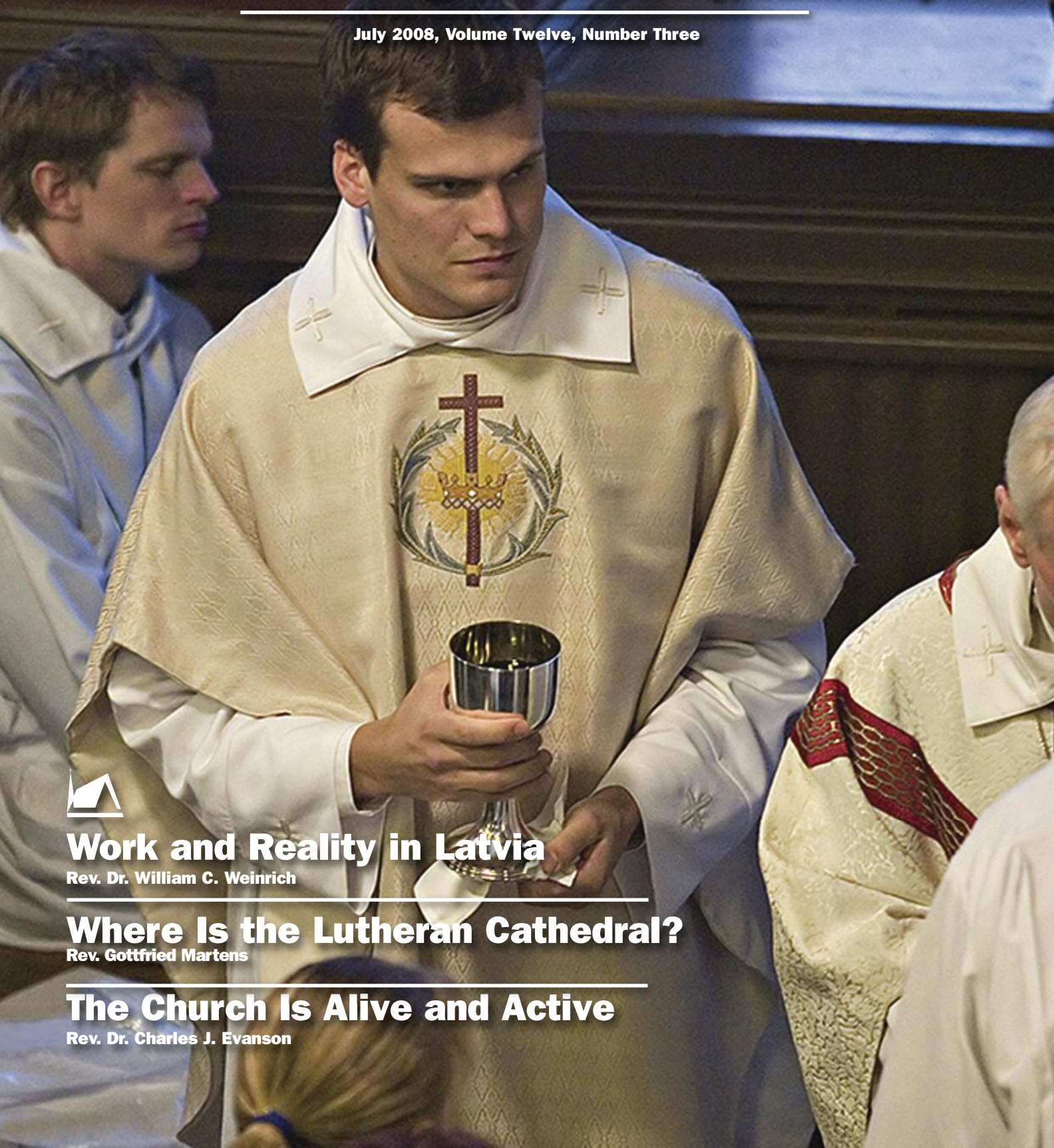


For the Life of the World

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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Study in the German system, combined with the superb theological education we have received from Fort Wayne, where pastoral care is of primary importance, affords a new generation of theologians the great opportunity to carry on the good confession of Jesus Christ into all the world.

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Historically Sweden was a strongly Lutheran country, but today most churches are empty. Although the Church of Sweden claims to be the largest Lutheran Church in the world, only one member in seventy-five attends worship in an average week, and that figure includes Christmas and Easter.

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By Rev. Gottfried Martens

In Berlin, the “world’s capital of modern atheism,” as Peter L. Berger has called it, only 30 percent of the population still belong to a Christian church at all, and about 4 percent worship regularly.



For the Life of the World

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Today's Campus for Today

“The strategic question was the relation of the buildings to the world. On the one hand, we all felt that they should not be inward-turning and removed like medieval monasteries; but, on the other hand, we felt the group must—for its purpose—have a tranquil atmosphere of at least partial self-sufficiency.” —Eero Saarinen upon completion of the campus



Each year our campus welcomes members of today’s church to the tranquility of this place. The undulating drive through the woods separates the clamor of North Clinton Street from the calmness of 191 acres of gently rolling land bejeweled with a nine-acre lake next to which the village was shaped fifty years ago.

In the architecture of Concordia, Saarinen used diamond-shaped bricks, patented as “Concordia Bricks,” to define two fundamental relationships. On the main campus buildings, the bricks run horizontally, representing our relationship to one another in community. On Kramer Chapel, the bricks are vertical, symbolizing God’s relationship with us. In this built environment between land and sky, relationships—human and divine—are created and nourished for the life of the world.

While classes are in session, the bell tower beside **Kramer Chapel** calls the seminary community together around font and pulpit for daily prayer and around the altar for weekly Divine Worship. Seasonally, the Seminary Kantorei and the Schola Cantorum offer Sacred Choral Vespers. Annually, the cycle of the academic year is marked by the Opening, Assignment, Placement, and Commencement Services.

While **Walther Library** serves the students and faculty primarily, it also provides resources for today’s church through its extension services to professional church workers and its *Pro Bono Ecclesiae* presence on the Internet.

Concordia Theological Seminary's Church

By Rev. Prof. Robert V. Rothemeyer

The mission of Concordia Theological Seminary is to form servants in Jesus Christ for today's church who will teach the faithful, reach the lost, and care for all. **Wyneken** and **Loehe Classroom Buildings** provide the spaces where faculty and students and curriculum come together to form such servants.

As All Saint's Day is marked on the church calendar, saints from across the United States gather in **Sihler Auditorium** for the Good Shepherd Institute, whose program provides pastoral theology and sacred music for the church. The eighth annual institute will be November 2-4, 2008.

To the Fort Wayne community, **Wambsganss Gymnasium** is perhaps the best known building on campus. From basketball camps within its court to soccer tournaments on the fields behind, the focus is on the physical. Yet for our alumni and our partner churches around the globe, this is the site each January for the Symposia Series. The twenty-fourth annual Symposium of Exegetical Theology and the thirty-second annual Symposium on the Lutheran Confessions will be January 20-23, 2009.

Martin Luther Hall provides the setting for a retreat to the seminary. Over the next two years, confirmation, lay leader, and Altar Guild retreats are planned.

On the first Sunday of each month, the Lutheran community is invited to brunch in **Katherine Luther Dining Hall**.

"Architecture is the art of building which as an art satisfies two things: first, the physical, and then the spiritual needs of man. Satisfying the physical it encloses and organizes space for man at his various activities. The spiritual need is to express in form man's fears and hopes and aspirations."—Eero Saarinen

Rev. Robert V. Rothemeyer serves as Director of Library and Information Services, Associate Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions, and as Executive Assistant to the President for Strategic Planning at Concordia Theological Seminary.

