

LTS NEWS

**Lutheran Theological
Seminary in Tshwane**
[Pretoria, South Africa]

50 years since ordination into the holy office of the ministry



Rev. Ernst-Alfred Wilhelm Weber DD, served the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Enhlanhleni for 35 years as pastor, teacher and rector. Since his retirement in 2000 he lives with his wife Karin in Welbedacht and continues with reading, preaching, translating and teaching theology

as here with his grandson Christoph. We pray: *“Boundless blessings, Lord, bestow on his faithful toil below till by grace to him be given his reward, the crown of heaven.”* [LSB 681,3b] May it all serve to the greater glory of God!

Ayoba - It is here - Kijona

Football World Cup 2010: It's great to be where the action is. Not long ago sceptics were looking for alternate venues. Today most people are celebrating the global party and enjoying it tremendously. I've not heard of real problems - except that the French couldn't get their act together and our *Bafanas* dropped out too early. Yet airports, roads and railroads are coping and even more guests are hoped for! Enjoy the lovely hospitality & the thrilling game for it's here: *Ayoba!*

Friends make it happen!

Thanks to the substantial support from the friends of the LTS in the LCMS Rocky Mountain District in cooperation with World Relief & Human Care LTS was able to purchase the house on the corner of Farenden/Arcadia which fits like a cornerstone into the Seminary premises. The registration of this purchase was finalized in June. Now this house can be furnished and utilized to accommodate staff/students/visitors. Just in time for the World Cup. Can you help furnish this? Please contact Salomé at 012-344 2302

AS in SA ... Super



That line is by Prof. Dr. William Russel: “*Smalcald Articles [AS] in South Africa [SA]*” On his way to the university of the W.Cape to read a paper on Luther’s economic inputs, he visited at the LTS and gave a thoughtful and fascinating overview and introduction to this fundamental confession written by Dr. Martin Luther as a testament of his faith. Prof. Russel from the Lutheran University Texas translated the Smalcald Articles for the latest edition of the Lutheran Book of Concord edited by Timothy Wengert and Robert Kolb.

A Change is as good as a holiday



That may be true for those students, who having finished the 1st Semester at LTS with two weeks of examinations on 19th June left in all directions to go home, visit friends or make new ones. Benjamin Kaumba left by bus to return home to Zambia for the next few weeks. Madara Eboro is staying with Dean Mandla Thwala in Ntshongweni [KwaZulu/Natal]. Boitumelo Magosinyana from the North-West province is exploring Mpumalanga on the borders of Swaziland and is visiting with the Lutheran Churches Dean Victor Vilakazi in Thandakukanya. James Odoo has been invited to stay with the Dean of the Gauteng diocese Rev. Siphwe Danisa. The students Gemah Ballah and Abia Anibati were planning to visit in Botswana - Ballah with Dean Paul Mosenogi in Gaborone and Abia with Rev. Motlatlosi Sebeelo in Serowe. Surprisingly the rules have changed and they now require a visa to pass over the border into Botswana and as that takes 2 weeks they might just miss Botswana this time round. They are trying to make alternative arrangements for the coming weeks. If this does not work out they might just join the rest of us, who are happy for the vibe brought about by the World Cup and that SABC [the regional broadcaster] actually covers every game. Come to think of it: at LTS you can watch DSTV and see a pitch with grass that is even greener than for the rest of us!

In the midst of things ... at last

After serving another semester at the LTS vicar Moses Mokopanele has moved to the Lutheran Church in Mofolo North, where Rev. Tswaedi DD is pastor. The vicar, who comes from rural N.West is now in the vibrant centre of the South Western Townships [Soweto] in the central province of Gauteng. If all goes as planned the vicar is going to learn a lot in this vibrant congregation with its experienced pastor and lively members. We are looking forward to having him with us in the coming Advanced Course too. God's blessings brother +



Home - sweet Home



“Going home!” That may be the motto for vicar Silas Mogale. After helping at the LTS with administrative tasks under the watchful eye of Salomé van Niekerk he is now moving on to serve in the rural diocese of the Lutheran Church in North-West province under the mentorship of Dean Johannes Mafereka. This is the diocese where vicar Mogale is at home and he's been active in the Youth ministry there for ages. This photo was not taken after Bafana dropped out of the World Cup. It's just the cold weather. Hopefully there's more to smile about in North-West and then ... “keep on smiling!”

MLC Volunteer: Hurrah

For the 5th time our friends from the Mission of Lutheran Church [LKM - Bleckmar] have sent a volunteer to serve the Seminary. Minka Schulz helps Salomé van Niekerk doing this and that and sometimes even sorting books in german. Minka stays on campus and is enjoying the World Cup too. Obviously she hopes that Germany has better luck than Bafana had. Minca: It's good that you are with us. Thanks!





Happy Birthday

Bishop em. David Tswaedi DD celebrated his birthday during the ILC Seminaries conference in Ft.Wayne [Indiana]. Here Prof. Dr. Douglas Rutt, who organized the conference presents a colourful cake amidst songs of well wishing. As teacher for New Testament at the LTS Tswaedi was one its two delegates at this conference, which has taken place every 3 years since 2000 - previously also in Leriba, South Africa.

St. Paul's letter to the Romans

Prof. Dr. John Nordling from Concordia Theological Seminary Ft.Wayne [Indiana] taught New Testament theology in the 2nd Quarter of the LTS. During this three week spell - the third in as many years - Prof. Nordling taught the students of the theological main course the proceedings of New Testament exegesis and introducing them into the heart and centre of St. Paul's theology. At the big junctions in Church History it was this epistle of St. Paul that played a critical role. Think of St. Augustine, Dr. Martin Luther and also Karl Barth! Obviously three weeks is a very brief time to get into the profound depths of this fundamental letter of evangelical and Christian theology. However the hope that some students will develop a taste for serious thought and holy practice does not cease so easily. Prof. Nordling added to his own workload by teaching advanced Greek and basic Latin to enthusiastic students. He again presented a paper at the University of Pretoria and even though it was very early in the morning, he was surprised by an eager audience who were out to hear more from this dedicated teacher of the Lutheran Church.





LCSEA Church Council at LTS

Meeting in St. Athanasius at the LTS is very convenient for the Church Council of the Lutheran Church in Southern Africa. This is due not only to the centrality of this location for the Church stretching from Francistown in Botswana to Ohlangeni in KwaZulu, but also because of the facility providing working space, accommodation for distant travellers and opportunity to meet the Seminarians and hopefully future pastors. Another reason is that the office of the LCSEA Bishop has been re-located from Mofolo-North to the Seminary as he is also a full-time lecturer there just like his predecessors were too: Schulz and Tswaedi. Here the Church Council is seen at its 3rd meeting in 2010. From the left front sitting: Deans Rev. Johannes Mafereka [North-West], Rev. Mandlakayise Thwala [KwaZulu/Natal], Rev. Victor Vilakazi [Mpumalanga], Rev. Sipiwe Danisa [Gauteng] and Rev. Paul Mosenogi [MLC/Botswana]. In the back row standing from the left the deputy deans: Rev. Ronald Lushaba [Mpumalanga]; Bishop Dr. Wilhelm Weber; Mr. R.S.S. Mdluli; [Mpumalanga] Mr. M. Masibi [North-West]; Rev. John Nkambule [Gauteng] and Rev. J. Nkosi [KwaZulu/Natal].

LCMS World Mission sending Prof. Dr. William Schumacher

LCMS World Mission is sending Prof. Dr. Schumacher to teach Reformation History at LTS in July. We are thankful that they can provide this valuable service to the LTS. However they will not be able to pay for 2 additional teachers requested. Prof. Dr. Charles Gieschen [CTS Ft.Wayne] teaching the gospel of St. John and Prof. John Pless [CTS Ft.Wayne] teaching Pastoral theology were informed by LCMS WM that they can't expect the help requested. This shows how crucial careful planning and sustainable support of staff is for LTS.

Change of guard in Bleckmar [LKM]



The Mission of Lutheran Churches [LKM - Bleckmar] has a new director Rev. Roger Zieger [Berlin/Spandau], who replaces Rev. Markus Nietzke.

The latter has been an ardent supporter of the LTS in his 7 years in office. For that we are very grateful. We pray that Rev. Nietzke will be able to serve even better in his calling to work in the SELK congregations Bleckmar/Hermannsburg.

Rev. Zieger is to be inducted into office on the 11th July 2010. He is the first MD since Dr. Volker Stolle, who has not served as missionary in RSA. However he is already planning his first visit here during the first weeks in office. Obviously he is serious about this traditional connection. We pray that he will be a blessing to the Church and its global mission mandate +

Meeting of the SA - Taskforce in SID



The South African Mission taskforce in the South Illinois District of the LCMS has been at the forefront of the ongoing partnership with the LCSA and very supportive of its Seminary training program in Tshwane by helping with student bursaries. Here they are at their last meeting in June when they also planned their next trip to SA in October 2010. From left to right they are Mr+Mrs. Musskopf ; Mr+Mrs. Hoffmeier [volunteers at LTS the past 3 years]; Rev. Timothy Scharr [the tallest of the all]; Ms. Eunice Weber; Rev. Mark Willig [chairman] with his wife Paula in red; Student of theology Jacob Mueller [who stayed at the LTS for a semester in 2009]; Mrs + Mr. Hausler; Rev?; President Herb Mueller + Ms. Diana Karlen.

Start at UP

Prof. Dr. habil. Werner Klän [LTH Oberursel] is scheduled to visit the LTS in the coming Quarter to start off teaching a course of “Post-Reformation Theology” in Church History at the University of Pretoria [UP - Tukkies]. During this time he is also planning to continue his regular teaching of Lutheran Symbolics and reading Luther texts at the LTS besides preaching in local congregations and reading a paper at our pastor’s convention. Most important for us however is to use this window to finalize outstanding matters relating to his occupation of the “Lutheran Chair” at UP starting 2011.



Burnhams on the move ...

After serving faithfully at the LTS in the past Semester Anita, Joe and Robbie Burnham from Denver in the Rocky Mountain District [RMD] of the LCMS returned home when classes had ended and the exams were to start. They did a marvelous job fitting into Seminary life and their smiles were a great encouragement! We are grateful for their services here at LTS.

The Burnhams taught English [Anita], Augsburg Confession and Joshua [Joe]. They also helped with preaching, publishing of the Newsletter [2010,II] cooking/housing for the Advanced Course in March.



Although they had hard-times with the robberies [!] of their computers and a serious car crash, we are very hopeful that they will return before long for a longer stay to cooperate with the Arcadia Lutheran Ministries [ALM] to start Lutheran student ministries at UP, continue teaching the Beginners Course at LTS, help with getting the LTS internet presence and electronic communication optimized besides finding time to get the envisioned doctoral studies accomplished. These plans are on the table here at LTS and ALM, but also with LCMS World Mission and with the RMD. Please join our prayer that these plans will work out for the best of the Church, but also for the Burnham family.

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[Pretoria, South Africa]

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Coming up in the 3rd Quarter - God willing!

4th Advanced Course at LTS: 16th - 27th August 2010

1. Deaconess program: Ms. Grace Rao—LCMS World Relief & Human Care, St. Louis
2. Luther and Pastoral Care: Prof. John Pless, Concordia Theological Seminary Ft.Wayne

These courses will be offered in the afternoon from 14h00—17h00 enable students from the theological course to attend too. For further details please Salomé at 012-344 2302.

Pastoral Conference in Cyara: 31st August - 2nd September 2010

As part of the ongoing training of Lutheran pastors the LTS in cooperation with the LCSA and the MLC is inviting to a retreat in Cyara, where the following topics are planned:

1. **Our History - How it affects us and how we deal with it**
 - Prof. Dr. L. Kriel [UP]: *Reflecting on history*
 - Prof. Dr. W. Klän [LTH Oberursel]: *Dealing with the past*
 - Rev. P.R. Ntsimane [LTI/UKZN]: *Oral History*
2. **Visitation as good institution of the Church**
 - Prof. Dr. John Pless [CTS Ft.Wayne]: *Luther and his letter to the visitators*
 - Bishop Dr. Wilhelm Weber [LTS in Tshwane]: *Order of visitation*
 - Bishop em. David Tswaedi DD [LTS in Tshwane]: *Constitution of the LCSA*
3. **Looking forward to 2017**
 - 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Church
 - 125th anniversary of the Mission of Lutheran Churches
 - 50th anniversary of the Lutheran Church in Southern Africa

Participation costs R600 and includes meals/accommodation for 2 nights starting with lunch on Tuesday the 31st August and ending with lunch on Thursday the 2nd September. For further information and details please Salomé at 012-344 2302.