary in 2018. I was delighted to share this publicly at the North Dakota District convention in late January.”

By partnering with districts, congregations and individuals in the Church, CTSFW is able to offer a scholarship that will provide 100% tuition cost for first-year, incoming students. The Seminary acts as both first and third payer in this relationship, first providing aid that covers 77.5% of tuition, after which outside aid is applied. Once LCMS District aid and all outside scholarships have been added, the Seminary then covers any remaining tuition costs. Funds students receive from the Student Adoption Program or from their home congregation will remain theirs, over and above the 100% tuition covered by the Seminary. This will assist students in paying housing and other non-tuition expenses.

“Make no mistake: this isn’t free tuition,” Rast explained. “This is God’s people, the Church, providing for the tuition of our future pastors and deaconesses through their bountiful gifts to CTSFW. We are thankful to our faculty and staff who have developed this plan, our Board of Regents for approving it, and the people of God who have been so generous with CTSFW for their financial support in making this a reality. Most of all, we are thankful to our gracious God who provides us with the gifts necessary to provide pastors, deaconesses and lay leaders in His church. To Him alone be the glory!”

If you would like to join in the effort to support future faithful servants of Christ, visit www.ctsfw.edu/support, email Advancement@ctsfw.edu or call 877.287.4338.
Since receiving a Doctor of Letters *honoris causa* and serving as speaker at the Concordia University Chicago fall commencement on December 9, 2017, we have had several requests for transcripts of the encouraging message President Lawrence R. Rast Jr. shared with the new graduates.

“We live in a world that threatens to overwhelm us with the rapidity with which we encounter evil and injustice,” said Rast during his commencement speech. “In the face of such challenges, David offers us Psalm 37. Please listen: “Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers! For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.” To read the full transcript of the speech, visit www.ctsfw.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/2017-12-09-CUC-Commencement-Address.pdf.

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey H. Pulse, associate professor of Exegetical Theology, at Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), has completed his doctoral work at Durham University, England. His area of concentration for his Ph.D. studies was Concepts of the Afterlife in the Old Testament and Second Temple Judaism, writing his dissertation on “Joseph: a Death and Resurrection Figure in the Old Testament and Second Temple Judaism.”

“The whole faculty rejoices with Dr. Pulse in this achievement,” stated Dr. Charles A. Gieschen, professor of Exegetical Theology and academic dean. “Our students are greatly benefiting from his unique combination of lengthy service in the parish and several years of doctoral studies in Old Testament at Durham University. He embodies the commitment of CTSFW to have experienced pastors with great academic training on our faculty.”

Pulse has been associated with the Seminary for many years, first completing his M.Div. at CTSFW in 1984 and his S.T.M. in 1990. He served 22 years as a parish pastor in Burt, Iowa, and Bremerton, Washington, before joining the CTSFW faculty in September 2007. In addition to teaching courses in biblical Hebrew and various Old Testament books, Pulse serves as director of Certification and Placement and director of Continuing Education.

Deaconess Placements Announced

During morning chapel service on December 14, 2017, the following placements were announced for deaconess students:

**Anne E. Bakker**  
Zion Lutheran Church  
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan  
Michigan District

**Nayva K. Mulder**  
Lutheran Special Education Ministries  
Farmington Hills, Michigan  
Service Site:  
Zion Lutheran Church  
Fort Wayne, Indiana  
Indiana District

**Alejandra Rojas de Robles**  
Christ Lutheran Church  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
Nebraska District

May God bless and keep these newly commissioned deaconesses as they serve Christ’s Church.
English District President Welcomes Home a Familiar Candidate

On November 28, 2017, Alexander W. Sabol, a fourth-year seminarian from Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, received his call to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Lakeview, Michigan (English District) and Hope Lutheran Church in Stanton, Michigan (Michigan District).

The Rev. Dr. Jamison J. Hardy, president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s English District, through which the call officially came, was on hand to congratulate Sabol. The two share a prior connection as Sabol was in Hardy’s very first confirmation class.

During chapel, the Rev. Dr. Jeffrey H. Pulse, director of Certification and Placement, announced the future pastor’s placement and delivered the following charge: “Go, then, take heed unto thyself and to all the flock, over which the Holy Ghost has made you overseer, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood. Feed the flock of Christ, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lord over God’s heritage, but being an example to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear thou shalt receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. The Lord bless thee from on high, and make thee a blessing unto many, that thou mayest bring forth fruit, and that thy fruit may remain unto eternal life. Amen.”

It is our prayer that more men and women will prayerfully consider full-time service to the Church. For information on becoming a pastor or deaconess go to www.ctsfw.edu/Admission or phone 800.481.2155.

(l-r) Pastor-elect Sabol and English District President Dr. Hardy.
There are many things about Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, that can’t be recreated in our congregations. You won’t have the vibrant daily worship with spectacular preaching and robust music and singing. You won’t be able to recreate the strong sense of community among students and with the faculty. These are things to be treasured about the Seminary experience because they are found in only one place. However, one of the ways I found to remain connected to the Seminary after my graduation was through the continuing education provided by CTSFW.

Each summer congregations and pastors host a CTSFW professor for several days of class. The classes are three to five days long and will cover topics that make a difference to a parish pastor. In these classes there will often be times for worship, fellowship and, of course, the class work. Maybe an overlooked benefit of these classes is the mutual conversation and consolation of the brethren where friendships are renewed or made. The classes are a way for the pastor to be encouraged in his study of God’s Word and important cultural topics. There are great demands on the time of a pastor, but to take some time each summer to be fed on God’s Word and to study it in depth yields great fruit. Faith is strengthened and the people of God are better served as their pastor has more insights to teach them.

During my seminary education as I sat in class and listened to the professors, I would think about how I might teach something in Bible class or preach on a certain parable or Old Testament event. But having never taught Bible class or preached through the pericopes, that thinking was a little bit
disconnected from reality. Now when taking a Continuing Education class I find myself considering the practical applications of what the professor is teaching and taking notes on how I will teach it or preach it. The learning while in the midst of serving a congregation gives valuable information that can be used right away. In a sense, being involved in people’s lives makes Scripture applicable in eye-opening ways that I never would have imagined before graduation.

I’ve learned from Dr. James Bushur about the early Christians confessing their faith in the midst of persecution and quoted the martyrdom account of Polycarp in a sermon when I was talking about persecution. I’ve learned from Dr. Naomichi Masaki about the Formula of Concord and recently used that information in teaching the history of the Reformation in Bible Class. I look forward to using some of the insights that Dr. Peter Scaer gave during his class on Mark in my preaching this upcoming year as the Gospel of Mark is focused upon in the lectionary.

The Seminary continues to serve the Church and her pastors by making opportunities available for continued education. Psalm 119:30-31 says, “I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I set your rules before me. I cling to your testimonies, O LORD; let me not be put to shame!” Clinging to the testimonies of God, the way of faithfulness for the pastor is to be instructed in the way of the Lord. I’m sure that my people are better served by me as their pastor when I continue to be connected to the Seminary through continuing education. While I can’t recreate the Kramer Chapel organ or the boisterous men’s voices in my congregation, I can still learn from the professors of CTSFW. 

The Rev. Travis R. Kleinschmidt (trkleinschmidt@gmail.com), CTSFW 2008, serves as pastor of St. Jakobi Lutheran Church, Shawano, Wisconsin.
Lenten Evening Prayer
Music of the Lenten season presented by the Kantorei of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Sunday, March 18 at 4:00 p.m.

Easter Choral Vespers
Music of the Easter season presented by the Schola Cantorum of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Sunday, April 22 at 4:00 p.m.

Kramer Chapel
6600 N. Clinton St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46825
260.452.2224
www.ctsfw.edu

Both services will be available at www.ctsfw.edu/daily-chapel and www.facebook/CTSFW

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June 18–22, 2018
Primer Level for Organists and Service Playing for Pianists

June 25–29, 2018
Intermediate and Advanced Level Organists

For more information contact: MusicWorkshops@ctsfw.edu.
The campus of Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, lies quietly a little distance from Clinton Street, a busy thoroughfare that runs through the city. Have you visited there? For me, there is a peace there, possibly stemming from my knowledge of what transpires at that place: the teaching of God’s Word in its truth to men aspiring to be pastors and women who wish to serve as deaconesses.

By the forming of these students, you are served, in that after being trained, they come into the congregations, schools and organizations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) to shepherd us.

If you ever have the opportunity, visit our beautiful Seminary that teaches our pastors and deaconesses. Morning worship takes place in Kramer Chapel every weekday morning at 10:00, when classes are in session. All are welcome to attend these services. Attending chapel is something I do as often as I am on the campus—what a wonderful opportunity during the week to worship with the students.

Other offerings of the Seminary are services of music and classes for various groups, usually brought to your attention by notices to your congregation and on the Seminary webpage (www.ctsfw.edu).

The knowledge of and visits to the CTSFW campus enhance my walk with my Lord. It may do the same for you.

During the time that our future pastors and deaconesses are studying at CTSFW, the Seminary Guild offers aid and caring attention to their needs. As the Seminary serves you, you have opportunity to serve the students as a member of the Guild.

The Guild meets once a month on the second Tuesday of every month (except January) during the academic year. Member dues are $10 for an individual or your organization can become an associate member for $25. Won’t you consider joining us?

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

CTSFW Director of Admission Rev. Matthew Wietfeldt shared his presentation on “Being a Christian Leader in a Post-Christian World” during a recent gathering of the Seminary Guild.

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**Affiliate Guild Registration**

- Yes, we are interested in becoming an Affiliate Guild. Please send more information to:
  Name: ____________________________________________
  Organization: ______________________________________
  Address: _________________________________________
  City: __________________ State: ______ Zip: __________
  Email: __________________________

- Please contact me with more information.
- We have enclosed our yearly $25 check for our group to be an Affiliate Guild.
- I have enclosed my yearly $10 check to be an individual affiliate member.
- Donation Day gift.

The knowledge of and visits to the CTSFW campus enhance my walk with my Lord. It may do the same for you.

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I cannot recall a time when Concordia Theological Seminary was not here in Fort Wayne. Being born here and about eight years old when the Seminary moved back into town from Springfield, it has just always been here, in my mind at least. I have dozens of childhood memories of going to the Sem for concerts in Kramer Chapel, track meets, basketball games, soccer matches and cross-country meets. As an adult, I taught here in Fort Wayne and I could say the same thing. I came to campus frequently and for a wide variety of reasons. Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSW), Fort Wayne, has always been a part of my life.

It was not until I became an Advancement officer at CTSFW in 2016 that I began to look at the campus in a brand new light. I began to appreciate the architecture and layout of the buildings as well as the grounds and overall beauty of this fabulous facility. Like many hometown gems, you have a tendency to take for granted what is in your backyard; I certainly had. I understand that many of you do not live a short drive from campus and just to swing on over is not possible. Most of you have never had the opportunity to stroll along on the brick pavers, smell the flowers in spring, gaze out over the lake as the sun sets in the western sky or hear the bell calling the students to worship. It is my hope that all of you will have that opportunity one day.

I realize fully that my experience is not typical, in fact I would say very rare indeed. Let me tell you about a gentleman I met last year. He has lived in Indiana most of his life but had never been to campus until last summer. This one visit made a significant change not only in his familiarity with the Seminary, but ultimately in how he could make a difference with his giving.

In early Summer 2017, I received a phone call from a gentleman wanting to know more about the CTSFW campus. He had an idea and wanted help with trying to work out the details of a gift. I convinced him to make the approximately 90 minute drive to Fort Wayne and see the campus. I gave him a tour and we discussed his idea. We had lunch in the dining hall.
with the students taking summer classes. He was able to see and enjoy Kramer Chapel, the Wayne and Barbara Kroemer Library, the Luther statue and other parts of the campus that were of interest to him. He was very impressed by the size and grandeur of the buildings. He quickly realized that his original idea was not going to be practical. As a result, he asked me to find some projects or programs that would fit the size of the gift he wanted to give and would also resonate with him and his interests.

The Advancement staff then put together a list of five ideas that we thought were a good fit. When he reviewed the list and considered the options, he chose to divide his gift between two different projects. He chose to fund an endowment with 40% of his gift. He then put the remainder toward a lecture hall remodeling project. I can say with certainty he is very happy about his decisions (“Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart” Ps. 37:4). Had he never visited CTSFW I am certain things would have turned out differently. By engaging with the Advancement staff, ideas and opportunities that would have remained unknown and hidden came into focus.

By seeing the buildings and grounds, interacting with students and seeing the needs first hand made the decision-making process easier.

Have you ever been to CTSFW? The message embedded in this article is “come to campus.” I am certain that a visit to campus will make a difference, not only in your understanding of CTSFW but also in how you may be able to engage with us. I hope that many of you will consider strongly making the trip. If this cannot happen, we do have many different videos or livestreaming of events that would be the next best thing. We livestream morning chapel service every weekday. We even have a drone video of campus. There are also online options for concerts, lectures and Bible studies, all of which can be viewed right from your home.

Here are the ways to access these videos of campus or interact with CTSFW online:

www.ctsfw.edu: From our home page you can navigate to many different offerings and services from education to music to community events.

www.ctsfw.edu/VideoTour: Enjoy a bird’s eye view of campus with this video.

www.ctsfw.edu/Daily-Chapel: Watch our morning chapel services live or view the recorded services at a time that is convenient for you.

This short article has focused on the where much more than the what. What happens at CTSFW is clearly more important—to form servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful, reach the lost and care for all. However, I think that being here in person and seeing where this is happening makes a difference. If you would like to see the campus (and hopefully better decide how to direct your support), please contact me or any member of the Advancement staff.

Lance C. Hoffman (Lance.Hoffman@ctsfw.edu) serves as an Advancement officer at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.

To learn more about supporting the mission of CTSFW, connect with him at the email above, email Advancement@ctsfw.edu or phone 877.287.4338.

Your gift of support TODAY will keep on giving eternally as the Gospel is shared!

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If your employer matches charitable contributions, remember to request matching funds from your company.

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☐ Endowments ☐ Including CTSFW in my will
☐ Estate planning ☐ Gift Annuities

Please detach and mail to Concordia Theological Seminary, 6600 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, Indiana 46825-4996.
At Epiphany we see the magi searching for Him who is born King of the Jews. Jesus, the boy tended to in less than kingly surroundings, is God and King of Creation. He is truly Lord, but Jesus’ earthly life would be one that seemed to betray any notion of lordship or nobility. Jesus’ life was one of service. This is seen throughout His 33 years but never more vividly than during Jesus’ time with His disciples the Thursday and Friday of His Passion Week. The King washes His creatures’ feet. He provides us a banquet of His body and blood and gives Himself over to death so we might live eternally with Him.

As the people called and recreated by the work of Christ, we too are given over to service. This is true as individual members of Christ’s body and as the Church. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod recognized this life of service as the reason for her existence at her formation. A substantial part of the Synod’s service is to be the training of ministers of God’s Word as acknowledged in her constitution. Article V, 9 says in part, “It shall be the duty of Synod to erect, support, and supervise institutions for the preparation of future pastors and teachers for service in the Church…”

1. Service to God and neighbor has components that are both material and spiritual or better put, temporal and eternal. Neither is to be neglected in our life of service. Yet the ultimate goal of everything the Church does is to proclaim Christ and through that proclamation expand His Kingdom.

   Compare Matt. 14:13-21 with Mark 6:32-44. In Matthew the healing of the sick is His first service and afterward the miraculous feeding. In Mark, Jesus’ teaching is at the fore and once finished, the feeding. How does Jesus provides all that is needful for the benefit of the people gathered? 

Read Luke 10:30-37. Those who are identified with spiritual sounding titles neglect to take care of the man’s immediate needs of body. Who is the faithful and good one and how does he show mercy? 

Read Ps. 119:9-16. There, as in the entire Psalm, the credit for transforming the life of the sinner is credited to God’s Word. I am taught the “statutes of God” and delight in them. Read John 3:5-14. Jesus, the incarnate Word, tells Nicodemus that those who inherit eternal life are born again/born from above. The mechanism for that rebirth is the Spirit working in water. In verse 14 Jesus reveals the power behind our Baptism. In the water, the Spirit connects me to the One who is lifted up. Jesus’ shed blood is poured over me and cleanses me in Baptism. In Him I am rebirthed and changed. How is this explained in Romans 6:4ff? 

We are cautioned not to neglect the eternal for the things that are temporal. See Is. 55:2 and John 6:27. What applies in our life also applies in how we serve our neighbor. If the things of God are to be first in our lives, then it is incumbent that we place them as priority in service to our neighbor as well. How do we share eternal things with our neighbor? 

2. Born sinful and unclean it is not in my corrupt nature to serve God or man. I am bent in on myself wishing to satiate my carnal desires above all else. How is it then that I am brought to a place where I can serve others in faith? 

Read John 3:5-14. Jesus, the incarnate Word, tells Nicodemus that those who inherit eternal life are born again/born from above. The mechanism for that rebirth is the Spirit working in water. In verse 14 Jesus reveals the power behind our Baptism. In the water, the Spirit connects me to the One who is lifted up. Jesus’ shed blood is poured over me and cleanses me in Baptism. In Him I am rebirthed and changed. How is this explained in Romans 6:4ff?

In the WORD

Born to Serve

By David McMinn
3. This renewal of the man for salvation and service to God and neighbor takes place where the Word is preached and the Sacraments are administered as per the Augsburg Confession, Article VII, The Church.

Read Luke 10:2 and Rom. 10:14-17. Christ sends out men that He tasks to fulfill His mandate in Matthew 28 of making disciples. Disciples are those baptized and taught the Word of Christ. What then is the primary service of God’s Church to mankind? ________________________________
______________________________
______________________________
______________________________

To that end the Church has established seminaries to train men in the things of God as did the Lord Himself. While the settings might be different now, men are still formally immersed in the Word of God for a period of time. How does 2 Tim. 2:15 encourage pastors? ________________________________
______________________________
______________________________
______________________________

During my time at Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne, we were trained to serve the whole person, body and spirit. We assisted with Hurricane Katrina relief, participated in Life rallies, made institutional visits and a myriad of things known to me and not. But above all we were trained in the Word of God to serve the people of God with His mercy. Through that service, disciples of Christ in the Church and for the world are being formed to serve. 🖥

The Rev. David McMinn (pastor@sothlutheran.org), CTSFW 2008, serves as pastor of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, McMinnville, Tennessee.
ON-CAMPUS VISITATION EVENTS
FOR FUTURE PASTORS AND DEACONESSES

For more information you may also call 800.481.2155, email Admission@ctsfw.edu or visit www.ctsfw.edu/Admission.

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www.ctsfw.edu/PCV

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June 17–24, 2018
www.ctsfw.edu/PAHS

Christ Academy High School
June 17–30, 2018
www.ctsfw.edu/CAHS

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October 17–20, 2018
www.ctsfw.edu/PCV

Christ Academy College
& Phoebe Academy College
October 25–28, 2018
www.ctsfw.edu/CAC