



A Time for Everything

By Rector Dr. C. Walter Winterle

THERE IS A TIME FOR EVERYTHING
ECCLESIASTES 3:1

hands and that He guides us in any season. 2020 began with big challenges. More students showed up than were expected; mature students, many of them already leaders in their churches. 14 new students have joined us already, and maybe two more are coming from the DRC, who are still waiting for their student Visas.

A special grant allowed us to do some repairs and improvements to the chapel and on the campus. On the other hand, the Rector didn't get the renewal of his Visa yet, in spite of applying for it more than four months ago. This hinders some personal plans and the plans of the LTS.

We trust that we are in God's hands and that He guides us in any season. Even if we don't understand why some things must happen, we trust that God is a sovereign and gracious Lord.

We are in the Lenten Season now. "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven..." We are expecting anxiously the Easter Season! "There is a time to mourn and a time to dance." Can you understand what happened in the first Lent? All the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus? Can you understand the resurrection? No! But we believe that this was the way God chose to reconcile Himself with humankind. And by believing, we have life, eternal life, according to God's promises.

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven..." Believe it and let God guide your life as He wants to do it.

Every day of our life is a gift of God. We have to thank Him for waking up in the mornings, for having something to eat, for having a job, for having plans and challenges, for having good health, and so on.

But what if things don't go as well as we have wished? May we give thanks also then?

The wise king Solomon wrote that "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1). And he plays with words, contrasting good to bad experiences in our lives. Must it really be "a time to die, a time to weep, a time to mourn, a time to give up, a time to throw away"? Can it not be always a "time to be born, to laugh, to dance, to search, to keep"? Why do we need to face bad days?

Consider the work in a field. There's a time to prepare the soil, there's a time to sow, there's a time to water, there's a time to harvest. And we can do nothing but wait until the crop is ripe. So too is our life.

The Lutheran Theological Seminary in Tshwane (LTS) faced periods of up and downs in its history. Each period is a lesson for the staff, for the students and for the directors. We trust that we are in God's

Mission:
"The LTS is a mission agency seeking to graduate multipliers for the Lutheran Church in Africa."

Vision:
"To provide quality confessional Lutheran formation."

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Education Trip Report to Fort Wayne

Rev. Mbongeni John Nkambule



Dr. Jacob Corzine, Rev. Nkambule, and Dr. John Pless

On the 14th February I went to Fort Wayne for my research purposes and to meet with my Doctoral advisor Dr. John Nordling. It was a good time to meet with old friends there. I used the library often and I discovered that it has many books that were written for South Africa which I did not see before. There are many articles which touch on many Missiological incidents in South Africa. The librarians assisted me to get those books and articles. It was a good opportunity for me to see those books and articles.

I got a chance to attend the yearly Symposia too. There were many in-

formative presentations. I met friends from all over the world who came to attend the Symposia. I met Dr. Schulz and we discussed lot of things that are helpful for my Dissertation Proposal. He had a busy schedule, but he made time to meet me. I also met with Dr. John Pless, Dr. Jacob Corzine, Dr. Gary Zieroth and many others.

On the 23rd January we had a SPLMS meeting. We discussed many things about the LTS. We are hoping all the best for our seminary. I returned home safely on 3 February for the start of the new academic year.

A Time for ... 2020 First-Year Students



By the grace of God, almost all LTS students, both new and returning, arrived in time for the start of classes on February 3. We welcomed a total of 14 first year theology students coming in from South Africa (LCSA, ELCSA, CLCSA), DRC Congo and Ethiopia. Along with 11 senior students, the seminary is full to capacity and bursting at the seams. But this is our joy to carry out the Lord's business of teaching and training confessional Lutheran pastors and deaconesses for Africa joyfully and faithfully.



A Time for a New Vegetable Garden at LTS

All began with a dream of Mr. Lothar Böhmer, from Wittenberg, RSA. He came to the LTS last year and talked to the students about a Veg Garden Project. The goal would be for the students to grow vegetables for their own use, as well as to learn how to teach their congregants in the future how to do it. The students became excited with the idea!

The plan was supported by Lothar's brother-in-law Mr. Werner Schroeder, and by Mr. Hugo Meyer, both from Pretoria. These two men and their wives visited the seminary earlier this year, and with the support of St. Paul's North Circle, talked to the students again about the plans for a veg garden.

Thereafter the students started preparing vegetable beds in the area behind the chapel. Only weed had been growing there. Several students volunteered to help, and each of them adopted a bed.

On 29th February, a Saturday, several couples from St. Paul's North Circle came with tools, compost, manure, fertilizer and

Mr. Hugo Meyer teaching the students how much fertilizer to apply to their vegetable beds

seeds to prepare the vegetable beds for planting.

They first had a class with the students, teaching them how to use fertilizer and explaining various gardening techniques. Then the students went to the garden to prepare the beds. The next step will be to seed some vegetables in trays and to plant the plant seedlings.

All are excited about this initiative and expecting to harvest a good crop.

The plan for the future is to cover the garden with shade cloth in order to protect the veg garden from birds and hail.

On behalf of all LTS students and staff, we thank the support we are receiving. May God bless us all.

Pastor C. Walter Winterle – rector



A time for ... the installation of new lecturers



On Sunday Septuagesimae (9th February 2020), Rev. John Nkambule and Dr. Heinz Hiestermann were installed as full-time lecturers at LTS. Officiating at the installation were Bishops Reinstorf (FELSISA) and Maragelo (LCSA), as well as Rector Walter Winterle.

The sermon on the labourers in the vineyard (Mt 20:1-16) highlighted how the master of the house went out again and again to find labourers to come and work in his vineyard. This is one of the

reasons LTS exists:

To train and equip pastors to go out and call people into God's vineyard, his kingdom.


Happenings at the LTS

Almost all of the textbooks for LTS for 2020 were generously donated to the LTS by the office of the LCMS president Matthew Harrison. The textbooks will help students at the LTS to receive quality confessional Lutheran education. We also thank Rev. Shauen Trump who facilitated the purchasing and shipping of the books from the USA to the LTS.



Prof. Dr. John T. Pless and Rev. Stephen Preus teaching at LTS

Prof. Dr. John Pless (Law & Gospel) and Rev. Stephen Preus (Hermeneutics) are currently teaching two week intensives at the LTS (2-13 March 2020). Both students and lecturers are blessed by their knowledge and presence! On the pictures Rev. Preus and Prof. Pless are preaching during the morning Matins.



In our last newsletter of 2019, it was reported that our librarian and lecturer at the LTS Mr. Mintesinot B. Hanfato had published a book at Langham Press. Through the efforts of Mr. Hanfato, Langham Press is now donating a total of 22 new theological books to our library. We are grateful for his efforts!

Renovations done at Seminary Campus

Left: Outside shot of remodeled and enlarged library with brick plaza. Right: New benches outside the chapel.

Recent renovations at LTS have been graciously sponsored by the Rocky Mountain District via LCMS OIM; the St. Philip Lutheran Mission Society, and the Elm Grove Lutheran Foundation, via Rev. Eric Skovgaard, one of LTS Intensive Course.



Coming up@LTS

March 2020

☒ 21 Human Rights Day (public holiday)

April 2020

☒ 03 Lectures end (Quarter 1)

☒ 04-13 Holy Week/Easter Recess

☒ 14 Lectures commence (Quarter 2)

May 2020

☒ 4 – 15 Intensive 2 (taught by Dr. Paul Mueller and Rev. Dr. Sibongiseni Sithole)

A time for ... even more news and happenings

- On 3rd March the Board of Directors of the LTS had met in the new library extension of the seminary to discuss issues such as the accreditation of LTS, the rector's report and financial matters. We were delighted to have the 1st vice president of the LC-MS present, Rev. Peter Lang. Below is a picture of everyone present at the meeting. The students welcomed the board of directors by singing two hymns at the opening devotion.

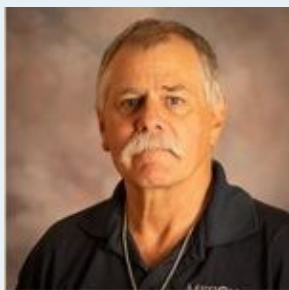


- From 27th February to 4th March, there has been no water at the seminary because of a burst water pipe in our city. Living without water provides many challenges! Some of them could be alleviated by purchasing some drinking water. Below is a picture of the truck delivering water to the seminary.

A time for ... May 2020 intensives by Guest Lecturers



Dr. S. Sithole
Minor Prophets



Dr. Paul Mueller
Cross-Cultural Mission and Ministry

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

The Lutheran Theological Seminary in Tshwane is a registered Public Benefits Organization. Donations to LTS can be deducted according to Section 18(a) in the South African tax laws. Donations are also possible via check or Paypal. Please see our website for details (www.lts.ac.za).

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