

LTS NEWS

**Lutheran Theological
Seminary in Tshwane
[Pretoria, South Africa]**



NEW STUDENTS!

They have arrived from South Africa [4], from Ethiopia [2], from Nigeria [1], from Zambia [1]. We are still expecting final entries from Liberia and Uganda. These have been caught up with the bureaucracy, but it seems as if its just a matter of time for them to arrive anyway. Students, who actually arrive here, have overcome a whole pile of obstacles and by the feat alone deserve acclamation and praise.

Temba has sent their first girl Nogukhanya Shabalala to study here with us. It is also the first time we have

students from Ethiopia: Ashanafi Desta and Daniel F. Fitebo, from Zambia Benjamin Kaumba and also a first to have a beginner from Nigeria: Simon Ishaya.

The students Christian Straeuli and Christoph Weber are both enrolled at the University of Pretoria, but also take part in the Introduction to the New Testament offered by Rev. Glen Fluegge [LCMS World Mission and previously at the Seminary in Togo] and also in the Introduction to Lutheran Confessions with Rev. Joe Burnham [LCMS Rocky Mountain District].

Thulani Hadebe comes from Belgrade in Mpumalanga and is the only student from the LCSA in the beginners course.

10 years of LTS in Tshwane: Thanks be to God!

For ten years now the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Tshwane has been in South Africa's capital city. At the beginning of 2000 the Seminary moved from Enhlanhleni in the Umsinga district of KwaZulu/Natal. Since then a lot has happened. We are grateful to the triune God, who has enabled the Seminary to keep going this decade and to grow in its ministry training Lutheran pastors from more than ten different countries in Africa. The enrolment of students has tripled and so has the facility. The teaching and administrative staff has consolidated and there are good indicators for strong growth in many areas. Thank you for your ongoing support, which has enabled this positive development. We at the LTS are very grateful for your loyalty and friendship!

Installation of new Teachers



Rev. Glen Fluegge [LCMS World Mission and previously working at the Seminary in Togo] together with Rev. Joe Burnham [LCMS Rocky Mountain District] were installed as teachers during the opening service of the LTS on the 2nd February. Here they are standing behind Bishop David Tswaedi DD, Rev. Musawenkosi

Students on holiday:

Student of theology Mr. Gemah Ballah writes about his coming here this year: "I left LTS on Friday 20.11.09 and arrived at 03.45 PM on Saturday 21.11.09 in Monrovia.

My holiday was a nice one for it was another reunion with my wife and children since the start of my studies at LTS. The Seminary has enabled this every year for three years running. And when my wife was ill, I even visited out of ordinary.

My engagement while on holiday entailed: I did some preaching and as well teach Adult

Bible in my home Church, the UHP-Evangelical Lutheran Church, JY-Gardnersvill, Monrovia - Liberia.

My Pastor, Rev. Amos Bolay and the UHP-Church members were more cheerful to have me with them over this period of my stay.

Please, see one of our goodbye pictures. I am in white vestment, on my right is Veronica [my wife] and next to her is my Pastor Rev. Amos Bolay, elected Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Liberia.



Thank God: Hoffmeiers are back again!

Lee and Pat Hoffmeier from the Good Shepherd Congregation in Collinsville [LCMS South Illinois District –SID] have joined the Seminary as volunteers for the third year running. They do so much of the daily work, which just needs to be done, fixed and planned. Their help is indispensable, the Seminarians love them and the LTS staff would not know, what to do without them. Lee even helps with the sermons during Vespers and Matins. Pat plays the organ regularly during devotions, they drive, fetch necessities, always have an open ear and a

kind word and always see, what needs attention. Below you see Lee shaking hands with Mr. Ruben Dlamini, who was attending the LCSA Special Fund meeting at LTS in January. The other pictures show the Hoffmeiers hard at work—as always.

Thank you to SID to send these special helpers to us and to support us so generously through them!

It is a special blessing that President Herb Mueller is coming to visit and that they will be around to give him first hand introduction to this valuable and growing ministry.



Kianga Rehr—Volunteer from SELK - LKM [Bleckmar]

For the fourth time our friends from the Lutheran Church in Germany [SELK] have put a volunteer at the disposal of the Seminary. Kianga Rehr has been around the Lutheran mission in Southern Africa for a while now and therefore is of great help in getting odd jobs done here and there. It is no wonder that the personal assistant Salomé is so happy to work with her. Kianga stays on campus and participates in the English classes, but otherwise devotes most of her time to getting things in order and done! Thanks Kianga! Its great that you are with us.



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[Pretoria, South Africa]

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The Seminary is privileged to have Mrs. Grace Rao from LCMS World Relief & Human Care with us for nearly 2 weeks. She is not only going to work with the local representatives of the Women's League, but also give an insight about the workings of a deaconess program. She has first hand experience in this from Africa, India, Malaysia and also the USA. We are very grateful to WR&HC for having Mrs. Rao with us in this precious time!



Advanced Course: 22nd February—12th March

The following courses are offered:

1. Women in the Church [Mrs. Grace Rao—LCMS World Relief & Human Care]
2. Deaconess program [Mrs. Grace Rao—LCMS WR & HC] 22-27. February [8h00-12h00]
3. Peace studies: Cori Wielenga 22-27. February [14h00—17h00]
4. Catechesis [Prof. John Pless, CTS Ft.Wayne]: 1-12. March [8h00-12h00]
5. Theology of Missions [Prof. Dr. Detlev Schulz, CTS Ft.Wayne]: 1-12. March [14h00—17h00]

God willing the courses start every weekday at 7:45 in St. Timothy's with the Responsive Prayers and then go from 8h00—10h00. After Matins the program resumes at 11h00-12h00. Then there's a break for lunch at St. Pauls. The afternoon program is scheduled from 14h00—17h00. Before Vespers at 18h00 there are snacks and a light meal offered at the Lapa outside LHF Hall.

We are not only expecting two representatives from every diocese of the LCSA Women's League, but also various deans, pastors, deacons and vicars to join the advanced students. A handful of young aspirant deaconesses are also planning to come.

Even if we don't have any room to facilitate overnight accommodation anymore, we do have room for more day visitors. You are most welcome!