



PASTORAL Education

June 2012 • A newsletter for those interested in the ministry of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

A thread of grace

The universal nature of God's kingdom runs as a thread of grace throughout Scripture. God promised Abraham that in him all nations of the earth would be blessed (Gen. 12:3), a reference to the Savior who would come from the line of Abraham and the multitudes who would be sons of Abraham by faith (Gal 3:8). It was this Savior who died for the sins of the world and through whom God was reconciling the world to Himself (2 Cor 5:15, 19). The disciples were told by Christ to make disciples of "all nations" (Matt. 28:19) and that they would be His witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). From beginning to end, Scripture describes how the scope of God's kingdom is universal.

The universal nature of God's kingdom also runs as a thread of grace through the work of our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod seminaries in Fort Wayne and St. Louis. It is evident



Thomas

in our partner churches from around the world sending some of their most promising students to the graduate schools of our seminaries in order to receive the very best in advanced theological education. Following that education, these students return home to be leaders in their church bodies. Some serve as professors in their

own seminaries, others as appointed or elected church officials, others as mission developers and pastors.

This thread of grace is also evident in the faculty members of our seminaries who travel internationally to partner church seminaries and mission outposts in order to provide on-site theological instruction. Requests for our seminary professors to teach internationally are received at many times the rate at which they can be accepted. Yet, as our professors are able, they travel thousands of miles to be of service to those who fervently desire deeper instruction in the Word of God.

That thread of grace is repeatedly evident in the people throughout our Synod who support the work of our seminaries with their prayers, words of encouragement and financial gifts. Without this support, the work of our seminaries would be impossible.

Finally, and wonderfully, God's thread of grace is eternally evident as His saints gather around His throne, described as:

... a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" (Rev. 7:9-10).

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of *Pastoral Education*, noting how God's universal thread of grace also runs through it!

■ Dr. Glen Thomas

his M.A. degree at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

■ The Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) program, which is designed to bring experienced pastors to the seminary to do research on a particular topic related to their pastoral ministry. *The Rev. Emmanuel Makala, a pastor and personal assistant to a regional bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, is enrolled in the Fort Wayne seminary's D.Min. program and will visit the campus three to four times a year for two-week intensives.*

■ The Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.), a minimum one-year residency program that draws students from partner churches who wish to further their knowledge in a particular area of concentration. *The Rev. Guntars Baikovs, a pastor in Valmiera, Latvia, completed his S.T.M. degree at CSL focusing on Old Testament biblical theology and has begun the Ph.D. program in doctrinal theology. He is already writing theological materials for his church body arranged around the outline of Luther's Small Catechism.*

■ The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree that offers the highest level of education possible for students. *The Rev. Sibongiseni Elliot Sithole from the Lutheran Church in Southern Africa is nearing the completion of his dissertation at CTS that focuses on the Old Testament and will serve his church as a full-time lecturer in Hebrew.*

"The track record of many past graduates of the Ph.D. program has shown many students will serve as either professors or church leaders in their respective churches," said Schulz.

Dr. Reed Lessing, director of CSL's graduate school, cites some examples of the responsibilities that the St. Louis seminary's international graduate students have taken upon returning to their countries:

■ The Rev. Bulti Fayissa is an instructor at the seminary in Addis Abbaba, Ethiopia.

■ The Rev. Dr. Guntis Kalme is an instructor at Lutheran Academy, Riga, Latvia.

■ The Rev. Dr. Makito Masaki serves as president of the Kobe Lutheran Theological Seminary in Japan.

■ The Rev. Dr. Walter Obare is presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya.

"International students who come to the seminaries," said Lessing, "come because we are confessional Lutheran seminaries and we have partner

(Continued on Page 2)

Seminaries reach out internationally with the Gospel message

The students come from countries around the globe — Japan, Brazil, Australia, Kenya, Norway, Ethiopia, Tanzania and the Philippines, to name a few — to immerse themselves in theology at the two seminaries of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

During the past school year, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (CTS), had 27 international students earning graduate school degrees, while Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (CSL), had 25 international students enrolled in its graduate programs.

The Rev. Dr. Bruce Schuchard, dean of advanced studies at the St. Louis seminary, considered how each of the 25 international students might serve in the future.

"With two-thirds to three-fourths of the names, the consistent answer is that each person would be a future teacher at a seminary somewhere else in the world," he said. "To recognize that one person returning to one seminary will train hundreds or more future pastors who then will go out to proclaim Christ to hundreds and thousands of others — to see that kind of potential in one student after another really gets a person excited."

The Rev. Dr. K. Detlev Schulz,



Alexandre Vieira, right, who is studying for a Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.) degree in exegetical theology at the St. Louis seminary, also works in the graduate school office with Dr. Reed Lessing, left, director of graduate studies; Dr. Bruce Schuchard, dean of advanced studies; and Deaconess Ruth McDonnell, assistant director of the seminary's M.A. program.

dean of graduate studies, chairman of the Pastoral Ministry and Missions Department and supervisor of the Ph.D. in Missiology Degree Program at the Fort Wayne seminary, says both seminaries, through their four levels of graduate programs, "help partner churches all over the world to further the education of their pastors and students on a number of levels."

Those four levels, with an example

of an international student studying at that level, are:

■ The Master of Arts (M.A.) degree for clergy (and laity) who wish to acquire competence in biblical and doctrinal theology, including a major in one area of theology.

The Rev. Gordon Alex will return to Matongo to teach at the Lutheran Seminary in Kenya after he completes

Historical theology is natural fit for Rosin

Modern European history and its ties to theology and the church are a natural fit for the Rev. Dr. Robert Rosin, professor of historical theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

"I have always liked history from grade school on," he says. "My dad, who went to the St. Louis sem, taught history at different synodical schools, so I was around it from an early age."

When his dad taught at Concordia Teachers College (now Concordia University Chicago, River Forest, Ill.), his family lived two doors down from a man who was an expert on the history of the Civil War.

"While that subject interested me for awhile, he suggested that the American field [of history] was crowded and that Europe was relatively more open," said Rosin. He subsequently did his Ph.D. dissertation on a research

fellowship on the Renaissance/Reformation era at Tübingen University and the Institut für Europäische Geschichte, both in Germany.

"My time in Tübingen was spent in the library reading room. Exciting, huh? The Institut für E.G. had a division that focused on Reformation history. The first director of that division was a Roman Catholic priest/theologian and university professor who started what came to be called the 'New Catholic interpretation of the Reformation,' which said that there had been need for reform and that Luther actually represented theological positions that should have been accepted.

"It was an interesting place with an international mix," he recalled. "When I was there, we had fellows from Czechoslovakia (as it was then), Poland, Brazil, Japan, France, England, Italy, Spain

and U.S.A. (me). Some of those contacts and friendships forged then continue today."

Rosin received his B.A. in 1972 from Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Ill.; his M.Div. in 1976 from Concordia Seminary; and his M.A. in 1977 and Ph.D. in 1986 from Stanford University, Palo Alto, Calif. His graduate work at Stanford was in the history department, where he studied "Early Modern Europe, 1400–1789."

"Having first been to seminary before Stanford was an obvious help when it came to understanding what was going on theologically, an angle that was useful within seminars and colloquia," he added.

By attending the St. Louis seminary, he followed in the paths taken by his father, Wilbert Rosin, by both grandfathers and several uncles. With some of them teaching at synodical schools, Rosin says he grew up on campuses and "has been around Synod higher education institutions a large part of my life."

While still teaching at the seminary, Rosin has served half time for the past eight years with the LCMS Office of International Mission (OIM) as guest lecturer to church bodies in other countries, including the seminaries of the LCMS partner churches in Germany and Latvia, and he has traveled to Kyrgyzstan to discuss that church's educational efforts. He also seeks ways that people stateside might help with instruction and support. Rosin's mission interest has long roots. His mother, Dorothy Rosin, served as International LWML secretary and was the first woman elected to the LCMS Board for Mission Services.

During 30 years on the St. Louis faculty, he also has lectured and taught in Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Korea, Japan, China, Brazil, Ethiopia, Croatia, Sweden, Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Russia.

"Most of the time, I teach with a translator," he said, "though in some countries, the students manage fine with English."

"Many of these people and churches have been through some very trying times and still have huge challenges as they do their best to grapple with what it means to witness as Lutherans in some complicated situations. I simply hope we have things to offer, even as we also find things that benefit us in the other direction."

Because the OIM contracts with both seminaries to provide theological education services to the mission field and partner churches, contracted professors spend part of their year teaching at the seminary and part of the year abroad.

This year finds Rosin teaching fall and spring quarters at the St. Louis seminary and winter and summer quarters teaching elsewhere.

This summer, he will lecture for a month at Westfield House, the theological college for The Evangelical Lutheran Church of England, before going to Latvia for a retreat week for theology students, pastors and families.

His wife, Laine, a senior copy editor at Concordia Publishing House, sometimes accompanies him on his travels.

Rosin says that studying history "helps with skills and attitudes that enable students better to cope with present culture and circumstances – to think theologically about life in general, even as they seek to help others specifically with an appropriate word addressing sin or highlighting God's saving grace in his promises, ultimately in the Incarnate Word of Christ."



Professor Robert Rosin meets with students in the living room of his home on the Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, campus.

SEMINARIES REACH OUT INTERNATIONALLY

(Continued from Page 1)

churches who send their brightest and best to us."

Deaconess Ruth McDonnell, assistant director of CSL's M.A. program, notes that the international students bring a new element to the seminary campus. "It's fascinating to learn the cultural differences from our students — to see them interact theologically with other students in classes as they bring the flavor of life from places around the world. It's seeing that worldwide picture and meeting the challenge to express the Gospel in ways that relate to cultures and people who aren't like us."

And while international students travel to the United States to study in the seminaries' graduate schools, professors have long traveled overseas to teach and lecture at the seminaries of LCMS partner churches.

During the recent spring break, professors from the Fort Wayne seminary taught in seminaries in India, Russia and South Africa.

St. Louis seminary professors traveled

during the 2011-12 school year to partner church seminaries, including those in Estonia, Taiwan, Korea, Argentina and Hong Kong.

Most of these teaching opportunities are organized by the Rev. Dr. Timothy Quill, who serves as director of international theological education for the Missouri Synod as well as associate professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions and dean of International Studies at the Fort Wayne seminary. Teaching opportunities also present themselves through invitations from local professors and church leaders of partner churches, as well as past graduates from the Ph.D. programs at the seminaries.

"As part of a truly global confessional Lutheran church, we need each other as we bring our unique gifts of culture and history to our common confession of the faith," said the Rev. Dr. Andrew Bartelt, CSL vice president of Academic Affairs. "Those who study with us from international contexts give as well as receive, and our faculty who go all over the world receive as well as give.



Dr. Timothy Quill, left, director of international theological education for the LCMS and associate professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions and dean of International Studies at the Fort Wayne seminary, poses with Dr. Detlev Schulz, dean of graduate studies at the seminary.

"Our own seminary students, preparing for LCMS ministry, are also part of this global community. Their formation at our seminaries needs also to recognize the wonderful cultural diversity that is the Body of Christ,

made up of a variety of members united by our faith. Ministerial formation is deeply enriched and enhanced by the environment that is shaped by the work of our seminaries in international relationships."

Opportunity to strengthen Global Theological Education

From its very beginning, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) has emphasized the importance of Lutheran education with the founding of day schools, high schools, colleges, seminaries, and more recently, international schools such as Hong Kong, Shanghai and Hanoi. Around the world, both Christians and non-Christians alike associate education with the LCMS.

Building on this strong tradition, LCMS President Rev. Matthew C. Harrison announced last year the creation of a Global Theological Education Initiative,

along with a generous matching offer of \$250,000 from an anonymous donor to encourage financial support from the people of the LCMS.

The initiative involves several components. The first equips Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, to offer scholarships for international students from partner churches around the world to study on the LCMS seminary campuses. Students considered to be future leaders are selected for this support, allowing partner churches

to build capacity in future leadership and the ability to deliver high-caliber theological education through their own seminaries.

A second component enables LCMS partner church seminaries to provide theological education to increasing numbers of their own students. A third component supports sending LCMS professors and pastors to teach internationally at regional seminaries or theological education centers.

In practical terms, the Global Theological Education Initiative will better equip LCMS partner churches to proclaim the Gospel in their native tongues and cultures, through their own leaders and pastors. As an example of what will happen through the Initiative, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, has two professors from the partner church seminary in Argentina studying in Concordia's graduate school, so that they can return to their country and better prepare pastors for Hispanic ministry in South America. The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Argentina is the world's largest Spanish-speaking Lutheran church. By assisting the Lutheran Church in Argentina, the LCMS leverages its theological expertise in the region while building local capacity for the future.

Elsewhere, the Lutheran Church in Nigeria recently celebrated its 75th anni-



The Global Theological Education Initiative helps churches equip leaders like those shown above at a Lutheran theological training event in Madagascar.

versary. At the celebration, that church's Archbishop Ekong mentioned the need for visiting seminary professors from the LCMS at their seminary.

"Individuals or congregations interested in strengthening our global Lutheran proclamation of the salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone will recognize the potential of this Initiative," commented Mark Hofman, LCMS executive director for Mission Advancement. "The ability to maximize an investment in this effort through the special matching grant provides additional incentive to participate."

Participation in the Global Theological Education Initiative is available online at <http://lcms.org/projects> or by calling 1-800-248-1930.

Summer campus visitation events for prospective seminary students

June 17-30
Christ Academy
Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

This event is a two-week conference for high-school-age men considering the Holy Ministry as a possible vocation. The conference includes catechesis, liturgical and spiritual formation, and theological reflection, all of which take place in a community of peers who share a common zeal for the treasures of Christianity.

At this formative conference, youth discover the theology of Word and Sacrament. Opportunities for fellowship and fun such as trips to Cedar Point Amusement Park and TinCaps baseball, participation in capture the flag and other recreational activities are great counterparts to the in-depth of spiritual reflection and underscore the joy of the entire Christ Academy experience. Contact the Office of Admissions department at 800-481-2155 or email ChristAcademy@ctsfw.edu.

June 23-28
Vocatio
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

Vocatio is a fun opportunity for high school youth entering grades nine, 10, 11 and 12 to participate in Bible study, worship, and discussion about vocation. This five-day retreat on Concordia

Seminary's campus encourages guests to find God's calling for their lives through studying theology, learning from seminary professors, and engaging in thoughtful conversation together. Throughout the week, *Vocatio* guests will engage in several exciting activities, including a servant event, worship, a college fair with Concordia University System schools, and St. Louis attractions like the Arch, the Muny outdoor theatre, or a St. Louis Cardinals baseball game. Contact the admissions department at 314-505-7227 or email admissions@csl.edu.

July 6-7
Next Steps
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

An event designed for adult prospective students (and their families) who are contemplating residential seminary enrollment. Topics covered include housing, moving companies, employment, health care, child care, schools and much more. Children will have supervised recreation time during the informational sessions. A panel discussion will feature current seminary families answering questions. There is no registration fee and housing and meals during the event will be provided. Participants are responsible for their own transportation. Registration deadline is June 22. Contact the admissions department at 314-505-7227 or email admissions@csl.edu.

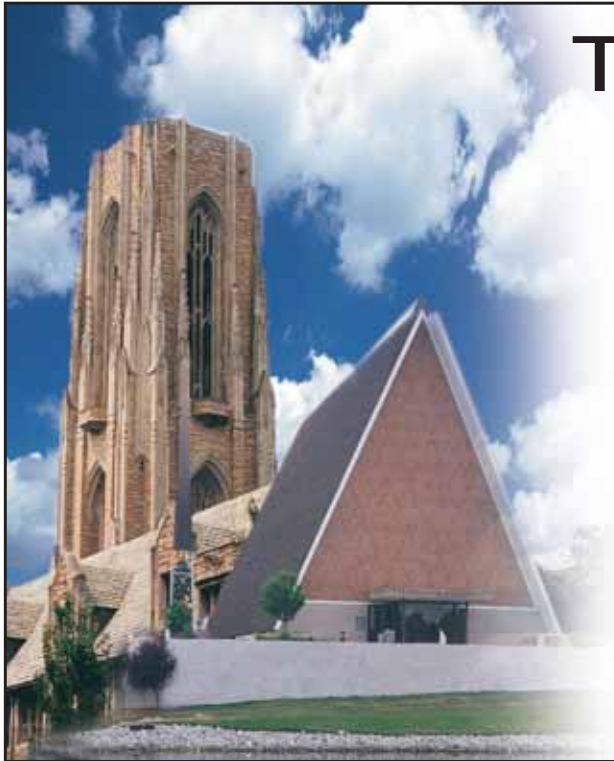
Upcoming fall campus visitation events

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.
October 11-13
Contemplate:
For college-age or older prospective students contemplating service as pastors or deaconesses. Contact the admissions department at 314-505-7227 or email admissions@csl.edu.

October 19
Green and Gold Days:
For college-age or older prospective students contemplating service as pastors or deaconesses. Contact the admissions department at 314-505-7227 or email admissions@csl.edu.

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind.
October 11-13
Prayerfully Consider:
For college-age or older prospective students contemplating service as pastors or deaconesses. Contact the office of admission at 800-481-2155 or email admission@ctsfw.edu.

October 18-21
Christ Academy College/ Phoebe Academy College:
For college-age prospective students contemplating service as pastors or deaconesses. Contact the office of admission at 800-481-2155 or email admission@ctsfw.edu.



The LCMS Joint Seminary Fund

Rev. Paul D. Kienker
1333 S. Kirkwood Road
St. Louis, MO 63122

800-248-1930, ext. 1675
paul.kienker@lcms.org
www.lcms.org/JointSeminaryFund



Invitation to church brings Vieira from Brazil to St. Louis

A simple invitation 19 years ago from relatives to attend church services began Brazilian-born Alexandre Vieira's journey to the graduate school at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

"My uncle's family, Lutherans, started inviting my family, which was nominally Roman Catholic, to church on special occasions like Easter and Christmas. Right before I turned 8, the pastor offered to teach me and my sister the flute. He would pick us up at our house and bring us back. Soon after that, he had me playing in services and taught me the keyboard when I was 9."

That association with the Lutheran pastor led to Vieira's interest in studying theology. "He was a kind of hero that I looked up to as he taught me many things," Vieira said.

The pastor also instructed Vieira's parents for adult confirmation, so that they could become members of the church; even going so far as to come to their house for lessons as his father "was a little reluctant in attending the church then. I saw my family change altogether, and that made me want to do for other families what had been done for mine. I thought that as a pastor, I would have the chance to do that."

While completing his undergraduate degree in theology, Vieira simultaneously entered Seminário Concórdia in São Leopoldo, the seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Brazil (IELB), a partner church of the LCMS. In 2009, he left the seminary for a two-year



Alexandre Vieira works in the Graduate School Office at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, often communicating with other international students who are contemplating enrollment.

exchange program in the United States to study for a Master of Arts degree at the St. Louis seminary. Completing that degree in January 2011, he returned to Brazil to complete the M.Div. program. He is now back at Concordia Seminary, studying for a Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.) degree in exegetical theology, which he expects to complete in two years or "if I am admitted into the Ph.D. program, in four years."

He and his wife, Celiane, will then return to Brazil, where, he says, his "studies will enable me to serve in different ways, such as formation of leadership at the university or seminary level, publication of materials for congregations and

pastors, and as a well-trained pastor who engages in society always with a strong Christian perspective. Pastors and professors who had their advanced degrees from seminaries with a solid Lutheran theology, such as the two seminaries of the LCMS, are an asset for the church."

Vieira, 26, and Celiane found the seminary community to be somewhat familiar to them when they first arrived in 2009. "The best thing was to know that we were in a place not much different from what we were used to at the seminary in Brazil: friendly, like a family, full of brothers and sisters in Christ that would be there for us whenever we needed."

"Being back now has given us the opportunity to be part of that community again. We have the chance to enjoy the things we missed and the company of those who became close friends to us. Of course, I came to study and I love the classes here and also my job, but it wouldn't have been worth coming here with my wife if it didn't feel almost like home, like it does."

Vieira is the graduate school assistant at the seminary, where he does many office-related jobs, such as making copies, ordering supplies and organizing student files.

"Among the things I do, one that takes a large amount of time and that I enjoy very much is related to admissions. We frequently get emails and phone calls from students asking about our programs and how to apply," he said. "I like to communicate with them and share their enthusiasm. I especially enjoy when I get to communicate with international students and answer their questions about application, etc., for I always picture myself on the other side and remember what I felt, the questions I had, my fears, etc., when I was contacting the graduate school."

He said he is grateful to the seminary for making it possible for him to study there. "The seminary helps with all the tuitions and fees related to the program of study. The graduate school gave me the job in the office and helped to furnish our apartment."

The couple also has found a new church family and friends at St. Lucas Lutheran Church in south St. Louis. "Our connection started through Pastor Paul Biber, who's become a very good friend of ours. They've welcomed us and given us a family in the states, and we are thankful for the support they give us so that I can continue my studies."

"My wife and I are very thankful for all the blessings God's given us through Concordia Seminary. By helping us, the seminary demonstrates its interest in supporting the church around the world, and Brazil is being blessed through the seminary's commitment to God's mission," he added. "This commitment and love I feel every day when I go to work at the graduate school. Everyone in the grad school office, in every conversation, shows this passion for the church and care for others, no matter where they are from."

Villos' path from the Philippines to Fort Wayne began with his grandmother

Abel Cesar Villos attributes his Lutheran heritage to his grandmother and to the Rev. Eduardo L. Ladlad, former pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Iligan City, the Philippines.

"My grandmother was one of the early members of our congregation and was also a preschool teacher of the Lutheran parochial school," said Villos, a 37-year-old graduate student at Concordia Theological Seminary (CTS), Fort Wayne.

"She suggested to Pastor Ladlad that he hold Bible studies in our home, even though my mother and father were attending services at a Roman Catholic church at the time," he added. "It was a great blessing for the family as my father who comes from a very devout Roman Catholic background came to my grandmother's congregation and made his intent known to be a member of the Lutheran church."

Villos studied business administration in college before attending the Lutheran Theological Seminary and Training Center in Baguio City. Graduating in 2003, he served as a parish pastor for seven years before being called to teach at the seminary. After a year of teaching, he came to the Fort Wayne seminary this past spring to obtain his M.A. degree. But this isn't his first visit to the campus.

"I was privileged to have been able to come here in the summer of 2010 for

the Third World Seminary Conference and I was charmed by the wide open spaces and the serenity of the place for studying theology," Villos said. "When the opportunity came for me to study, I knew then that I had to come to Fort Wayne. Fortunately for me, my church's benefactor, the Confessional Lutheran Education Foundation (CLEF), wanted me to come here, too."

His one year of study at the seminary is also made possible by Glory of Christ Lutheran Church in Plymouth, Minn., through their donations to CLEF.

After eight weeks on the campus, Villos is "impressed by the depth of the study of theology that is articulated in the classrooms every day. The academic rigors of the study program have been aptly paired with the practical aspect of applying theology, that is, what Christ does for man, for the students in their fieldwork education."

He finds the daily services in Kramer Chapel humbling. "They remind me that it is never about me, nor my academic qualifications that will give me a heart of service, or make me worthy, but it is the life-giving word of forgiveness in Christ Jesus our Lord. I am just after all, like a jar, easily broken — but having to hear and receive the true treasure of the Church, as it is proclaimed daily in Kramer Chapel — gives life and strength as we continue to labor for the sake of the Gospel."

When he returns to the Philippines and his wife of six years, Honey Mae, Villos said his theological training at CTS will benefit his church body in many ways, including the connections he is making with future Lutheran theologians. "These relations will be much needed as the worldwide Lutheran community braces for the many challenges that lie ahead," he said.

He also said he is doing the "legwork of familiarizing myself with seminary life so that I can impart this to our pastors in the Lutheran Church of the Philippines who might also be given the opportunity to study here."

He also plans to develop a program at the Baguio City seminary that will "mesh" with the theological discipline offered at U.S. seminaries. "A program that will still be in the context of a Philippine-oriented setting, but at the same time geared toward a higher theological discipline," Villos said.

"My studies here will further strengthen my learning of sound biblical teachings, to sit at Jesus' feet and learn from His life-giving Word," he added. "To echo the words of St. Paul, 'For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.'"

Villos also hopes that more international students will study at the Missouri Synod's two seminaries. "I truly believe



Abel Cesar Villos has high regard for the academics, spiritual life and beautiful campus he experiences at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.

that it will not only be beneficial for the foreign students but also will be valuable to the non-foreign students. I come from another side of the globe, but we are facing the same kind of challenges and struggles every day. We may speak different languages, but we all bring the same message — and that is Christ and Him crucified for a broken and sinful world — that we are to tell, to show by our acts of charity and to live this reality of forgiveness and life in Christ Jesus our Lord within the church and into the world."