

A MOTION TO SEND A PETITION TO REV. DR ROBERT BUGBEE, PRESIDENT OF LUTHERAN CHURCH–CANADA, *by the members of Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary Guild, expressing their support of Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary, St. Catharines, was passed on Guild Day, 30 April 2011, and appears below. The petition was drawn up in light of the impending synodical convention coming up on 3-6 June 2011 in Hamilton, Ontario, and the current financial status of both seminaries. (While the Seminary Task Force is not recommending that either seminary be closed, there will most likely be overtures to the synod asking for this.)*

MOTION to send a petition to Rev. Dr Robert Bugbee, President of Lutheran Church–Canada, requesting that Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary, St. Catharines, ON, be allowed to remain open.

Motivated by our Lord’s command to “*Go and make disciples of all nations ...*” (Matt. 28:19), we, the members of Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary Guild, St. Catharines, ON, some 925 strong, stand united in our commitment to and support of the dedicated men who endeavour to fulfil that sacred mandate through the acquisition of theological training and pastoral formation here at Concordia in order that the richness of God’s Holy Word may be proclaimed to the ends of the world.

Threatened by the **possibility** that the richness of God’s Holy Word may be silenced by the **possible** closing of our seminary for financial reasons, we resolutely stand at the door, our feet firmly planted on the threshold (925 abreast), imploring Lutheran Church–Canada not to close its doors, but rather to recognize its many years of dedicated service, the quality of its students, staff, and faculty and its strong and loyal base of support.

Our seminary is a light not only to Canada, but to our U.S. neighbours, international students, and to Lutheran churches around the world. It is a seminary set on a hill whose light cannot, and should not, be hidden. You cannot light a candle and then put it under a bushel; it must be placed on a candlestick so that it continues to give light in order that people of every land might be brought to saving faith and that our Father in heaven may be glorified.

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