

Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
1100 East 55th Street Chicago, Illinois 60615

Kurt Hendel publishes first English translation of Bugenhagen's writings

Kurt K. Hendel, the Bernard, Fischer, Westberg Distinguished Ministry Professor of Reformation History at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC), has published the first English translations of the selected writings of Johannes Bugenhagen. Fortress Press released *Johannes Bugenhagen, Selected Writings, Volume I and Volume II*, this week.

Bugenhagen's writings made a significant contribution to the life of the church during the sixteenth century and beyond. Hendel includes in these works the writings that he considers to be illustrative of the diversity of Bugenhagen's reforming activities and theological interests, organizing them by theme, and providing an extensive introduction. Hendel says, "I did not translate Bugenhagen's biblical commentaries, which are too large. Rather, I chose to focus on his treatises, which reached a much wider audience. A team of German scholars has been working on a critical edition of Bugenhagen's works in their original languages, and the first volume of this appeared recently. However, most of those works are still only available in their original sixteenth-century editions."

Bugenhagen was a pivotal figure in the organization of the Lutheran movement in northern Germany and in parts of Scandinavia. He is known as the "third reformer of Wittenberg – first Luther, then Melancthon, and then Bugenhagen." He was pastor of the city church in Wittenberg from 1523- 1558 and served as Luther's pastor. While he is particularly recognized as the organizational genius of the Lutheran Reformation, he also made important theological contributions "He was especially eager to explicate and promote Luther's gospel-centered theology," Hendel adds. "Therefore, he wrote much about the doctrine of justification, the proper relationship of faith and works, and the sacraments."

The two-volume set of *Johannes Bugenhagen, Selected Writings* (ISBN: 9781451465556) is available from Fortress Press in hardcover or as an eBook for \$70.

About LSTC

The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC), a seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, forms visionary leaders who bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ. It provides high-quality seminary and graduate education for women and men in a community that is global, multicultural, ecumenical, interfaith, and urban. LSTC faculty provides resources for the whole church through their research, writing, and workshops and presentations around the world. Graduates serve in every type of ministry setting as they work to realize the gospel vision of peace and justice. To learn more about the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, visit www.lstc.edu

Contacts:

Cheryl Hoth
Assistant to the Dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs
773-256-0721
choth@lstc.edu

Jan Boden
Director of Communications and Marketing
773-256-0744
jboden@lstc.edu