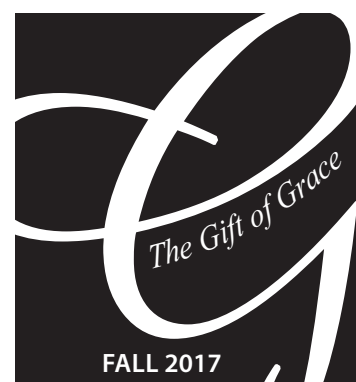




Concordia Seminary  
801 Seminary Place  
St. Louis, MO 63105

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# Guild Lines

**A PUBLICATION OF THE CONCORDIA SEMINARY GUILD**

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## Journaling Bibles

### The idea

Three years ago, at a conference I was attending, a graduate of our Seminary pulled me into an animated conversation he and some friends were having. It was a fascinating two hours of back and forth on a variety of subjects. However, one of the things that I took from that discussion was his strong belief that if we at the Seminary were really serious about having our students read Bibles (like we say we are), we should give each one of them a journaling Bible to use throughout their time at the Seminary. He said that his own journaling Bible transformed his spiritual life and his ministry. Now, before that moment, I didn't really know what a journaling Bible was, and I was skeptical of the necessity that he forced upon me. But, when I got home, I ordered a copy so I could try it out myself. That's how the idea got started.

### My experience

A journaling Bible is a Bible that has wide margins printed with lines so that you can write down whatever thoughts, questions or observations you might have during the course of your reading. So, I started reading. And to my own surprise, I got hooked. The journaling Bible made my practice of reading the Bible easier and more enjoyable. This simple device of putting lines in the margins makes it easy to enter into a conversation with the text and to interact with it in a deeper way. I liked it so much that I started requiring the students in my classes to get one for themselves. I had them do their reading and reflecting from this text, and we took class time to discuss their reading experience. Their response to this practice has been overwhelmingly positive.

I have found two benefits to journaling Bibles for our students. First, as I have described it, the journaling Bible helps students develop their own practice of reading and meditating on the Scriptures. Second, it is also a great place to keep more formal notes for preaching and teaching. For example, I can put certain information in the margins of a particular book that will prove helpful to me when I am teaching a Bible class. The great benefit is that you can put important notes there that you can come back to for later review. It is far easier than looking them up again in another book.

### Thank you so much

Because of the generosity of the Seminary Women's Guild, for the first time, we have been able to put a journaling Bible in the hands of all our new students. It will be such a great blessing for them. In our Orientation, I explained the purpose of the journaling Bible and expressed my thanks to them for your kindness.

## As Time Flies

Before we know it, this calendar year will come to a close. Many of us often say, "Where has another year gone?"

Of course, the Concordia Seminary academic year just recently began with a new class of eager incoming students, with refreshed returning students and faculty, and with noticeable campus improvements. Currently, some parts of campus are under construction!

The Concordia Seminary Guild also began a new year of projects with meetings here on campus starting with our September gathering. It was a delight to once again see approximately 75 Guild members and guests arrive on campus for lunch and a program as we "kicked off" OUR new year.

Thus, the years "come and go," each blessed by God and each day abundantly filled with His grace. While we have begun on our new list of 2017-18 service projects that support the students and their families, we continue in our financial and prayerful support not only each and every day, but each and every year. Thank you for your continued partnership from each year to the next. YOU have made Concordia Seminary Guild continue as a vital component of this campus, as we continue serving others. This is our FAITH in action!

## Concordia Seminary Guild Board of Directors

|   |  |
|---|--|
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| <b>Bylaws</b><br>Margot Loebis<br><i>Immanuel, Olivette</i>                           | <b>Seminary Liaison</b><br>Kim Braddy                                    |

## Faith by God's Grace

*From our Guild President:*

Faith is God's gift to us, by His grace; this grace is God's vehicle that brings forth faith in us, by the work of the Spirit in our hearts.

With God's grace given to us, we are free from worry about our salvation. Therefore, our love of Christ compels us to use our energy to serve others in the name of Jesus. As members and friends of Concordia Seminary Guild, we are energized by this love, which draws us to care for others.

As another academic year begins, once again we are supporting Concordia Seminary students and their families by completing our adopted service projects and serving others in the name of Jesus. We also serve by bringing offerings to the Food Bank shower, the ingathering of children's socks and underwear at our Advent event, our donations to the Re-Sell It Shop and our prayers for the entire Seminary community.

We invite you to join us this year as we serve and care for others. Amazing grace indeed!



*Joan Schlichter*  
Guild President

## Journaling Bibles continued ...

They all seemed eager and happy to have this valuable spiritual resource. My hope is that their own journaling Bibles will be a treasure for them not only during their time here at the Seminary, but also throughout their ministry. Thanks again for your grace. I pray that this gift can be continued in the years ahead. Shalom!

*Dr. Tim Saleska*  
Associate Professor of Exegetical Theology  
Dean of Ministerial Formation

## It's the little things that count ...

- Peanut butter for a sandwich. Thanks to our October ingathering of peanut butter and jelly for Seminary students and families.
- A new Bible for each incoming student so there is no need to figure that cost into the student's budget.
- The professor suggests a speaking tutorial to assist with sermons; the Guild's "educational helps" project assists with this cost.
- "Oh, no, my car broke down and I have no money for the repair." A visit to Dr. Tim Saleska to see whether there are Guild emergency funds to assist this student.
- A student's child who receives a new colorful pair of socks, thanks to the Guild's ingathering of socks at our Advent luncheon.
- The opportunity for a mission trip is suggested, but there are expenses attached to this. Students may receive assistance in offsetting expenses thanks to the Guild's gifts for off-campus events.
- Many of the EIIT students come from developing nations, with few resources. Could they receive a book or two at no charge, compliments of the Guild?
- A cup of coffee sounds really good to "kick start" my morning; I will stop by the after-chapel coffee time for a cup, and to be in fellowship with my classmates. (Thank you Seminary Guild!)

*Yes, these are all "little things" that the Guild's projects address. However, they are little things that can add up to big things in the daily life of a student and/or the student's family. Please partner with us so that we can once again complete this year's list of adopted projects.*

*ALL project donations go directly to our projects. Thank you for your prayers and your donations!*

*For questions about our projects, please call 314-892-0888.*



Guild members enjoying their time at the September luncheon.



Guild members gather for the September luncheon.

## 2017-18 Adopted Service Projects Supporting Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| *After chapel coffee time for students .....                  | \$800           |
| *Books for incoming students .....                            | \$2,600         |
| Campus landscaping .....                                      | \$800           |
| *CHS and EIIT students .....                                  | \$1,000         |
| *Community student gatherings .....                           | \$2,000         |
| Direct-to-student aid.....                                    | \$4,000         |
| *Families in Transition (FIT) .....                           | \$1,000         |
| Resident Field Education - student<br>off-campus events ..... | \$1,000         |
| *Seminary Food Bank .....                                     | \$1,000         |
| International students .....                                  | \$1,000         |
| Music department .....  | \$1,000         |
| *Seminary Re-Sell It Shop .....                               | \$ 500          |
| *Student educational helps .....                              | \$1,000         |
| Student emergency fund .....                                  | \$1,000         |
| Student intramural programs .....                             | \$1,000         |
| <b>Total.....</b>   | <b>\$19,700</b> |

\*Projects completed

## Join us!

You are welcome to join us for our meetings on campus. In September we started off the new academic year with lunch in Koburg Hall and a presentation by Dr. Tim Saleska. A few weeks before our first meeting of the year, we presented each incoming student with a journaling Bible as a gift from the Guild. This gift was received with many gracious "Thank you's!" It was, for each student, an unexpected gift from "some organization" that they soon discovered was the Concordia Seminary Guild. This was the first of many blessings that the students will continue to receive during their time on campus.

Our December Advent by Candlelight luncheon (with enjoyable Christmas musical entertainment) is always well attended. Won't you plan to join us? Once again, we will have an ingathering of new socks and underwear (size infant to 12 years) for the Seminary's Re-Sell It Shop. This is a great example of our faith in action!

## 2017-18 Calendar

All Sem Guild meetings are held in Koburg Hall on the Seminary campus. For directions or a campus map, visit [www.csl.edu/directions](http://www.csl.edu/directions).

### Dec. 1, 2017

Advent by Candlelight  
11:30 a.m.: Registration  
Noon: Lunch and program

### Feb. 9, 2018

Food Bank Shower  
11:30 a.m.: Registration  
Noon: Lunch and program  
Business meeting follows

### March 16, 2018

11:30 a.m.: Registration  
Noon: Lunch and program  
Business meeting follows

### May 4, 2018

11:30 a.m.: Registration  
Noon: Lunch and program  
Business meeting follows

Lunch registration is \$10 for each guest. Reservations are required two weeks prior to the event. Send RSVP with payment to: Mary Jane Autry, 7609 Fleta St., St. Louis, MO 63123

Please make checks payable to Concordia Seminary Guild. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Keep up to date with the Seminary Guild by visiting  
[www.csl.edu/support/seminary-guild](http://www.csl.edu/support/seminary-guild)

## Concordia Seminary Guild Annual Membership Dues

**Individual – \$10 Organization – \$25**

**A yearly Guild membership is from July 1 to June 30 of the following year.**

**Have you paid your dues for this current year?**

Please make checks payable to Concordia Seminary Guild and send to:  
Mary Jane Autry, 7609 Fleta St., St. Louis, MO 63123

Name (or Society) \_\_\_\_\_  Individual membership (\$10) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  Organization membership (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  Project fund donation \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Are your  
membership dues  
up-to-date? See below  
for dues information.  
Thank you!*

**Membership dues:** Please make certain that your Guild membership is up-to-date so that you will continue to receive *Guild Lines*.

**Project donations:** Project donations will be used for any of the Guild projects unless they are specified for a particular project.

**Thank you for your support!** For questions concerning the Seminary Guild, please call 314-942-7254.