

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Congregation _____

Signature(s) _____

Date _____

Place _____

Please keep me informed with newsletters and mailings.

Official receipts will be issued for tax purposes.

We give thanks to God for you, for your love inspired by His Spirit, and for your good stewardship of our Father's gifts for the sake of Christ's church. We pray He will continue to shower His blessings upon you, and we ask you to pray for us.

He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things? (Romans 8:32)



The Father's giving hand

**Concordia Lutheran
Theological Seminary**

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How shall they hear
without a preacher?
(Rom. 10:14)

**The
1000 Club**



Concordia
Lutheran
Theological
Seminary

No Greater Need!

Jesus said, Go and tell, and be “making disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19). But you may ask, “How shall they hear without a preacher?” (Romans 10:14).

Sooner or later we all need God’s guidance. That’s what pastors are for! How would you complete the thought: “A pastor is a good friend to have because ...”?

When asked, someone remembered a pastor awakened in the middle of the night by news that a member had died. He visited the family, prayed and read God’s Word, and comforted and embraced family members. Another remembers a young man, unsure of his future and his faith, who walked unannounced into the pastor’s office. He found a listening ear and a heart of love, and today he is a pastor himself.

What would you give for a friend like that? for someone who will preach the Gospel, baptize and commune, teach guide, equip and comfort for all the tasks and stages of life?

When God’s Word tells us there is nothing new under the sun, it is a reminder that each generation is faced with similar opportunities and challenges. This applies to training pastors also.

Before the LCC was organized, before there were any LCMS seminaries in Canada, there was a dream, a vision, that grew out of a real need. That need still exists.

Canadian seminaries meet Canadian needs. Not nationalism but a recognition of cultural differences underscores the importance of pastoral training in a Canadian setting. Immigration is expensive, and frequently of short duration for US candidates placed here. Sending students to US seminaries is very expensive also—restrictions on work visas for wives and living costs mean that to train the twenty St. Catharines students currently enrolled would cost nearly \$800 000. And that is just for one year! Students from various ethnic groups we have trained in the past might not be allowed to enter the US either. The mission challenges in Canada are different enough from the US to mandate a different orientation.

Let’s face it. Higher education is an expensive proposition. But the love of God in Christ, distributed through Word and Sacrament ministry, is priceless.



The original plan, to establish an endowment fund to cover ongoing expenses, worked well. But as everything else in life, costs escalate and investments do not always perform as predicted. We thank God for the generous donors whose funds formed the 1000 Club. Many are now experiencing first hand, in heaven, the Christ of their faith.

Can we do it again? Can we raise \$1 000 000 by new 1000 Club memberships? Or by even more generous gifts?

Only YOU have the answer to that question.

All Christians are servants of God, and every useful occupation is pleasing to Him. But the Lord also calls to the holy ministry of Word and Sacrament. This pastoral office calls for a special type of preparation—that offered by Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary.

A pastor’s friendship is priceless. “Pastors may come and go,” a friend wrote, “but they leave knowledge, love, and friendship in their wake that stays for ever—where would we be without these messengers of God? I fear to think.”

Messengers of God are made not born. That is the task of theological education.

Your prayers and donations assist in such training. Your prayers and gifts make a difference for congregations and members throughout our church—and maybe for you too.

Let us know how you will help!

1000 Club Commitment

- In gratitude to God for the pastors from whom I learned God’s Word and received his sacraments; and
- remembering God’s promise that “faith comes from hearing”, and that people cannot “hear without a preacher” (Romans 10); and
- convinced of the need to continue training pastors for Lutheran Church–Canada,

I (we) intend to give the amount indicated for the promotion, operation, and expansion of seminary training in Canada. By God’s grace and with His blessing this pledge will be paid within three years.

My pledge: \$1 000 \$2 000 \$3 000

\$5 000 \$10 000

Other: _____

For: Debt Reduction Endowment Fund

(over)

