



E-news Vol. 5 Issue 6 June 2010

ASSIGNMENTS

Fifty men have been assigned to various fields of ministry through the synod's assignment committee. Thirty-five graduates from the class of 2010 received their first calls into public ministry. Of these men, four were assigned to ministerial education schools, 28 to parish ministry, and three to world mission fields. In addition, two men trained through the Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI) and five men from previous years were assigned. Five candidates were reassigned for another year to their present field of labor, and three assignments from previous years were made permanent.

The PSI is directed by Prof. E. Allen Sorum and includes satellite programs, the Asian Ministerial Training Program and Cristo Palabra de Vida. The PSI guides and assists non-traditional students through their pre-seminary and seminary training.

Although four traditional students are still waiting for assignment, we are confident that the Lord has a place for them to serve in his Church. We just don't know where it is yet. Our Lord's words are clear: the harvest is plentiful, but the workers few. Please keep those newly assigned and those yet to be assigned in your prayers that they may bring the blessings of the gospel wherever they go and however they serve.

Vicar assignments

Vicar assignments were announced on the evening of Tuesday, May 18th. All 33 men were placed with congregations located in 18 states and Canada.

"The importance of the vicar year in training pastors cannot be overestimated. It allows the student a year in which he can put what he has learned in the seminary classrooms into practice in a real life ministry setting. We are grateful for all the congregations that partner with us in preparing the next generation of pastoral leaders." – President Paul Wendland

A full list of assignments is available online.

CALL EXTENDED

The Holy Spirit has led the governing board to call Professor Paul Koelpin, class of 1990, to serve as Professor of Historical Theology and Practical Theology (education). Koelpin currently serves Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

NEW PROFESSOR

Pastor Bill J. Tackmier, class of 1990, has accepted the call to serve as professor of Old Testament and Practical Theology (preaching).

Since 1996 he has served St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Citrus Heights, CA. Prior to that he served Salem, Owosso, MI, and Zion, St. Louis, MI. He was also serving as the chairman of the California North Conference of the Arizona-California District and as a member of the Commission on Inter-Church Relations. Tackmier, his wife, Dorcas, and their two children will move to our campus this summer.

CONTINUING EDUCATION



The continuing education (CE) efforts of the seminary will now operate under the program name, *Grow in Grace: the Institute for Continuing Education at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary*. The name and tagline, *Partnering in the Lifelong Pursuit of Spiritual and Professional Growth*, were chosen because they summarize our desire to remain focused on our heritage as Christ-centered Lutherans. You will begin seeing the logo in future CE communications and on our CE Web site, now under construction.

Prof. Richard Gurgel, director of the institute, is also pleased to announce a pilot project that will make matching-grant tuition assistance available for called workers enrolled in a for-credit course any time from June 2011 through May 2012. The grants will be available to those taking courses on-campus or on-line, as well as those who attend satellite summer quarter courses offered in their district or conference.

To encourage congregations to invest in the lifelong learning of their called workers, the seminary will partner with congregations and match dollar for dollar whatever they contribute

toward tuition costs for their called workers. The hope is to discover sufficient support to offer this matching-grant program long after the initial year has passed.

Work on other elements of CE program development continues. The first on-line course offered during the regular school year will be available starting in early 2011 with "The Apostle Paul and Leadership," by Prof. E. Allen Sorum. A realignment of teaching duties will allow Gurgel to be available for presentations at circuit, conference, and district gatherings on CE and related topics as well as giving him time to focus on partnering with circuit pastors and conference agenda committees in planning and implementing continued growth for the pastors in their circuits and conferences. For the next two years he will also edit *Preach the Word*, a monthly newsletter produced by WELS Congregation and Ministry Support Group.

NEWS AT A GLANCE

June 21st-July 9th **Summer Quarter**

July 16th-18th **Women's Leadership Conference** on campus

August 9th-13th **World Mission Seminary Conference** on campus

August 23rd 7:00 pm **Opening Service**

August 24th **Classes begin**

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