

# Lutheran Theological Seminary in Tshwane

Training Lutheran Pastors and Deaconesses for Africa

## LTS NEWS

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### +THANK THE LORD, FOR HE IS GOOD+

Thank our good Lord and triune God 2016 was another successful year for the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Tshwane (Pretoria, South Africa).

It is already more than a decade since our Seminary opened for students from beyond our narrow confines in Southern Africa and thus for more than a decade it could house, teach and equip more than 20 students here per year and our missional task is far from over.

It looks as if our challenges are still growing exponentially. As scheduled the academic year began on the 1st of February and ended off after the final examinations and a joyful Thanksgiving celebration on the 11th November before most of our students left for home and a happy reunion with their families and churches in these summer and Christmas holidays.

In this past year 2016 we had 24 full-time students in the Bridging Course at LTS from Liberia, Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Zambia, DRC Congo and

South Africa plus more than 25 students in the distance education program offered at our Seminary in collaboration with the Lutheran Church Mekane Yesous Seminary in Addis Ababa. Added to our 5 doctoral students: Nkambule, Mntambo, Kainerugaba, Gbotoe and Machen that's 50+ students without the participants in ongoing training for vicars, pastors and laity at LTS.

We still rejoice at the successful completion of the PhD program by our candidates from Uganda, Liberia and Rwanda at the University of Pretoria (UP).

3 tutors (UP) continue to teach biblical languages and to prepare our students in academic skills. They prepared the students for the examinations at University level that all made the grade in the final examinations - except those, who were just too late to join the teaching program this year.

*Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
to his feet thy tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
evermore his praises sing:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise the everlasting King.*

*Praise him for his grace and favor  
to our fathers in distress;  
praise him still the same for ever,  
slow to chide and swift to bless:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Glorious in his faithfulness.*

*Father-like, he tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hand he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Widely yet his mercy flows.*

*Angels, help us to adore him;  
ye behold him face to face;  
sun and moon, bow down before him,  
dwellers all in time and space.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise with us the God of grace.*

Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847): 1834

Our Lord has encouraged us to pray: "*The harvest is plentiful, but workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest.*" Mt9:37f

Please join us in prayer even as we plead Him for support of those students, who have heeded his call and are now at the LTS in Tshwane & preparing for the work in His church and on the African mission-field, which is ripe for harvest!



Students writing exams at LTS in Tshwane (Pretoria, South

## VISITORS & GUESTS: FAREWELL!



**Returning home! Rev. Dr. Eichhorn together with the Seminary students Michael M'tonga (Zambia) and Tsatsi Ofentse (South Africa: NW)**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

It was a privilege for me to travel from my home Saint Louis, Missouri to the Lutheran Theological Seminary in South Africa this past August. I am a Pastor in the Southern Illinois District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. I serve two churches: one as the Pastor, and the other as the organist and the Pastor. I teach theology and direct the choir at a nearby Lutheran elementary school and serve as one of the organists at Concordia Seminary in Saint Louis.

In South Africa I played the organ for services, preached, taught private music lessons, and spent time talking with the students and the staff at the seminary. I was also able to visit Freedom Park and the Union Buildings in Pretoria.

The Southern Illinois District continues to support the seminary on a regular basis. After my trip, we were, by the grace of God, able to send additional money to the seminary to purchase a new musical instrument that can be used for worship services. I am looking forward to playing it when I return to South Africa. (See the picture on the right)

I wish to thank the seminary administration and the students for their hospitality. The lunches were great! I look forward to seeing you all again as the Lord wills.

Until then you will remain in my prayers and in the prayers of the members of my congregations.

“But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.” (2 Timothy 3:14-15)

God bless you as you serve Him in your lives and ministries!

Rev. Dr. Arthur D. Eichhorn, Ed. D.

Further guests at LTS during the last and final Quarter of 2016 were:

- Dr. S. E. Sithole (LCSA): Major and minor prophets for OT Introduction.
- Pastor E. Engelbrecht (Concordia University Wisconsin): NT Introduction.
- Dr. Prince Vethamonickam Rajamony (India): Church History.



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## BOOKS FOR OUR SEMINARIANS

Lutheran Study Bible	55,23 USD
Biblia Hebraica	40,42 USD
Greek NT UBS	99,99 USD
Book of Concord (Kolb & Wengert)	34,39 USD
Lutheran Service Book (Hymnal)	36,99 USD
Hebrew Dictionary	32,52 USD
Andrew Bartelt Hebrew Grammar	57,03 USD
Greek Dictionary	56,66 USD
James Voelz Greek Grammar	59,11 USD
Francis Pieper Christian Dogmatics 1-4	132,99 USD
Walther: Proper Distinction Law & Gospel	33,99 USD
Hummel: The Word becoming flesh (OT Introduction)	27,99 USD
Franzmann: The Word grows (NT Introduction)	19,99 USD
Oxford Dictionary (English)	14,98 USD
Total:	702,28 USD

It was an obvious advantage of changing to English medium at our Seminary back in the day's of Enhlanhleri. Now the students could take advantage of all the theological literature published in this language and were no longer limited to translations in the vernacular. Obviously this came with a considerable price-tag besides the considerable disadvantage of having to study in a foreign language, which was different from the one in which the pastoral service would occur once the basic studies were done.

Above is a very basic list of books, which every one of our students at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Tshwane (Pretoria, South Africa) receive during their course of studies. We get these books from the USA and thankfully the South Illinois District under president Timothy Scharr and also LCMS Operation International Missions (Rev. Dr. John Fale & Deaconess Grace Rao) are very helpful to provide the bulk of these books as the opportunity arises to carry them over here.

As every year we try to accommodate at least 10-15 new students on our Seminary campus. As we are

already pretty much occupied to capacity, we've got our work cut out to create space for more students. As it is, we've got more than enough applications for 2017. It is not just a matter of getting enough space, but also of providing the necessary books and working materials besides basic food and means of living.

Thanks to the gracious donation by Zion LC (CO) we've also been enabled to order 10 new laptops for our theological course. This will open up the option of electronic books too.

Please continue to help and support the LTS—and our Seminarians—so that it will be able to do its work of teaching, preparing, edifying and equipping students from across this continent for the vital church and mission service needed by so many people.

You can make an great impact and a much needed difference with your help and support of prayer and giving. For more details please don't hesitate to contact us at LTS personally.

Training Christ's followers as pastors, teachers, evangelists, missionaries, bishops and deaconesses for faithful service in the Lutheran Church of Africa.

**Lutheran Theological Seminary in Tshwane (Pretoria, South Africa)**

Arcadia Street 790  
P.O. Box 12547; Hatfield 0028  
Tel/Fax: (012) 344 2302

Email: [LTSinTshwane@gmail.com](mailto:LTSinTshwane@gmail.com)

Lutheran Theological Seminary in Tshwane is a registered Public Benefits Organization. Donations to LTS can be deducted according to the rules of Section 18(a) in the South African tax laws.

Please contact the Seminary office at telephone +12 344 2302 during office hours: 8h00– 16h00 or use email: [LTS in Tshwane@gmail.com](mailto:LTSinTshwane@gmail.com)

## Coming up at LTS in 2017: God willing +

### January

- 9 LTS reopens

### February

- 6 Beginning of 1st Quarter
- Board of Directors meeting
- 6 Deaconess Rao (Diaconia)
- 20 Dr. Sithole (OT: Theology)
- 27 Prof Pless (Ft.Wayne): Advanced Course

### March

- 13 Prof Klän (Oberursel):
- 24 End of 1st Quarter
- 27 Beginning of 2nd Quarter

### April

- 7-18 Easter break
- 25 Board Meeting

**Seminary Open Day** is a tradition taken on before our Seminary moved to Pretoria in 2000. Since then at the end of the 3rd Quarter and on every first Saturday in September this has been offered at Arcadia Street 790. Prospective students, friends and supporters visit to celebrate with us. This year Dr Eric Gbotoe was the master of ceremonies, who introduced the four main items to our supportive guests and friends:

- The United Bible Society (South Africa) introduced its work and presented our Seminarians with free copies of the Greek NT.
- Dr. Sithole gave an update of his work: Revision of the Zulu Bible.
- Rev. van Vliet introduced the diaconic ministry in Sunnyside, Pta
- Professor Dr. Klän: Reformation 1517-2017.

## LTS PRESCHOOL: SUMMER KIDS!

