



Evangelical- Lutheran Church of Saratow

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Report November

The Archbishop of the evangelical-Lutheran church of Russia – Dietrich Brauer – visited the region of Saratow

Since the time of the great tsars(Ivan IV, Peter II, Katharina II etc.) our country – rich of nationalities and confessions – can be proud of the evangelical-Lutheran church in Russia. Long is its history in the ministry for God and his church, for the welfare of the people in prayer and in the cure of souls.

On the 29th and 30th of November 2014 the head of the evangelical-Lutheran Church of Russia, Archbishop Dietrich Brauer, visited the region of Saratow. On the occasion of the ordination of Andrej Dzhamgarov to a pastor, he came to Saratow.



In the framework of his visit Archbishop Brauer and Alexander Scheiermann, provost of the evangelical-Lutheran church in the region of Saratow, drove to the Holy-Trinity Church in the town of Marx. The building of the church has been created in the first half of the 19th century, is part of the cultural heritage and currently in restoration. It's notable that the church building is a twin building of the former church of Saratow. This church was located in the downtown and has been ruptured in the early 1970'tes.

The ceremony of the church service has taken place on the 30th of November in the Church of Saint Mary, which currently is still in building. To raise the bell tower there's not enough capital, yet. The ordination was celebrated in the

first part of the liturgical program the multiple congratulations in the second.

To explain the new pastor his future functions, the archbishop told him about the responsibility on his duty.

The task of the pastor is not only about to tell what the lord and his word – the bible – want to teach us, but also to be an example in his personal life. To teach in the right way and declare about Jesus Christ. It is possible that people will find the right way by such an example and reach the first rung of the ladder that leads our soul into rest and peace – into the eternal home.

The new Lutheran Pastor Andrej Dzhamgarov pointed that a real servant of the lord is not supposed to stand in the center and shall not present his own views and positions. But show the people the real center – the sacrifice of Jesus for our sinful world.

A lot of venerable guests came to take part of the celebration. Such as many members of the local administration and the government of the region of Saratow. As a representative of the city council, Pavel



Wladimirowitsch Grischtschenkograduated. Furthermore many greetings from other ev. Luth. churches has been declaimed, amongst others from St. Petersburg, Moscow, Kasan, Simbirsk, Marx and other towns and countries.

During the second part of the celebration the guests could admire the talents of the young church members from Simbirsk. They sung many songs by the accompaniment of many instruments for the joy of the lord. After that the people for a short time could imagine to be in Africa. Our brothers and sisters from Namibia sung a few songs in the language of the Ovambo – for the joy of the lord. The sound and rhythm and the spirit of worship moved the attenders deeply. Not only the new sound but also the professionally of the students impressed them.



The theater group of the church of Saratow presented a short play by their selves. They colorfully explained the sense and the tasks of the work as a pastor: We all have different characters, oftentimes we don't have the same opinion. Or – how the theater group has shown us: We're all sheep and sometimes don't get on with each other, running in different directions.

Furthermore the wife, the parents, the older brother spoke about some important experiences they'd made with Andrej. They expressed what the ordination means in their point of view. What grace it would be, Anrej Dzhamgarov ("Dzhamgarov" in Armenian means ringer) such as his ancestor had made the decision to work for God.

At the end of an eventful day Archbishop Brauer thanked for the hearty intake. It had to be say that the Lutheran faith, next to the Orthodox Church and the Catholicism, is one of the three most important confessions in Russia. In the Oblast of Saratow the spread of the Lutheran faith is caused by the settling of Germans at the river Wolga. Today people with many nationalities call the Lutheran Church in Saratow their home.

<p><u>Weprayfor:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the work of Andrej Dzhamgarov and his family • all the guests, took part in the ordination 	<p><u>Wearethankfulfor:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrej Dzhamgarov and his decision to work forthe lord as a pastor • for all the people that heard the word of God this day
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The Lord may bless You,

Alexander Scheiermann