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Volume Twenty-Six, Number Three



Correction

In the Summer 2022 issue, we incorrectly reported that the Rev. Dr. Juhana Pohjola, bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Mission Diocese of Finland (ELMDF) and speaker at the CTSFW Commencement Ceremony May 20, was found guilty of hate speech in his trial in Finland. He was, in fact, acquitted. Thanks be to God!

For the Life of the World

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For the Life of the World is published by Concordia Theological Seminary Press, 6600 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, Indiana 46825. No portion of this publication may be reproduced without the consent of the Editor of *For the Life of the World* by email at SeminaryRelations@ctsfw.edu or (260) 452-2150. Copyright 2022. Printed in the United States. Postage paid at Berne, Indiana.

For the Life of the World is mailed to all pastors and congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in the United States and Canada and to anyone interested in the work of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture verses are from the English Standard Version (ESV).

FEATURES

4 Field Education

Jeffrey H. Pulse

Field education for our students is an important part of their formation as pastors. At Shepherd of the City, this fieldwork takes on some added dimensions. In the past, various field workers have shared the Gospel with the homeless man sleeping on our front steps, prepared and delivered home-cooked meals to the shelters, participated in outreach dinners to our communities, tutored school children after classes—they have worked in the midst of the disease of poverty. This can be quite the wake-up call for our seminarians, but it also helps prepare them for a possible call to urban ministry.

7 Mentoring a Vicar

David R. Nehrenz

It is a privilege to mentor vicars. Much work is required. The congregation must also be committed to doing their part in showing the vicar what parish life looks like in the real world. The rewards are a joy to behold when we see men go all around the country and world to be pastors in Christ's church. Pray to the Lord of the harvest to raise up pastors in His harvest field!

10 Urban Immersion Detroit 2022

Don C. Wiley

Our CTSFW trip to Detroit for a weekend immersion in urban ministry was two years in the making (due to COVID). Finally, at the end of April, three pastoral and two diaconal students headed to Detroit to take it all in. The immersion trip served its intended purpose. We gained insight into the challenges and blessings of urban ministry, and eyes and hearts were opened to serving the Lord and His church in such ministry.

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Urban Immersio



The immersion trip had served its intended purpose. We gained insight into the challenges and blessings of urban ministry, and eyes and hearts were opened to serving the Lord and His church in such ministry. May the Lord bless all those who reach out with Christ's compassion in the city!

Our CTSFW trip to Detroit for a weekend immersion in urban ministry was two years in the making (due to COVID). Finally, at the end of April, three pastoral and two diaconal students headed to Detroit to take it all in. We arrived at Camp Restore Detroit (camprestore.org/detroit)—a ministry to aid the community of the 9th Precinct of Detroit—late on a Friday night. The camp houses volunteers throughout the year to provide labor for restoration projects determined by community leaders. District Missionary Rev. Dietrick Gladden, serving at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church (mtcalvarydetroit.org), gave us the first glimpse into ministry in the region. After an orientation of the Camp Restore facilities (originally a Christian day school of Mt. Calvary), we rested for the 14-hour whirlwind tour of LCMS urban ministries in Detroit on the morrow.

n Detroit 2022

Don C. Wiley



Saturday, we arrived at Family of God Lutheran Church (fogdetroit.com) at about 8 a.m. The Rev. Jim Hill and the Rev. Tyler Cronkright—together with CTSFW Vicar Nick Gapski—provided a full picture of the history of their outreach ministry to bring the transformative power of the Gospel to the homeless, addicted, and all those living in southwest Detroit. Also housed on the property, The Luke Clinic (thelukeclinic.org) provides “accessible, high-quality pro-life prenatal and medical care for expectant mothers and infants under 12 months of age.” Executive Director Penny Armbruster emphasized that it’s the grace and compassion of Christ that motivates their medical staff and volunteers to care for the women and children of the area.



Next was a visit to Elli’s House (ellishouse313.org), an organization that works “to abolish sex trafficking in the City of Detroit through building relationships, offering safe shelter, and providing education.” Executive Director Deb Ellinger provided the group with insight into the ministry and the increasing problem of women who are homeless, addicted, and sex-trafficked in Detroit. Elli’s House provides a two-year residential shelter program, mentoring for middle schoolers, and weekly food, hygiene, and clothing to survivors. Our CTSFW group was able to witness the compassionate outreach as we traveled together to our next location.



At Bethany Lutheran Church, Michigan District Missionary-at-Large Rev. Chris Bodley spoke to us about the district’s Acts 2 Enterprise or A2E (michigandistrict.org/ministries/acts-2-enterprise) and their work throughout the Michigan District (concentrated in the Detroit area). Through strategic and holistic urban outreach, A2E seeks to reconnect urban congregations with their surrounding communities to evangelize and disciple with the Gospel of Jesus

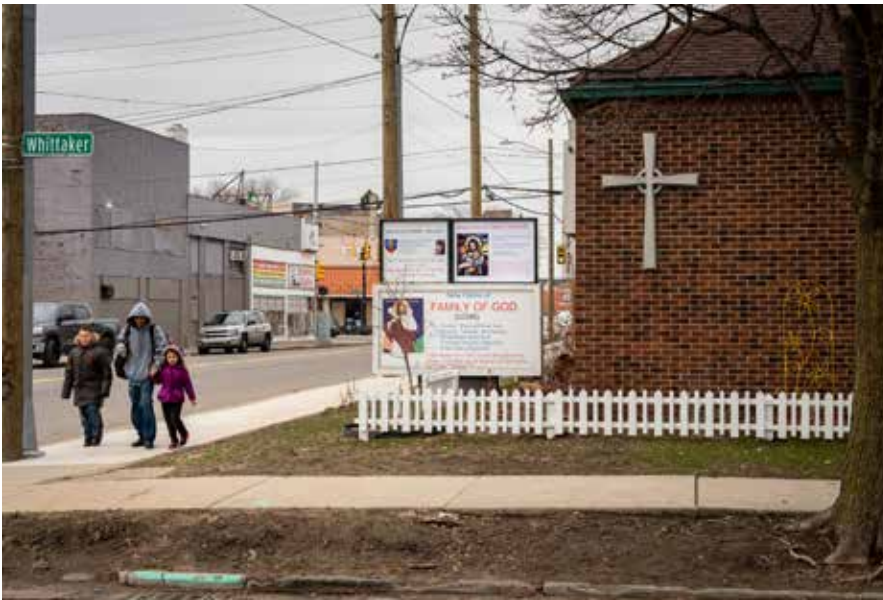


Photo: Erik M. Lunsfeld/The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Christ. Camp Restore, Elli’s House, Family of God, and The Luke Clinic, as well as our last two stops—the Franklin Avenue Mission in Flint (served by the Rev. Christian Jones) and St. Paul Community in Pontiac (served by the Rev. Chris Jung)—are all part of the district’s A2E Ministry.

Our final stop for the day was in downtown Detroit just a mile from the river—Historic Trinity Lutheran Church (historictrinity.org). The Rev. D. Lee Andrzejewski provided a tour of the historic landmark and brief history of Lutheranism in Detroit before we headed out for a late dinner. We returned to Camp Restore to take in a presentation of the wonderful work they are doing in the community by Executive Director Amy Fanta.

Sunday we packed up and said goodbye to Amy. Our last urban ministry visit would be Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church (ziondetroit.org). We received Christ’s gifts of Word and Sacrament through the Rev. Mark Braden before taking in lunch and returning to CTSFW.

The immersion trip had served its intended purpose. We gained insight into the challenges and blessings of urban ministry, and eyes and hearts were opened to serving the Lord and His church in such ministry.

May the Lord bless all those who reach out with Christ’s compassion in the city! 🙏

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Photo: Erik M. Lunsfeld/The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod