

Seminary

Views

LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AT GETTYSBURG

SPRING 2009



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REPORT TO
THE CHURCH
2008



Sustainability on the ridge

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SEMINARY NOTEBOOK

President Michael L. Cooper-White



A sustainable theological education

Often when I become perplexed about some pressing matter, I head for the Seminary archives with a question, "How did earlier generations cope with something similar?" Amidst the current economic climate, as we've watched the endowment decline (gratefully, less than most, thanks to superb stewardship on the part of our board and endowment trustees), I recently spent time in the archives exploring how the Seminary coped with a prolonged season of economic depression of the 1930's. It's a complex picture to be sure. Yet the Seminary not only survived, but positioned itself for significant growth while fulfilling its core mission.

Just as the vehicles we drive look quite different from my father's first Model A, the shape of the Seminary may look quite different in the 21st century from how it appeared in the past two. Moreover, just as hybrids and plug-in cars may start rolling off auto assembly lines in great numbers, we need to find new and more sustainable fuel sources.

It has become clear to many of us who steward these small free-standing institutions of theological education that the current "model" will be difficult to sustain for the long-haul without hefty endowments. That recognition led us to launch Gettysburg Seminary 200 effort, an endeavor to grow the endowment to \$200 million by the Seminary's 200th anniversary in 2026. So far we have received some generous gifts and pledges, particularly toward endowed faculty chairs. But we have a long way to go, and the goal seems even further away in the current "bear" investment climate.

Are we concerned principally or only about financial matters? No! We're convinced that another key to sustainability will be partnering with others. Given that collaborative ventures are embedded in our institutional DNA, we build upon a long history of close collaboration with our supporting synods, as well as churchwide and ecumenical partners. On the road ahead, look for expanded partnership within the Eastern Cluster of Seminaries and Washington Theological Consortium, and more locally, with our neighbor down the hill, Gettysburg College.

Here on campus, "sustainability" is another way of talking about, teaching, and modeling good Christian stewardship. *At the encouragement of our board, my office is appointing a Green Task Force to explore even better campus environmental stewardship practices beyond those already in place. We envision the mapping out of geothermal well fields that will eventually heat and cool seminary buildings. Given the fiscal challenges of perpetuating "business as usual" for the long-haul, both faculty and board discussions have begun about new "mixed models" of a core teaching faculty supplemented by appropriately credentialed practitioner-professors. As you might imagine, these are difficult conversations. They involve that six-letter word, CHANGE, which seminaries long have trumpeted – until it begins to apply to us!*

We have strong confidence in faculty and staff colleagues, the Seminary's leaders in governance, and the fundamental solidity of our core mission of theological education. As long as God and the Church need us to be here on the hill, and as long as we carry out faithfully that which we're called to do, we will find a sustainable pathway forward.

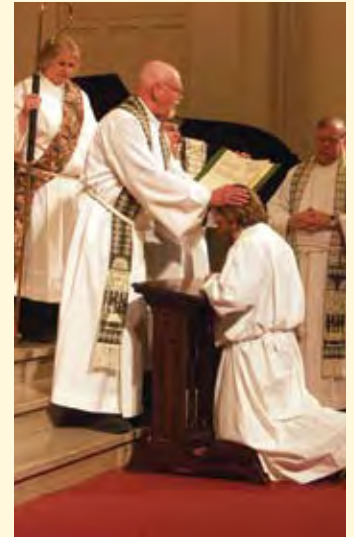
Given the reality of the Gospel writers' and St. Paul's conviction that Jesus' promised return would occur in the near-term, sustainability is not a key theological theme in the New Testament. But the very act of writing down the stories, sayings and teachings that

Michael L. Cooper-White

Cover photo: Frequently seen on his bicycle, Professor Emeritus Gerald Christianson stops for a conversation with seminarians (left to right) Carolyn Simonds, Dana Blouch Hanson, and Darcy Reis. Photo by Stephanie Zinn.

Chandler Carriker commissioned

Bishop Penrose Hoover and representatives of the Philadelphia and Gettysburg seminaries joined in a festive worship service at Gettysburg's chapel for the commissioning of Chandler Carriker as Associate in Ministry January 30. Carriker, who graduated with an M.A.R. from Lutheran Theological Southern



Travel Seminar

Led by the Rev. Dr. Marty Stevens, the December 27, 2009- January 9, 2010 travel seminar to Turkey will provide geographical, historical, and cultural contexts for biblical and historical texts that shape our ministry in the world today. Open to non students; see the website for details: www.Ltsg.edu/academics/travelseminars.htm.

Seminary Bookstore to be at two synod assemblies

The Seminary Bookstore will display books and church resources at two synod assemblies this spring, Delaware-Maryland Synod in Ocean City May 28-29 and Lower Susquehanna Synod at Messiah College in Grantham, PA, June 11-13.

Seminary bids Jennifer Feeman farewell

In early February, Seminary Controller Jennifer Feeman informed the Seminary of her decision to accept a position as Financial Analyst with Hershey Medical Center. Jennifer came to us out of the medical accounting arena and is eminently qualified for this new position, which will offer new career opportunities in close proximity to her home. Grateful for Jennifer's four-plus years of ser-

When asked "How are things financially at the Seminary?" President Michael Cooper-White has expressed gratitude that alumni/ae, friends and other church leaders care about the mission of preparing church leaders.

"While Seminary endowment values have declined, our recent portfolio diversification is serving us extremely well," he said, "and we are faring better than most institutions of higher education, many of which depend on their endowments for a much greater portion of operating income."

The short answer to the question of how Gettys-

burg Seminary is navigating in these turbulent financial times is: "We are continuing to be good stewards, and we need your generous support now more than ever." According to seminary leaders, throughout the economic crisis, the Seminary has maintained a good level of "liquidity" and foresees no cash flow crises on the near horizon.

"The generosity of several hundred individual and congregational contributors to the Gettysburg Seminary (Annual) Fund," Em Cole, Vice President of Advancement,

reported to the Board of Directors "provided the Seminary with its best December in many years."

Cooper-White communicated with all members of the seminary community and all alumni/ae at the turn of the calendar year that the Seminary was "engaged in budgeting for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, and looking at some further 'belt-tightening'" as well as postponing larger projects as the crisis continues. "Our fiscal planning is guided by a commitment to fulfill our core mission," he added. The Advancement Office is increasing its efforts to raise additional scholarship funds this year to prevent the shifting of additional burdens to stu-

Board declares Stuempfle Chair funded; will be conferred upon Susan Hedahl in fall

Declaring as substantially funded the Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr. Chair of Proclamation of the Word, the Gettysburg Seminary Board of Directors authorized its conferral in a fall formal event to the Rev. Dr. Susan K. Hedahl, Professor of Homiletics.

"Hundreds of Seminary supporters," said President Michael Cooper-White, "touched deeply by the gentle giant who was Herman Stuempfle, make possible the establishment of 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 campaign to fully fund the chair began in 2005 and includes gifts and pledg-

es from nearly 500 people. Along the way at least 20 individuals have been recognized as members of the "Proclaimers Circle," having

given \$10 thousand or more. The goal of \$1.5 million was substantially met according to the board of directors, anticipating a portion of those

pledges and planned gifts to be fulfilled over a period of time.

Continued on page

Presidents meet at Gettysburg

Seminary president Michael Cooper-White and Gettysburg College president Janet Riggs joined Robert Wilburn, president of the Gettysburg Foundation, in greeting U.S. President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura during their Friday, September 5th tour of the new visitor center of the Gettysburg National Military Park. Making the trip from the nearby Camp David presidential retreat center in northern Maryland, President Bush decided to visit the historic Gettysburg battlefield and new National Park Service visitor's center. White House officials asked the College's civil war historian Gabor Boritt to lead the special visi-



federal Park Service, private groups and individu-

tors on a battlefield tour. Boritt in turn wanted the presidents of the town's two historic and leading institutions – Gettysburg Seminary and Gettysburg College – to welcome the U.S. president and first lady Laura Bush to the local community.

"What we thought would be just a 'meet and greet' moment turned into a lively conversation with the President and Mrs. Bush," said Cooper-White. Praising the marvelous new visitor's center and museum, Bush acknowledged a unique partnership involving the als, and public institu-

Photo by Jim Hale



Pictured from left to right are the Rev. Henry Herbener, Todd Peters, Seminary President Michael Cooper-White and Director of Advancement Kathleen Reed.

From gathering dust with interest, gift goes right to work

After decades of being rolled over and over from one certificate of deposit to another, funds given to Holy Trinity, Ephrata, PA, to support a seminary student were turned over to the Gettysburg Seminary Scholarship appeal in early 2008. The pastor, Henry Herbener, reported that the congregation had been holding the funds since before World War II in case a member of the congregation was prompted to

study for the ministry. The congregation's leadership determined that giving the funds to the Seminary represented more faithful stewardship of the gift's original intent, and asked the Seminary to put the funds to immediate use. The result was an infusion of \$29,470, enabling increased scholarship awards for the 2008-2009 academic year. During the April 21st Convocation, President Michael

Kate Schroeder wins Stegemoeller Scholarship

Gettysburg Seminary Senior Kate Schroeder was chosen as one of three Study Tour scholarship recipients for 2009. Lutheran World Relief (LWR) sponsors the Marian Stegemoeller Memorial Scholarships, which are awarded to three seminary students each year. LWR Study Tours focus on issues such as HIV/AIDS, food security, peace building, Fair Trade or healthcare.

A selection committee, comprised of 9 LWR colleagues, chose Schroeder (El Salvador), along with Kirsten Dumke, Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (Nicaragua) and Sarah Kochy Schaaf, Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, (Colombia) to be granted the scholarships this year.

Seminary students are encouraged to consider participating in a Study Tour even if they are not selected for a scholarship. The scholarships are provided by an anonymous LWR donor who is committed to equipping seminary students to integrate the poor and marginalized into daily ministry. For details visit www.lwr.org/study/scholarship/.

Luther Institute celebrates gala

More than 125 ELCA and Missouri Synod church leaders and friends of the Luther Institute gathered Nov. 8 to hear Lutheran historian and prolific author Dr. Martin Marty challenge them to embrace "the radical thought" of "Christ in you" and to look for new metaphors of faith.

The event took place on the tented rooftop of 101 Constitution Avenue, featur-

ing the stunning view overlooking the capitol building and plaza. The occasion was the 25th anniversary celebration of the Luther Institute, the Washington-based affiliate of Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. The Luther Institute's mission as an international learning center is to advance the role of faith and ethics in public life. Participants in the pan-Lutheran event gathered un-



der heated tents on a rooftop overlooking the Capitol and the National Mall and included ambassadors from Lutheran-heritage countries, as well as church leaders and Institute supporters from around the United States.

Dr. Marty, longtime University of Chicago scholar, columnist and Wittenberg Award recipient himself, was introduced by former student Dr. James Vigen, who serves as executive director of the Institute. Keying off Galatians, chapter 2, Marty urged his audience to view God as "a gift" to be shared and to



Left: Seminary President Michael Cooper-White, Luther Institute's Executive Director Jim Vigen and Board Chair Paul Wangerin. Top: Guests wait to speak with Martin Marty.



Far left: Glenn Palmer with his 2nd Iraq tour (OIF 3) Chaplain Assistant, SSGT Paul Johndro after he was awarded the Purple Heart. Johndro was hit in the left arm while on a medical clinic mission after an IED exploded.

Left: Palmer, second from left in the front row, is pictured with soldiers from the project Operation Jungle Gym.

Below: Fred Johnsen was commissioned as an Army chaplain October 22, 2008 at the Seminary's Church of the

Front-line Faith

Gettysburg Seminary graduates serve and respond as military chaplains

The voice on the phone from Seoul, South Korea, speaks with reverence as he describes a day in March 2003, when he buried an eight-week-old infant caught in the crossfire of the

Iraq war, later gave last rites to a dying soldier and then assisted in a rescue mission to free some Iraqi women who were being used as human shields. The women were later airlifted to safety by helicopter.

For many, the initial "shock and awe" of the now seemingly unending wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has faded to the inside pages of America's newspapers and the occasional CNN headline. But for Capt. Glenn A. Palmer, a 1995 graduate of Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, the memories of two tours of duty as an Army chaplain are indelibly etched in his heart.

"Nothing can adequately prepare you for the horror and trauma of war," said Palmer, an ELCA pastor now stationed with

his family in South Korea. Trying to maintain a balance between Christian faith and the grief of war is challenging, at best, said Palmer. "But in the midst of the horror, my faith is even deeper. When all else is stripped away, all you have is God and each other."

Palmer, whose nickname is "ChapDaddy," and newly ordained and commissioned Army Chaplain Fred Johnsen are among more than 80 ELCA pastors currently serving in the Armed Forces of the United States. They are also part of a diminishing breed of mainline Protestant chaplains in the military. Since the early 1980s, which brought an end to the Cold War and a "right-sizing" of the U.S. military, the number of Lutheran chaplains has fallen more than 60 percent. Other mainline denominations have experienced similar declines, while the ranks of chaplains from non-denominational, fun-

Despite shifting trends, preparing future rostered leaders to serve as military chaplains is a priority for ELCA seminaries.

damentalist, evangelical churches has risen to more than 40 percent of the total chaplaincy corps.

"Evangelicals are clearly making the military a ministry focus," said the Rev. Darrell Morton, director of the ELCA's federal chaplaincy program. Morton visited Gettysburg this fall to attend the first of a series of ELCA-sponsored gatherings on how to prepare pastors and other spiritual care-givers for receiving returning veterans back into their local congregations and communities.

Despite shifting trends, preparing future rostered



Chaplain

Continued from page 5

leaders to serve as military chaplains is a priority for ELCA seminaries. Southern, for example, is offering a concentration in military chaplaincy, partly in response to the military consolidating its chaplain training center at nearby Fort Jackson in Columbia, S.C.

Robin Steinke, dean of Gettysburg Seminary, said the intentional flexibility of the Gettysburg Seminary curriculum has contributed to the school's long history of turning out candidates to military chaplaincy. She cited the seminary's connections to the Washington Theological Consortium and the nearby Army War College in Carlisle, PA, as examples of how curricula can be shaped to assist those considering military chaplaincy. Plus, she

added, being uniquely situated in the middle of a famous Civil War battlefield only adds to awareness of the role faith plays in midst of armed conflict.

2008 graduate Fred Johnsen is the most recent Gettysburg Seminary-produced pastor who has accepted the call to military chaplaincy. Johnsen, from Kingston, NY, was ordained in his home congregation, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran, on Sept. 20 and commissioned as an Army chaplain on October 22 during a noon-time ceremony at the Gettysburg chapel.

Johnsen is a former military policeman turned working journalist. He describes himself as a one-time agnostic and "borderline atheist" who was brought to faith through the efforts of a New York Lutheran pastor and former Army chaplain. "I remember him saying more than once that I would be a good candidate for ministry if the Holy Spirit ever got a hold of me," Johnsen remembered. That moment happened in a darkened sanctuary chapel

one night, when the overwhelming feeling of God's presence caused Johnsen to fall on his knees. Johnsen is stationed at Fort Hood while awaiting his first chaplaincy assignment.

As for Capt. Palmer, he and his family are back at Fort Jackson and graduate

level training in family life counseling. The former parish pastor intends to remain in military chaplaincy. Palmer writes a regular "chaplain's corner" newsletter for his "battle buddies" and troops in his unit. The newsletters, written with the process of healing utmost in mind, are a mix-



Cris Frigm commissioned

Third-year seminarian Cris Frigm was commissioned into the Navy Reserve Chaplain Corps September 5, 2008. CDR David Oravec read the oath of office at a service held at Evangelical Lutheran Church in Frederick, MD. Frigm is pictured with his wife Laurel.

President's Cabinet gathers

Thirty new and returning members of Gettysburg Seminary's President's Cabinet met on campus on October 28 for an exciting afternoon of fellowship, idea-sharing and enthusi-



asm for the future of Gettysburg Seminary. An informal, non-governing volunteer group formed in 1995 under President Darold Beekmann, the President's Cabinet serves the Seminary as an advisory group to the President, representing donors and congregations across Region 8 and beyond. Membership includes alumni, retired and active parish pastors, former Friends Coordinators, frequent Lay School participants, event volunteers, and former fac-

On the left are Mani Wentz and Marian Schlack. On the right (from the top) are Ed Sites and Ed Manifold, Lew and Paula Weingard, and Donna Hacker-Smith, Lawrence Smith, and Jeanne Lowe. Photos by Molly Shane.



Intersections Institute receives Thrivent grant

Efforts by the Eastern Cluster of Lutheran Seminaries to create a leadership development program for Church and faith-based social ministry organizations got a major lift thanks to a \$215,000 grant from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation. The new Intersections Institute creates a partnership among the three eastern cluster seminaries in Gettysburg, Philadelphia and Columbia, SC, with social ministry organizations and schools of business to develop post baccalaureate certificate and masters programs to form leaders who can navigate

GETTYSBURG SEMINARY'S REPORT TO THE CHURCH 2008



Sustaining an excellent Gettysburg Seminary

Welcome to Gettysburg Seminary's Report to the Church. As Dean Robin Steinke reminded us in her compelling academic convocation address last fall (parts of which are printed here), from time to time we liken the study of theology to an artful dance. We get better as we work at it, and when we relax and find a rhythm to it, we can sense the pulse of the Gospel. We believe that this metaphor helps us give you a glimpse of what theological education is all about, and we think that everyone in this church can learn to dance to this divine tune.

In our report to the church and to people across the nation, we share highlights of our educational program, the most important features of our stewardship, and a summary of how we receive and spend funds entrusted to us by many generous stewards. Throughout this report, you will find that in order to sustain our fine seminary, we will need to ever increase our excellence, our efficiency, and support for this educational mission. Thank you for being a part of it.

Michael L. Cooper-White, Seminary President

SEMINARY'S REPORT TO THE CHURCH 2008

JULY 1, 2007 - JUNE 30, 2008

Come and dance: Embodying life and faith in a learning community

Dancing was long the custom at Israelite feasts and a form of praise to YHWH (God). We know that processional dance was a normal mode in worship. W.O. E. Oesterley notes in his *Sacred Dance in the Ancient World* that there is a midrash which reads "God himself will lead the dance of the righteous in the world to come."

I Wonder: Clues to learning the dance that God leads

What if genuine curiosity about God, the world and classmates is part of our way of learning the dance this year? The curiosity of questions like, "I wonder...", help me understand" manifest an attentive listening-to-learn pattern that, applied to our fellow colleague's stories, could enhance our way of learning this year.

Becoming a lifelong student of your discipline

There is a phrase at the University of Oxford, at the college of Christ Church, which is written in the inside cover of many books authored by a faculty member. It reads, "so and so, student of Christ Church. What this meant to convey is that when someone reaches the rank of a college teaching officer, they have finally earned the privilege to be referred to as a student of their discipline. Part of learning the dance, is learning to be a life-long student of the various disciplines you encounter here.

To be a student of your discipline may seem hard at times, particularly if you feel you already know more than you will ever "use" in your ministry. Perhaps part of the discipline of learning the dance this year is to practice humility. It really is not all about you.

Learning the dance, challenges us to give up the idolatry of certainty that we have it all figured out and to open ourselves to the wisdom of the text, the tradition, and others.

Daniel Aleshire, the Executive Director of the Association of Theological Schools, in his new book, *Earthen Vessels: Hopeful Reflections on the Work and Future of Theological Schools*, writes about the nature of teaching and learning in seminaries. "Teaching the lessons that form human lives involves discomfort, and when that discomfort is tended properly, it leads to wholeness and integrity. Learning, serious learning about faith and life, requires burning bridges, and theological faculty, at least the best of them, force students to light fires to false assumptions and inadequate understanding, and stand by them as they struggle with life on the knowing side of the charred bridge." (p. 62)

Dance is a shared experience

One of my doctoral professors, David Ford, shared his newest book, *Shaping Theology: Engagements in a Religious and Secular World*, when I was in England last February for the memorial service of my Doctor Father, Professor Daniel Hardy. Ford suggests that one challenge he sees at the University is to sustain and reinvent collegiality. He celebrates the gifts and possibilities in a learning community that seeks to work on difficult issues together.

Ford further notes that there is an "inseparability of knowledge from questions of meaning, value, ethics, collegiality, and trans-generational responsibility. There is a term for that sort of

understanding that attempts to think through such matters together, with a view to the better shaping of life. It is wisdom... It is classically the most comprehensive ideal of education, beyond information, knowledge, practice, skills. The goal is to unite knowledge and understanding with imagination, good judgment and decision making in life and work." (p. 110) I think this is what it could mean for us to share the dance and not to engage in artificial bifurcations between "scholarship and ministry."

This means that we share in this dance together. This journey of learning and practicing the dance is done together.

When the dance is difficult, God may improvise

When we learn, practice and share the dance we may well encounter ideas, even colleagues or classmates that we might just as soon ignore. Perhaps we also need to be reminded to persevere in the dance. Perseverance in prayer and seeking the courage for engaging ideas that challenge; invite us to avoid "tap dancing," that is, the failure to deal directly with difficult issues, people, personal crises. There may be the temptation when facing difficult issues or people to "tap dance" around the hard questions. There may be the temptation, when confronted with theologies that unsettle you, to simply put on your skis and glide over the top. Learning communities discover how to deal forthrightly with the hard questions and issues.

You may be wondering if this notion of dance is simply a dean's plea with a list of hopes, and perhaps some "shoulds" and "oughts." My point is to recognize imaginatively the way we live into the improvisation of God's leading us, dance-like, in new and joyful ways.

No time to sit one out

When I was a student at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, OH, Prof. Mark Allen Powell commented on several occasions that if Søren Kierkegaard could do it all over again, he'd come back as a country western singer. In my conversations with Dr. Stevens about the interesting Hebrew words I have mentioned, she pointed to the lyrics of two country songs in circulation. One of those songs, by Leann Womack, called "I Hope You Dance" (available on "Youtube") goes like this: "I hope you never lose your sense of wonder, you get your fill to eat, but always keep that hunger. May you never take one single breath for granted, God forbid love ever leave you empty handed. I hope you still feel small, when you stand by the ocean...and when you get the choice to sit it out or dance, I hope you dance, I hope you dance."



This an excerpt from the featured address by Dean Robin J. Steinke, delivered at Gettysburg Seminary's Academic Convocation at the opening of a new school year, September 3, 2008. Steinke explored the metaphor of dance as a way of understanding of studying theology and learning to lead. Her exploration offers insight into what it means to be a part of a learning environment and how learning develops new and open attentiveness.

The full address text is available at www.gettysburgseminary.org/faculty/rsteinke/



SEMINARY'S REPORT TO THE CHURCH 2008

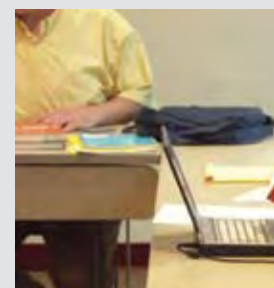
JULY 1, 2007 - JUNE 30, 2008

The year in review



The Seminary's educational offerings expand

In response to changing needs in the church, the Seminary added a third concentration to its curriculum, this one in Youth and Young Adult Ministry. During the year, the Seminary expanded its course offerings, and added a program called Certificate in Theological Studies, for those preparing for ordained ministry by pathways other than the standard M.Div. Curriculum (TEEM). Published books, articles, and web resources emanated from faculty desks during the course of the past year. A flurry of publishing activity was particularly centered among the Seminary's church historians. Encouragement of and support for faculty scholarship has been a marker of leadership by Dean Robin Steinke, who was enthusiastically reelected for a second 5-year term during 2008. The Seminary marked the tenure of Mark Vitalis Hoffman late in the year.



Students younger, more diverse than ever

With the incoming 2008 class, the student body became younger, and perhaps the most diverse in the Seminary's history. Continuing to be richly blessed by "second career" persons preparing for ministry, the Seminary has also embraced many who now begin studies in their 20's. The student body is also more diverse than ever, with nearly 10% persons of color and many from areas more sparsely represented in earlier student generations. Students continue to come from everywhere to study at Gettys-



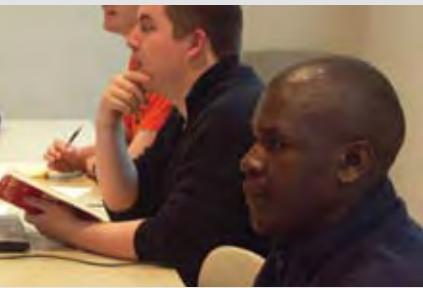
The Music, Gettysburg! concert photo (above) is courtesy of Andy Jurcak.



Seminary Ridge road gets major makeover

From the first week of the fall semester, Robert Kinsley construction crews supervised by the National Park Service (NPS) were on, beside, and sometimes under the campus' main street as it got a once in a century "makeover." What was originally expected to be a resurfacing job, blossomed out of necessity into a replacement of a century-old water main, new grading for better drainage, new curb and sidewalks with marked crosswalks up to ADA codes. Major trenches, piles of gravel, and road closed signs gave way to new grading and by

October, the installation of conventional curbs. Final paving followed in November. Students and staff, Music Gettysburg! audiences, Luther Colloquy, Board of Directors, and wedding parties and other visitors all made their way without complaints and injuries as the project evolved. Cost of the roadway improvement, owned by the federal government since 1895, was paid for by the NPS. Perhaps for the first time since it was first installed, the original 1905 "telford base" (style of laying large blocks of stone placed as foundation to the roadway) was exposed along major sections. President Cooper-White conveyed the Seminary's gratitude to the NPS and to the Kinsley company for their excellent work.



Sustainability = stewardship over the long haul

In a severe recession, the Seminary was grateful for good stewardship policies and practices established in recent years by our directors and foundation trustees, noting in the downturn endowment losses that were less severe than national averages. The endowment value, annual fund income and other factors are being monitored closely as the Seminary continues to pursue balanced budgets. As it surpassed its original Crossroads Campaign Goals, the Seminary renewed its effort to sustain its current and future strengths by doubling the goal to \$25M. It has begun to plan for green options that will eventually replace a century old steam system with geothermal HVAC, to significantly lower energy usage.

burg, and they are called to serve in church and society across the nation and around the world. Sixty percent of new students come from outside the Mid-Atlantic region.



As it surpassed its original Crossroads Campaign Goals, the Seminary renewed its effort to sustain its current and future strengths by doubling the goal to \$25M. It has begun to plan for green options that will eventually replace a century old steam system with geothermal HVAC, to significantly lower energy usage.



Seminary leaders say stewardship in all areas is key to sustainability.



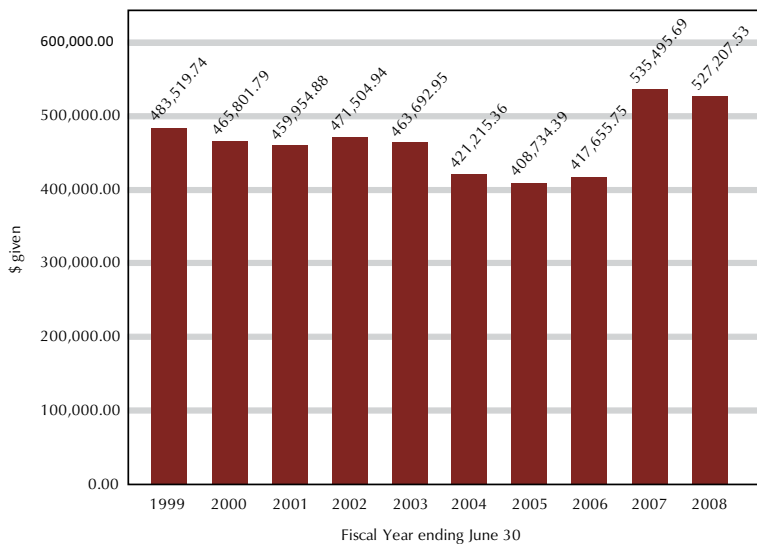
SEMINARY'S REPORT TO THE CHURCH 2008

JULY 1, 2007 - JUNE 30, 2008

Annual giving and the future of theological education

Almost every week at least one check made out to the Seminary will arrive in a plain envelope wrapped in a slip of paper with some variation of this simple directive: "Use where most needed!" Gifts like these are placed in the Gettysburg Seminary Fund – our "annual fund" – along with the many contributions that come to us in direct response to our formal appeals and other unrestricted income. The current state of the economy may seem to press that phrase, "...most needed," into higher relief. Yet, back in the summer of 2007, at the beginning of the fiscal year reflected in this Report to the Church, we grounded our annual fund appeal in the words of challenge found in 1 Peter 3:15 regarding readiness to give "an account of the hope that is in you." It is this Seminary's constant conviction that hope rooted in the Good News of Jesus Christ remains, year in and year out, is "most needed." To this end we partner with you to prepare public servants of that Good News – and through regular, growing annual giving, the hope of the Gospel truly does abound!

1. Annual giving to Gettysburg Seminary from 1999 to 2008



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

Most Needed: Light for the world and the classroom

Many essential expenses of the Seminary, like light bulbs or cleaning and office supplies, may never attract designated gifts. Even those expenses that do attract major gift designations, such as facility upgrades and library improvements, cannot be fully paid from the gifts designated for those purposes. Therefore, regular, unrestricted giving, year after year from individuals and congregations is crucial. Importantly, "annual" giving does not mean just one gift every year; rather, it means *at least* one gift each year. Many loyal Seminary donors respond to each appeal that we make. Most annual givers to the Seminary simply send checks in the return envelopes provided in our appeals, but increasingly, donors opt for the convenience of giving by credit card or monthly direct electronic payments from a bank account.

Most needed: Growing leaders

Growth in annual giving makes growth in enrollment possible, sustains the excellence of our learning environment, fights the inevitable inflationary drag, and ensures a future-minded

stance. For the last two fiscal years, Gettysburg Seminary has been blessed with substantially increased levels of annual giving, as shown in Figure 1, reversing a decade of decline. With significant increases in FY 2007 (19%) and FY 2008 (17%) over the previous eight year average, annual giving has cleared the half million dollar mark and appears to have established a new level of support on which we will continue to build. It is vitally important that annual giving continue to grow in the coming years. As reported last year, we project that Gettysburg Seminary's annual budget will grow by about 10% annually, roughly tripling to \$18,000,000 by 2026. Annual giving provides 9% of the Seminary's current budget of about \$5.8 million. To continue this level of contribution, annual giving will also have to triple by 2026 to about \$1.4 million.

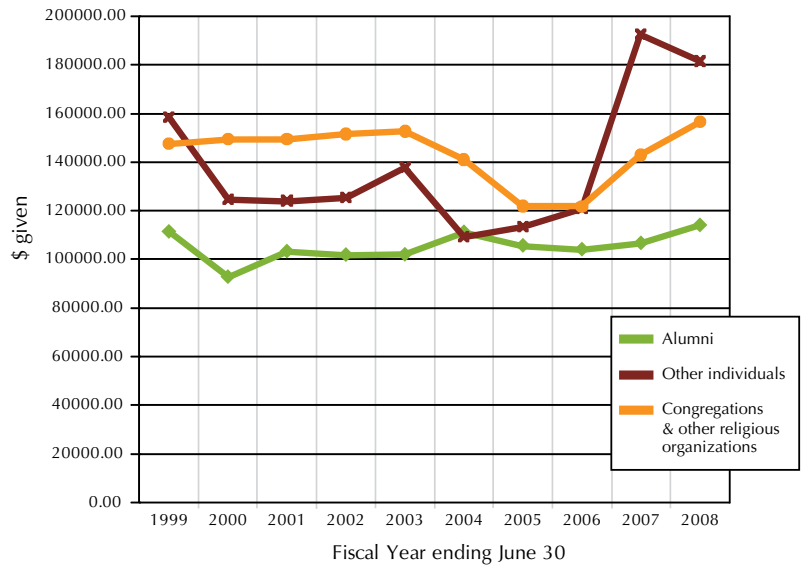
Figure 2 shows giving trends from three important categories of annual donors – alumni, other individuals, and congregations. In 2008, 22% of total annual giving came from 450 of the

Seminary's approximately 1,960 active alumni. Alumni of the Seminary are separately tracked because of their special relationship to and significant level of support for the Seminary. However, because of the small numbers of Seminary alumni, a traditional support group for any academic institution, the Seminary's future depends on broadening its base of support among individual supporters.

Gettysburg Seminary has been blessed with substantial recent increases in annual giving by "other individuals," and this trend must continue if the Seminary is to achieve its goal of long term financial sustainability. The growth in 2007 and 2008 in this giving category results from concerted efforts to inform more people about the unique and essential role of theological education in the Lutheran tradition.

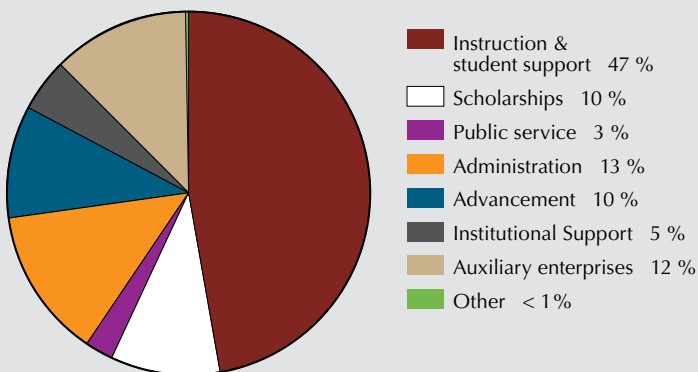
In 2008, 197 congregations in Region 8 gave \$143,000 in annual gifts to Gettysburg Seminary. There are a total of 1,151 congregations in the eight synods of Region 8 which are assigned to Gettysburg Seminary in an arrangement of mutual ministry and support. With only about 17% of the congregations of its Region providing unrestricted annual support, increased annual giving from this important constituency is another great opportunity for Gettysburg Seminary. A new program known as Friends of Gettysburg Seminarians (FrOGS) will debut in 2009 to build congregational awareness and support. You can help too! Does your congregation make benevolence support for Gettysburg Seminary a line item in its annual budget? When it receives special gifts or legacies, does it consider a tithe to Gettysburg Seminary (and other Lutheran institutions)? Please encourage your congregation to pray about what is "most needed" and become an annual-giving partner with Gettysburg Seminary.

2. Annual giving from individuals and congregations

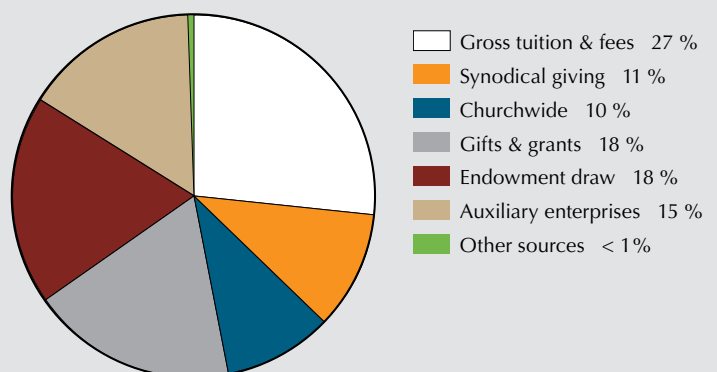


Totals do not include unrestricted bequests, one-time gifts exceeding \$100,000, synodical support, or churchwide contributions.

Expenses 2008



Sources of current income 2008



SEMINARY'S REPORT TO THE CHURCH 2008

JULY 1, 2007 - JUNE 30, 2008

Gettysburg Seminary by the numbers

I. Unrestricted Revenue

	2007-08	%	2006-07	%
Net tuition & fees ¹	971,505	18.4	1,016,591	16.8
ELCA	568,684	10.8	539,542	8.9
Synods	639,371	12.1	613,893	10.2
Gifts & grants ²	1,006,404	19.1	1,014,482	16.8
Endowment & other investment income ³	209,253	4.0	321,670	5.3
Gains on investments	(387,430)	(7.4)	596,784	9.9
Auxiliary enterprises ⁴	905,619	17.2	844,085	14.0
Other sources	81,051	1.5	45,930	0.8
Assets released from restriction	1,271,901	24.2	1,053,741	17.4
Total	5,266,358	100.0	6,046,718	100.0

II. Unrestricted Expenses

	2007-08	%	2006-07	%
Instruction, academic & student services	2,916,506	51.5	2,917,626	53.9
Institutional support and administration	1,764,834	31.2	1,518,798	28.1
Auxiliary enterprises	772,817	13.7	830,582	15.4
Special programs & other expenses ⁵	204,375	3.6	142,372	2.6
Total	5,658,532	100.0	5,409,378	100.0

III. Net increase (decrease) in unrestricted assets

	2007-08	2006-07
Net increase in unrestricted assets	(392,174)	637,340

IV. Assets and liabilities

	2007-08	2006-07
Property, plant, and equipment	7,980,852	8,155,391
Investments	28,013,181	30,116,634
Other assets	1,863,438	2,367,679
Liabilities	1,227,339	1,101,173
Net Assets	39,084,810	41,740,877

V. Investments

	2007-08	2006-07
Seminary Endowment	22,050,487	23,506,077
Funds Held in Trust by Others ⁶	5,782,772	6,398,690
Other investments	179,922	211,867
Total Investments	28,013,181	30,116,634

¹ Tuition and fees received less Seminary scholarships totaling \$613,594 in 2007-08 and \$528,010 in 2006-07

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

³ Endowment income in excess of endowment draw included in "assets released from restriction"

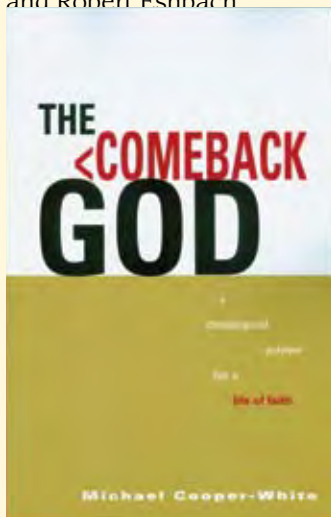
⁴ Includes student housing, food service, and bookstore operations

⁵ Includes expenses for public service programs (e.g. Town & Country Church Institute, Larson Stewardship, special events, Music, Gettysburg!)

⁶ Does not include deferred promises to give

FACULTY NEWS

Warren Eshbach Adjunct Professor for Congregational Ministries, participated in the panel discussion "Intelligent Design and Science Education: Lessons from Dover" at Shippensburg University November 12. The panel-discussion was held a day after the airing of the PBS documentary about the Dover trial, "Judgement Day: Intelligent Design on Trial." Shippensburg Associate Professor of Chemistry Joseph Shane moderated the discussion. Other panel members included John Jones III, U.S. District Court Judge, Timothy Maret, Shippensburg Biology Professor, and two science teachers from Dover Area High School, Jennifer Miller and Robert Eshbach.

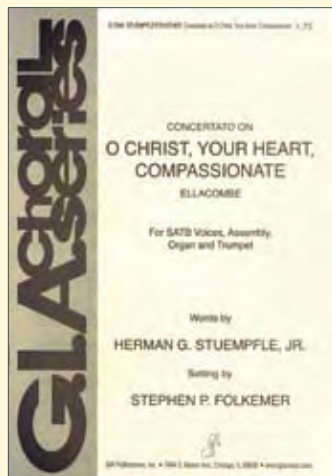


Michael Cooper-White, Seminary President, is author of *The Comeback God: A Theological Primer for a Life of Faith*, released on March 2 by Augsburg Fortress.

Brooks Schramm, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, presented a response at the conference "Land and Promise: Jewish and Lutheran Perspectives on Israel/The Holy Land" in September. The confer-

ence was sponsored by the American Jewish Committee - Washington Chapter and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Schramm and Professor Kirsi Stjerna led a study trip to Rome in May, 2008 (see photo in the *Report to the Church* insert). Highlights of the trip included a papal audience, worship in St. Peter's Basilica, visits to Ancient Ostia, the Colosseum, the Pantheon, Tivoli, the Capuchin crypt of bones and general discoveries of the piazzas.



An exciting partnership is underway. Centro Melantone in Rome is inviting Gettysburg Seminary students to spend a semester or two in Rome and study at local universities, while studying life "the Roman way."

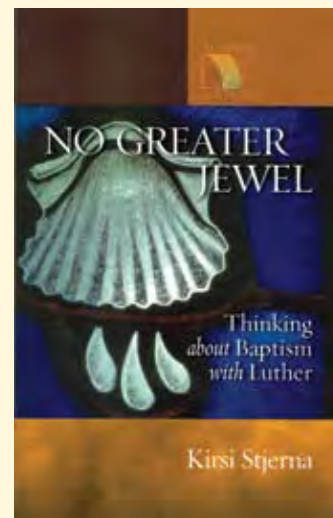
Stephen Folkemer, Associate Professor of Church Music, Director of Music and cantor, wrote the concertato setting "O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate" for SATB voices, assembly, organ and trumpet. The words are by Herman Stuempfle, Jr. It was set after Ellacombe, an 18th century German melody and published by GIA Publica-

tions, Inc. www.giamusic.com.

Kristin Johnston Largen

Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, published four theological themes in *Lectionary Homiletics* in January, 2009, and also served as their "guest blogger" the week of November 23rd. She presented a paper at the American Academy of Religion meeting in November, 2008, titled "Was Thomas Merton's Soteriology influenced by his Experience with Buddhism?" She also was selected to be on the editorial board of a new journal, *The Journal of Inter-Religious Dialogue*.

Leonard Hummel, Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology and Care and Director of Clinical Pastoral Education, is editor-in-chief of the newly-launched "Practical Bearings" online bibliography and review series. The resource is published by the HealthCare Chaplaincy in New York, with support from the John Templeton Foundation. Practical Bearings is a series of bibliographies and critical reviews of the important books, articles and other publications on the



theory and practice of pastoral care.

The first edition topic is "By Its Fruits: The Science of Health Care Chaplaincy." The series name derives from the Pragmatic Maxim of philosophers Charles Sanders Peirce and William James who contended that all important ideas have "practical bearings," or consequences for life and living. Hummel is a visiting scholar at HealthCare Chaplaincy. Visit www.health-carechaplaincy.org/practical-bearings/.

Kirsi Stjerna, Associate Professor of Reformation Church History and Director of the Institute for Luther Studies, contributed to *The*

SPRING CONVOCATION APRIL 21-22, 2009

LIKE A BRAIDED RIVER:
TRIBUTARIES OF RENEWAL

DIANA BUTLER-BASS, PH.D.

2009 NORMA SCHWEIZER WOOD LECTURE:
DR. BERNADETTE BROOTEN

THE REV. DR. MARK VITALIS HOFFMAN

THE REV. DR. WILLIAM O. AVERY

1-800-MLUTHER (1800-658-8437) ext. 2198
www.Ltsg.edu/events/springconvo.htm

ALUMNI/AE NEWS

In Memoriam

Frederick Sheely Weiser ('60) died on January 26, 2009. He was a graduate of Gettysburg College. He also received an S.T.M. from The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. In 1959-60, Weiser was a lecturer at Gettysburg College and then assistant pastor at Grace Lutheran Church in Lancaster. In 1964-1965 he spent a Diakonisches Jahr in Germany. He returned to become chaplain at the Lutheran Home in Germantown. From 1966-1971 Weiser was archivist for Gettysburg Seminary. He also served St. Paul Lutheran Church in Biglerville, and was interim pastor for a number of congregations. His books include *Serving Love: Chapters in the History of the Diaconate in American Lutheranism*, *Love's Response: A Story of*

Lutheran Deaconesses in America, *The Weiser Family*, and *Fraktur*. Weiser conducted many tours in Germany. A memorial service was held February 3, at Christ Lutheran Church, York, PA where he was a member.

Sam Schmitthenner ('51) signed copies of his books at an event in the Valentine Hall Coffee Shop November 12, 2008. His most recent book, the story collection *Between the Lines of the Bible*, is available at the Seminary Bookstore or from Quiet Waters Publications. Visit their website at www.quietwaterspub.com/.

David Oravec ('90) is departing to answer a new, but not unfamiliar, calling in the U.S. Navy as a full time chaplain after serving Frederick's Evangelical Lutheran Church (MD) as pastor for



St. Petri-Pauli in Eisleben, Germany. See Claudia Bergmann/Scott Moore below.

18 years. In 2003 and 2004, Oravec, who has been a Navy reservist for the past 18 years, served as a chaplain in Iraq. "When I returned from Iraq, something stirred inside of me, and I began thinking about serving in an active-duty capacity," Oravec said. "I think God has blessed me during my time at Evangelical Lutheran, at other places, like Iraq, and I hope

to bring those experiences with me as I help those in my care at the Naval Medical Center move toward hope and God in this life."

Timothy Kielley ('93) was selected as one of four Outstanding Pennsylvanians by the Pennsylvania Junior Chamber of the Jaycees. The Chamber celebrated Kielley's leadership in outreach, including the congregation's involvement with Lutheran Disaster Response and ELCA World Hunger. St. Paul's was recently recognized as a leading contributor to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. The award was presented at a ceremony in Harrisburg.

Claudia Bergmann ('94) co-pastors three congregations in Lutherstadt Eisleben, Germany, with her husband Scott Moore ('97). She published her dissertation with de Gruyter Verlag in Berlin, *Childbirth as a Metaphor for Crisis: Evidence from the Ancient Near East, the Hebrew Bible, and 1QH XI, 1-18*. For more information visit <http://www.degruyter.de/>

Last fall, the congregations in Lutherstadt Eisleben created a global invitation to mark the 525th anniversary of Luther's baptism. With a website and through a facebook invitation,



Library staff members say "cheers" to former staff colleague and Gettysburg Seminary alum Ann Dentry ('98). Dentry, second from the right, successfully defended her dissertation "Toward an Interpretive Ministry of the Word in the Lutheran Tradition, Grounded in 'Spiritual Conversation', with reference to the work of Martin Luther and Ignatius of Loyola" in December. She was awarded a Th.D. (Doctor of Theology) from the Toronto School of Theology, Emmanuel College, University of Toronto.

318 known baptisms took place with 288 identified congregations participating. Visit the site www.Luther525.de/.



Bergmann and Moore helped initiate the global invitation and served as pastoral

staff for the congregation St. Petri-Pauli where the very baptismal font over which the baby Martin was held is still in use.

Alum recognized for museum interpretation

David A. Naugle, ('83), serves as an Education interpreter/gallery teacher at the Higgins Armory Museum in Worcester, MA. The Higgins Museum houses the largest collection of Medieval armor in North America. Naugle educates thousands of central New England school children through auditorium talks, tours, and history interpretation. He was featured in the Worcester Telegram "On the Job" column for his decade of work for the



Angela Zimman ('98) met President Obama while he was campaigning in her Holland, OH neighborhood in October, 2008. Zimman serves as Democratic Precinct Captain for her neighborhood, and in 2007 was elected as a member of the Lucas County Educational Services Center Governing Board. She is pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Riga, MI and a full-time faculty member at Bowling Green State University. She met then-candidate Barack Obama on the campaign trail.

Diana York Luscombe, ('04), has been called as a Diaconal Minister to serve in the position of Director of Youth and Family Ministries at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Camillus, NY. This is a 12 hour a week position with the hope and prayers that as she gets stronger the ministries will be able to grow. Luscombe suffered severe spinal cord injuries in an auto accident in June, 2007. She has gone from near-total paralysis to being able to leave her wheelchair and walks an ever-increasing number of steps aided only by a walker. She also paints with water colors and acrylics and sold recent works on display at the Hunt Hill Farm Gallery in New Milford, CT. A November trip to to see her exhibition was the first traveling she'd done without Mark since the accident.

Brent Hege's ('01) first book has been published by Wipf & Stock. *Faith at the Intersection of History and Experience: The Theology of Georg Wobbermin* is a revision of his dissertation from

Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education, in Richmond, VA. Hege currently teaches at Butler University in Indianapolis, IN. He is working on a translation of German sermons preached during the Nazi period. For book details visit <http://wipfandstock.com/>



Teri Hermsmeyer ('05) was ordained January 25 at Atonement Lutheran Church, Boulder, CO. The Rev. Allan Bjornberg, Bishop of the Rocky Mountain Synod presided and the Rev. Debra Rex Engquist preached. Teri received a call to Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Anton, CO effective

January 1, 2009.

Sara Anderson, ('06) formerly Sara Wilson, is a pastor at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Wilbraham, MA in the New England Synod. She was recently a guest on WG-BY's program "Watercooler," about the role of faith in people's lives. Each week,



Greetings from the Nebraska Synod

Gettysburg alums have been called to serve in Christ's Church all over the world. The Nebraska Synod of the ELCA recently gathered many graduates of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg serving there!

Pictured above are many of those graduates who gathered at the Theological Conference of the Nebraska Synod in October.

Front row (left to right): Juliet Rasi ('08), Derrick Fallon ('05),

Harvey Johnson ('07), Alena Lamirato ('07), Frank Fritch ('78), Martin Russell ('90) Middle Row: Brian Maas ('92) Back Row:

Aaron Erdly ('05), Jerome Cloninger ('03), Eric Leshner ('87), Woody Hipple ('68). Not pictured are Greg Berger ('90), David Frye ('89), Brenda Pfeifly ('89), Keith Pfeifly ('89), Chuck Pollard ('61) and Jody Rice (Gettysburg intern).

Summer Session Courses

Comparative Soteriologies [STM] taught by Dr. Largen (May 17-23)

Luther and the Lutheran Confessions taught by Dr. Crump (June 8-19)

Evangelizing in Post-Modern Context [STM] taught by Dr. Avery (June 15-19)

Contact the Registrar's office today: jlargas@Ltsj.edu Tel. (717) 338-3007

MEET OUR STUDENTS

Adam Sornchai, 26, of Medford, NY in the Metro NY Synod, is a middler M.Div student at Gettysburg Seminary. Sornchai holds a B.A. and M.A. in Theology from Saint John's University in Queens, NY. He began M.S.W. coursework at Adelphi University in Haupauge, NY before taking a leave from the program to enter the M.Div program at Gettysburg. Sornchai was elected Middler Class President this fall. He serves on the Spiritual life committee.

Sornchai has felt a strong call to ordained ministry since the age of 17. He explored this call by studying theology at Saint John's University, and he began looking at diaconal ministry in the ELCA during his junior year in college. He went on to earn his M.A. in theology and began working full time at a Roman Catholic parish on Long Island, NY as a Youth Director.

In the summer of 2006 he decided to attend the Diaconal Minister Formation Event, (DMFE) hosted by the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. He says, "I fell in love with the campus and was envious of the fact that people were able to live in this community and be here full time." This experience made a lasting impact, not only on his discernment, but on his view of public ministry in the church.

Earlier in 2006, Sornchai's mother was diagnosed with lung cancer and passed away in 2007 about a year to the date of her diagnosis. "The support, counsel and encouragement of my friends and the church in the midst of the losses and changes that I experienced in 2007 and my discernment to enter seminary was beneficial and the reason that I am here today," he said. He felt that God was calling him in the church for ordained ministry. "It only seemed natural to come back



18



Keith Hayward serves as pastor of LaMott African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church on west Cheltenham Avenue in Elkins Park, just west of Philadelphia. As is the case of many pastors in the AME tradition, Keith, a graduate of Cheyney University, is furthering his M.Div. education for ministry after having been ordained in 1994 in Philadelphia. He and his AME student colleagues bring valuable current pastoral experience with them into the classroom. Hayward has led the LaMott congregation to a renewed vibrancy, revealed not only in his exciting preaching style, but even in the announcements on a February Sunday which included bible study, specific prayer requests, a test session for employment opportunities with the US Census Bureau, and his offer to meet with persons looking to purchase a house since he has been keeping a list of properties in foreclosure. His congregation had 29 people in church the day he met them in 2001; today, the congregation of nearly 200 members fills the century old worship space and reveals a model of ministry in which an active, effective and engaged pastor is completely intermingled with the lives of his people. He has built a talented staff at LaMott, including several pastoral assistants, two of which have studied at Gettysburg's sister seminary in Philadelphia. "It's a teaching congregation," he said. Hayward's wife Dee actively coordinates women's ministry and the ministry of

Alexander Brown, originally from Greenwood SC, is an M.Div student from the SC Synod. He is currently serving at St. Benjamin's in Westminster, MD as his teaching parish. Brown obtained a BA from the University of South Carolina with a major in Religious Studies and a minor in Anthropology.

Brown is a second year student at Gettysburg; however, he began his seminary studies at The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. He says, "Through prayerful discernment I ventured there first to begin to get a grasp for the 'city experience' which I definitely found there. In growing up in rural/small town SC, I felt I needed that kind of experience so that I could relate better to people in the future who come from that environment." Upon completion of his first year, Brown felt that his interests were better supported with the rural, small church and youth ministries emphasis at Gettysburg Seminary.

His call story began as a middle school camper at Lutteridge in Arden, NC. He instantly formed a bond with his counselor Donny, who encouraged him to become a counselor once he was of age. Brown entertained this idea and promised Donny that he would eventually return as a camp counselor. However, this idea faded as several years passed and he discerned a call to study medicine. He decid-



ed to enroll at USC to fulfill this calling.

Noting that this coursework was quite challenging, he became more aware that studying medicine had left him unfulfilled. Ironically, he was asked to help with an event, "Lutherod." Several Lutheridge and Lutherock counselors facilitated this event. Chandler Carriker and Donny, (Brown's first counselor), were among those who were present and became quite instrumental as well as other pastors and counselors who encouraged Brown to become a part of the counselor family. Several camps later in that same year Brown had an epiphany, "Why can't I do this same thing? Why can't I live a life of faith and be an integral part of the church, sharing that and helping other people to grow and learn about

Caitlin Glass is a junior at Gettysburg Seminary. She is from Fairfax Station, VA in the Metro D.C. Synod. Her home parish is Lutheran Church of the Abiding Presence in Burke, VA. She has recently obtained a BA in religious studies from the University of Virginia.

Glass enjoys running and she competed in her second marathon with her dad at the end of October in Washington, D.C. She says, "We ran with a charity group, Love Without Boundaries (LWB), which works to provide humanitarian aid for orphaned and impoverished children in China." Glass has two younger adopted siblings from China, Emma and Kevin. "I traveled to China in March with my mom to do work with LWB in a healing home for failure-to-thrive orphaned children born with a cleft lip and palate. I currently maintain the cleft home blog for LWB and very much enjoy watching these children grow stronger and healthier." She is the Seminary's Junior Class President and serves on the Wellness Committee which focuses on physical wellness and fellowship.

Glass felt a strong call to ministry during the Project Connect Immersion Experience in the summer between her sophomore and junior years of college. She spent ten weeks working, serving and learning with Pastor Mark Olsen and the people of Peace Lutheran Church in Alexandria, VA. "During this Immersion, I experienced many diverse activities of parish ministry, including church council meetings, Bible studies, youth activities, pastoral counseling and leading worship. I had the opportunity to preach, study church doctrine and some of Luther's work." She adds that this experience helped her to extend and renew her understanding of the Lutheran tradition and role of a pastor in a congregation. "Now that I have an idea of what it means to have a 'vocation,' I am able to recognize and give thanks for the many, many gifts God gives to each of us to use in our own lives, for God's glory. While I do not know where God will lead me in the future, for now, I am enjoying my current vocation as a student at Gettysburg Seminary. The intimate community, academic curiosity, and sense of communal eagerness to serve and learn that I find in this place is



LIFELONG LEARNING **Karen Albrecht**

is a perfect example of a Lifelong Learner, a student of many and wide interests, who has participated in Gettysburg Seminary's Lay Schools and continuing education programs for many years on Seminary Ridge. Educated at the University of Michigan (where she is an Alumni Merit Award recipient), Karen enjoys a career in science and technology with Martin Marietta Corp, based in Georgia. She engages projects related to NASA projects, including robotics, and a variety of underwater and aircraft design. Frequently honored by professional organizations, Karen was most recently given the 2007 Award of Merit in Aerospace Engineering. She often offers talks to groups about engineering and science mentoring to wide ranging student groups, Girl Scouts, Sally Ride Club, Aviation Camps, and more. Karen joined the Seminary's Endowment Foundation a trustee in 2007.



Stuempfle Chair

Continued from page 3

Hedahl, who since 1992 has taught homiletics at the Seminary, 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 multifaceted." Hedahl includes Luther Seminary, St. John's University, Collegeville, MN and Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA in her theological graduate education. The formal conferral of the chair will take place during the fall of 2009.

The chair project honors Stuempfle, the much beloved professor, presi-

Library Room Rededicated

What was formerly known as a Library first floor display room for church resources was re-dedicated in January 2009 and renamed the Pioneer Room. The room features new lighting, vertical display case, wall treatment and new furnishings. A special gift from Jane Tilberg, spouse of the late Cedric Tilberg,

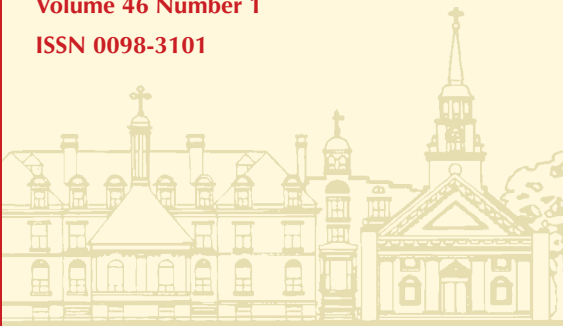


New songs from Karen Bowser

Karen Bowser, Coordinator of Gift Records for the Seminary's Office of Advancement is also a songwriter. Two of her songs, "Put Your Faith in the Lord" and "A Message From God" appear on the recently released *Songs of Praise* CD from Amerecord.

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SPRING 2009



Seminary Views is a publication of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg.

Questions or comments regarding this newsletter may be sent to the Editor, The Rev. John R. Spangler at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, 61 Seminary Ridge, Gettysburg, PA 17325, or to e-mail: jspangler@Ltsg.edu.

Send news items to Katy Giebenhain, e-mail: kgiebenhain@Ltsg.edu.

Seminary website: www.Ltsg.edu
Telephone: 1-800-MLUTHER

Upcoming events

Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation April 1.

Spring Convocation April 21-22. Presenters include Diana Butler-Bass, Bernadette Brooten, Mark Vitalis Hoffman and William Avery.

Conversation at the Crossroads April 28: "The Church's Witness to Conflict and Peace in Israel/Palestine." Presenters are Jan Powers and Peter Petit. Respondents are Leonard Hummel and Mohammed Esa.

Preaching Perspectives May 14 with Mark Vitalis Hoffman and Jennifer McNeel.

Lay School I June 21-27, 2009.

Lay School II July 26-August 1, 2009.

Summer Institute for Ministry July 6-10.

FrOGS are coming... keep an eye out for this frog and for what he means for your congregation and Gettysburg Seminarians.



Students, faculty, alumni, parents, neighbors and friends gathered on a bright Saturday, November 8, to cheer the flag football teams that converged in Gettysburg for the annual Luther Bowl. Eight seminaries competed, coming from as far away as Chicago. At day's end, Gettysburg departed the field in second place, with Trinity Episcopal taking first.