

2018 IN REVIEW

In many ways, this past year has been a difficult one. In addition to the passing of David's parents (see right), each of Alicia's two sisters here in Mexico City lost her husband. Nevertheless, we give thanks to God for their lives and the many people they touched.

*At the same time, we thank God for the many blessings and experiences our family had over the past year. Alicia was finally able to retire, and spent time studying Dutch as well as starting a Master's Degree at the Theological Community of Mexico. She was also able to visit our daughter Monica in Amsterdam in March. Monica received a promotion at the NGO where she works there, which builds digital communities among youth for social change in countries around the world, and was sent to China and India (2x) for work. She also visited Serbia, Spain, and Poland during the year, in addition to recently purchasing her own condominium. Elizabeth and her husband Matt continue in Minneapolis, where Elizabeth teaches statistics at the University of Minnesota. In July, she traveled to Japan to attend a statistics education conference. In September, the Lutheran Seminary where David teaches here celebrated the 20th anniversary of its reopening with a special ceremony. He is now in his eighth year as Coordinator of the Seminary's online course program, which continues to grow. It was also a joy for him to have the Theological Community publish in the U.S. the two-volume work he had been writing since 2010 titled **Jesus' Death in New Testament Thought** and wrote the draft of a shorter version of the work in Spanish this fall as he taught a course on the subject of his work.*

IN MEMORIAM

ANDREW D. BRONDOS (1929-2018)

Only a few months after the death of David's mother Elizabeth on July 3, his father Andrew passed away on October 23 in Allen, Texas (near Dallas). Andrew was born in Steubenville, Ohio, the youngest son of Slovak immigrants who came to the U.S. in 1919-1920, and Slovak was his first language. Following his older brother Michael, Andrew felt called to serve in the pastoral ministry and graduated from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1954, the same year in which he and Elizabeth were married. He served congregations in the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bradford, Ontario, Massillon, OH, and Cudahy, WI before taking a call to Fort Smith, AR in 1978 and then serving as Executive for Education and Stewardship for the Mid-South District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in Memphis, TN from 1986 until his retirement in 2004. Words can never express how deeply he was loved by so many as father, grandfather, pastor, and friend.



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