



## FrOGS and other friends...

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## SEMINARY NOTEBOOK

President Michael L. Cooper-White



**No longer do I call you servants ... but I have called you friends!** (John 15:15)

Throughout the Church's first two millennia, theologians and other thinkers have pondered the meaning of friendship. Two early giants in Christian theology – Aquinas and Augustine – expounded upon the theme. Aquinas saw it as balancing self-interest with genuine concern for others' well-being. Partly motivated by grieving the death of a dear childhood friend, Augustine also wrestled with the nature of friendship, and cautioned lest human friendships become all-consuming and crowd out a believer's relationship with God. Echoing appreciation for friends, Martin Luther concluded that, "Throughout life a faithful friend is a very great blessing and a very precious treasure. . . For even though your heart is thoroughly confirmed by the Holy Spirit there is nonetheless a great advantage in having a friend with whom you can talk about religion and from whom you may hear words of comfort" (What Luther Says, Vol. 1). Such contemporary theologians as Martin Marty, Andrew Greeley and Mary Hunt have continued this tradition. Each has written an entire book on themes of friendship, which the latter sums up in *Fierce Tenderness* (Crossroad Publishing, 1991). Hunt writes, "I call friendships 'fierce' because of the intensity of attention. It can be hard to be known so well, to be understood and transparent to friends who pay attention. Likewise, we all crave the tenderness that only those who love us can offer" (p. 22).

This Views centers on themes of individual and institutional friendships. Seminary is a seed-bed in which new friendships are nurtured, often blossoming into lifelong, mutually supportive, collegial relationships. Each year our graduating seniors complete a survey on the quality of their education and formation at Gettysburg. Among the questions is: "I have made good friends here." Each recent class has given this query a resounding affirmation (4.5 on a scale of 1 to 5 in 2009).

The friendships forged here on the hill go far beyond student-to-student. Many seminarians become fast friends with mentor-pastors and lay members of congregations during internships and field education. At considerable sacrifice of time and treasure in some cases, generous donors and volunteers make themselves attentively available to our students. A new friendship-forming crucible was established last year when financially-savvy lay leaders from the region began offering personal financial coaching to students who cope with the considerable expense of a seminary education. In a similar vein, a new movement called FROGS (Friends of Gettysburg Seminarians) has just been launched at the initiative of Pastor Kathleen Reed of our Office of Advancement. Our FROGS efforts, a re-launch of our "Friends" program, will be multi-fold: developing personal relationships, helping provide additional scholarship funds for students, and serving as educators about and advocates for the Seminary and seminarians in congregations and other circles of influence.

Friendships help us to collaborate. The past dozen years, we have deepened our friendship with sister seminaries across this church, especially our Eastern Cluster partners at Philadelphia and Southern Seminaries. Together with these friends, and supported by other friends at Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Diakon Social Ministries, we now launch the "Intersections Institute" and welcome its director, Christy Lohr (see story page 5). And we expect to discover more partnerships and institutionally fierce friendships in the future.

In times when all institutions of higher learning are seeking pathways toward long-term financial sustainability, we need all the friends we can get! All of us called to leadership in this Seminary's life are grateful for our friends – in congregations around the country and within our region, the ELCA, and ecumenical and community agencies and institutions. We know we can count on an even higher level of fierce tenderness, which holds us accountable to our mission and cheers us on when zeal may flag on occasion. While we are surely content to be called Jesus' servants, we are even more delighted he has called us friends!

Faithfully and fiercely –

Michael L. Cooper-White

## NEWS

### Diakon Supports Paulssen-Hale Chair project

Wanting to ensure a tradition of raising up leaders in Lutheran social ministry, Diakon recently committed \$200,000 to endow the Paulssen-Hale Chair for Church in Society. The Chair, which will endow a faculty position at Gettysburg Seminary, recognizes the work of Drs. Bertha Paulssen and Russell Hale.

"Dr. Paulssen was the first woman tenured as a faculty member at a Lutheran seminary in this country," explains Em Cole, vice president of advancement for Gettysburg Seminary. "Her genius was combining sociology with theology to guide pastors working in social ministry to reach out and minister to their flock."

Dr. Hale was her successor at the Seminary. Between the two of them, says Cole, "they raised up four generations of pastors to build what has become the largest, best faith-based social ministry system." It was their work that attracted students such as the Rev. Thomas Hurlocker, Ph.D., former president of Tressler Lutheran Services, and the Rev. Daun E. McKee, Ph.D., Diakon president/CEO, to study at the seminary.

"Dr. Paulssen taught a disciplined study of your community and your congregation, in order to understand the environment your congregation lives and works in," says Hurlocker. "It is a tremendous approach to ministry when you want to minister to people in the context of where they live, work and worship." When McKee learned that the campaign for the Paulssen-Hale Chair was nearing its private phase goal, he approached Diakon's Board of Directors asking for support.

"I thought it would be appropriate to go to Diakon's board and ask if they wouldn't also participate in developing

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## Seminary confers Stuempfle Chair upon Dr. Susan K. Hedahl

The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg celebrated the conferral of the Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr. Chair of Proclamation of the Word upon the Rev. Dr. Susan K. Hedahl, the Seminary's professor of homiletics, in a formal ceremony Tuesday, October 13 and a festival Holy Eucharist October 14.

The festivities coincided with the autumn meeting of the Seminary's Board of Directors and included a full academic procession of the faculty and the rite of conferral, which was led by the Rev. Glenn Ludwig, board chair and Seminary President Michael Cooper-White. The event also included an address by the Rev. Dr. Hedahl, in which she explored the varied forces and movements that challenge the task of faithful preaching today (available at <http://tinyurl.com/y8fpzrm>). Hedahl has taught preaching at Gettysburg Seminary since 1992.

"Hundreds of Seminary supporters," said President Michael Cooper-White, "touched deeply by the gentle giant who was Herman Stuempfle, made possible the establishment of

Top of page: Susan Hedahl and Karen Stuempfle, daughter of the late Herman Stuempfle, Jr., recess from the Church of the Abiding Presence after the conferral.

another endowed faculty chair. A half-century after 'Herm' began teaching here on the hill, the chair's conferral upon our current professor of preaching, Dr. Susan Hedahl, signals the continuing centrality of 'Proclamation of the Word' in our curriculum." The chair honors the memory of the Rev. Dr. Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., the preacher, president and poet whose service at Gettysburg Seminary spanned four decades as professor of homiletics, chaplain, dean and then president. Known for his abilities to preach and a knack to teach preaching to seminarians, he made himself at least as widely known for the 600 hymn texts he wrote, beginning during his presidency and continuing right up to his death in 2007.

Hedahl said, "I am deeply honored to be the first recipient of this Chair in memory of someone whose witness to the Gospel was so profound and

## Postdoc lecture on trinitarian doctrine brings Jenson back to Seminary Ridge

A postdoctoral researcher at Gettysburg Seminary in the winter and spring of 2009, the Rev. Dr. Timo H. Tavast, spoke on the debates surrounding the historical Christian doctrine of the Holy Trinity in a special public lecture on April 29.

The lecture featured the current work of this scholar and pastor from the Church of Finland (below, right), who researched while in residence at the Seminary last spring. The lecture also focused on the Trinitarian writings of former Gettysburg Seminary theologian Robert Jenson (right), who was present for a formal and appreciative response to the lecture. In "Challenging the Modal-



ism in Western Trinitarian Theology: Robert W. Jenson's Interpretation of the Relationship between the Economic and Immanent Trinity," Tavast, who earned his Ph.D. from the University of Joensuu, spoke on the modern controversies first researched for his dissertation. Tavast completed his degree in 2006 and currently serves as a pastor in the Lutheran Parish of Lempaala, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland.

Tavast wrote the first known doctoral dissertation on the American theologian's work. Since teaching at the Seminary, Jenson has taught at St. Olaf College and with Carl Braaten, formed the Center for Catholic and Evangelical Theology. He and his wife Blanche currently live in Princeton, N.J. where Jenson serves as Senior Scholar for Research at the Center for Theological Inquiry.



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Susan Colestock Hill, left, speaks to faculty member Kristin Johnston Largen at a reception at Lewars House honoring the publication of *Heart Language*, by Hill.

## Susan Colestock Hill helps return Elsie Singmaster Lewars to print

One of Seminary Ridge's most widely known and published figures and Newberry Award winner (1934, *Swords of Steel*), had faded from view for half of the 20th century. But Susan Colestock Hill in her 2009 book *Heart Language* (Penn State University Press) put a new spotlight on Elsie Singmaster and brought her to life in an introductory section of her book. The essay follows the research Hill undertook as a part of her M.A.R. degree thesis in 2000. The essay is followed by 16 of Singmaster's short stories, exemplifying her voice and particularly her Pennsylvania German writings.

Hill places Singmaster in the context of turn of the 20th century local-color fiction writers. American popular literary

magazines and journals pulsed with this type of fiction, seeking to satisfy a national hunger for American identity. Anxiety over increasing numbers of "new stock" immigrants – and the changing face of an industrializing America – gave rise to greater popular interest in stories with a simple focus on localized folk culture and "old stock" immigrant tradition. In the footsteps of writers like Harriet Beecher Stowe and Sarah Orne Jewett, the Pennsylvania German writings of Elsie Singmaster emerged to great popularity and acclaim.

Born and raised in the Pennsylvania German tradition, Elsie Singmaster wrote extensively over the first half of the twentieth century. Through her intimate knowledge of the commu-



nity, Singmaster exposed the nation's expanding readership to Pennsylvania German beliefs, culture, and distinct dialect without denigrating the com-

## NEWS

### Paulssen-Hale

*Continued from page 2*

the Chair in recognition of all [Drs. Paulssen and Hale] had done for Diakon," he says. "With very little discussion, they made the [\$200,000] pledge."

Both McKee and Hurlocker have made individual contributions to the Chair, as it moves into the public phase of its fundraising campaign. "The response has been incredible," says Cole. "We have received an outpouring of support for the Chair from a lot of people whose lives were touched by these two." It was an easy decision, according to Hurlocker. "The Paulssen-Hale Chair assures that the part of theological training that connects with society, community, and parish, is an important emphasis," he says. "It is vital that it continues."

To support the Paulssen-Hale Chair, contact the Advancement Office at 717-338-3011 or [advancement@Lts.edu](mailto:advancement@Lts.edu).

## Where theology and management intersect

Christy Lohr, a scholar with diverse ecumenical, interfaith, development and nonprofit experience has been named the director of the Intersections Institute. Lohr began this position last fall.

The Intersections Institute is a partnership of the Eastern Cluster of Lutheran Seminaries, social ministry organizations, and schools of business that will provide graduate and continuing education opportunities that integrate the study of theology and management to form leaders who can successfully navigate the changing environment in which the church and

its social ministry agencies serve. It is designed to enhance management skills, deepen theological understandings,



and strengthen ability of faith-inspired leaders to navigate in today's ecclesiastical environment.

This program is geared toward social ministry staff, pastors of large congregations, and individuals pursuing a career that couples a faith commit-

ment with social action.

Lohr comes to the position from Hartford Seminary where she spent the past four years working in that institution's development and recruitment offices while also completing work toward a Ph.D. Her doctoral research focused on Christian theology and interfaith relations with an emphasis on articulating an appropriate Lutheran approach to people of other faith traditions.

While doing young adult programming in the U.S. Office of the World Council of Churches in the late 1990s, she worked with the ELCA's youth and



Christy Lohr directs the newly founded Intersections Institute.

young adult ministries offices to help plan young adult gatherings at the 1999 churchwide assembly and the 2002 Women of the ELCA national gathering. She has also worked in New York City-based interfaith and youth development organizations.

Lohr met with the Eastern Cluster Board of Directors in Gettysburg on September 21, and shared her vision for the program's first year. "It will be a busy year filled with new curriculum design, student recruitment and fundraising," she said. "I am excited to be a part of this important new initiative." As part of the institute, The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia recruited its first group of students into a new Masters of Public Leadership program this fall, and plans are underway to offer a graduate certificate in faith based nonprofit management at Gettysburg next year. Michael Cooper-White, president of Gettysburg Seminary, commented "This program grew out of conversations with local social ministry partners about their need for leadership training. We are delighted that Thrivent and Diakon have provided initial funding for this and that Christy has agreed to help us make this new enterprise a reality."

Learn more about Intersections Institute at 717-357-8990 or visit the website: [www.intersectionsinstitute.org](http://www.intersectionsinstitute.org).

## Williams Appointed Controller, Stevens Adds CFO Role

Gettysburg Seminary welcomed Gary P. Williams of York, PA, as Controller in the Seminary's Financial Services office in April 2009. Williams' appointment followed President Cooper-White's naming of the Rev. Dr. Marty Stevens as Chief Financial Officer, following the departure of Controller Jennifer Feeman.

Williams is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, PA, with a degree in business and economics. He has most recently served as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for Pressley Ridge of York. But his extensive accounting and financial services experience includes additional nonprofit agencies such as United Cerebral Palsy of South Central PA and the VNA in Hanover, PA.

"I am delighted to begin work at the Lutheran Theological Seminary," said Williams, "where I can continue to apply my energies and skills to organizations with important missions." Williams is responsible for managing day-to-day financial activities of the seminary's accounting and business and related activities. He helps manage the budget, student



Marty Stevens and Gary Williams are pictured in the Controller's Office.

accounting and the Seminary's multiple programs and affiliated partner organizations, including the Eastern Cluster of Lutheran Seminaries.

The Rev. Dr. Marty Stevens, who also continues as Instructor in Biblical Studies and Registrar, began serving as Chief Financial Officer after Feeman accepted a new position in finance at the Hershey Medical Center. Before following a call toward theological education, Stevens, a certified

public accountant, served as a financial management executive in Charlotte, Toronto, and Europe. She was senior vice president of finance for a bank prior to heeding a call to Word and Sacrament ministry, in which she completed an M.Div. at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. She earned a B.S. in Accounting from the UNC at Charlotte, and later her doctoral degree from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, VA.

# Here come the FrOGS!

## “Leap-In” launches new Friends of Gettysburg Seminarians initiative

By the end of the day on Wednesday August 19, equal numbers of frogs and FrOGS, assembled on the Seminary founder’s front lawn for the first Great Gettysburg Seminary Summer Leap In. Under the banner of “Friends of Gettysburg Seminarians,” or “FrOGS” for short, young and old from congregations throughout the region came for an afternoon and evening dedicated to wel-

coming the newest seminarians and heralding the returning students.

Throughout the afternoon, visitors circulated around the campus taking tours, watching a student-made video, visiting the coffee-shop and bookstore, playing ping pong, and enjoying lemonade in the shade. While the high heat and humidity seemed to discourage takers for the “Iron FrOGS Triatha-

lon,” organizer Joel Folkemer said, “There’s always next year!” and hoped to see lots of football fans on hand for the Luther Bowl later in the fall.

Later in the day, as the newest students emerged from their intensive immersion course in New Testament Greek, all gathered together on the grass beside the Schmucker House east porch for live music provided by students and a

drama about a church confronting the meaning of a sudden “plague” of 100 frogs in its chancel.

After the picnic that followed – supplied free to students thanks to donations by several individuals, churches and a generous grant from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans – the event concluded with a service of Compline, set to traditional tunes and African American Spirituals, arranged by second-year student Robbie Ketcham.

“It was so neat for me!” said Martha Zepp, “because suddenly I realized: You know these people!” A year ago, the seniors group at Martha Zepp’s congregation, Zion Lutheran Church, Leola, PA, became prayer partners with members of last year’s incoming class. When she heard the names of the students who were performing as musicians and actors, she felt an immediate sense of connection. “I can’t wait,” she added, “to tell the man who had been praying for Robbie Ketcham that his seminarian was the author of the order for the Leap-In’s service of evening prayer!”

During the event, several more Leap-In visitors signed up their congregations to become prayerful encouragers of students and many brought donations for the Seminarians’ Food Pantry.

### Music and a drama of “Biblical Proportions”

The porch music was offered by Middlers Matt Day, Haley Vay Poynter and Cassandra Lamb who performed familiar hymns and original spiritual songs, including “Faith to Follow,” which can be heard on the soundtrack of the 8 minute student-produced film, “A Student-Led Tour.”

Diverse members of the Seminary community took parts in the comic one-act play, “Plague to Plenty, The Musical, A Drama of Biblical Proportions,” which involves 100 frogs which, like their Exodus counterparts, appear to deliver a message of liberation: “Let my people go...to seminary, unburdened by the crushing weight of student debt!” The cast included Poynter; Steve

Simmons-Lauver, spouse of new seminarian, Grace Simmons-Lauver; fourth-year student, Cinda Brucker, and Dr. Marty Stevens who wears multiple hats as registrar, chief financial officer and instructor in Old Testament and Hebrew.

The Leap-In marked the launch of a new effort to engage congregations and individuals of all ages in fun, creative, educational and inspired partnerships with students at the Seminary. “As FrOGS, true to that name,” said Kathleen Reed, Director of Advancement for Congregation and Alumni Relations, “we want to widen the circle of friends who will jump at opportunities to support Gettysburg Seminarians and keep the pool of church leaders growing so that faith abounds from one generation to the next.”

### FrOGS resources

Reed added that the FrOGS webpage will be regularly updated with resources that all kinds of groups in congregations will find useful and inspirational. She also pointed out that while using the webpage helps the Seminary “stay greener,” by cutting down on paper and postage, congregations that want to receive printed versions of FrOGS material may request that it be mailed.

Resources available at [www.ltsg.edu/frogs](http://www.ltsg.edu/frogs) now include:

- ▶ FrOGSLOGY, an e-letter with ideas for praying, learning and leaping with Gettysburg seminarians
- ▶ How to become Prayer-FrOGS, prayerful encouragers of students
- ▶ The student-produced 8 minute video, “A Student-Led Tour of Gettysburg Seminary”
- ▶ The script for the short one-act play, “Plague to Plenty, the Musical, A Drama of Biblical Proportions”
- ▶ Calendar of events open to FrOGS and the public Opportunities to support seminarians, e.g. gifts to the Student Scholarship Fund



The new logo design for FrOGS began with a watercolor illustration from artist Geoff Thulin. Thulin is pictured above with Kathleen Reed and the original illustration, which now hangs in the Advancement Office. The previous logo, which served FRIENDS well pre-FrOGS, is pictured below.



Alum Steve Reed (left) led music, along with Seminarians Matt Day, Haley Vay Poynter and Cassandra Lamb at the 2009 Leap-In. Phyllis Hale (above) greeted participants at the registration table on the porch.

# TEY hits the crossroads with lasting impact

**The summer programs of Theological Education with Youth (TEY) brought together communities of youth and seminarians to dive in deep to the waters of theology and vocation.** And while the experiences were as diverse as encountering the realities of homelessness at N Street Village in Washington, D.C. or exploring the signs and symbols of Christian liturgy, the end result was the same; the lifting up of strong youthful leaders and theologians for the Church of TODAY!

TEY is a joint program of Gettysburg Seminary and Philadelphia Seminary, which since the summer of 2000 has created spaces for youthful Scholars to gather and get wrapped up in theological conversation with seminary faculty, staff, students, and other young people. The Crossroads Event, for rising high school sophomores and juniors, and the Summer Theological Academy, for rising high school juniors and seniors, are the centerpieces to this program. Since the summer of 2000, these programs have involved nearly 250 Scholars from congregations from as far away as Puerto Rico and as close as York, PA.

From June 21–27, the Cross-

roads Event traveled from Harrisburg, PA to Washington, D.C. and points in between to encounter the mission and ministry of the Church in the world. The 13 youth and 3 seminarian mentors experienced the call to advocacy with the Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of Pennsylvania (LAMPa), and the call to hospitality with the staff of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. Scholar Nick Dillon (St. Marks, Lorton, VA, Metro D.C. Synod) reflected that these experiences, “made me realize there are a lot more ways to serve God than I thought.” All throughout they worshiped, closing out their days with Holden Evening Prayer, and engaged in holy conversation, through small groups facilitated by seminarians. For Ralen Robinson (Grace, Philadelphia, Southeast PA Synod), these elements were central to her experience. “It was a one of a kind experience,” said Ralen, “and you really build a community when you go and worship with people for a week.”

From June 27–July 11, the Summer Theological Academy gathered on the campus of Susquehanna University to wrestle with theology and form a worshiping community. Over the two weeks, courses were offered on topics as diverse as



“God and Suffering” and “Science and Faith”. For Casimira Guarini (Holy Trinity, Manasquan, NJ, NJ Synod) it was important that this all took place in the midst of a community because, “we all worked together to learn.” Each of the Scholars and seminarian mentors tackled assigned readings and classroom discussion in the midst of a worshiping community. Jessa Anderson-Reitz (Zion, Boalsburg, PA, Allegheny Synod) described the experience as a fun and exciting learning community, “with a center of worship and becoming close as a family of God.”

The impact of TEY programs is also seen in the seminarians who are involved as mentors, worship leaders, and educators. As they continue through their process of calling and discernment in seminary, preparing to head into ministry, this can be

a formational experience. Gettysburg seminarian Linda Brown (now an intern at Grace in Oakes, ND) learned from her experience that young people, “are driven and committed to their sense of talent and

calling.” For others the TEY experience reaffirms their joy of working with young people. Philadelphia Seminary Ph.D. student Tim Leitzke, who offered a course in liturgy, the most joyful aspect of the experience was “hearing the scholars explain theology in words clearly their own, yet clearly thought through at a level that many seminarians cannot accomplish.”

In the fall TEY held the Affirmation of Baptism Festival, where young people throughout the region gathered to explore what it means “to live among God’s faithful people.” Gettysburg Seminary faculty and students were joined by representatives from ELCA World Hunger and the ONE Campaign in leading worship and conversation. These future one-day events will be titled “Troubling the Water.”

Chandler Carriker

“... there are a lot more ways to serve God than I thought.”

– Scholar Nick Dillon



The 2010 Summer Theological Academy is July 10 – July 24, and the Crossroads Event is July 31 – August 7. For information on how to nominate a young person for any of these experiences, or questions about how you and your congregation can support the ministry of Theological Education with Youth, go to [www.theologicaleducationwithyouth.com](http://www.theologicaleducationwithyouth.com), or contact TEY Director Chandler Carriker at [ccarriker@ltsge.edu](mailto:ccarriker@ltsge.edu), or call 717-338-3038.

## Gettysburg Seminary Report to the Church 2008-2009



### Gifted and Challenged

Throughout the letters of St. Paul beats a rhythm to which the Church has measured its pulse down through the centuries. Often referred to by Lutherans and others as “law and gospel,” the symphonic rhythm of the Pauline scriptures might also be entitled “gifted and challenged.” We are God’s good and gifted creatures invited to steward the manifold gifts of creation. And we fall short, challenged to get in sync with the music of redemption sounded forth for all time from a cross and empty tomb! Gifted and challenged – that’s how I have described our institutional place at this juncture in time and space. Gettysburg Seminary is enormously gifted! We have an extraordinary faculty who combine

*continued inside*

*Gifted and Challenged continued*

scholarship with modeling discipleship for an abundantly gifted student body of capable and committed Christian women and men. I marvel at the courage with which those who come to study and prepare for ministry respond to their calls. These may be among the most difficult of times in decades for church leaders. Those who come here to study and engage in formation know they are not headed for comfortable positions with generous compensation. Still they come, because they have been given a full measure of faith.

I could go on and on waxing eloquent about the giftedness embedded in the Seminary's staff, about board directors, foundation trustees and others in our governing groups who are imbued through and through with multiple gifts of the Spirit. Or I could go on for pages about the gifts of this place atop Seminary Ridge – its beauty, fine facilities, good resources. Then, too, I could take much time pointing out the gifts that are legion among our supporting constituency – the synods of the ECLA's Region 8, our churchwide partners, and hundreds upon hundreds of generous donors and alumni "cheerleaders" who keep up the chorus, "Go Gettysburg; go boldly into God's future!"

Yes, we are gifted! And at the same time we are challenged in ways the Seminary has not faced in perhaps the past 50 years. While churchly commitment remains strong, the capacity of synods, congregations and the churchwide expression has been diminished, especially amidst the global economic downturn. Year by year we seek to accomplish more with fewer dollars. We have had to shrink faculty size and place heavier workloads on the shoulders of every staff person here on the hill. While well-stewarded, our endowment's value decline compromises a key income stream and will take years to recover.



Given all these current challenge factors, the Seminary's board encouraged its chair to appoint a Seminary Futures task force. As this group proceeds in search of a long-term sustainable trajectory for the institution's future, we turn in many directions to current and potential new partners. We seek the wisdom of all who have a stake in our mission. As reflected in our vision statement, as we find ourselves at another crossroads, we pray earnestly that God's Spirit will shower upon us gifts adequate to the challenges we face. We move forward into an unknown future confident that the One who has begun a good work among us will continue blessing us and showing us a way to sustain our mission!

*Michael L. Cooper-White, President*

## About the Seminary

### Students

- 228 students (full & part-time): 51% men, 49% women
- Full-time equivalent: 141
- Persons of color: 9%
- Tradition other than Lutheran: 11%
- Total number of graduates: more than 5400
- Average age of M.Div. students: 36
- Students come from 34 states, Europe, Asia and Africa and 44 (of 65) Synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

### Faculty

- 15 + 7 visiting, lecturers, active emeriti and adjunct professors

### Library

- 190,000 books, journals, microforms and other resources plus the resources of the combined libraries of the Eastern Cluster of Lutheran Seminaries and the Washington Theological Consortium

### Related institutes

- Institute for Luther Studies
- Town and Country Church Institute
- The Luther Institute, Washington, D.C.
- Intersections Institute

### Educational partnerships

- Washington Theological Consortium
- Eastern Cluster of Lutheran Seminaries
- Collegium Oecumenicum, Munich, Germany
- Yale University Divinity School, New Haven, CT
- Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA

### Seminary's annual budget

- \$5.8 million

### The Board of Directors 2009-2010

- Kirk Bish, Southwestern Penn
- Alene Bush, Southwestern Penn
- Allison Carlson, Lower Susquehanna
- David Culley, Delaware/Maryland
- Ralph Dunkin, Conference of Bishops (Region 8)
- Julia Fraser, Northwestern Penn
- Nancy Fricke, Northwestern Penn
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- Stephen Herr, Lower Susquehanna
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- Loretta Walker, Metro Washington DC
- Paul Wangerin, West Virginia, W. Maryland
- Larry Webber, ELCA (Vocation & Education)
- Daniel Yeiser, ELCA (Vocation & Education)

40

graduates sent into the church and world to serve

11

Christian denominations represented among students

650

youth who have participated in Theological Education with Youth events

44

different synods from which students come

25 million

Crossroads Campaign goal

#### To our donors:

Gettysburg Seminary's donor report is now available for you to view and download from our website at [www.Ltsg.edu/donorreport](http://www.Ltsg.edu/donorreport)

This listing reflects gifts received between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009.

If you do not have access to the Internet, you may call the Advancement Office at (717) 338-3011 or 1-800-MLUTHER, ext. 3011 to request a printed copy.

To all, again we say THANK YOU!!





## Formation at the Crossroads of History and Hope



**W**illiam Avery presides and Marty Stevens prays at the 2009 Holy Eucharist celebrating the graduation of 40 seminarians, sending them into church and world for a vocation of service.

**F**ormation of a seminarian is ongoing in a stimulating graduate and professional school such as Gettysburg Seminary. Each year begins with a lecture by a person elected by the faculty. In September Norma Wood, Dean Emerita, addressed the community on the topic "On Not Going It Alone."

**S**tudy of the Bible is central to a seminary education, but it doesn't end there. We teach faithfully the great tradition of the Law and Gospel through the study of theology, history, pastoral care, worship and preaching and much more.

**A**ll study and no play makes for a leader without joy. Not so across Seminary Ridge, where fall gives rise to flag football tournament and spring sees intense competition on the great croquet courts.

**G**ettysburg Seminary enjoys creative preaching and thoughtful lecturers who continue to challenge and form alumni and many other church leaders in the region. Last year, Paul Hoffman preached, and leading scholars Diana Butler Bass and Bill Avery lectured.

**L**ifelong commitment to faithful learning is modeled by Professor Emeritus Lawrence Folker, who published his most recent book on the Christian Encounter with World Religions at age 93. (Available in the Seminary Bookstore 717.338.3005)

**P**astors stay sharp and on the top of their game by making use of the STM advanced degree program, Luther Colloquy, Preaching Perspectives, Hein Fry and MLK Jr. special lectures, Spring Convocation and Summer Institute for Ministry. Pastors come to the Seminary for sabbatical time as well.

# YOU ... and the future of theological education

Last year, Gettysburg Seminary's Report to the Church addressed "Annual Giving and the Future of Theological Education," and two years ago, "Endowment Giving and the Future of Theological Education." This year, as we all attempt to maintain those things we hold dear while we navigate a recession-crippled economy, we thought it appropriate to share with you something of what this last year has meant for Gettysburg Seminary and to reflect on what it may mean for our friends and supporters.

## 2008-09 tested us

For Gettysburg Seminary, fiscal year 2009 tested us, but, as with all years, it brought many

blessings and upraised thanks to God for those blessings. Because of our conservative approach to management, the Seminary remained on budget for the year's expenses. A sound new investment policy applied in early 2008 significantly diversified the Seminary's endowment, which softened some of the effect of a plummeting market. This means that our losses were softened by a few percentage points compared to indices of comparable institutions. We steward an excellent balance sheet, and thanks to the generous support of faithful donors, careful spending, and a modest and declining debt load, we avoided (and continue to avoid) the liquidity problems that have

so plagued many institutions. As reported a year ago, robust annual and endowment giving and investment performance in FY 2008 permitted the Seminary to enter FY 2009 with a very strong cash position.

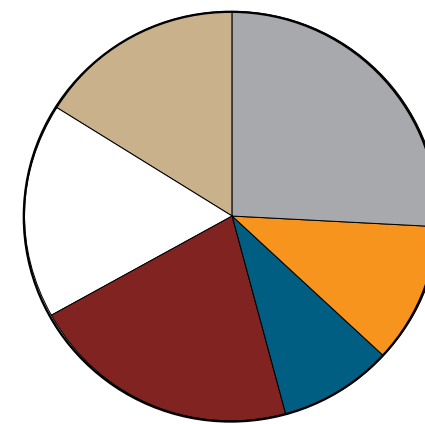
## What lies ahead

Timely imposition of prudent spending restraints permitted the Seminary to close FY 2009 with a modest operating surplus even though there were significant realized and unrealized losses in the investment portfolio. As FY 2010 unfolds, challenges increase. While their commitment to theological education remains solid, the capacity of some supporting synods and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's

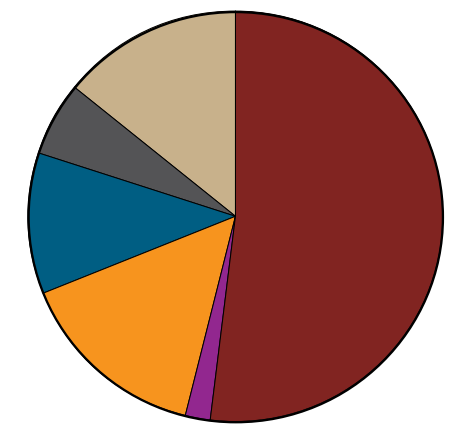
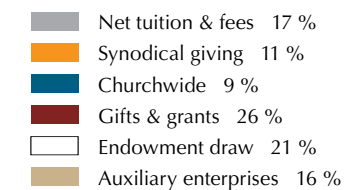
churchwide organization has been reduced by the economic recession and a degree of unrest following decisions related to human sexuality. And, after growing 50% in the early years of this decade, enrollment for the current academic year dropped by about 9% thus reducing tuition, fees and auxiliary enterprise revenues. The Seminary, therefore, has added measures in the present year, such as omitting salary increases and not filling some faculty and staff vacancies in response to this challenging picture.

## You and the future

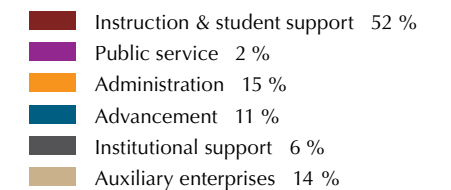
With at least one half of its revenue stream (see chart 2) under pressure, the Seminary is ever more dependent upon the gifts of individuals and congregations – your gifts – to sustain its ministries even as it seeks new revenue sources and focuses more intently on growth in investment return. No matter how challenged revenue streams may become, what never wavers or wanes is our commitment to our mission to prepare the best leaders to serve Christ in today's world. Here at Gettysburg Seminary, to be reminded of the one stream that is our inexhaustible source of hope, we need only look up to the weather vane on our library's rooftop. There we find our "fish out of water," the classical fish symbol of community in Christ which even against all odds is promised replenishment again and again by God's grace. From that indicator we draw our ultimate sense of direction, and for all the ways you share this journey with us, we are deeply grateful.



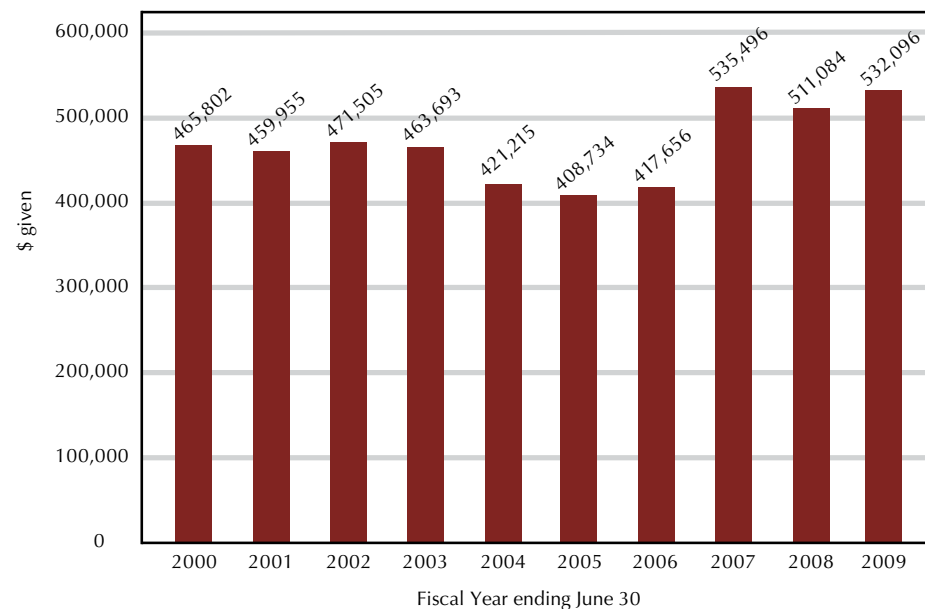
## 2. Current income sources 2009



## 3. Expenses 2009

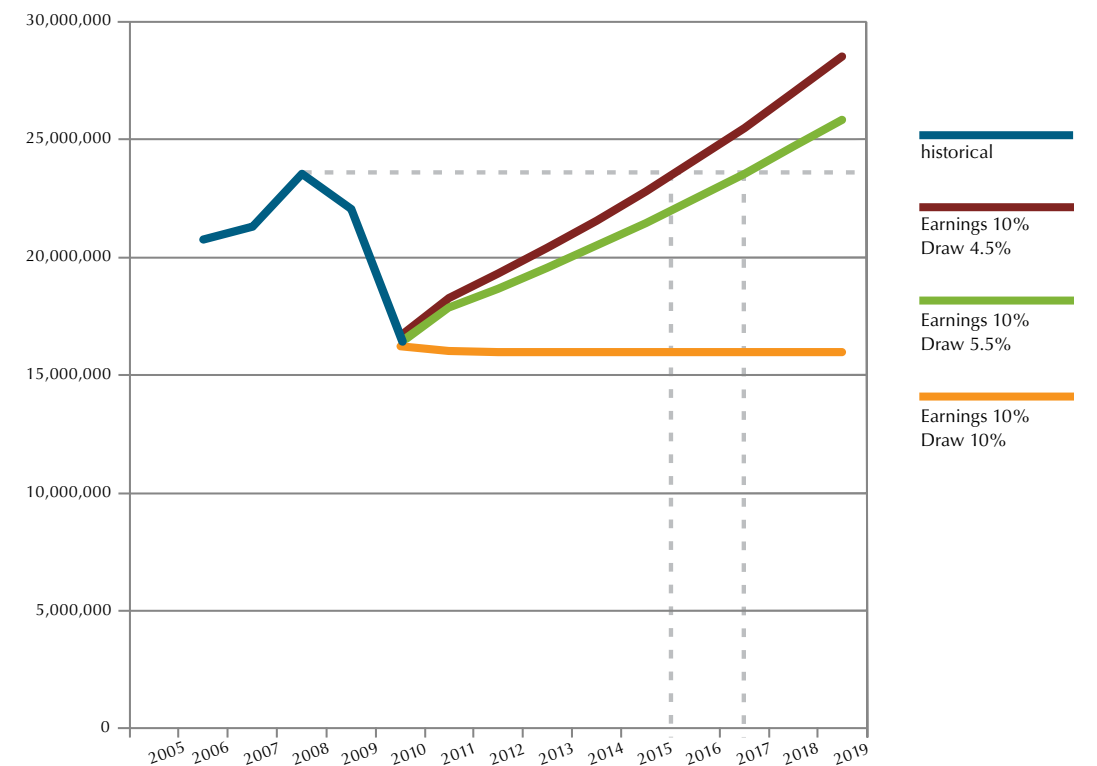


## 1. Annual giving to Gettysburg Seminary from 2000-2009



Does not include unrestricted bequests, one-time gifts exceeding \$100,000, synodical support, or churchwide contributions.

## 4. Endowment recovery scenarios



Despite prudent investment strategies and endowment draw rates, the broad market decline means recovery of the earning capacity of the Seminary's endowment will take years. Your increased annual and endowment gifts will speed that recovery.

## Financial summary

### I. Unrestricted Revenue

	2008-09	%	2007-08	%
Net tuition & fees <sup>1</sup>	973,787	20.5	971,505	18.4
ELCA	521,560	11.0	568,684	10.8
Synods	629,877	13.2	639,371	12.1
Gifts & grants <sup>2</sup>	957,432	20.1	1,006,404	19.1
Gain/loss on investments	(674,711)	(14.2)	(178,177)	(3.4)
Auxiliary enterprises <sup>3</sup>	915,157	19.2	905,619	17.2
Other sources	70,964	1.5	81,051	1.5
Assets released from restriction	1,362,069	28.6	1,271,901	24.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,756,135</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,266,358</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### II. Unrestricted Expenses

	2008-09	%	2007-08	%
Instruction, academic & student services	2,965,638	50.3	2,916,506	51.5
Institutional support and administration	1,850,175	31.4	1,764,834	31.2
Auxiliary enterprises	792,753	13.4	772,817	13.7
Special programs & other expenses	286,774	4.9	204,375	3.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,895,340</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,658,532</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### III. Net increase (decrease) in assets

	2008-09	2007-08
Net increase in unrestricted assets	(1,139,205)	(392,174)

### IV. Operating surplus (deficit)

	2008-09	2007-08
Net gain (loss) on operations <sup>4</sup>	16,951	(274,025)

### V. Assets and Liabilities

	2008-09	2007-08
Property, plant, and equipment	7,846,794	7,980,852
Investments	21,205,837	28,013,181
Other assets	3,054,520	3,090,777
Liabilities	(1,036,079)	(1,227,339)
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>31,071,072</b>	<b>37,857,471</b>

### VI. Investments

	2008-09	2008-09
Seminary Endowment	16,611,143	22,050,487
Funds Held in Trust by Others	4,476,548	5,782,772
Other investments	118,146	179,922
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>21,205,837</b>	<b>28,013,181</b>

<sup>1</sup>Tuition and fees received less Seminary scholarships totaling \$726,614 in 2008-09 and \$613,594 in 2007-08.

<sup>2</sup>Includes cash gifts and grants and unconditional promises to give in excess of \$5,000

<sup>3</sup>Includes student housing, food service, and bookstore operations

<sup>4</sup>Includes endowment draw of \$1,205,531 in FY09 and \$1,097,305 in FY08; excludes realized and unrealized losses on investments of \$1,137,942 in FY09 and \$118,122 in FY08.

## FACULTY & STAFF NEWS

**Michael Cooper-White**, Seminary President, concluded his role as chair of ELCA seminary presidents and advisor to ELCA Church Council. He was active in preaching at Holy Trinity, Lancaster; St. Paul's, Hanover; St. Matthew, York; and Shepherd of the Hills, Birmingham, AL. He presented a bible study on "Biblical Perspectives on Governance" for the ELCA Church Council, and seminars for pastors on "Ministry in Context" in Somoto and

Somotillo, Nicaragua and was asked to give the Invocation for the NAACP annual scholarship banquet. He has an article "Keeping a Good Lent" in The Lutheran magazine.

**William Avery**, Retired Professor of Field Education, The Arthur L. Larson Professor of Stewardship and Parish Ministry and Director of Internship, was one of two presenters for a recent workshop at Lower Susquehanna Synod on "Hope in Financially Challenging Times." Avery's title was "How can the Bible guide our giving in pressing times?"

**Maria Erling**, Associate Professor of the History of Christianity in North America and Global Missions and Director of Teaching Parish, preached at worship events at Lamott AME Church, Lamott, PA, and at the installation of Pastor Cindy Brommer, Hershey, PA. She made presentations at a Pietism Conference, Bethel University, St. Paul, MN, the Westminster Conference of WELCA, Central Synod of Wisconsin Bishop's Convocation, Lake Geneva, WI, and the Gettysburg area retired clergy. She continued to serve on the Faith and Order Commission, NCCC, and taught a module of the LWF Seminar in Geneva in December 2009.

**Stephen Folkemer**, Associate Professor of Church Music and Seminary Cantor, had four of his recently published (Concordia) hymn organ preludes performed at a concert at First English Lutheran Church, in Baltimore. Recitalist Jonathan Parker also included an unpublished Folkemer organ work, "A Medieval Easter Trilogy."

During the summer of 2009 **Susan Hedahl**, Herman G. Stuempfle Professor of Proclamation of the Word, spent time in Jordan, visiting historical and biblical sites from Amman to Petra, noting materials for use in her preaching classes. In

December she presented at the Academy of Homiletics in Washington, D.C. There she served on a panel which discussed the current problems of publishing today in an economy and industry undergoing radical change. She preached at Flohrs Lutheran Church, near Gettysburg, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Spring Grove and presented discoveries from her Jordan tour at St. James, Gettysburg. Hedahl has a chapter on preaching in the Abrahamic faith family in a new work published by Alban Institute, entitled "Teaching Our Story." She continues to write book reviews for Currents in Mission and Theology.

**Gerald Christianson**, Professor Emeritus of Church History, presented "The Creeds and How They Grew" to Redeemer Lutheran Church, McLean, VA.



**Kristin Johnston Lergen**, Associate Professor of Systematic Theology, attended and blogged from the Parliament of the World's Religions, Melbourne, Australia in December, 2009. She presented "The True Self" at Zion Lutheran Church in Dauphin, PA. Earlier in 2009, she offered "What God has Created will not be Lost: Constructing a more Inclusive Soteriology," and "Theology in the Life of Lutheran Churches: Transformative Perspectives and Practices Today," at the Lutheran World Federation Conference, Augsburg, Germa-

ny. Her book *What Christians can Learn from Buddhism: Rethinking Salvation* was published by Fortress Press in 2009. [www.fortresspress.com/](http://www.fortresspress.com/). Lergen's most recently published articles include: "A Christian Rationale for Vegetarianism," *Dialog* 48:2 (Summer 2009); "Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust" – Ramifications of a Relational Anthropology," *Journal of Lutheran Ethics*, May 2009; "The Ethical Horizon: Fidelity, Hospitality & Justice," at the North American Academy of Ecumenists in Washington, D.C. and "Jonah," in *The Lutheran Study Bible*, Fortress Press, Spring, 2009.

**Leonard Hummel**, Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology and Care and Director of Clinical Pastoral Education was co-convenor of the "Religious Practices and Pastoral Research Study Group" at the Society for Pastoral Theology in Atlanta, GA, June 18. He presented "Some Additional Varieties of Religious Experience: Johns Hopkins Protocol for and Research into the Administration of Psilocybin to Occasion Mystical Experiences," for an Adult Forum at Saint James Lutheran Church, Gettysburg. He was a presenter at the Upper Susquehanna Synod's Preaching Perspectives. Hummel received a four-year appointment to the Advisory Team of the MCPCEE (Ministry in Chaplaincy, Pastoral Counseling, and Clinical Education) Program for the ELCA Vocation and Education Unit. The program is responsible for the development and support of these church ministries and those who serve these ministries.

**Kathleen Reed**, Director of Advancement and Lifelong Learning, preached this fall in the following congregations in Pennsylvania, Maryland and West Virginia: St. James in Chanceford, PA, St. Paul in Canonsburg, PA, St. Peter in Clear Spring, MD, Salem in Catonsville, MD, Trinity in Hagerstown, MD, St. John in Martinsburg, WV, and St. Paul in Morgantown, WV.

### Stuempfle Chair

Continued from page 3

Among the book titles are *Preaching the Wedding Sermon*, *Listening Ministry: Re-thinking, Pastoral Leadership* and *Who Do You Say That I Am?* Three of her works are also available in "Kindle" format. Among her significant course offerings are the S.T.M... course "Preaching in the Abrahamic Faith Community: Jewish, Christian and Moslem Proclamation;" "Preaching the Principal Festivals;" "Preaching with Luther's Catechisms;" "Down the Tubes: Forms of Tele-Evangelism;" and "Preaching and the Internet."



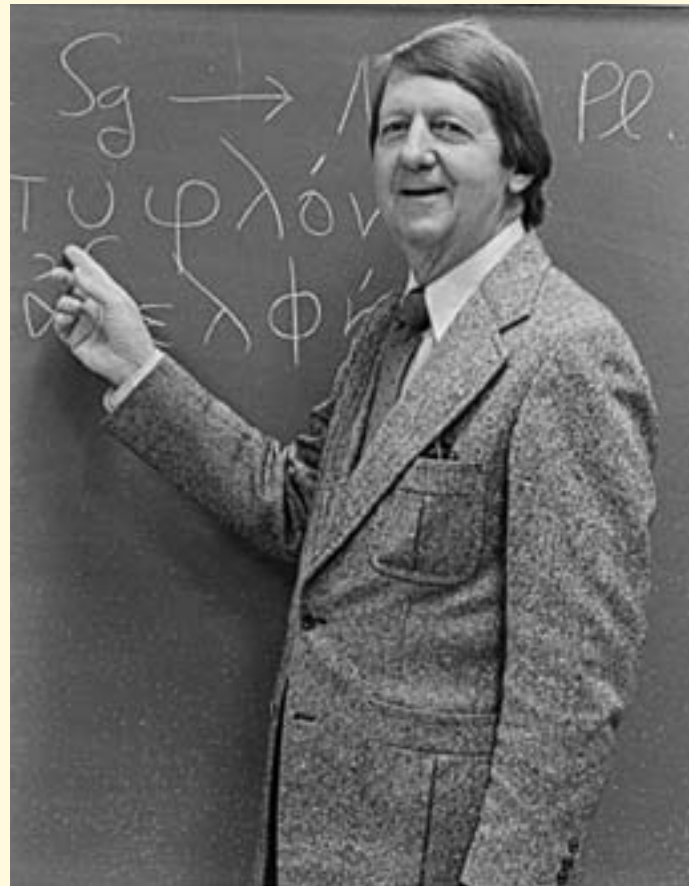
Sue Hedahl talks with Gretchen Stuempfle after the conferral.

## Lorenz Nieting dies

The Rev. Dr. Lorenz Otto Nieting, 86, 140 Windbriar Lane, Gettysburg, died Monday, Jan. 11, 2010 at Gettysburg Hospital. The Seminary professor emeritus of New Testament and Greek, who is survived by his wife Salud and two daughters, taught New Testament-related curriculum and Greek from 1966 to 1990.

Born Sept. 24, 1923 in Davenport, IA, Nieting graduated from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, MO, and continued his education at the University of Erlangen in Germany before being awarded a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1964. Following his education, Nieting served in the Philippine Lutheran Mission in Luzon and later became Dean of the Philippine Theological Seminary in Manila. Prior to his arrival in Gettysburg in 1967, he taught Exegetical Theology-New Testament at Hamma Divinity School in Canton, OH.

Upon learning the news of Nieting's death, Seminary President Michael Cooper-White reflected the loss within the wider spheres of the Seminary: "For over a quarter century, the Rev. Dr. Lorenz Nieting was a dedicated professor, mentor and friend to generations of Gettysburg seminarians. Sitting at his feet in the classroom, hundreds of his former students gained deeper appreciation for the Scriptures. This former overseas missionary had a passion for proclaiming the Gospel to all people that infused his teaching. He is remembered especially for the creative way in which he taught us Greek, in order that we could read the New Testament in its original language. Countless former seminarians, colleagues and friends have fond memories of the gracious hospitality extended to so many of us by Lorentz and his loving wife, Salud. I count it among the great bless-



A familiar scene from the Seminary photo files: Lorenz Nieting teaching Greek.

ings of my life to have known him and been among his students."

Memorials were designated

for St. James Lutheran Church, 109 York St., Gettysburg, PA 17325 or Gettysburg Seminary.

## Lifelong Learning, Admissions and Advancement see staff transitions

During the fall, and winter the Seminary said farewell to two part time staff members working in the admissions and lifelong learning areas.

The Rev. Jonathan Davis, (M.Div. '05), felt the pull of expanding parish responsibilities as he bowed out of his one day per week work with the Admissions office. Davis, who had been part of the community on Seminary Ridge since he began as a student in 2000, said "This seminary has, and always be a pivotal part in my life, and ministry."

The Rev. Jean Kuebler (M.Div. '98), pastor of Big Spring United Lutheran Church in Newville, PA, returned full-time to her parish ministry after more than two years of coordi-

nating, part-time, the Lifelong Learning offerings of the Seminary. As of January, Lifelong Learning programs will be guided by the Rev. Kathleen O. Reed, Director of Advancement and Lifelong Learning.

In February, Molly Shane, Director of Advancement, announced that she had accepted a new development position at the Whitaker Center in Harrisburg. The opportunity brings Shane back to arts management where she has extensive previous experience.

Staff colleagues gathered around the outgoing valued colleagues to express deep appreciation for their service.

## Systematic theologian Eric Crump concludes service

At the final faculty meeting of the 2008-2009 academic year, the faculty held a special luncheon to recognize the 17 years of service by Dr. Eric Crump, who concluded his service at the Seminary mid-summer. His colleagues in the Abdel Ross Wentz library, where Dr. Crump had his office, also held a summer reception in his honor.

Noted for his rigor in theological conversations with students and colleagues, Crump was also a regular participant in the ELCA's Convocation of Teaching Theologians, and in Washington Theological Consortium (WTC) faculty collaborative endeavors. The latter included contributions to a recent study of the church's response to poverty, authored by several WTC scholars on behalf of the National Council of Churches of Christ. While at the Seminary, he served with the Allegheny Synod candidacy committee as a faculty advisor, and was elected to the synod council and more than once as an ELCA Churchwide Assembly voting member from the Lower Susquehanna Synod.

Seminary President Michael Cooper-White noted: "As Dr. Crump prepared for his departure, he was true to form, observing that 'any day is a good day to do theology.' We at the Seminary appreciate that he 'did theology' at Gettysburg Seminary for many years, and trust that he will continue to pursue his life's vocation as a systematic theologian."

**Denise Finney**, Director of Asset Management, co-authored a chapter for a new book, *The Sciences and Art of Adaptive Management: Innovating for Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management*. The book addresses multiple, complex factors that shape landscapes and promotes the application of adaptive management, or "learning by doing," by small-scale farmers to address issues of poverty and environmental degradation. Finney's chapter focuses on the field system and agricultural management strategies that optimize biological processes in soil and cropping systems. She will be entering a Ph.D. program at Penn State this fall.

**John Spangler**, Executive Assistant to the President for Communication and Planning, preached at Trinity, Lansdale and Trinity, Camp Hill, PA, and wrote a newsmaker story for the Lutheran magazine covering a Haiti orphanage rescue story involving former Seminary board chair, Edward Sites in Pittsburgh, PA.

**Kirsi Stjerna**, Associate Professor of Reformation Church History and Director of the Institute for Luther Studies, spent the summer of 2009 with spouse Brooks Schramm in Germany (Wittenberg and Wolfenbittel) as an EKD stipendiat. She moderated a session at AAR in Montreal on "Martin Luther and Global Lutheran

Traditions." Stjerna also published an article "Models of Interpretation: Psalm 51 in the Hands of Katharina Schütz Zell and Martin Luther," in *Doctrine and Worldview: A Festschrift for Professor Eeva Martikainen*.

**Robin Steinke**, Dean of the Seminary, preached at Trinity, Lancaster, PA, and Amazing Grace in Baltimore, MD. She led forums at Christ Church in Baltimore on "Ethics and Healthcare," a parish nurse continuing education event also in Baltimore, and taught in the Upper Susquehanna Synod on the topic "Christology and Sacraments." Steinke serves as convener of the ELCA/ELCIC seminary deans, and as a commissioner of the Association of Theological Schools. Steinke served as a faculty resource to the 2009 Church Wide Assembly in Minneapolis, and attended the NCCC Assembly as an ELCA delegate. Her article "Leadership Education in a Time of Transition: Dispelling Myths and Musing about the Future" appeared in *Lutheran Partners*, January/February 2010, Volume 26, No. 1.

**Marty Stevens**, CFO, Instructor in Biblical Studies and Registrar, completed a manuscript for introduction and notes to Hosea for the Lutheran Study Bible project as well as the draft of the book *Theological Themes of the Old Testament*, to be published by Wipf & Stock. She continues service

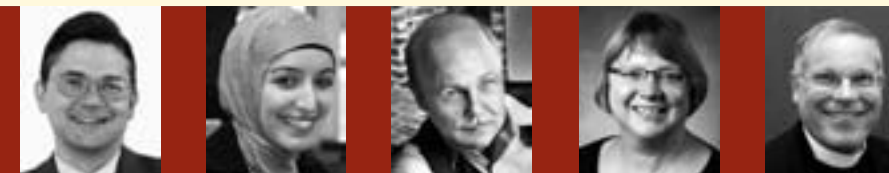


Larry Folkemer, ('40) professor emeritus (left) and Sam Schmitthenner ('51) signing their newest publications in the Seminary Coffee Shop on a winter day. Also pictured is Christian education professor Nelson Strobert, center, and Bishop Ralph Dunkin ('76) and Warren Eshbach ('67) in the background.

on the Augsburg Fortress Board of Trustees. She was the keynote speaker for Allegheny and Northwest Pennsylvania Synods, and preached at Star Mount Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, N.C., St. John's Lutheran Church, Bel Air, MD.

**Nelson Strobert**, Professor of Christian Education and Director of Multicultural Programs, edited the first edition of the online journal and newsletter of the Conference of International Black Lutherans. He video-taped two lectures and wrote two study guides: "The African American Experience" and "Studying the Bible

from the African American Context" for the Select Series, Teaching the Bible, Hosting the Conversation. He presented at the meeting of the African American Lutheran Association in Cleveland, OH, the meeting of the Vocation and Education Program Unit of the ELCA, the annual meeting of the National Lutheran Campus Ministry Board, Lutheran Professors of Religious Education and the Religious Education Association in Fort Worth, TX. And he preached and presided at the Christmas Eve services of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Fox Chapel, Pittsburgh, PA.



## SPRING CONVOCATION APRIL 20-21, 2010

Mark Swanson | Zeyneb Salim | Michael Malone | Gwen Halaas | Mark Oldenburg

Tuesday: Interfaith communication, including Christian-Muslim dialog  
Wednesday: Hearing other vocational stories to inform ones own calling

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# With Ears to Hear

## ALUMNI/AE NEWS

**John M. Aurand** ('49) was honored last spring by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of his ordination. During those years he served 12 churches under call. He has also served ten part-time positions including two chaplaincies, six interim pastorates and two visitation pastorates (one of which he continues today). He lives in Wyomissing, PA. To celebrate the anniversary he returned to the churches on Sunday mornings to preach at each one and visit with old and new friends.

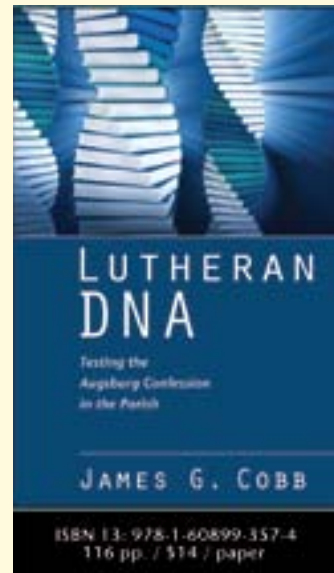
**William Markley** ('60) has a grandson graduating from the United States Naval Academy in June, 2010 and another one in his third year at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

**Robert G. Pielke** ('67) Now retired from teaching, Pielke has resumed his long, semi-dormant writing career. The first book of his [Science Fiction/Time Travel/First Contact/Alternate History] trilogy, *A New Birth of Freedom*, was recently published by Cyperwiz-ard Productions. Much of the action takes place in Gettysburg.

**David G Hanford** ('68) retired from ELCA congregational ministry after 30 years in 2003. He continues his vocation as one of two Trauma Chaplains for Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton Oh. MVH is a regional level I trauma center serving 17 counties in Southwest Ohio and Southeast Indiana. Since 2002 his responsibilities have included pastoral care for the Emergency Trauma Center, Intensive Care, Neonatal Intensive Care, Burn, and Coronary Intensive Care Units. Hanford was certified as a Life Coach by the Clergy Leadership Institute in October 2009. He has four grandchildren.

**James G. Cobb** ('73), co-pastor of Ascension, Towson,

MD and former Associate Dean for Church Vocations and Lifelong Learning at Gettysburg Seminary, has been named an "Oxford Foundation Fellow" by the Graduate Theological Foundation. As part of a current parish sabbatical, he spent August in Oxford, England, while researching a project on "Parish Issues and the Augsburg Confession." Former Bishop Jerry Knoche and Dr. Eric Gritsch endorsed his application and proposal. He also represented the ELCA at the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America meeting in Holland, Michigan.



**Dwight J. Penas** ('76) has been re-elected to the Board of Directors of the Center for Catholic and Evangelical Theology, an ecumenical organization that seeks to cultivate faithfulness to the gospel of Christ. Established by Robert Jensen and Carl Braaten,

### ORDINATIONS

will be posted on the Alumni pages of the relaunched Gettysburg Seminary website.

## Hege thesis internationally recognized with Templeton Award

Brent Hege, (M.A.R. '01) currently a lecturer in the Department of Philosophy and Religion, at Butler University, has been named one of 12 winners of the 2010 John Templeton Award for Theological Promise for his dissertation *Faith at the Intersection of History and Experience: The Theology of Georg Wobbermin, 1911-1931*.

The prize, which will be awarded May 7 at the University of Heidelberg (Germany), includes a financial award and stipend to enable him to hold lectures at universities, colleges, seminaries and other institutions of research and higher learning over the next two years.

"Being named as one of the 12 best young international theologians is truly humbling," Hege said. "I am profoundly grateful to the panel of judges for including me in this prestigious group of scholars." The John Templeton Award for Theological Promise recognizes the 12 best post-doctoral young scholars globally on the basis of their doctoral dissertations related to the topic of God and spirituality. An international and inter-religious panel of 25 judges evaluates the prize nominations. Though primarily a theological prize, contributions from all academic disciplines and religious traditions are considered. Applicants came from 14 different countries and the 2009 winners are from five different countries.

Hege's book presents the major themes from Wobbermin, one of the "forgotten theologians" of the early 20th century. Wobbermin, a German, was noted for his analysis of the relationship between faith and history and his development of a religio-psychological theological method that places faith at the intersection of history and experience. His dissertation was published by Wipf and Stock in 2009.

Hege, who's originally from New Bloomfield, PA, earned his undergraduate degree at Gettysburg College and after Gettysburg Seminary, completed his graduate work at Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, VA.

## ATLAS now available to alumni/ae

ATLASerials (ATLAS) is ATLA's online full-text collection of more than 140 key religion and theology journals, selected by leading scholars, theologians and clergy. Through ATLAS, alums can research the history of a topic from as early as 1924 to the present through more than 238,000 articles and book reviews combined. Currently, researchers are able to use ATLAS as a search tool to retrieve PDFs of pages, with fully searchable text that allows for keyword proximity and citation set searches.

Most importantly, alum are grateful for their ongoing access to ATLAS for ALUM. Many use this valued tool in their daily routines, creating sermon preparation, researching reli-

gious topics, or seeking guidance for pastoral care. Some representative titles from the ATLAS online collection include:

- Christianity Today
- Christian Century
- Church History
- Journal for the Study of the Old Testament
- Journal for the Study of the New Testament
- Biblioteca Sacra
- Interpretation
- Journal of the American Academy of Religion
- Theology Today

A grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. will insure access to ATLAS for at least three years. Visit the link on the Alumni web page: [www.Ltsg.edu/alumni](http://www.Ltsg.edu/alumni).

the Center sponsors an annual conference, publishes conference papers, underwrites ecumenical study projects, and publishes the journal *Pro Ecclesia*.

**Philip E. (Mike) Brown** ('78) Retired in April, 2006. He is enjoying rural life with new friends, writing, woodworking, painting, travel, and gardening. He looks forward to reconnecting with classmates.

**Thomas Drobeno** ('86) and Bishop Wilma Kucharek, of the Slovak Zion Synod, translated from Slovak the book entitled *Lutheran Churches in Slovakia*. Within 25 years of the Reformation Slovakia was over 95% Lutheran. There is an index to the churches and a glossary of technical terms as well as color photographs.

**Martin Russell** ('90) was one of several Gettysburg alumni who addressed the last Church-wide Assembly of the ELCA in Minneapolis. He is the chairperson of the ELCA Church-wide Nominating Committee. Russell is serving in his 9th year as Assistant to the Bishop in the Nebraska Synod.

**Glenn Palmer** ('95) was promoted to chaplain (MAJ) at a ceremony followed by lunch at



## 2009 Distinguished Alumni

The Rev. Dr. Gordon E. Folkemer ('44), left, greets the Rev. Dr. Theodore Schlack ('53) following the recognition of distinguished alumni/ae event in the chapel in the April 21, 2009. Folkemer received the award for Celebrated Lifetime Ministry, and Schlack received the award for Service in Parish Settings.

the Pagoda behind the Dragon Hill Lodge in Yongsan (Seoul). Keturah flew June 21 and then his wife Pam and his sons went to South Carolina with a 5 day stop in Hawaii.

**Angela Zimmann** ('98) has published her doctoral dissertation from Bowling Green State University. *Turning the Noose that Binds into a Rope to Climb: A Textual Search*

## Moore Named to Wittenberg Center

**The ELCA has named the Rev. Scott A. Moore (M.Div. '97) part-time coordinator of the Wittenberg (Germany) Center and to represent the ELCA in the observance of the "Luther Decade."**

Moore recently completed a six-year call with ELCA Global Mission when he served as pastor of a Lutheran congregation in Lutherstadt Eisleben, Germany. He will soon begin doctoral studies in Erfurt. "I'm very excited to be in this place at this time. It's something I'm eager to do," said Moore in a phone interview with the ELCA News Service. "It's extremely

important for our German partners that we have a presence there among them in these historic Luther sites, especially in Wittenberg."

Moore, who lives in nearby Erfurt, will serve 10 hours per week at the center and visit Wittenberg at least every two weeks. Among his duties he will facilitate relationships with German church partners and institutions in Wittenberg, promote the center, maintain donor relationships, assist and coordinate activities for visiting groups, and engage in strategic planning.

"It's good to have an (ELCA) presence in Germany in this decade as we have the oppor-



ELCA designated international learning centers, along with Gettysburg Seminary's Luther Institute in Washington, D.C., the International Center in Bethlehem, Palestine, and the International Center in Mexico City, Mexico.

The Luther Decade, launched in Wittenberg in 2008, is

for *Rhetorical and Linguistic Gender-markings in Speech Samples of Three Contemporary Female Orators*. The women selected for this study include Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, USA; and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States of America. It is available from Amazon.com.

**Janice L. Trammell-Savin** ('02) Graduated from Wesley Theological Seminary on May 11, 2009 with a D.Min. She is serving in her fourth intentional interim pastorate at Hunting Ridge Presbyterian Church in Baltimore.

**Andy Wahl** ('03) and his wife Lisa welcomed their first child Hannah Elizabeth into the world on January 17, 2010.

**Diana York Luscombe** ('04) was featured in the article "Consecrating a Courageous Comeback Kid" written by Seminary President Michael Cooper-White. It appeared in the June 19, 2009 issue of *Upstate Update*, the newsletter published by the Upstate New York Synod of the ELCA.

a significant component of the Wittenberg Center's mission. The decade includes a series of events and observances leading to 2017, the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

The new plan calls for the Wittenberg Center to move into a newly renovated space at Colleg Wittenberg, a facility primarily for study-abroad programs of North American college and universities. Colleg Wittenberg has guest rooms and space for group seminars.

Visit the Wittenberg Center: [www2.elca.org/wittenberg/](http://www2.elca.org/wittenberg/) the Luther Year:

[www.luther2017.de/](http://www.luther2017.de/) and Colleg Wittenberg online: [www.collegwittenberg.com/](http://www.collegwittenberg.com/)



## CLASS OF 2009

### Golden Zionees visit junior class

The Golden Zionees have been praying for the junior class this year. In June they came to attend chapel, have lunch with several members of the junior class, and take a campus tour. Student Katie Chavanek and Advancement Colleague Rev. John Fehringer served as tour guides.



## Thy Ways Illumine

### New recording extends music as ministry of hope

Last fall Seminary Ridge Press announced the production of "Thy Ways Illumine," a CD recording of music designed to surround listeners with hope and comfort in times of suffering and need.

Jointly produced with Music, Gettysburg!, the recording contains twelve songs from

across five centuries of sacred music performed by the Schola Cantorum of Gettysburg with singers from the Lutheran Seminary choirs under the direction of Stephen P. Folkemer and accompanied by the Boston Shawm and Sackbut Ensemble.

Through a special gift, the significance of this recording

will be extended to persons who are ill or suffering in one form or another as a ministry of comfort and hope. Two complimentary copies are available to congregations, pastors, caregivers, chaplains and other agencies of ministry with persons in particular need of the healing brought about by this

extraordinary music. Additional copies to these agencies and individuals are available for a deeply discounted cost (\$8.00) which includes shipping.

Thy Ways Illumine includes several psalms set to melodies by Johann Herman Schein, Giovanni Palestrina, Andrew Rosenfeld, and Stephen Folkemer. Other songs are composed by Heinrich Schütz, Samuel Wesley, Johann Franck, and Charles Stanford. Folkemer also set a text by Herman Stuempfle to music, a favorite of those

who attend the Schola Cantorum's popular Festive Choral Vespers for Advent "O Come Lord Jesus, Quickly Come." Special texts and translations accompany the CD for listeners' enjoyment.

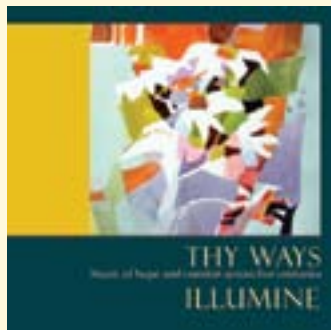
Oldenburg, who served as executive producer with Folkemer, said that this recording extends the ministry carried out by the church with those in need of comfort. "As in all its efforts, music has been a tool of choice." Oldenburg continued, "across the centuries

music has always borne words of comfort and hope into the hearts of those in great need. Some of the finest composers and performers have put their efforts on that practice, offering some of the fruits of the last five hundred years of this ministry." Folkemer added insight into the origins of this project.

"Inspiring this recording project were four Schola Cantorum members diagnosed with breast cancer. "Thy Ways

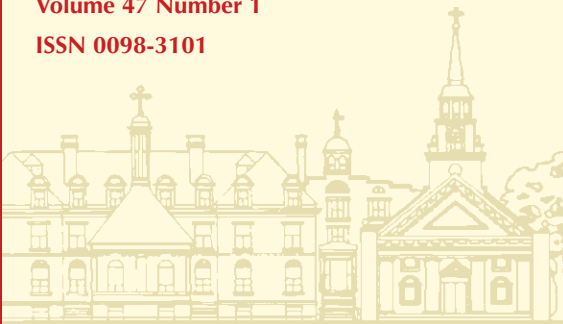
Illumine" is the Schola's way of ministering through song to all those who face times of personal challenge."

The CD is available for purchase by the public through the Gettysburg Seminary Bookstore for \$15.00 (visit or call 717-338-3005) and online at [www.musicgettysburg.org](http://www.musicgettysburg.org) for \$18.00 (includes shipping and handling within the U.S.). Congregations, agencies and individuals seeking their complimentary copies should also contact the Bookstore.



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Send news items to Katy Giebenhain, e-mail: [kgiebenhain@Ltsg.edu](mailto:kgiebenhain@Ltsg.edu).

Seminary website: [www.Ltsg.edu](http://www.Ltsg.edu)  
Telephone: 1-800-MLUTHER

## Upcoming events

### S.T.M. courses

May 23-29 "The True Self: A Theological Exploration of the Christian Life"  
June 14-18 "Preaching in the Abrahamic Faith Families"

### Lay School of Theology I


June 20 - 26 "Faith In, With, and Under the Cutting Edge"

### Summer Institute for Ministry

July 12-16 "Disability and Theology"  
+ Monday, July 12: a special one-day public event

### Lay School of Theology II

July 25-31 "A Dynamic Contemplative Life: Prayer, Sin, and Freedom"

*Music, Gettysburg! concert schedule:*  [www.musicgettysburg.org](http://www.musicgettysburg.org)



Seminary Ridge February 10, 2010