

## Thank you Eastern Washington – Idaho Synod for being a ministry partner!

Your prayers, direct synod gifts of \$6,951 last year, and encouraging our students like Kevin Beebe who give us strength and courage in our mission of equipping faithful leaders. In addition, there are 35 alums of PLTS that live and work on the territory of your synod, many of them in congregational ministries.

## New Curriculum for a New Day

We are excited to share the news that our faculty have collaborated to develop a new curriculum which will be implemented in the fall of 2018. The new curriculum can be completed in three years instead of four, including internship. This addresses concerns regarding student debt by saving a year of residential costs. The new curriculum is shaped by four orienting perspectives that emphasizes cultivating spiritual practices and skills for building community, putting Christian beliefs and practices into collaborative engagement with other religious traditions and secular disciplines, and faithful social transformation grounded in the good news of Jesus Christ. The curriculum maintains the solid theological, biblical and ministerial formation that is the hallmark of Lutheran theological education and aims to prepare pastors for both traditional and emerging forms of Christian communities that are centered in the gospel of Jesus Christ, social justice, and ecological well-being. The new curriculum will take advantage of our central location in Downtown Berkeley, California by providing a growing number and expanding opportunities for community engagement.

### Photo Captions

Left: Ray Pickett, Rector

Center: PLTS Faculty

Right: Students in  
Liberacion Classroom



## Synod Spotlight: Kevin Beebe

Kevin is a third year student, currently on internship in St. Charles, Missouri at The Bridge Coffee House. The Bridge is an ecumenical ministry sponsored by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Reformed Church in America that exists to bridge ethnic, racial, religious and socio-economic cultures. The people who gather and worship at The Bridge are concerned advocates, founded and supported by faith communities, desiring to bring peace, justice and dignity to the world. The internship site is a great fit for Kevin, who has a big heart for sharing the Gospel while engaging in peace and justice ministries. Before answering his call to go to seminary and be a pastor, Kevin served for a year in Jerusalem and the West Bank as a Young Adult in Global Mission, a program of the ELCA for young adults exploring vocation, service, and global issues.

To learn more about PLTS, or to make a gift, visit [PLTS.edu](http://PLTS.edu).

### QUICK FACTS ABOUT PLTS

- Number of Students (including TEEM): 89
- Number of Graduates (2017): 16
- Tuition (Full-time M.Div): \$13,920
- Total Average Cost of Attendance: \$35,312
- Scholarships Awarded (2016-2017): \$436,286 to 100% of need-based qualifying students
- Average Total Educational Debt for Seminarians Upon Graduation: \$46,386