



Concordia Seminary
801 Seminary Place
St. Louis, MO 63105

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ST. LOUIS, MO
Permit No. 1058



SPRING 2020

Guild Lines

A PUBLICATION OF THE CONCORDIA SEMINARY GUILD

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Dr. Dale A. Meyer and Tami Clardy

The Diane Meyer Minute

The Seminary Guild will say goodbye to a faithful friend in June when the first lady of the Seminary, Diane Meyer, retires with her husband, President Dr. Dale A. Meyer. Guild Board members asked Diane to share some memories with us before she says goodbye.

Give us a little background about yourself.

I was born in Chicago and lived on the city's southside Roseland neighborhood, where my parents grew up, until I was 11. We then moved to the suburb of Villa Park. I went to Illinois State University, majoring in physical education and social studies. After graduation, I taught in Chicago Heights. I joined St. Paul's Lutheran Church and was introduced to Dale the Sunday he returned from his vicarage. It was the beginning of a life I would never have imagined. We got married in June of 1973 and a year later were at Dale's first congregation, St. Salvator Lutheran Church in Venedy, Ill. Both our daughters were born while we were there.

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Catching Up with Direct-to-Student Aid Recipients



Craig Wehmeyer, fourth-year seminarian, and his wife, Emilie, are expecting their second child in September.



Mason Vieth, third-year seminarian, recently led a Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) prayer service at Chapel of the Cross Lutheran Church in St. Peters, Mo., where he serves as vicar.

CONCORDIA SEMINARY GUILD Board of Directors

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2019-20 Adopted Service Projects

Books for incoming students	\$2,500 *
Campus landscaping	2,000
Direct-to-student aid	4,000 *
International students	1,000 *
Music Arts	2,000 *
Community student gatherings	1,000 *
Dorm student community fund	1,000 *
Resident Field Education off-campus events	1,000 *
After chapel coffee time	1,000 *
Center for Hispanic Studies and Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology students	1,000 *
Student educational helps	500 *
Student athletics and Fitness Center	2,000 *
Families in Transition (FIT)	1,000
Dorm student housing	2,000
Total	\$22,000

*Funded

From the Guild President

Though our days have been anything but normal during the coronavirus pandemic, God's work continues. The Seminary Guild is still working on completing three adopted service projects: campus landscaping, Families in Transition (FIT) and dorm student housing. As you know, we collect most of our donations for these projects during our luncheons, but both our April and May luncheons have been canceled as a result of the coronavirus. Since we will not be meeting, would you consider mailing your donation instead? You can use the form on Page 3 of this newsletter to do so. Unless otherwise directed, monies collected for these canceled luncheons will go toward our adopted service projects.

As the academic year closes, we will say goodbye to Seminary President Dr. Dale A. and Mrs. Diane Meyer, who are retiring. Diane has been an invaluable part of the Guild, and she will be missed. Please join me in wishing her God's blessings as she and Dale continue on their next journey.

The close of the academic year also marks the completion of my first term as Guild president. As I reflect on the past two years as president, I realize what an inspiring and fulfilling time it has been in my life. God continues to work in my heart, and I pray that you, too, will open your heart to His grace.

Tami Clardy

WANT TO DONATE, LEARN MORE OR BECOME A MEMBER?

Visit us online at csl.edu/semguild or on Facebook by searching Concordia Seminary Guild.



Dr. Dale A. and Mrs. Diane Meyer at his installation as Concordia Seminary president in 2005. Photo: Courtesy Diane Meyer

The Diane Meyer Minute

(Continued from Page 1)

Tell us about your most memorable experience at the Seminary.

One memorable day happened in late fall 2007 in the upper chapel garden beds. Gayle Zollmann, who had just been made coordinator of grounds, and I were standing in the beds pulling out the spent sweet potato vines. Before too long we began finding pounds and pounds of potatoes. Gayle stood up, turned to me, and said, "If we can do this, why can't we do more?" From then on, nearly every place on campus we could plant, we planted edible herbs and vegetables along with flowers. It has been a huge blessing.

Who do you consider the most interesting visitors to campus?

I was thrilled to meet syndicated columnist and cable news commentator Cal Thomas, who had a meal at our home during graduation week. But most memorable are members of our former congregations who make the trip to campus to visit and often be part of Seminary celebrations.

What has been your most important accomplishment at the Seminary?

I think immediately of how we made outsiders — local neighbors, city officials and others — feel welcome on campus. Also, I have loved planting and watching beautiful flowers, trees and food grow as a reflection of God's love to all here.

Recognizing the versatility required of a president's wife, tell us about one of your most unexpected schedule changes.

My most unexpected schedule change almost always come when Dale tells me at the last minute that we are supposed to be somewhere for a dinner or reception. Too often, I have no idea. When he sees I'm shocked, he often says, "It's on my calendar!" Well, I rarely see his calendar.

What will you miss most about campus life?

I will truly miss everything about this campus. And that is not an exaggeration. This place and its people have been the blessing of my life.

Your Donations at Work: \$1,000 to International Students

The Graduate School currently enrolls 37 international students from 17 countries including Argentina, Brazil, China, Ethiopia, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Liberia, Rwanda, South Africa, Taiwan and Thailand.

The majority of these students become professors at their countries' seminaries. Some countries have few seminary professors with theological training at an advanced level. Our students who become seminary professors overseas have important roles in raising up the next generation of pastors to share the Gospel.

The students who serve as church leaders become involved in further organizing and growing their countries' church bodies, helping ensure that those living in every region and township in these nations hear and learn of the wonderful message of salvation through Christ.

Most of these students would not be able to attend Concordia Seminary without much-needed monetary support from groups like the Seminary Guild. The Guild's support helps cover the cost of necessities such as books, school supplies, health insurance and miscellaneous medical expenses.

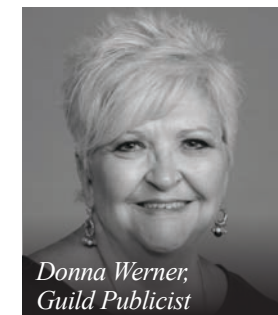
"We are very grateful to the Concordia Seminary Guild for its kindness and dedication to the work of our Lord's church," said Dr. Gerhard Bode, dean of Advanced Studies. "You are a blessing to us and to our students! We rejoice in the knowledge that our Lord will use your gifts for the blessing of His people and the building up of His church. Thank you for your support!"

Cost of Luncheons to Increase

Dues Remain Unchanged

Beginning with our first luncheon of the next academic year, in September, the cost of luncheons will be \$15 due to an increase in food prices. Dues will remain \$10 for individuals and \$25 for organizations and will cover July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021.

Meet New Guild Publicist Donna Werner



Donna Werner, Guild Publicist

We are happy to report that Donna Werner was recently named Seminary Guild publicist by President Tami Clardy. Donna retired from Concordia Seminary for the second time in January 2020. She first joined the Seminary community the day before Call Day in 2008 as administrator in the Vicarage and Deaconess Internships office. The rest of the staff was glad she returned the next day, since she had to prepare more than 100 vicarage documents on a typewriter! She retired for the first time in 2015 but came back in 2017 as a part-time administrative assistant in Resident Field Education.

Donna married Gus in 1971; they were married for 48 years before Gus was called home in 2019. Donna credits the Seminary as being a wonderful support to her and her family during their time of loss. She has two sons — Grant, who was called to his heavenly home in 2017, and Jim — and two grandchildren.

Donna now volunteers part-time at the Fabulous Fox Theatre in St. Louis, Mo., and is the publication editor for her high school alumni group. She enjoys keeping busy and likes to travel. For her 50th wedding anniversary, she and Gus had planned to take the family on a Canadian train trip and to visit Alaska. She hopes now to take that trip with her son and grandchildren. We are delighted to have Donna on board!

The Humble Beginnings of the Seminary Guild

In the 1850s, a small group of women joined together to help the Seminary men and to give financial assistance to the Seminary. Ladies from two Lutheran churches gathered for coffee and cake in the home of Mrs. Emilie Walther and her husband, Carl Ferdinand Wilhelm (C.F.W.) Walther, who was the first president of Concordia Seminary. The women sewed, mended, washed and ironed the clothes of Seminary students so the students could look their best at all times.



Emilie Walther

As each new Lutheran church was built, the church's ladies-aid women joined Mrs. Walther's circle, and each woman would invite a student to her home for Sunday dinner and would do the student's laundry. The Concordia Seminary Guild was officially founded in 1932, six years after the Seminary moved from its Jefferson Avenue location in St. Louis to Clayton, Mo. Many lasting friendships were created between families and students through the Guild. The entire St. Louis-area Lutheran community knew the students, prayed for them and cared about them, and the community came to regard Concordia Seminary as "their" Seminary.

UPCOMING LUNCHEONS

Sept. 11 | Oct. 16 | Dec. 4
(brunch)



Concordia Seminary Guild Annual Membership Dues/Project Fund Donations

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?

Name (or Society) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual membership (\$10) _____
Address _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Organization membership (\$25) _____
City, State, ZIP _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Project fund donation
Telephone _____	_____ \$5 _____ \$10 _____ \$25 _____ \$50
Email _____	_____ \$75 _____ \$100 Other: \$ _____
	Total _____

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

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 314-429-6302.