

## Church provides future pastors with hands-on experience

**CHINANDEGA, Nicaragua** - Iglesia Luterana Sínodo de Nicaragua (ILSN) has developed an interesting method to help seminary candidates prepare for their theological studies. A year or more before they start the program, the *lectores* (seminary candidates) are involved in congregational and mission outreach activities. They assist their pastors as readers, conduct lay-led worship services, visit homes, participate in missionary programs and other activities.

Currently, 17 *lectores* or candidates are considering the pastoral ministry in the ILSN. They come from several congregations and backgrounds and gather for special seminars at the mission centre. Recently they attended two special seminars: basic introduction to the study of



Rev. Neitzel and (fourth from right) and candidates currently identified as potential students for Nicaragua's seminary program

Scriptures, liturgy and preaching, presented by Rev. Dr. Ralph Mayan and basic introduction to the study of theology (propaedeutics), taught by Rev. Dr. Leonardo Neitzel, LCC's mission executive.

The seminary program normally has four intensive courses per year over two years, plus practical activities and the continuing education which follows.

The previous source for funding the seminary program is not currently available due to economic conditions. We pray and trust that the Lord will provide the means to bring together a class in 2012 as He is growing His church in Nicaragua and other countries in Central America.

For more information contact Rev. Neitzel ([missions@lutheranchurch.ca](mailto:missions@lutheranchurch.ca))

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## Pastoral preparation program meets intercultural ministry needs

While Canada celebrates its multiculturalism, Lutheran Church—Canada (LCC) encourages interculturalism—Gospel proclamation in churches and congregations where Lutherans from around the world, now living in Canada, receive God's gifts in Word and Sacraments.

For many adult new Canadians, the first task is learning English, then adapting to the culture, which includes how Lutherans in Canada worship. This can be a long and frustrating process. In the meantime, there is still a need for pastoral care which relates to an immigrant's home culture and language.

In 2002, LCC approved a program to help meet these unique cultural challenges by adopting in Convention a resolution creating the Pastors with Alternate Training (PAT) program. The concept is to prepare men to serve as pastors in specific cultural communities or in special geographical circumstances.

Under the supervision of LCC's Council of Presidents and with educational and theological support

from LCC's seminaries, eleven men are currently studying for pastoral ministry to their cultural communities. These include men from Central America, Sudan, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Pakistan and Africa. They receive instruction in English or French.

Rev. Dr. Leonardo Neitzel, LCC's mission executive, coordinates the program working with a committee comprising Rev. Dr. Glenn Schaeffer (Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton adjunct professor); Rev. Richard Beinert (Immanuel, Winnipeg and PAT instructor/mentor) and Rev. James Keller (Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary, St. Catharines, instructor). Together they are reviewing the program and redeveloping the curriculum and evaluation system.

"I have spent a lot of time looking at a similar program offered through Concordia Seminary, Ft. Wayne, as well as how we teach and what we teach in our seminary programs in Nicaragua, Thailand and Ukraine," explained Dr. Neitzel, a former

seminary professor in Brazil. "The overseas seminary instruction relies on concentrated time for instruction. Our PAT students study part time which means the preparation takes longer."

Each PAT student works with a mentor pastor (or pastors) in his city. After completing basic courses, he receives a license to lead services and preach under the supervision of an ordained pastor. When he has completed the PAT program, with the approval of the Council of Presidents the PAT graduate is ordained and serves in the Office of the Holy Ministry.

With a well-established ministry to Chinese, Korean and Hispanic communities, LCC is now meeting the challenge of more immigrants from other parts of the world, some of whom have roots in the Lutheran church. Dr. Neitzel observes that as Canada "welcomes more than 250,000 immigrants each year, the Lord is giving us new opportunities and providing new workers to share the Gospel."

## Founding seminary president called home

**LINCOLN, Nebraska** - The Lord called home the founding president of Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton, Rev. Dr. W. Theophilus “Ted” Janzow, on Saturday, August 21, 2010. Dr. Janzow was 91. He served as president of the Edmonton seminary from 1984-88.



“When Dr. Janzow suggested a motto for the new seminary in Edmonton, his choice was one that would stand the test of time, because it was God’s Word” remembers Rev. Dr. Ed Lehman, LCC president emeritus, who worked closely with Dr. Janzow to establish the seminary. The motto, *Servants for Jesus’ Sake* would “motivate the entire seminary community and define its

mission.” Dr. Lehman recalls that “we soon came to realize that it also defined the servant heart of its president. He was surely God’s chosen gift to us, and we thank Him for the legacy His servant left us. *Servant for Jesus’ sake*—an inspiring motto; a fitting epitaph.”

A leader in servant ministry within The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, Ted’s career included being a pastor of congregations in Mavie and McIntosh, MN; Murphysboro, IL and Walton, NE; as well as interim pastor at a number of Nebraska congregations. He served as president of the Southern Illinois District from 1957-1959. He was a professor of Sociology and Religion

from 1959-1962, and was chairman of the Religion and Social Sciences Division at Concordia Teachers College, Seward, NE. He served as president of Concordia College, Seward from 1963-1977, and the director of College Relations from 1983-1987. Additionally Ted became the founding president of Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton, Alberta Canada from 1984-1988.

The Funeral Service was Thursday, August 26 at St. John’s Lutheran Church, Seward, Nebraska; Pastor Robert Wentzel of Trinity Lutheran Church, Walton, Neb. officiating. Memorials: Concordia University, Seward, NE or Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton, Alberta.

*Based on Lincoln Journal Star obituary*

## Renewal and change at university college

**EDMONTON** - Concordia University College of Alberta (CUCA) is introducing a new look as part of its *Concordia Tomorrow* initiative.

Over the summer, the university college upgraded its facilities and renewed its image as part of the federal government’s Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP). Recent construction projects included work on the library; repair of the heating and cooling systems; and a renovation of the auditorium, the first in thirty years, as well as other projects around the campus.

The school’s visual identity also received a makeover with the introduction of a new logo which the administration hopes will more accurately represent the institution’s character and goals. The logo, designed by The Met Agency, officially replaces the current visual identity on January 1, 2011. It features the wordmark “Concordia” on the top line with “University College of Alberta” underneath to convey its identity more clearly and avoid confusion with institutions using similar names.

The rest of the logo features an open door, based on the front door shape of the oldest building on campus, symbolizing

access to education at Concordia, as well as a reference to the Wittenberg door where Luther nailed his 95 theses. Wavy lines represent the North Saskatchewan River above which the campus is located in Edmonton’s Highlands neighbourhood.

The wordmark—Concordia—contains a Greek cross symbolizing both the theological foundation of education at CUCA and the two main elements of faith: a vertical relationship with God and a horizontal relationship with other people.

The institution will continue using the crest on official documents, and while the old logo will be slowly replaced



as needed, the new logo is already available for faculty and staff.

As Concordia University College of Alberta, grows and changes, its new visual identity will help reflect both its history and its character.

Concordia University College of Alberta was established by Lutheran Church–Canada in 1921 as Concordia College with the mission of preparing young men for the pastoral ministry. Now a liberal arts institution, it offers undergraduate degree, post-degree, and post-graduate degree programs in arts and sciences including religious studies. CUCA still prepares pre-ministerial students and deacons (Lutheran teachers, directors of Parish Services and Parish Nurses) for service to the church.

