



Well, *that* didn't work out as planned!

I wrote my August letter a few days early in anticipation of traveling at mid-August to attend our Eurasia Region's retreat in Greece.

But two days before leaving, our trans-Atlantic flight was cancelled by the airline. Our itinerary was too complicated to make alternatives work leaving us with bags packed, but unable to go.

We were disappointed at not seeing our colleagues old and new, as well as not being able to hear the region's news or the presentation on St. Luke's Gospel by Rev. Dr. Arthur Just. And yes, it was disappointing not to visit Greece. But as James 4:15 reminds us, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that" [ESV].

The pastor who confirmed me used to always insert "God-willing" when speaking of his plans. "God-willing..." That's a good thing to imitate in all of life (especially if it involves travel!).

SOLI DEO GLORIA



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## ON THE STARTING LINE

**D**ear supporters and friends,  
Last month's plans are this month's activities—under the Lord's blessing, of course! The fall semester of the Luther Academy is now underway.



On the one hand, what is happening looks outwardly routine:

students and teachers gathered via Zoom for classes. (There aren't a lot of "action photos" to be had!) But what is happening—and by whom—is anything but mundane.

At the top of the list is the working of the Holy Spirit through the Word. Our students and their teachers are all committed to the Scriptures and to a future of being faithful preachers of the Gospel. There is a singleness of purpose that marks every class session.

But what is also of note is that the Luther Academy's instruction is reaching out across miles and time-zones, across borders and cultures. Our cohort of second year students has remained remarkably stable. They come from Italy, Romania, Nigeria, Tanzania, Turkey, Pakistan, and Nepal. We have added students from Switzerland and Finland to Rev. Dr. David Preus' (Braşov, Romania) highly anticipated course in NT Greek. Pastoral theology is a second course being team-taught to the students.

There is a "hiccup" involving our new first-year students, however. They are all from Pakistan and are waiting to begin their studies until their mentor from the U.S. arrives in early October. He will help orient them and supervise their studies. Once he arrives, I will begin teaching TH200, *Overview of the Bible* to them. May the Lord bless our efforts!

-Charles ✝



Lutera Akadēmija

Luther Academy

### FALL 2022 SEMESTER

Academic Director - Mr. Jēkabs Jurdžs

Chaplain - Rev. Dr. Charles Lloyd Cortright

Professors, English Stream of Pastoral Studies

New Testament Greek - Rev. Dr. David Preus

Pastoral Theology - Rev. Dr. John Bombaro  
Rev. Dr. Quintin Cundiff  
Rev. Jerrald Lawson  
Rev. Dr. Christian Tiews

Overview of the Bible - Rev. Dr. Charles Lloyd Cortright



<sup>1</sup> How lovely is your dwelling place,

*O LORD of hosts!*

<sup>2</sup> My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.

<sup>3</sup> Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself where she may lay her young,

at your altars, *O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.*

<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!

<sup>10</sup> A day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

*I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.*

**Psalm 84:1-4, 10 ESV**



**O**ne of the advantages of serving on-line out of the “Branch Office” of the Luther Academy in Sheboygan, WI, is the opportunity to visit congregations that support mission work.

I recently received just such an invitation via Mission Central to visit Hope Lutheran congregation located 200 yards north of the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan border near Land O’Lakes, WI. “Up nort,” as it’s called in my part of Wisconsin.

My contact in the congregation was Karl Hoessel, himself a missionary for many years in Japan, but now retired and helping to keep mission-work in the consciousness of Hope’s members. Rev. Gary Albert, also retired, likewise serves the congregation which does not have a resident pastor.

Connie and I arrived Saturday night and were welcomed by Karl and Gary to stay in the vacant parsonage. The congregation provided us with an evening meal.

In the morning, Gary prepared to accompany our worship on the organ while I set up my presentation to the Bible Class about the work I do for the Eurasia mission region. The presentation lasted for the better part

of an hour with time for questions and comments.

The Divine Service followed the Bible Class hour. Karl served as the liturgist; Gary accompanied the congregation at the organ; I preached the sermon. Jesus’ parables of the sower and of the mustard seed—parables concerning the Kingdom—were the focus.

After worship, the congregation had a meal, something they arrange to have every Sunday! Then, having been fed by the Word and by our daily bread it was time to say farewell and return “down south.”

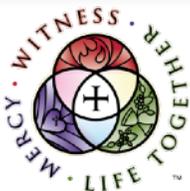


**Karl, Connie, and Charles**

This kind of experience may sound commonplace, but the welcoming of missionaries and supporting them is something that dates back to the apostolic church. St. Paul and St. John commend the love, hospitality and support of mission work in their respective epistles.

As someone on the “receiving end,” so to speak, of the kindness and faith-filled interest of fellow Christians in mission work, it is never a tired or unexceptional experience, but moving and inspiring. *Praise to the Lord for all His goodness.*

-Charles ✚



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