

“To proclaim the Good News is the first and greatest act of love of neighbor.”

-St. Arnold Janssen SVD

the DWWC World

Fall 2018

Educating Tomorrow's Missionaries



Len Uhal with Pope Francis

Bro. Mike with Pope Francis

Did You Know?

DWC has a new website at www.dwci.edu.

It is beautiful, so much easier to use and has loads of information for prospective students and their families as well as for current students, faculty, staff, and people like you who generously support us.

On Page 5, there is an article about the new website. You can see what it looks like, including its easy-to-use “Donate” button, which you will love.

We sure do!

Three from DWC Attend Worldwide SVD Assembly

Toss in a handshake with Pope Francis and it was quite an experience. Father John Szukalski, SVD, vice president for academic affairs; Brother Mike Decker, SVD, medical coordinator; and Len Uhal, vice president for admissions, attended the 18th General Chapter of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD), held near Rome last summer. Every six years, Divine Word Missionaries from around the world gather for a month to get reports and plot the future of their worldwide missionary order.

“The theme was returning to our spiritual heritage and to more joyfully proclaim the Gospels,” said Fr. John, who for the fourth time served as secretary for the general chapter, a demanding job requiring him to distill the proceedings into a historical report of the work of the SVD and an outline of its goals. “There are so many excellent things that are happening with SVDs, a lot that doesn’t make headlines.” Bro. Mike Decker represented SVD brothers in North and South America—the SVD PANAM

Zone. While the meetings helped raise his awareness of the global SVD, he especially enjoyed meeting with other brothers to discuss their issues. “For instance, in some places, brothers are getting an advanced education, but not everywhere,” he said. “We discussed what can be done to improve the future for our younger brothers.” Four lay people were invited to attend the general chapter as observers. Len was chosen to be the lay representative from the PANAM Zone.



Fr. John with Pope Francis

“One of the highlights for me was seeing how Divine Word Missionaries partner with lay people,” he said. “But the multiculturalism—140 people from 46 different countries coming together—that was just fantastic.” On June 25, the entire group met the Pope, and Len was shocked when he was called to the front of the room. “I was way in the back when I heard, ‘Where’s Len? They want you up here!’” he said. “So I was right there when the Pope came in. Seeing this world leader, knowing the things he stands for and preaches about was awesome!”