Lutheran Campus Ministry

As university students experience life on their own and look toward the future, Lutheran Campus Ministry hopes to help them focus on faith and discern their call.

At right: Artist Kristen Malcolm Berry created this piece for Lutheran Campus Ministry.

“Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the Gospel.” Ephesians 6:19
When did you answer the call to ministry in the church? For most of today’s seminarians, that call was confirmed during their college years. By building deep, challenging relationships, the campus ministries of the ELCA seek to help young adults discover their vocational identity in God’s world.

In 1997, the ELCA’s Division for Higher Education and Schools oversaw a study by Pastor Sara Massey-Gillespie that documented the undergraduate alma maters of the current clergy roster as well as of people then involved in the candidacy process. For many, the results were surprising.

Of the 17,211 rostered leaders surveyed, close to 55 percent were products of Lutheran colleges. However, when the field was narrowed to those then in preparation for ministry, only about 31.6 percent were from Lutheran undergraduate institutions. That means that 68.4 percent of the seminarians in 1997 were products of non-Lutheran schools. By all accounts, this trend continues.

This is where ELCA campus ministries come in. Of those 703 students surveyed who had come from non-Lutheran colleges, 335 of them came from schools with a Lutheran Campus Ministry (LCM) presence. Through providing an ELCA presence at roughly 120 private colleges and universities and with partner congregations at over 600 campuses nationwide, LCM understands itself as providing a ministry crucial to the future of the church.

“The church needs to recognize the position of campus ministry in the lives of young people,” says Brett Jorgensen, an M.Div. student who was involved with the Lutheran Campus Center during his undergraduate years at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. “College is where most people will make the decision to go to seminary. Some might make the decision in high school, but that’s rare.”

Experiences like Jorgensen’s affect the shape of today’s campus ministry. “On many state university campuses, many students haven’t heard someone say, ‘I think your gifts are just about right for work in the church.’ So many people wind up in seminary because someone has done that gift identification for them,” said Galen Hora (D.Min., ’99), assistant director for campus ministry advancement and deployed director for Iowa.

“If you make up your mind in high school [that you are called to enter the ministry], you may go to a church school,” Hora added. “On the campuses of state and large private universities, there come a number of students that have not yet done a lot of work...
"I don’t know anywhere else in a university setting that a student can hear a word of affirmation for their gifts in the church. Identifying those gifts is one of the most important things we can do."

Galen Hora, Assistant Director for Campus Ministry Advancement

in vocational discernment."

ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson, in his column for the May 2002 issue of The Lutheran, noted that “we now have 2,300 ELCA congregations without a called pastor.” Given this shortage, it is clear that campus ministry is important for the immediate future of the church. But producing ordained ministers isn’t the sum of what campus ministry is about. Instead, vocational discernment has become a hallmark of LCM.

“That we are involved with vocational discernment means that we’re also helpful to future lawyers, engineers and teachers,” Hora said. “I don’t know anywhere else in a university setting that a student can hear a word of affirmation for their gifts in the church. Identifying those gifts is one of the most important things we can do.”

Certainly, that’s what Stephanie Larson, first year M.Div. student, found during her time at Christus Rex, an LCM site at the University of North Dakota under the leadership of Pastor Tim Megorden (’73) and AIM Kathy Fick.

“In college, I knew I needed to continue my involvement in the church,” Larson said. “There was a student from my hometown who had attended Christus Rex and he invited me.”

At the time, Larson didn’t see working in the church as a part of her professional future. “I wanted to go into governmental affairs or public relations—some kind of political work,” Larson recalled.

But her involvement at Christus Rex transformed those interests. “I began to understand that the ELCA

**Firsthand**

**Rev. Joy Ekstedt, ’96**

**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minn.**

I became involved with Crossroads, a campus ministry of the ELCA at Minnesota State University-Mankato, about the same time I was wrestling with the call to ordained ministry. My time participating with campus ministry was invaluable.

Fred Fritz, who was and who continues to be the campus pastor at Crossroads, became my mentor and friend. The fact that I’m able to name a number of other friends from Crossroads who attended Luther Seminary before or after me is a great witness to the importance of campus ministry at state universities.
social statements are political statements,” she said. “My love of politics was not lost or left behind; it was integrated into my faith life. When I understood that I could be both a God person and a politician, then it was okay to come to seminary. They helped me, as a young person, to identify and name my gifts.”

Larson has taken the lessons of vocational discernment learned at Christus Rex into her seminary years. “How do you fit as a child of God in this world? We tend to separate the two, but campus ministry doesn’t do that,” she said. “When you can say ‘I am that and I am this’ and see how those fit together, you not only have an occupation but a vocation.”

Larson sees that sort of vocational emphasis as crucial for today’s church. “We have people crying for a purpose,” she said. “God has given each person a gift; the church really has to help people find their gifts and, once they’ve found it, to help them use it as part of their call.”

Jerie Smith is an associate in ministry on staff at the LCM University Center at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Additionally, she served on the Minneapolis Area Synod candidacy committee for over 20 years and is an ELCA-trained discernment guide.

“T’m in the middle of people considering ordination and people considering making their life a total vocation,” she said of her position as a rostered lay leader in campus ministry. “It is important that we communicate that people who don’t enter ministry are no less a part of the church.”

Lutheran Student Movement (LSM) has long encouraged the lay involvement of young adults. “LSM lets students be involved in an organization of the church that is also parallel to the church,” Smith said. “It doesn’t matter if they’re pre-sem or pre-engineering, they can still be a leader.”

According to Larry Meyer, pastor at the Lutheran Student Center in Lincoln, Neb., products of campus ministry often make for active parishioners. “What I see happening is that those really active here usually become leaders in congregations,” he said.
The Student Center’s tradition of hiring students as music directors feeds this legacy of leadership. “When they graduate, they usually go out and become a choir director or organist for another congregation,” Meyer said. “That gives me great pleasure.”

Congregational leadership from alums of campus ministries occurs in more subtle ways as well. “One time, I got a call—from an alum who’s now a professor in North Dakota serving on a worship committee—asking about using one of our worship settings he remembered,” he said.

And recently, when a couple who had met and been married at the Student Center joined a congregation in Lincoln, Meyer told their new pastor that the young husband had a beautiful singing voice. “It wasn’t but a week later that I got a call from Brian saying, ‘He’s asking me to be the cantor!’” he laughed. “That kind of thing is where we really show partnership with the greater church.”

LCM has always valued its companionship with the church, both regionally and church-wide. “It’s really a ministry for the entire people of God,” said Horan.

This strong connection is manifested in the products of campus ministry now attending Luther. Even if they are in their second or third years of seminary life, these students still use words like “we” and “our” when speaking of their campus ministry homes.

“I think I use those words because such a huge part of that ministry is about building relationships,” Larson shared. “They’re a part of me and I know I’m a part of them.”

**Firsthand**

**Rev. Lisa Simonsen ’96**

_Campus Pastor, University of Minnesota_

Each Lutheran Campus Ministry Center is not only a university worshipping community and a home-away-from-home for college students; it’s also a training center for adult congregational life. We in the church used to tell ourselves that this training took place in confirmation. Yet, with the modern reality of extended adolescence into the mid-twenties, something is needed between the red carnation boutonniere and the wedding bouquet to transition young people into a membership of full participation in the life of a parish.

Throughout the course of students’ involvement in Lutheran campus ministry, they have the opportunity to do more than just participate in worship:

- They receive plenary practice through Lutheran Student Movement events, which include synod assembly plenary simulation using Robert’s Rules, writing and discussing legislation, etc.;
- They run for and hold elected offices—nationally, regionally and locally;
- They raise funds and manage church money through fundraising efforts and the collection of weekly student offerings—and deciding where those benevolence dollars should be donated.
- The students also plan retreats, write newsletter articles and Web site devotions, manage Web communication to the local campus and beyond, and participate in intentional outreach work to invite others into the community of faith.

No wonder parish pastors who receive Lutheran Campus Ministry students into their congregations after graduation express their thanks for these capable, committed, insightful young adults who know how to “Be the Church” and are eager to share their gifts with God’s people. Sola Dei Gloria!

For more information about Lutheran Campus Ministry visit its Web pages on the ELCA site: [http://www.elca.org/dhes/lcm/](http://www.elca.org/dhes/lcm/)
I have been told that the single most common factor for those who enroll in seminary is camping. Can you imagine? Today we are celebrating our many connections with camping ministries. Suppose it’s true! Suppose the single most common factor for you who are enrolled in seminary is camping! But why?

Maybe the answer is youth ministries. Kids go to camp because of youth ministries in their congregations. Because their parents send them to camp! These are the young people who are nurtured in the faith, and when they hear God’s calling to leadership in the church, they are ready! Maybe that’s what’s happening.

Camping ministry is a blessing itself: the people, the places, the faith. Indulge me in a journey to the past, 50 years ago to be exact, and let us together give thanks to God for how our Lord called us on the shores of “camp whatever.”

It wasn’t “camp whatever.” It never is. It is always a particular place, on the Sea of Galilee or Lake Carlos or Flathead, or as in my case, Lake Onamia. And it is never campers in general. It is Peter and Andrew or Sally and Dawn, by name. Part of the experience is the personal encounter.

The fun and games are part of it, too, and the songs. Wild Bill Knoll was the caretaker of the camp, a skinny guy with a huge smile and a motorized cart. We liked the cart, and we loved wild Bill. Every night he led the songs, belting out the great tradition of Bible camp songs with his tenor voice and swinging his arms to get us moving. White choral bells upon the garden path, sung in rounds by tables. Lord I want to be a Christian, in my heart. John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt!

Every night ended with songs, even one cabin singing to another in the dark, “We are cabin number 9, where number 10” until the counselors yelled “Quiet!” Back home, we taught the Catholic kids those songs on the bus to away games. Maybe it was the songs!

Maybe it was the teachers. Pastor Henry Mayer was just out of seminary. We thought he was old, but he was probably 25. Like the counselors, he was good to us kids. He was also a fine Bible teacher, and his tennis serve was impressive.

There was a seminary professor from Wartburg, named Dr. Hulme. He actually talked to us about "sex"! Right there at Bible camp! It was incredible. Probably he never mentioned body parts or anything so gross as that! His book was titled, The Facts of Love and Life for Teenagers. It was a lot about respect and honoring your body and saving sex for marriage, but Dr. Hulme talked right to us! Pretty exciting when you are 12.

Maybe it was the teachers! Maybe it was the campfires. All the boys threw stuff in the fire, and the girls giggled. We sang, and the fire burned down. Somebody prayed, and we sang, “Now the Day is Over.” And what do you know, that cute girl from Winthrop, named Rosemary, was sitting right next to me. Our elbows actually touched. The electricity was enough to scorch your heart. Terrific! Once the boys in our cabin caught us holding hands. They went ballistic for days. God bless her wherever she is! Maybe it was Rosemary from Winthrop.

But I don’t think so. All that wonderful exuberance meant growing up. Something else was happening at the same time. We were being brought into the presence of the living Lord. Like the young fishermen on the Galilean shores, somehow we heard his call, “Follow me!” Faintly at first, then firmly, and we were beginning to understand our lives were filled with God’s promise for the world.

Who knows what the fishermen first
understood when they left their boats? Did they have any idea what it would mean to be a disciple of this rabbi? The gospels are full of stories of the ignorance and arrogance of the first disciples. Small wonder we were often insufferable when we returned home. I remember asking my father if he was really sure of his eternal salvation. He smiled with some surprise, confident of what Christ had done for him. The wisdom of his response was as wonderful as its gentleness.

Jesus has a heart for young Christians, boys and girls, sophisticated adolescents and naive kids alike. God bless you who are investing your lives and energy in this ministry. Camping brings young women and men to the shores where Jesus finds them and calls them to follow.

I doubt that the great Albert Schweitzer ever went to Bible camp, although he left the comforts of Europe to follow his call to a remote hospital in Africa. Listen to the famous last paragraph of his book, The Quest of the Historical Jesus: “He comes to us as One unknown, without a name, as of old, by the lakeside, He came to those who knew Him not. He speaks to us the same word: ‘Follow thou me!’ and set us to the tasks which He has to fulfill for our time. He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be wise or simple, He will reveal Himself in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings which they shall pass through in His fellowship, and, as an ineffable mystery, shall learn in their own experience Who He is.”

That is why people come to seminary! Thanks be to God!

AMEN.

**President Tiede receives ALDE Outstanding Executive Award**

The Rev. Dr. David L. Tiede, president of Luther Seminary, received the Outstanding Executive Award at the 2002 Association of Lutheran Development Executives (ALDE) conference, held Feb. 22-25 in Orlando. Tiede was recognized for his visionary leadership, effectiveness in management and fundraising, inspirational leadership, boldness in proclaiming Christian stewardship and commitment to the mission of the Church at large.

“David’s leadership extends beyond the borders of Luther Seminary’s campus. He is a teacher of the church, a preacher of the gospel and a leading contributor to the essential and sometimes difficult dialogue of a church in transition,” wrote Paul Dovre in his nomination letter. Dovre is president emeritus of Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn.

Under Tiede’s leadership, the Luther Seminary Foundation (a primary source of volunteer fundraising leadership) was established. In his presidency, he has overseen two highly successful capital campaigns, which drew a total of $97.5 million in funding for the seminary. He is also well recognized for his efforts in reinventing theological education – uniting the seminary community around a common mission to prepare leaders for ministry in the 21st Century.

“David Tiede has a creative, expansive and hopeful vision for the church,” said Kathleen Hansen, vice president for seminary relations and executive director of the Luther Seminary Foundation. “He is a visionary who commands the respect of leaders within the national religious community. More significantly, he has a capacity for effective leadership that brings people together to make these dreams a reality.”

The Outstanding Executive Award is given each year by ALDE, a 900-member, professional organization for Luthers involved in resource development. It is designed to honor a deserving CEO or president, executive of a church-related institution, or any Lutheran serving a non-Lutheran organization who serves the Lutheran church by deed and example.

Below: The Seminary Relations staff celebrates The Executive of the Year Award with honoree Dr. David Tiede (center) and his wife, Muffy (on his left).
Paul Berge retires
His life exemplifies servant leadership

by Shelley Cunningham Harber, '98, skcunning@luthersem.edu

Paul Berge has a servant’s heart.

The first glimpses of it come from the warmth of his smile. The inviting way he engages students and faculty alike in conversation shows he truly cares about the lives of the people around him.

It becomes more evident when you see him talking about his career at Luther Seminary—a career both in the classroom, as professor of New Testament, and as an administrator. Berge has been coordinator of the Master of Arts program since 1984. It has been one of his greatest passions at the seminary.

“What has drawn me both to the classroom and to the administrative work [of the program] has been the one-on-one relationships. The M.A. program is so individualized. I’ve been able to sit with students, help them define what they’re looking to gain from their studies and walk through their writing projects,” he said.

The program has grown exponentially, from 56 students in 1984, to 143 currently enrolled—and countless graduates in between. Berge feels the program’s focus on tying faith to vocation has been invaluable to its growth.

“People feel called in certain areas—youth and family ministry, for example, or music, or work with the senior population, or Christian education—and they want to work in those areas while they serve the church. In any given year there are many students who move from M.A. to M.Div., and vice versa, as their vocational identity becomes clarified. I see part of my call as helping them clarify that identity.”

Berge’s own vocational identity has developed in unexpected ways. He always anticipated being a parish pastor, and spent two years at a congregation after graduating from seminary. But as the United States became more involved in the Vietnam War he felt God calling him to serve his country, too. He joined the Air Force and for four years served as a chaplain.

“While in the Air Force I spent 10 months stationed in Turkey,” he said. “During that time I had the opportunity to travel throughout Turkey, Greece, Israel and Palestine. That drew me back to the Scriptures as my first love. After I left the Air Force, that call brought me to graduate school to spend more time studying the Bible.”

“At first you wonder, ‘Is this the right time? Should I be leaving?’ But then I look at all the needs in the world, and I think about the privilege and opportunity to help meet those needs. And it feels right.”
Even while in graduate school at Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Va., Berge still intended to return to the parish—spending the weekends serving as a supply preacher for mostly Presbyterian congregations in the counties surrounding Richmond. But Luther Seminary, from which he earned the bachelor of divinity degree in 1963, needed someone to teach New Testament during a professor’s sabbatical. And 29 years later, Berge is still part of the faculty. During his tenure, he has been instrumental in bringing about progressive change in the focus of education and its emphasis on preparing both lay and ordained persons for ministry in the world. In addition to his work with the M.A. program, he has been an active participant in the seminary’s recent return to a focus on individual discipleship.

“I see it not as a class, a requirement to be filled, but as a way of life,” he said. “It’s important for all of us, as we live together in this community, to see how essential it is that we work together, live together, and develop supportive, nurturing relationships.”

Berge’s emphasis on discipleship at the seminary spills over into his own life; he truly embodies the spirit of study and service that he sees at the heart of the Christian faith. A long-time volunteer in the community and through his congregation, Berge is active with the boards of Lyngblomsten (a comprehensive senior care facility in St. Paul), the Plymouth Christian Youth Center in Minneapolis (where he is currently serving as co-chair of their $8.1 million capital campaign), his townhome association, and the parish nurse training program coordinated by Concordia College in Moorhead.

Berge has traveled to Martin to work side-by-side with the school’s leaders, and has helped develop 27 courses for a Master of Arts program that was launched last fall, in cooperation with a neighboring university. There are currently 13 students enrolled in the program, with hopes of reaching out to many more gifted lay leaders.

“This [M.A. program] will give students at the university who are preparing to be public school teachers in Slovakia a place to develop a ‘second major’ in Christian education—they will be able to teach not only in their discipline, but also to help spread the gospel through their work,” he said. “It is just wonderful, and so exciting to watch it unfold.”

And Berge isn’t just offering his time and scholastic knowledge to support the school. Last fall, he shipped more than 1,200 volumes of his personal library to Martin via the LILAP (Lutheran International Library Assistance Program). And he is working with a bookseller inStillwater, Minn., to raise funds to build up the library at the Bible School and at the seminary in Bratislava.

“It’s kind of overwhelming to think of all the ways I’m going to spend my time in retirement,” he said. “At first you wonder, ‘Is this the right time? Should I be leaving?’ But then I look at all the needs in the world, and I think about the privilege and opportunity to help meet those needs. And it feels right.”
Wendell Debner retires as doctor of ministry consortium director

There are three things that Wendell Debner will miss most when he retires this July as director of the Doctor of Ministry Program and executive director of the Minnesota Theological Consortium: the students—past and present—he has come to know well; his colleagues on the faculty of Luther Seminary; and daily worship in chapel. All three have been an integral part of his life for more than 20 years.

Debner is moving to Iowa Falls, Iowa, where his wife, Margaret, has accepted a call to a pastorate. She had served a small parish in Litchfield, Minn., since her ordination in 2000. Theirs has been a long-distance marriage for the past two years. Debner would drive the two hours to Litchfield each weekend. Now, he follows her to Iowa, just as Margaret and their two daughters followed him in his years as a parish pastor. “It’s Margaret’s time to shine, for her to take center stage,” he said.

He expressed excitement about her call, glad that she will minister to a larger church and larger community. “She’s one of the best preachers I’ve ever heard. I want her to have the opportunity for a wider audience.”

Debner began at Luther Seminary in 1981 as field education director and assistant professor. It was his responsibility to supervise the internship sites. In the ’80s, he entered the Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) Program of the Minnesota Theological Consortium. The Consortium consists of Luther Seminary, United Theological Seminary and the St. Paul School of Divinity at the University of St. Thomas, in cooperation with Bethel Theological Seminary and the School of Theology at St. John’s University in Collegeville, Minn. Upon graduation in 1990, he was appointed director of the program. “I often joke that I got more media coverage than David Tiede, who became president of Luther Seminary at the same time,” he said.

One of the greatest joys as director is getting to know the students so well, Debner said.

“They come out of parish ministry eager to do reflection. They have something dear to their hearts and they want to be the best there is. Here, they can find a safe place to look at issues critically.”

Debner sees the D.Min. Program offering pastors professional development in four areas: the theory of ministry, spirituality/personal growth, the integration of theology and practice, and skill enhancement.

He jokes that a lot of what he does is pastoral care, but adds that he also feels he has had the opportunity to grow academically. “It’s a community of learning—there’s research and dialogue, case studies and congregational studies. It’s an enriching process, peaking over their shoulders,” he said.

Debner has enjoyed the diversity of the theses and of the students, themselves. While 60 percent are Lutheran, the program draws from many faiths and denominations.

In the past 12 years, Debner has seen an ebb and flow in the D.Min. program. There have been identifiable trends, such as spirituality, and now, congregational leadership. There has been growth—from a high of 48 students at one time—and there has been decline. “Many do not finish. There’s an immense busy-ness of pastors,” he explained. “They are simply overcome by parish activities.”

It’s this need for pastoral leadership that clues Debner in that he will not retire completely when he moves to Iowa. He knows of three or four churches near Iowa Falls in need of an interim pastor. There is the possibility of teaching courses at a local junior college, as well. “There’s plenty of work for me,” he said.
James Jenson retired at the end of April as vice president for seminary relations and executive director of the Luther Seminary Foundation. He was instrumental in the development of major planned gifts and the recent rapid growth of private funding for Luther Seminary since 1992. Prior to joining the administrative staff at Luther Seminary, he served as associate director for the Foundation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

Colleague Kathy Hansen, who assumes the titles of vice president for seminary relations and executive director of the foundation, described Jenson’s attentive nature: “He has all the time in the world for you, and nothing is more important to him than the conversation you are having at that very moment. This is why he is a great development officer. “It is who he is as a person that leads donors to confide in him, to trust him with their most private financial information. They share with him their deepest hopes and dreams. They pray with him, and they give generously because he invites them to.”

Ordained in 1963, Jenson served pastorates in several Montana parishes (1963-1974) and was assistant to the bishop in the Rocky Mountain District (Great Falls, Mont.) of the American Lutheran Church (1974-1980). He earned his bachelor’s degree from St. Olaf College (1958) and master of divinity degree from Luther Seminary (1963).

In 2000, he received the Virgil Anderson Award at the 2000 Association of Lutheran Development Executives (ALDE) conference. He was recognized for his exemplary and long-time leadership and service within the development field.

Jenson will continue to use his gifts in development as a consultant.

Calls from the called
Seminary students by day, phonathoners by night, these future church leaders are thankful for donors’ support

You may have received the call. Each fall and spring, several seminary students come together to personally thank Luther Seminary PARTNERS (those who give $250 or more a year to Luther Seminary) for their support of seminary education. This year’s phonathon team included: back row (L to R): Scott McAnally, Martha Hanson, Craig Nehring, Matt Williams, Kendra Mohr; middle row (L to R): Amanda Olson, Amy Fendroy Eich, Pat Lehrer, Shana Palm; front row (L to R): Leland Armbright, Carol Kyllingstad, Janet Gwin, Andrew Wilson, and Erik Gronberg.
A Lilly Grant allows Luther Seminary to research and implement innovative ways for people to experience theological learning in many environments.

The second in a series of three articles

Congregational Leadership in Context: Distance Learning

Rod Maeker has logged a lot of frequent flyer miles in the past year.

Maeker is director of cross-cultural studies and also the coordinator of the Lilly Contextual Leadership Grant’s distance learning sites. As the distance learning coordinator, he has traversed the western half of the U.S. (including Hawaii), along with several Luther Seminary colleagues, with the goal of establishing working relationships with synods, congregations and other religious institutions.

By creating these distance learning sites, Luther Seminary is able to offer theological education to individuals who would not otherwise have the opportunity to attend by traditional means.

“The whole idea of the project is in the title of the grant: to learn congregational leadership in context. That means students would engage in theological education within the context of congregations,” Maeker said. In short, courses would be taught within a particular framework: rural, urban, cultural, etc. By clustering congregations, students would be exposed to a wider range of experiences within that context.

The results of Maeker’s and his colleagues’ work are promising and already bearing fruit.

For the past few years, many Luther Seminary students have come to Shalom Hill as part of their required cross-cultural experience. They visit farms, small businesses, hospitals, schools and more. They have roundtable discussions with rural pastors and town leaders. They reflect on the issues and the culture that shapes who and what makes up the rural/small town community.

Now, Luther Seminary and Shalom Hill Farm, in cooperation with Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS), are teaming up in a new way. They are offering a pilot program in graduate theological education within the small town and rural context of southwestern Minnesota.

A variety of class formats help students complete a master of divinity or master of arts degree: online, interactive video, independent study, and concentrated on-site seminars.

The teachers are faculty members or designated adjunct faculty of Luther and PLTS. Mentors provide support to students participating at distant sites.

During the interactive video courses—through the use of monitors, cameras and phone lines—students at Shalom Hill Farm are connected with classmates attending the same course, at the same time, on campus. Both

Luther Seminary graduates receive calls to rural congregations,” Maeker said.

Rural context: Shalom Hill Farm

A lot has been written in Story magazine about this experiential rural ministry laboratory in southwestern Minnesota. That’s because Luther and Shalom Hill have developed a close working relationship that is changing the way students learn about rural life and issues.

“Shalom Hill Farm is a very important site because 60-75 percent of the
sites are able to participate in the lectures and discussions.

This spring, eight students from rural Minnesota and Iowa gathered at Shalom Hill once a week to attend the Reading the Audience class taught by Luther Seminary professors Craig Van Gelder, Paul Sponheim and Alvin Luedke.

“Basically, these are eight new students who would not have been able to take theological graduate courses otherwise. Almost all are second career people, gainfully employed, who could not have moved to a seminary,” Maeker said.

The program is not simply for Lutherans. Students from all churches and denominations may register once they are officially admitted to studies at Luther Seminary or PLTS.

Urban context: Phoenix

After Shalom Hill Farm, the site that is moving most quickly toward establishing a distance learning program is Phoenix, Arizona.

It will be structured in a format similar to that of Shalom Hill, offering interactive video, online courses and a series of concentrated on-site classes.

With more than 3 million people, the Phoenix area is the eighth largest urban area in the United States, according to the 2000 U.S. Census. As with any large metropolitan area, it has a diverse make-up. About a quarter of the inhabitants are Hispanic or Latino. There is also a large Native American population, and a growing number of Asian and African Americans. The Phoenix area continues to expand greatly. Urban flight is a reality as more and more families move to the suburbs and into increasingly more common gated communities—changing what a sense of community is all about.

How one ministers to a fast-growing, racially- and economically-diverse area, and how one prepares people for ministry in this particular context, are two reasons why Luther Seminary and PLTS are developing this distance learning site.

Cultural context: Chinese congregations

For the past year, Luther Seminary and PLTS have been in conversation with a group of Chinese American pastors to develop courses specifically relating to ministry in Chinese communities.

This fall, Luther Seminary, in cooperation with PLTS and the Center for Chinese Ministry of San Diego will offer its first class specifically for Chinese church leaders. Professor Emeritus Paul Varo Martinson has agreed to teach a half course in the Los Angeles area.


In the works

In addition to the programs already mentioned, more initiatives are underway:

Luther Seminary is looking at developing Spanish language online courses for Hispanic students, in cooperation with Hispanic leaders and the ELCA’s TEEM (Theological Education for Emerging Ministries) Project.

Some students from the Lutheran Theological Center in Atlanta have begun taking Luther Seminary online courses. The Center has a particular emphasis on African-Americans and others seeking to serve the Church in the African-American community.

Luther Seminary and PLTS are in discussion with synods and congregations about additional opportunities in the ELCA’s Western Mission Cluster area (the Western half of the United States).

A unique study opportunity for students

The Otto Bremer Foundation wants to take learning in a rural context to another level. Scholarship money is available to pay a full semester’s tuition to live at Shalom Hill Farm or the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. The student would take courses there while participating in community life.

For more information, contact Rod Maeker at 651-641-3223 or via e-mail at rmaeker@luthersem.edu.
In loving memory

Although she died 60 years ago, Nora Rosvold’s nieces and nephews were determined to make sure she would be remembered by establishing an endowed scholarship in her name.

Moris Hoversten, Nora’s eldest nephew, had something special in mind for the gift he received. He commented at the time that a scholarship should be established to honor Nora’s name. The $75 each niece and nephew received, he said, could be the foundation of such a scholarship and further Christian education.

“My brother had mentioned it to me just after Nora died, in 1941 or ‘42,” Henry Hoversten recalled. “Nora was such a Christ-like figure to us, and we all admired her.”

Although none of the family members acted on his idea at the time, it is no surprise that Moris would suggest a Christian education scholarship to honor Nora. Her ministry was deeply rooted in education. A trained teacher, she began teaching in a country school but found the job unrewarding. She later found a more satisfying setting in which to teach: China.

Nora was born on a prairie farm near Fort Ransom, N.D., in 1893. Her family relocated near Fergus Falls, Minn., while she was still a young girl. After attending rural schools, Nora studied to be a teacher.

“Very early in my school life I decided that teaching was my future work,” she wrote in 1938. Her writings from that time shed light on much of her life, and her calling from God. “My first year of teaching in a country school found me very disillusioned. I found no pleasure in it whatsoever!”

God had other things in mind for Nora.

“That summer, a friend and I decided we wanted to attend the Annual Convention of our church,” she wrote. “At that convention I made the acquaintance of a young woman representing the Lutheran Welfare Society of Minneapolis (then called the Lutheran Inner Mission). I inquired about the work and it appealed to me.”

At the age of 23 Nora resigned from teaching, and moved to Minneapolis to enroll in the Lutheran Inner Mission Society. “A few weeks later I was daily walking the streets of Minneapolis … I was happy as a lark in a green meadow! I had certainly found my peace, for no amount of poverty, sickness, or sordid sights could depress my spirits.”

In her lifetime, Nora Rosvold saw the breadth and length, height and the depth of the love of Jesus Christ. She experienced it herself and shared that love with others. Nora was a missionary.

Her mission ended suddenly with a diagnosis of cancer. Or did it? Nora died in 1941, yet more than 60 years later, 14 of her nephews and nieces took it upon themselves to carry on her mission work by establishing an endowed scholarship at Luther Seminary in her name.

Seeds were planted for the scholarship when Nora died. She made provisions in her will that $75 from her estate be given to each of her nieces and nephews so they could attend Bible camp, or some other Christian pursuit.

by Todd Hawkins, M.Div. senior; commoffice@luthersem.edu

In Second Quarter 2002
The five years Nora spent in the streets of Minneapolis were among her most satisfying. Yet she sensed God calling her to another place. “Secretly I hoped it would be Madagascar, but my application stated a willingness to serve anywhere,” she wrote. “I was asked to go to China.”

Though her time there was filled with turbulence (the late ’20s and ’30s were very difficult in China) she grew to love the country and the people she met. She spent a total of 12 years teaching at schools in Peking, Sinyangchow, Kwantchow and other cities. She also helped in hospitals, and worked closely with other missionaries and pastors serving in China.

Through it all, she brought the gospel of Jesus Christ to people. Missionaries like Nora often traveled across the country, riding in wheelbarrows, ricksha, open box cars or in any way possible, she recalled.

Nora’s travels to and from China inspired her to travel elsewhere, too. She spent time in England, Norway and many places in the United States. She hoped to go back to China, but cancer prevented a return trip. Nora died in 1941 at a Minneapolis hospital. A friend wrote of her death: “On the evening of July 29, 1941, just as the sun’s rays were lengthening in the western sky, she passed away from this life to be with the Lord, whom she loved.”

That love of the Lord inspired her family. “She brought back many things from China, and taught us and coun-

You are invited to contribute to the Nora A. Rosvold Memorial Scholarship

Contact Lloyd Ratkovich, major gifts consultant at 651-641-3448, toll-free at 888-358-8437, or by mailing your contribution to:
Office of Seminary Relations, Luther Seminary, 2481 Como Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108

Both immediate and endowed dollars are welcome.

Did you know?

Last year over 5,500 individuals, corporations, foundations and congregations supported the mission of Luther Seminary.

Luther Seminary’s fiscal year ends June 30. If you haven’t made a gift yet, now is a great time. You can give online at: www.lutherseminary.edu/gifts, or by calling 651-641-3448, or 888-358-8437.

Fast facts from the Luther Seminary Sustaining Fund.
Dismantling racism – Nadine and James Addington receive Race, Church & Change Award

By Nicole Mason, communication assistant, nmason@luthersem.edu

Longtime justice advocates Nadine and James Addington were honored for their work developing the Minnesota Churches Anti-Racism Initiative (MCARI), a cutting-edge strategy for dismantling racism in the U.S. The two received this year’s Race, Church & Change Award from Luther Seminary on April 11.

The award recognizes individuals who have facilitated reconciliation among diverse people and demonstrated commitment to constructive change that heals and nurtures community.

“James and Nadine are people whose lives are committed to justice on a variety of issues,” said the Rev. Peg Chamberlin, executive director of the Minnesota Council of Churches. “Literally thousands of Minne-sotans have gone through the training work they have done,” said Chamberlin. “Many, particularly in the white community, have come to understand racism as a systemic issue as they never understood before.”

The Tri-Council Coordinating Commission (TCC), a cooperative anti-racism effort of the Minnesota, Greater Minneapolis and St. Paul Area Council of Churches, provides programmatic oversight of MCARI.

“Their impact is probably far greater than they’ll ever know,” said their pastor, the Rev. Paul Tideman, St. Paul Reformation Lutheran Church, St. Paul.

In his commendation letter to the Addingtons, the Rev. Mark Hanson, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, wrote: “Again and again, [Nadine and James] remind us that we will not become a more diverse church without being an intentionally anti-racist institution.”

Nadine is co-director of TCC and has played a significant role in the development of MCARI. She is also a seasoned teacher and workshop leader in both cultural and religious studies and has worked with a number of organizations in the U.S. and around the world, including Jamaica and Africa. Nadine also served several years in Luther Seminary’s department of contextual education. In 1986, she helped design and establish the seminary’s Race, Church & Change award.

Nadine is also an accomplished soloist in the Black gospel tradition.

James and Nadine Addington are this year’s Race, Church and Change Award honorees.

“It’s interesting that Nadine was one of those who helped plan the first program and award, as an effort to lift up models of significant cross-cultural ministry for our students,” said Rod Maeker, director of cross-cultural education at Luther Seminary. “This award reminds us all of what God calls the church and leaders of Christian communities to be and do in God’s diverse world.”

Dr. David Tiede, president of Luther Seminary, quoted Nadine’s adage: “Racism today is like the deadly gas, carbon monoxide. You can’t see it, you can’t smell it, but it could kill you.”

He honored their work that combats “the lethal mix of prejudice and power.”

“This recognition affirms the work that we’ve been doing for quite some time,” said Nadine. “It also opens the doors for further conversation.” At the ceremony, Nadine and James acknowledged that they do not do this work alone. “Today would not be possible
Dentist honored for unique ministry to international students

A dentist with a love for mission, Dr. Lewis Berge found a way to minister to people of many nations while staying close to home.

Since 1989, he offered free dental care to the international student community at Luther Seminary.

Dr. Lewis Berge and David Tiede enjoy a framed card presented to Berge by the international students during a special chapel service.

This spring, he retired from dentistry. With no more access to dental equipment, his tremendous yearly gift of time and talent comes to an end.

In thanksgiving for his years of service, the international community at Luther Seminary created a 16 x 20 framed card, with each person signing it and giving thanks in his/her own language. They presented the card to him during a chapel service.

On average, Berge saw about 45 international students each two or three times a year. He often treated the students’ family members, as well.

But the benefit of Berge’s volunteer work is not limited to the individual students. The savings from his in-kind gift allows the seminary to enroll an additional international student each year.

The seminary hopes that another dentist with a heart for mission work here at home will hear a call to take over the ministry Berge has developed. Those interested can contact Marie Hayes, international student coordinator, at 651-641-3469.

Race, Church, Change Award, continued

Race, Church, Change Award is an advocacy and public policy education arm of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Established in 1992, MCARI was developed shortly after the Rodney King verdict and the subsequent crisis in South Central Los Angeles. These events added urgency to efforts already underway by the Minnesota, Greater Minneapolis and St. Paul Area Council of Churches. At the time, each council sponsored separate efforts aimed at racial reconciliation and anti-racism training and organizing.

In May 1993, the board of the Minnesota Council of Churches endorsed a statewide anti-racism initiative. In the following year, the Greater Minneapolis and Saint Paul Area Council of Churches added their endorsement and sponsorship of MCARI. A year later, the three Councils merged efforts and financial support through their coordinating body, the TCC.
Previews doubles in size and in fun!

High School youth throughout Minnesota, plus South Dakota, Wisconsin and as far away as Nebraska came to Luther Seminary to attend this year’s Previews. For the first time, groups could choose from two days, April 23 and 25. Previews gives church youth a “preview” of seminary life. It is co-sponsored by Mount Olivet Lutheran Church in south Minneapolis.

To view more photos, visit www.luthersem.edu and click on “View the Previews 2002 Scrapbook!”

The Agape Singers from Grace Lutheran Church, Dawson, Minn. provided special music during the April 23 chapel service.

The day’s activities included a sit-down luncheon for all the participants.

Heritage Society celebrates 15th year

The 15th anniversary of the Heritage Society at Luther Seminary drew record numbers, May 8. Nearly 400 members and guests attended one of the two dinner seatings and the worship service. Heritage Society members are those donors who include Luther Seminary or the Luther Seminary Foundation in their estate plans. For more information, contact Bradley Reiners, associate vice president for planned giving, at 651-641-3450, or toll-free at 1-888-358-8437.

Right: Artist Todd Weber of Prescott, Ariz., explained to Heritage Society member George Larson, ‘44, his method of casting the bronze figurines that make up the Heritage Society sculpture, Nativity.

Below: Major gifts consultant Jenny Norris Peterson (standing) visits with dinner guests Margery and Sheldon (‘52) Torgerson.

Above: The record number of Heritage Society Dinner guests meant it was all hands on deck in the kitchen. Helping plate meals were: Carol Hanson, events coordinator; Lynne Moratzka, donor relations coordinator; Deb Kuehl, director of dining services; and Brenda Grussing, lead housekeeper.
Camera catches campus crossing

No, it wasn’t Candid Camera at Luther Seminary, but Seraphim Communications, videotaping for the seminary’s latest endeavor, a CD-ROM. In front of the camera, left to right: President David Tiede walks across campus with master of divinity students Erik Gronberg and Amanda Olson, master of sacred music student Kris Rongstad, and Academic Dean Marc Kolden. The CD will be available in October.

Students triumph over faculty/staff in 14-13 squeaker

The students issued the challenge, the faculty and staff were quick to accept. On May 1, a large contingent gathered at the baseball diamond in Luther Field to cheer on both sides. Although faculty/staff came back from an eight-run deficit, the students reigned victorious in the end.

Annual festival celebrates international community

Every spring the international community at Luther Seminary holds its annual festival. Students, family and friends come together in a joyous celebration as each culture shares their heritage through music, dance and more. Below, Tomoko Uemura accompanies her daughter.

Far left: Dean of Students Patricia Lull and Professor of Old Testament Diane Jacobson show their readiness to play ball.

Left: Professor of Systematics Gary Simpson shows M.Div. senior John Nelson where to hit the ball, à la Babe Ruth.

Above: M.Div. junior Shana Palm awaits her turn at bat.

STORY Second Quarter 2002
### Faculty & Staff Notes

Want to invite a faculty or staff member to present in your congregation? Visit www.luthersem.edu/resourceguide for up-to-date topic listings and contact information.

### News

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terence Fretheim, ’60, professor of Old Testament, has been appointed to the Task Force for ELCA Studies on Sexuality.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arland J. Hultgren, professor of New Testament, authored an article on “The Church as the Body of Christ: Engaging a New Testament Image,” that was published in the spring 2002 issue of <em>Word &amp; World</em>. During April and May, he taught a series of classes on the parables of Jesus at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Minneapolis.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Moran, associate professor of mission, taught a Lay School of Theology course entitled, “Getting to Know Your Neighbor’s Faith” this spring. He also met with a confirmation class from Christ Lutheran Church in Marine-on-St. Croix, Minn., to discuss Islam, and visited that congregation to talk about religious pluralism at an adult forum on April 28. He delivered a two-part lecture on Islam at Incarnation Lutheran Church in Shoreview.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Swanson, associate professor of Islamic studies, taught two intensive courses in Arabic Christian literature at the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Cairo in January. While in Egypt, he was also an observer at the “Wadi al-Natrun Symposium: Honoring the Oldest Center of Monasticism” at the St. Pshoi Monastery in the Egyptian desert. During the spring he visited several Lutheran colleges. In March he was a mini-plenary speaker on “‘Thinking Through’ Islam” at the Fourteenth Annual Nobel Peace Prize Forum at Augustana College, Sioux Falls, S.D. Later that month he gave a lecture on “The Christian Roots of Hospitality” at a conference on “Peace and Reconciliation in Islam and Christianity” at Valparaiso University. On April 5, he preached in chapel at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa. He also read a paper (in Arabic) on “Narratives of Redemption in Arabic Christian Theological Literature” at a conference titled “Towards a Contemporary Arabic Theology” held at the Patriarchal Maronite Seminary in Ghazir, Lebanon, outside of Beirut on April 12.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Coming to a town near you**

Terence Fretheim, ’60, professor of Old Testament, will present “Jeremiah and Pastoral Practice” at the Furman University Pastor’s School in Greenville, S.C., July 2-5. He will be giving a paper on “Divine Will and
Ramsey joins Luther Seminary faculty

Janet L. Ramsey has joined the Luther Seminary faculty as associate professor of congregational care leadership.

Previously, she was a pastoral associate at St. John’s Lutheran Church, Roanoke, Va., and a pastoral counselor at the Pastoral Counseling Center of the Roanoke Valley.

Ramsey combines a wealth of experience in her new position. She has served as a family and marriage therapist, parish pastor, university instructor, nursing home administrator and chaplain.

She received the Ph.D. degree in family and child development from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1995, and the master of divinity degree from Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia in 1980. She was ordained in the ELCA in 1985.

Ramsey writes and lectures on the themes of: spiritual resiliency and aging; uncovering spiritual resiliency through feminist qualitative methods; the neglected resource: spiritual resiliency in care giving; and storied therapy and creative coping: using narrative approaches in counseling.

Hansen named vice president for seminary relations/executive director of the Luther Seminary Foundation

Kathleen G. Hansen has been named vice president for seminary relations and executive director of the Luther Seminary Foundation. She succeeds James Jenson who retired in April.

Hansen joined the seminary relations office in 1993, when she was hired as director of the sustaining fund. She was soon promoted to the positions of director of development and then associate vice president of development. In 1996, she was given the title of vice president for advancement.

She is a member of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and of the Association for Lutheran Development Executives (ALDE). She currently serves as president of ALDE’s Northstar Chapter. She earned the designation of Certified Fund Raising Executive in 2001.

Hansen received the B.A. degree cum laude from St. Olaf College in 1979.
Alum-in-residence Mark Reitan shares wisdom learned from parish experience

By Robert Smith, M.Div. senior, commoffice@luthersem.edu

How long has it been since you’ve been on the Luther Seminary campus? How many things have changed? How many have stayed the same?

As this year’s alum-in-residence, Mark Reitan, ’71, was able to explore the seminary—and its changes—from the inside. Reitan is now senior pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lynnwood, Wash.

“I always love coming back to Luther,” Reitan said. “But it is very different.”

Being with students was one of Reitan’s objectives for the week. “I’ve been really impressed with the variety—of ages and the even mix of men and women—as well as their inquisitiveness and the ways they’ve asked questions,” he said.

“Some asked me to sit down and talk with them about their call or parish life,” he added, noting that his time on campus came just after regional assignments. “I’ve been able to pray with students in the cafeteria as we finish our conversations.”

Reitan was also able to spend considerable time with seminary faculty and staff. “It was great to visit with President Tiede and Dean Lull; it wasn’t perfunctory but lengthy and meaningful,” he said. “They were really interested in what was happening with the work I’m doing and they shared what their work was like and what they’re excited about.”

During their week on campus, alumni/ae in residence have opportunities to attend and contribute to several classes. Reitan stated he was pleasantly surprised by the professors’ willingness to give up entire class periods for him to talk about what is relevant in the parish.

One recurring theme throughout Reitan’s visit was the content of “call.”

“The whole business of call and resisting call is a very real thing,” he reflected, after listening to a lecture by Fred Gaiser on the topic of Jonah. “You have to decide if you’ll stay where you are or if God is calling you to another place.

“On occasion, I’ve had calls when it’s become clear that God wanted me to accept it, but I didn’t want to.”

His current call presented just such an occasion. “I had every reason to want to stay in southern Arizona,” he said. “But God really made it clear, and He made some promises. He promised that he would bless the parish in remarkable ways if I’d go, and that he would take care of my daughter.”

His daughter, Julie, was a student athlete at the University of Arizona at the time. “He promised he’d take care of her,” Reitan repeated. “What I didn’t know is that he would take care of her in heaven.

A little less than two years later, she died.”

Reitan related this story during the chapel service over which he presided during his week at Luther. “Faith in the midst of crisis was the theme of the sermon. It could be said to be the theme of his life. “It is important to proclaim how real and relevant faith is in the midst of life’s crises,” he said. “It isn’t always what we expect or anticipate, but God keeps his word.”

“The love of God in Christ is sure and does not waver; that is the kind of solid foundation upon which life is lived,” he added. “Everybody needs to hear it and know it’s the truth. It became important for me to proclaim that truth in the midst of crisis, for...”
the parish and for me. Now, crisis is no stranger to any of us.”

The importance of one’s relationships is made in crisis, said Reitan. “When I was in my deepest need, the deepest darkness of grief, those friends I made here [at Luther] helped me the most,” he shared. “They came to my side. Rick Foss sat with me for three days. Jim Nestingen would call and weep with me.

“When you’re studying the real stuff of life, you make friendships that last forever,” he said, looking around what is now the multimedia instruction room in Beckman Hall. “And when the need is there, those friendships are fresh and alive—they’ve been there all along.”

While such relationships are crucial in personal crises, they can sustain the body of Christ in public conflicts as well. “During Wednesday’s class on the prophets, I encouraged the students to not be afraid of conflict, to not sidestep controversies,” Reitan said. ‘Invite conflicts to the door; don’t let them sneak up behind you—they’ll do you much more harm that way.

“There ought to be nothing we’re afraid to talk about in the church,” he continued. “One of the things about controversial issues in congregational life is that people don’t always have to get their way but it’s important for people to get their say. Process is so valuable; it almost becomes more important than the result.”

The church doesn’t always put such ideals into practice. “What hurts us is the kind of disrespect, the demonizing of the competition, the unkindness spoken behind the scenes in congregational life and in churchwide issues—it’s like the body inflicting damage on itself,” Reitan said. “My hope and prayer is in diversity on these issues; our oneness in Christ will sustain us.”

Along with the seminary, the church in which today’s seminarians will serve has undergone 20 years of change. Reitan encourages those students to be responsive to God’s call.

He suggested that students viewing for first calls should “come with a willing spirit, ready to serve and not to be served.

“The congregations that are reaching out and putting themselves on the line are thriving,” Reitan added. “We need leaders who approach life in the same way, leaders who give their lives for Christ’s sake who aren’t concerned with protecting, holding onto themselves.”

This sacrificial, visionary leadership is not limited to clergy or rostered leaders. “This is a calling to which all of God’s people are called,” Reitan said.

“I remember George Aus saying to us, ‘what a privilege it is to speak on behalf of the Lord Jesus! This is the top job of all God’s people. And think about it, you’ll get a salary for doing this!’”

**Do you know an alum with an exciting ministry to share with the seminary? Nominate him or her for alum-in-residence**

The Luther Seminary Alumni/ae Council is receiving nominations for the 2002-2003 alumni-in-residence program at Luther Seminary. All Luther Seminary graduates are eligible.

The alum-in-residence stays on campus for approximately one week, preaches in chapel, speaks in seminary classes, meets with faculty, visits formally and informally with students, and eats meals in the dining room. All expenses are covered by the Office of Seminary Relations.

The schedule is flexible to meet the needs of the seminary and the candidate. To nominate an individual, send a letter of submission by August 31, 2002, to:

Office of Seminary Relations
Luther Seminary
2481 Como Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108

For more information call 651-641-3448, or toll-free at 888-358-8437.
The ’30s
Alfred Syverud, ’37, will celebrate the 65th anniversary of his ordination in June. He and his wife, Genevieve, live in Walnut Creek, Calif.

The ’50s
Paul Olstedal, ’58, edited These Words Upon Your Heart (Augsburg Fortress 2002), a new book of daily reflections by some of Christianity’s greatest theologians. Each chapter includes a brief biography of the writer, 10 selections from their classic writings and a contemporary reflection.

The ’60s
David Mullen, ’69, was elected bishop of the Sierra Pacific Synod, ELCA. He will be installed as bishop on June 15 in Stockholm, Calif. Mullen serves as pastor at Calvary Lutheran Church in Rio Linda, Calif. He and his wife, Susan, live in Antelope, Calif.

The ’70s
Hal Hoekstra, ’70, is senior pastor at Bethany Lutheran Church, Crystal Lake, Ill. His sermon, Choose Your Words Carefully: The Poverty of This World, was published on the National Council of Churches’ Web site in March. It was one of several sermons featured on the Council’s site as part a month-long focus on poverty. His sermon also appeared in an earlier issue of Pulpit Digest magazine. Hoekstra also had an interview published in the Nov/Dec 2001 issue of the Alban Institute Journal titled “Rethinking Abundance.” The piece tells the story of Bethany Lutheran’s receipt of a $1.425 million bequest from a former member and the process of rethinking abundance in congregational development.

Richard J. Foss, ’71, ’84, was re-elected bishop of the Eastern North Dakota Synod. His new term will begin Aug. 1. He has served as bishop at the synod since 1992.

Rodney Anderson, ’74, was called to serve on the ELCA’s task force on evangelism for renewing worship. He is pastor at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie, Minn.

Timothy J. Wengert, ’77, was called to serve on the ELCA’s task force for studies on sexuality. He is a professor of reformation history at Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.

Gary Wollersheim, ’77, was called to serve on the ELCA’s task force on evangelism for renewing worship. He is bishop of the Northern Illinois Synod.

Walther Kallestad, ’78, was called to serve on the ELCA’s task force on evangelism. He is pastor of Community Church of Joy, Glendale, Ariz.

The ’80s
Carl Eeman, ’83, presented a workshop at the ELCA Church Great Commission Conference in Denver. His presentation, ‘Jesus for Every Generation,’ examined the link between generational dynamics and church life. He also delivered this presentation to the ELCA Carolina Evangelism Conference as a keynote speaker in February. His second presentation at the evangelism conference, ‘Draw Near and Hear,’ explored ways church leaders can communicate effectively across generational gaps. He and his wife, Heather Eeman Hammond, ’84, have two children, Annelise, 12, and Marcus, 9. Heather continues her service as assistant to the bishop of the Minneapolis Area Synod.

Kevin R. Maly, ’83, was called to serve on the ELCA’s task force for studies on sexuality. He is a pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Denver.

Mark Vitalis Hoffman, ’83, was appointed assistant professor of biblical studies at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. Previously he served as pastor of Hope Lutheran Church in Fargo, N.D.

John Anderson, ’85, was called to serve on the ELCA’s task force on evangelism for renewing worship. He is pastor of Christ the King Lutheran Church, New Ulm, Minn.

Catherine Malotky, ’86, and colleagues the Rev. Ron Glusenkamp and Linda Renander, received an award of merit in the category for special print materials for the ELCA Board of Pensions’ 2002 calendar. They received the award from the Religion Communicators Council.
Carmala K. Aderman, ’87, was called to serve on the ELCA’s task force on evangelism for renewing worship. She is the assistant to the bishop at the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin.

The ’90s

Mark Kindem, ’91, was one of more than 200 ELCA pastors from congregations who visited Ground Zero, April 6-7 during Solidarity Weekend. Read of his experience online at www.luthersem.edu/alums/alumnnews.asp. Mark is senior pastor at American Lutheran Church in Stanley, ND.

Lisa Nelson, ’93, gave birth to twin boys. She is currently on maternity leave from her call. She has served at Wiota Lutheran and at Bethel Lutheran, both in Wisconsin. Her husband, Rob Kosky, serves at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Waterloo, Wis.

Johnathan Case, ’95, recently taught a systematic theology course at the Wesleyan theological college in Vladimir, Russia. He serves as lecturer in theology at Kingsley College in Melbourne, Australia. He can be contacted by e-mail at jcase@kingsley.vic.edu.au

Andrew J. Bailey, ’96, was installed as pastor at Griffith Lutheran Church, Griffith, Ind. His wife, Rebecca, is a communication professor at Valparaiso University. They and their son, Jacob, expect another son in mid-May.

Melanie Lichtenberg, ’97, was called to serve as an associate pastor at Newport Lutheran, Newport, Minn. Previously she served as director of Community of Hope, an ecumenical outreach program with the deaf in Inver Grove Heights, Minn. She, her husband Steve, and infant son, Luke, live in West St. Paul, Minn.

Julie Rogness, ’97, was called to serve as associate pastor at St. James Lutheran Church, Burnsville, Minn. Previously, she served as associate pastor at Bethel Lutheran in Rochester, Minn. She and her husband, Dan, have two children, Nathan and Jenna.

The ’00s

Joel Samuelson, ’01, was ordained at Peace Lutheran Church, New London, Minn. in November. He began his pastoral ministry at House of Prayer Lutheran Church in Bismarck, N.D. in December.

In Memoriam

Walter Gravrock, ’43, died of Parkinson’s disease in April. His pastoral career spanned more than 40 years. He served congregations in Minnesota, California and Washington. He is survived by three children and ten grandchildren.

Stay connected with your classmates and Luther Seminary! Check out www.luthersem.edu/alums to access alumni/ae news, the new prayer support for alumni page, information for supporting Luther Seminary and other helpful alumni/ae resources.

Adopt a flower bed

Botanically-minded members of Midvale Community Lutheran Church in Madison, Wis., celebrate God’s creation by volunteering to “Adopt A Flower Bed.” Volunteers select the bed they would like to care for, choose and plant the flowers, and maintain the garden during blooming season—the congregation pays for the plants and shares in the watering.

Parishioner profiles

Each month readers of the newsletter of First Lutheran Church in Little Falls, Minn., are invited to “get to know one another ... better!” About six families in the congregation are profiled each month. The brief interviews detail hobbies, family members, faith highlights, and how and why they became involved at the church.

Church "breaks" for prayer

Prayer is taking center stage at Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. In addition to corporate prayers during worship and strong encouragement for members to pray regularly at work or at home, there are now three designated “Prayer Breaks” during the week. Friends and neighbors are invited to gather in the sanctuary to pray with staff or alone, and then to stay for coffee and fellowship afterwards. A notebook in the back of the sanctuary lists special prayer requests.
Stewardship Council awards its first sermon prizes

The Luther Seminary Stewardship Council held its first of what will become an annual Stewardship Sermon Prize contest for seminary interns. The award is intended to enrich and strengthen the practice of stewardship in the church by advocating preaching and teaching that promotes and encourages the stewardship of financial resources. All interns were invited to submit a sermon prepared and preached while on internship on the stewardship of money. The judging panel awarded prizes as follows:

First Prize: Nathan Loer, $500
Second Prize: Troy Troftgruben, $300
Honorable Mention:
Gayle Highness, $150
John Rohwer, $150
Justin Boeding, $150

Nathan Loer will preach his sermon in seminary chapel on Friday, Oct. 11, at 10 a.m.

For this coming year, interns will again be invited to submit a stewardship sermon for the 2002-03 prize.

Congratulations to all who submitted sermons and who received awards.

The Luther Seminary Stewardship Council is made up of lay persons and clergy dedicated to promoting and encouraging financial stewardship among both students and the church at large.

What's on the Web: www.luthersem.edu

- Want to know the latest news and events at Luther Seminary? Sign up for a periodic e-letter.
- Check out handouts from Lay School classes.
- Take the Christian History Tutor for a test drive.
- Page through the new online resource guide. Line up speakers for your fall adult forums.

Mark your calendar now!

Sept. 15-20 Elderhostel 2002

This year’s classes include: “Discipleship in the 21st Century” with Dean of Students Patricia Lull, “Suffering and Hope in the Bible” taught by Professor Dan Simundson, and “Christian and Muslims: Friendship and Faith in Challenging Times” presented by Professor Mark Swanson.

For more information, contact Lynne Moratzka at 651-641-3419, or toll-free at 888-358-8437.

Christian History Tutor now available!

Quick! What is montanism? What happened at the Council of Trent? What was the renewal movement founded by John Wesley?

If you find yourself scratching your head, or thinking, “Wait! I used to know that!” fear not. The answers are just a couple mouse clicks away. Luther Productions has unveiled its highly anticipated Christian History Tutor.

Much like its older sibling, the Bible Tutor, the Christian History Tutor is made up of pages that summarize the most important information about people, places, and stories in Christian history. Visuals on most pages illustrate key themes, events and people important to Christian history. Self-tests allow users to check their progress in historical time periods.

The Christian History Tutor was designed initially to help students preparing for ministry gain a basic working knowledge of Christian history. This program has been tested in an online class taught by adjunct professor Nancy Koester at Luther Seminary. The CD-ROM version of the Christian History Tutor was developed to make using the program more convenient for students and teachers alike.

To try out a basic version of the Christian History Tutor, and for more information, go to the Luther Seminary Web site at www.luthersem.edu. To order a copy for $49.95, contact the Luther Seminary Bookstore at 651-641-3441 or 1-800-541-4187.
Booked for the summer

Terry Fretheim
*The Bible as Word of God in a Postmodern Age* (reissue, co-authored with Karlfried Froehlich) Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2001

It could take you the next three months to read all of the latest offerings by Luther Seminary faculty.

Roland Martinson
*Across The Generations* (contributor) Augsburg Fortress, 2001
*Parenting With Purpose* Augsburg Fortress, 2001

Gracia Grindal
*Hymns Of Grace* from the *Sing The Faith*, Bible Study Series, Augsburg Fortress, 2001

James Nestingen
*Sources and Contexts of the Book of Concord* (co-editor) Fortress Press, June 2001

Melvin Kimble
*A Revelry of Harvest: New and Selected Poems*, March 2001

Alan Padgett
*God & Time: Four Views* (contributor) InterVarsity Press, 2001

Craig Koester
*Hebrews* Anchor Bible Commentary, Anchor Bible, 2001

Gary Simpson

Diane Jacobson
*New Proclamation*, Year A 2002 Augsburg Fortress, 2001

Daniel Simundson
*Renewing Hope: Is There Room for Hope in a World Like This* C S S Publishing Company, reissue 2001

Lois Malcolm
“Teaching Theology in a Complex World” in *The Scope of our Art: The Vocation of the Theological Teacher* (contributor) Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2001

Faith Under Fire
*Message of Job, a Theological Commentary*, reissue, 2001

Paul Westermeyer
*The Heart of The Matter: Church Music As Praise, Prayer, Presentation, Story, & Gift* GIA Publications, 2001

These and other faculty books are available for purchase through the Luther Seminary Bookstore, 1-800-541-4187; bookstore@lutherseminary.edu

*STORY* Second Quarter 2002
Luther Seminary educates leaders for Christian Communities + called and sent by the Holy Spirit + to witness to salvation through Jesus Christ + to serve in God’s world.

Editor
Sheri Booms, sbooms@luthersem.edu

Contributing Writers
Shelley Cunningham Harber
Todd Hawkins
Nicole Mason
Robert Smith
Maria Thompson

Luther Seminary, the largest of the eight seminaries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), is accredited by the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada and the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. It is a part of the ELCA’s Western Mission Cluster, along with Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary.

The Luther Seminary Story is published four times a year and distributed via third class mail to alumni/ae and donors by Luther Seminary, 2481 Como Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108.

Correspondence concerning The Luther Seminary Story should be sent to: Office of Communication, Luther Seminary, 2481 Como Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108, or via e-mail to sbooms@luthersem.edu

Table of Contents
Lutheran campus ministry 1-4
“And he called them” a sermon by David Tiede 5
Tiede receives ALDE Executive of the Year Award 6
Retirements:
Paul Berge 7-8
Wendell Debeor 9
James Jension 10
Ministry in context, Part 2 11-12
In loving memory:
The Nora A. Rosvold Scholarship 13-14
Addingtons receive Race, Church and Change Award 15-16
Spring photo album 17-18
Faculty & staff notes 19-20
Alum-in-residence Mark Reitan 21-22
Alum news 23-24
Scholarship winners, calendar of events, new Christian History Tutor 25
New books by faculty 26