

# Desert Hills Lutheran Church Foundation



Celebrate *Grace*  
Make *Disciples*  
Make *A Difference*

## Our Two Seminary Students Visit Desert Hills



Erin Coutts

Kristina Hill

The DHLC Foundation hosted our two 2016 scholarship recipients, Erin Coutts and Kristina Hill, on March 24-26. Both students greeted the congregation at most of the services that weekend. The Foundation received many positive comments about their visit.



**Erin** is currently interning at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Austin, MN. She has had the opportunity to preach up to three times per month at this point.



**Kristina** is currently interning at Glen Cary Lutheran Church in Andover, MN. She has been adding additional seminary courses during her internship so she will be ordained at the completion of the internship.

## *Critical* Need for Scholarships

Desert Hills Lutheran Foundation is engaged in the critically important work of granting scholarship support for future pastors while they complete their education. Increasing costs of education have sharply escalated for seminarians. Tuition alone averages **\$16,130** at ELCA seminaries. Add to this the cost of housing, food, and other living expenses and the cost soars to **over \$30,000** per year. After acquiring college debt the cost of further education can appear very restrictive to those with gifts for ministry.

What is the solution? The church, meaning all of us committed to the mission of Jesus Christ, must offer resources to ease the fears of debt for future pastors. Some of us are able to do this individually, however most of us may want to find other ways to offer support. This is why our Foundation is committed to giving our members the opportunity to help through gifts designated for seminary scholarships. Memorial gifts, current gifts, estate gifts, stocks, life insurance are all good ways to offer gifts of support.

The Foundation itself has pledged to continue its support of both our current seminarians until they are ready for ordination.

It is critically important who enters the ministry. We must encourage committed people who love God and want to preach and teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The ELCA is spread across this great country and has congregations ranging from very small to very large. All these congregations need pastoral leadership in order to grow in mission.

***Can you join us in helping?***

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## Genesis House Shelter for Abused Women And children



Judy Gunson presented checks to Patti O'Berry, director of the **Genesis House** shelter. Patti has reported that ALL of the needed funding to complete the project has now been raised. Children at the house are now enjoying a miniature golf course provided by the construction workers. Part of the Foundation's mission statement is "**Make A Difference**" and this grant aided in meeting that mission.

## Memorial Gifts

The Foundation wishes to thank donors who contributed so far in 2017 in memory or honor of the following:

**Bill Campbell**  
**Bob Lehrke**  
**Bob Porter**  
**Dana Knoll**  
**Dave Sullivan**  
**Don Karaiskos**  
**Dorothy Heinz**  
**Ed Wismeyer**  
**Ken Hahn**  
**George Johnson**  
**Ken Thompson**  
**Ralph Ramlow**  
**Valerie Beach-Peiffer**

Congregation members are invited to make gifts in memory of their loved ones and friends.

**Mark 1:17** - Jesus said "Follow me and I will make you fish for people."

## Pastor Overson Sabbatical Coverage

The Foundation has pledged to assist Pastor Overson with expenses during his sabbatical leave this summer. We wish Pastor Overson the freedom to pray, reflect, study and return re-energized to continue his ministry at Desert Hills.

## Ways to donate to the Foundation

- As a bequest in your will
- Charitable Gift Annuity (minimum gift \$10,000, can be restricted or unrestricted)
- Beneficiary Designation (IRA, Other Retirement fund, or Life Insurance)
- Charitable Remainder Trust
- Donor Advised Gifts
- Give it Twice Trust
- Memorial and Tribute gifts

## Assets to give

- Cash
- Retirement Funds
- Life Insurance
- Real Estate
- Stocks

**The Foundation recently received a gift of \$1,000 as a distribution from an individual's IRA account!**

Please see your tax adviser to assist you with this gift opportunity.

## Organizational Gifts Year-To-Date

The Foundation has given or already planned funding in 2017 to:

**Crossroads Mission** in Santan Valley to continue renting space for their after-school program;  
**Fund for Leadership In Mission (FLIM)** .

## Overson Scholarship Fund for Christian Leadership

The Foundation is actively exploring additional grants to students other than those specifically on the ordination track. For instance, Lutheran Campus Ministries periodically sponsors mission trips.