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LUTHERAN-PENTECOSTAL STUDY GROUP

Communiqué

December 8-14, 2006

Dialogue between Pentecostals and Lutherans

The Lutheran-Pentecostal Study Group came together from Dec. 8-14, 2006, on the campus of Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California, hosted by the David Du Plessis Center, to discuss the topic "How Do We Encounter Christ in Word and Proclamation?".

To begin the conversations, preliminary papers were presented by Rev. Dr. Matti Repo, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland on *Encountering Christ in Proclamation–A Lutheran Perspective* and by Dr. Jean-Daniel Plüss, Swiss Pentecostal Mission, entitled *Encountering Christ in Word and Witness: a Pentecostal Point of View.*

In order to bring the talks into a communal context, the delegations visited Pentecostal worship services at West Angeles Church of God in Christ and the Dream Center at Angelus Temple in Los Angeles.

The ensuing discussions were very fruitful and led to an appreciation of fundamental agreements regarding the centrality of Jesus Christ in word and proclamation, the role of the Holy Spirit to enlighten us, and the worshipping community as mediating an encounter with Christ. Further discussion revolved around encountering Christ in charismatic manifestations related to proclamation. While the two traditions have historically emphasized these manifestations differently, they found substantial commonality in their approach to discerning and evaluating them.

The next meeting will take place from September I6-22, 2007 and will address the theme "Encountering Christ in the sacraments/ordinances".

Present at the Pasadena meeting on the Lutheran team were Dr. Kenneth G. Appold Lutheran co-chair (USA/Germany), Dr. Theodor Dieter (Germany), Dr. Matti Repo (Finland).

The Pentecostal delegation consisted of: Dr. Jean-Daniel Plüss Pentecostal co-chair (Switzerland), Dr. Veli Matti Kärkkäinen (Finland), Dr. Cecil M. Robeck Jr. (USA) Dr. Edmund Rybarczyk (USA) and Rev. Tham Wan Yee (Malaysia).

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