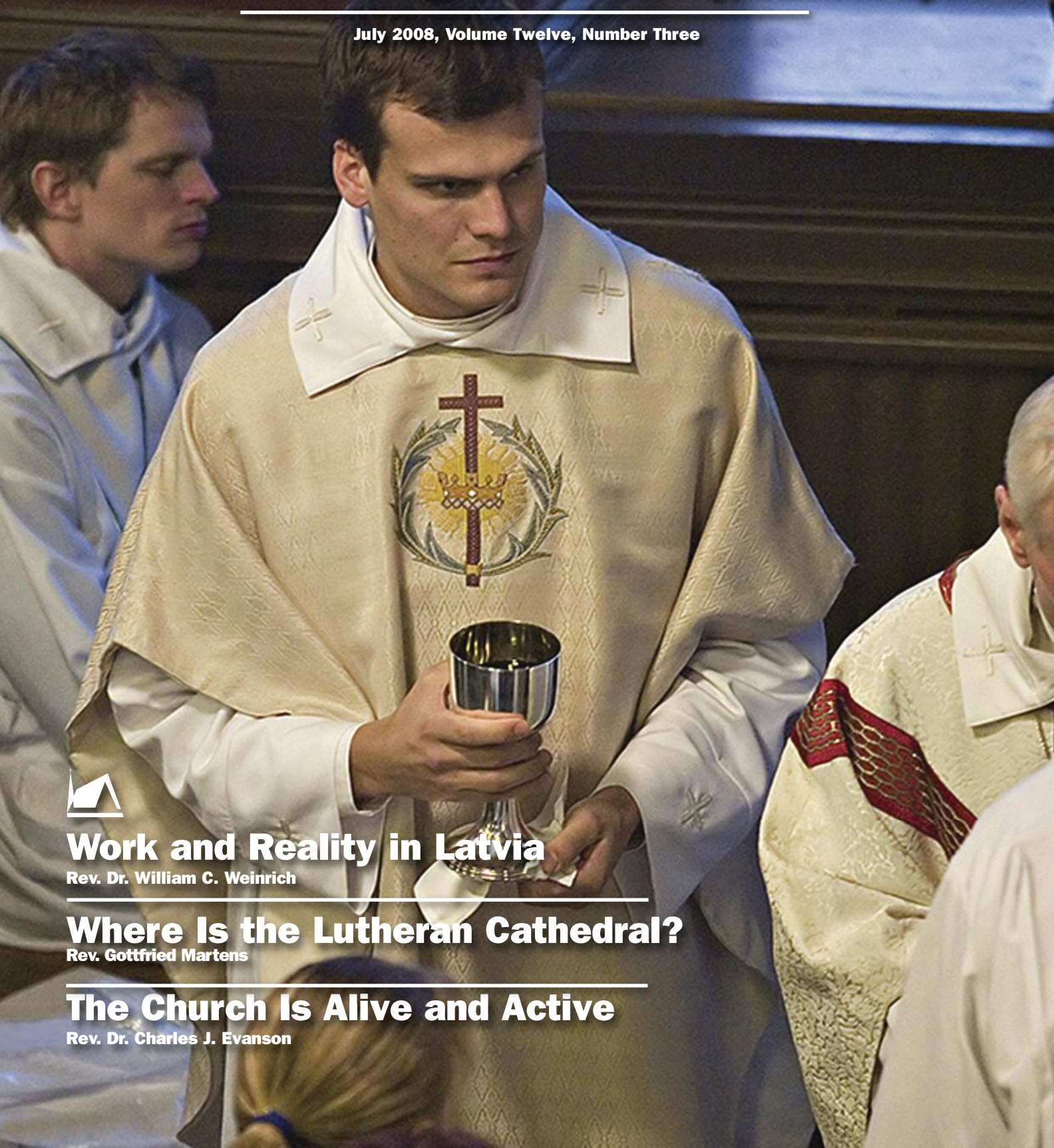


For the Life of the World

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

July 2008, Volume Twelve, Number Three



Work and Reality in Latvia

Rev. Dr. William C. Weinrich

Where Is the Lutheran Cathedral?

Rev. Gottfried Martens

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Living in Community

Westfield House is the seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England (ELCE). Although it is a place of scholarly studies, it is called a house since the students live together in community.

In the 1950s, Professor Dr. William F. Arndt (Concordia Seminary, St. Louis) was in Cambridge preparing his English edition of Bauer's standard New Testament Greek lexicon. The ELCE asked him to help found a theological training program through contacts at the University of Cambridge. The Lord called him home shortly after the work began.

In 1957, Rev. Norman Nagel of Luther-Tyndale Memorial Church, London, was commissioned by the ELCE to pursue a Ph.D. at the University of Cambridge and continue Dr. Arndt's work. In 1958, he was appointed the first preceptor, and in 1961, he located a stately nineteenth-century home that was purchased by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod World Mission and gifted to the ELCE. On February 22, 1962, Bishop Bo Giertz of Sweden delivered the inaugural lecture, and Westfield House was born. In 1969, as student numbers increased, a tutor was added to the faculty; in 1998, a second tutor was added.

Because of Drs. Arndt and Nagel, Westfield had a relationship to the University of Cambridge. An agreement was struck with Fitzwilliam College (one of thirty-one colleges comprising the University) that Westfield be considered an attached house. This enables qualified Westfield students to matriculate through Fitzwilliam in order to take a three-year

university degree in theology. It also allows Westfield students to attend lectures in the



The Chapel of St. Titus



Senate House-University of Cambridge

divinity faculty (and other departments) and to use the university's excellent libraries. This relationship with a world-class university divinity faculty is uniquely valuable, and the benefits flow in both directions. The presence of confessional Lutherans in Cambridge does not go unnoticed. Westfield's library, the only significant Lutheran collection in Britain, is a valuable resource for the University.

Westfield has trained half of the pastors who serve the ELCE today and a number who currently serve sister churches. It is a resource for worldwide Lutheranism. Each year, students from the LCMS and Lutheran Church—Canada benefit from their scholarly studies at Westfield. In recent years, Westfield has received students from Africa, Eastern Europe, and Russia, indeed, every continent. In 2007, Westfield hosted an International Symposium. Lord willing, Westfield will continue to serve His church for many years. ▲

Rev. Brian Mosemann is Concordia Theological Seminary's new Dean of Students.

