

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

Your prayers, direct synod gifts of \$5,370 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.

PLTS is moving toward sustainability.

With the support of California Lutheran University, we are:

- offering more scholarship assistance to students every year.
- moving our campus into Downtown Berkeley this summer to increase accessibility for students and reduce the financial strains of deferred maintenance costs. Proceeds from the sale of the Marin Avenue property will be invested in an endowment for PLTS.
- working on a new curriculum which is creative and collaborative, with the goal of implementation in 2018.



Students: Paul Benz, Ben Hogue, Rachel Swenson

Students have diverse learning experiences.

In January, seven PLTS students had the opportunity to visit the Holy Land along with a group of PLTS alums, friends, and donors. Their pilgrimage took them from Nazareth to Galilee into Jerusalem and ending in Bethlehem. In addition to walking in the footsteps of Jesus, the group was invited into the life of Pastor Gabi Aelabouni, Director of the ELCA Fund for Leaders, who grew up in Eilaboun, a small village outside Nazareth, and who served as one of the pilgrimage leaders.



Students on the Sea of Galilee

Giving makes a difference.

Many individuals and congregations on the territory of your synod are already making regular gifts toward the work of PLTS. Your support of our Annual Fund helps fuel our academic programs and operations. We are also grateful for the 246 supporters who have promised to remember us in their estate plans. Such gifts often go toward establishing endowed funds for scholarships, programs and faculty chairs. If you want to discuss being part of our legacy society, contact Rev. Brian Stein-Webber at bsteinwebber@plts.edu or 510-559-2711.

Congregation Spotlight: Advent Lutheran Church,

Spokane Valley, Washington, gave a \$1,000 to the PLTS Seminary Fund which provides unrestricted support for student programs and services, faculty, and operations.

Advent's gift was eligible for PLTS' congregation matching program. 66 congregations in the ELCA made a new or increased gift to the PLTS Seminary Fund. With the help of a match incentive, every eligible congregation gift, up to \$1,000 was matched, thanks to a pool of gifts totaling \$25,498 from a group of faithful friends of the seminary.

FAST FACTS for 2016-2017

- PLTS has 84 students in its Master of Divinity, Master of Theological Studies, and TEEM Programs.
- PLTS has 9 faculty members including Dr. Luis Menéndez-Antuña who started in 2016, teaching New Testament.
- Cost of attendance for one year averages \$36,575 including full-time tuition of \$16,000.
- The average ELCA seminary student's debt is \$46,386.

To learn more about PLTS, or to make a gift, visit www.Plts.edu.