

LTS NEWS

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



Friends and shareholders at LTS

The final Quarter in 2010 has nearly drawn to a close. The students are busy with examinations, teachers are marking papers and administration is getting the flights home organized. There are a few things still to be finalized, but all in all the Quarter is swiftly closing down.

Now we are looking forward to 2011 in the hope of new students, new options of cooperation with the University of Pretoria, new teachers and even the new program with deaconesses. With the help of God these new plans will work out to benefit the LTS, but also the Lutheran Church in Southern Africa [LCSA] and beyond.

In October members of the South African Task-Force from the South Illinois District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod visited the Seminary. Pastor Mark Willig, Pastor David Kern and Mrs. Eunice Webber

were in South Africa for nearly two weeks to strengthen the good partnership between their district and the LCSA. Here Pastors Willig [standing in the blue LTS shirt] and Kern [Sitting and in a LCMS shirt] are seen with some of the members of the LCSA Church Council, which had its finally meeting of 2010 at the LTS.

Seated with Rev. Kern is the lay-delegate from the North-West Diocese Mr. Masibi and behind from right to left are Dean J. Mafereka [NW] ; Dean M. Thwala [KwaZulu/Natal]; Rev. J. Nkambule [Gauteng]; Mr. P. Ntshoe [Gauteng] and finally Rev. P. Mosenogi [Botswana].

The LTS is proving to be a very good meeting place for the LCSA—it is centrally located, has suitable facilities for overnight stays and provides conference amenities.

Final Exams in the beginner- and main courses



This picture was taken at the beginning of this year's final examination in front of the LTS chapel: St. Timothy. Some students, who are also enrolled at the University plus those, who are living off LTS campus where not on this picture.

Seven of these students are busy with the beginners course learning the biblical languages, academic skills and also the basic introduction to biblical and Lutheran theology. The rest are engaged in the main course on Lutheran Theology in the biblical, historical, dogmatic and pastoral disciplines.

In the front row the students are from left to right: Matthews Tokpah [Liberia]; Thulani Hadebe [South Africa—Mpumalanga]; Benjamin Kaumba [Zambia]; Nokukhanya Shabalala [South Africa—Mpumalanga]; Daniel Fitebo [Ethiopia].

2nd Row from left to right: Wako York [Uganda]; Gemah Ballah [Liberia]; Macharia Ambani [Kenya]; Enoch McBen [Uganda]; Simon Ishaya [Nigeria].

3rd Row from left to right: James Odo [Uganda]; Peter Maganda [Uganda]; Boitu-

melo Magosinyana [North-West, South Africa]; Abia Anibati [Sudan]; Thokane Skosana [Mpumalanga, South Africa].

Last row from left to right: Eric Gbotoe [Liberia]; Frank Kainerugaba [Uganda]; Ipeleleng Makoka [North-West, South Africa]; Ashenafi Desta [Ethiopia] and Johnson Bahilikya [Uganda].

All of these students are going home during the holidays. This is always a big strain on the financial resources of the LTS. However it also gives friends of the Lutheran Church an opportunity to support a good cause.

Please help the LTS to help these students and also their respective Lutheran Churches! Banking details are given on the last page of this newsletter.

We are hopeful that the Seminarians graduating from the main course this year will enrol with the advanced course in 2011. This is done in cooperation with the University of Pretoria, which gives our students the chance to do post-graduate work specializing in missions, while continuing with pastoral theology at the LTS.

Poverty & Gender Equality



The Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa (LUCSA) held a workshop on “Poverty and Gender Equality,” with 53 representatives of member churches under the theme: “Give us today our daily bread”. The workshop took place on the 8th to 11th November 2010 in Kempton Park.

The objective of this workshop was to strengthen the involvement of member churches in addressing issues of poverty and gender inequality through the LWF program. Member churches enjoyed the space created in this workshop to reflect on their understanding of the interrelationship between poverty and gender. It was at this workshop where they further were equipped to address these issues in church and society through concrete and joint endeavors.

LUCSA urges member churches to strengthen processes of cooperation in articulating their self understanding and addressing human needs. Because the needs and sufferings involve human beings, the churches have to exercise their role to care for the poor who are God’s creation after all – God who Himself is always found where His people are.

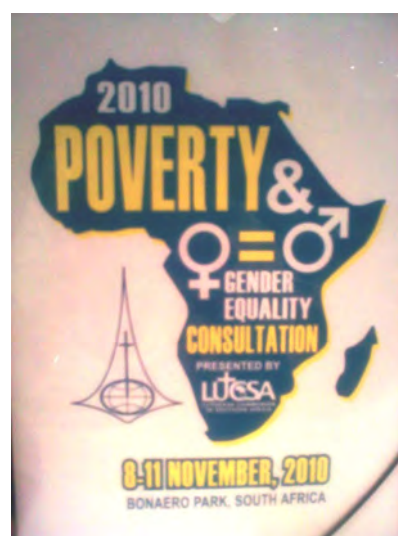
Poverty, as a sign of suffering, commonly assumes the face of a woman in Africa. This

calls for even more urgency in addressing the plight of the suffering, especially poor and marginalized women.

In keeping with these objectives, the participants of each individual country decided on key areas of operation in their regions, for example, land and food policies and prophetic role of the church. Participants discerned strategies and steps for dealing with these identified areas in the sub-region, always having in mind the advocacy role of the church in addressing poverty and gender inequality.

The theme and emphasis of the workshop was carried through in the daily devotions, Bible studies, and in all speeches, especially in the keynote address by Prof. Lenka Bula of UNISA. All pointed to both the predicaments of the poor due to religious, political and social standards out there, as well as the dreadful oppressed state of women in the society and church. There is a constant urge to “liberate” women in all spheres including through and within the church.

The workshop concluded with a “unifying” and “strengthening” Holy Supper. (See www.lucsa.org for more!)



Lutheran Theological Seminary in Tshwane

[Pretoria, South Africa]

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Coming up in 1.Quarter 2011 dv

- 25.January: Meeting of the LTS Board of directors
- 1.February: LTS opens for the new academic year.
- 7.February: Dr. Anssi Simojoki [Church History]
- 1-18 March: Prof. Dr. J. Kleinig [Psalms & Spirituality]
- 1.-12 March: Prof. J. Pless [Catechesis & Law + Gospel]
- 14.3-1.4: Grace Rao [Deaconess Course III]
- 8.April: LTS closes for Easter break

Celebrating 50th Ordination jubilee

At the coming end-year function of the LTS the celebration of the 50th ordination jubilee of Rev. Ernst-Alfred Wilhelm Weber DD is planned. For over thirty-five years Weber sr was teaching Hebrew, Zulu/Tswana, Old Testament, Lutheran Dogmatics and Symbolics, Pastoral Theology at the Seminary—both in Enhlanhleri and then also in Pretoria- besides being treasurer of the Lutheran Church in Southern Africa and a member of its Church Council for many years. He has always been a missionary of the Mission of Lutheran Churches [LKM—SELK]. He now lives together with his life-long wife Karin in Welbedacht, KwaZulu on the farm of their son-in-law Walter Beneke. He is still busy - not only with publishing Zulu/Tswana sermons written for every Sunday by LCSA pastors, but also of some of his books like the 2nd volume of the Lutheran Dogmatics in Zulu, which has just been released.

We thank the triune God that he has given his church on earth such faithful teachers, pastors and missionaries +



Prayer Requests for the LTS

- > More able students to study Lutheran theology and be prepared as pastors and deaconesses in Africa
- > Necessary means to support teachers so that they can concentrate on their calling to teach & preach
- > Suitable opportunities for graduates to be called and installed, ordained and taken into service
- > Volunteers to help with a growing work-load – administratively and with house-keeping
- > Necessary means to sustain, renovate and expand the facility as required.
- > Possibilities for international exchange to broaden the perspective of Seminarians globally.