PAGE 6
Answering the call
Two grads reveal how to live into God’s unique call

PAGE 10
Service with a smile
Luther volunteers serve using unique gifts

PAGE 16
Unconventional classroom
Students provide pastoral care while living with elderly
Luther Seminary educates leaders for Christian communities
+ called and sent by the Holy Spirit
+ to witness to salvation through Jesus Christ
+ and to serve in God’s world.

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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.

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Cover image: Master of Arts student Jane Harris, left, visits with Augustana Health Care Center resident Virginia Prest.
©Mary Stoneback, M.A. senior
Gifts for Ministry

We all have unique, God-given gifts. In this issue, we’ll look at the various ways those in the Luther Seminary community use their gifts to serve.

Our volunteers give back in various and tangible ways; our students get a unique education while living with and caring for the elderly; and our alums never run out of ways to use their talents.

Enjoy this issue. We hope you’ll learn something about your own gifts along the way.

Letter from the President: Luther Seminary alumni/ae—Called back to the Seminary

Answering the call

By Kelsey Holm

Two Luther Seminary alums start a nonprofit ministry to show those in all walks of life how to live into God’s unique call for their lives.

Meet 2010 Alum-in-Residence

Greg Van Dunk

By Shelley Cunningham

Greg Van Dunk, ’85, reflects on his week of teaching—and learning—at Luther Seminary.

Service with a smile

By Andy Behrendt

Luther Seminary volunteers use unique gifts to serve the Lord—and have fun doing it.

Full circle

By Tracy Behrendt

Geoff Sinibaldo, ’02, goes from intern to internship supervisor, all at the same congregation.

Hand-picked

By Laura Kaslow

Students send much-needed theological books to seminaries in their home countries through LILAP.

An unconventional classroom

By Laura Kaslow

Three Luther Seminary students live and learn with senior citizens.

Sandy Rothschilder, ’90, focuses on spiritual and financial wellness

By Tracy Behrendt

Alum keeps the ELCA healthy in her Board of Pensions role.

Servant leadership unmasked

By Kirsten Laderach

This year’s Preus Award recipient writes about her summer of learning.

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Luther Seminary alumni/ae—Called back to the Seminary

A Seminary staff member told me an incredible story last week about her first kiss with her husband. I don’t usually hear such stories, of course. “But this one was different,” she told me, “because it took place on campus.”

“The kiss” happened years ago in the kitchen of Bockman Hall’s old cafeteria—dubbed the Diet of Worms—when she and her husband were students. Today, as a leader in our Children, Youth and Family Program, she works in a renovated office only a few feet from the spot of that first kiss. Amazing!

Now, not every alumni/ae story of returning to work at Luther Seminary is so romantic. But these call stories are powerful reminders of how the Spirit continually moves experienced leaders back into service at the Seminary. Their stories are different, but they all have a common theme. These leaders value leadership, and now they want to contribute to the passion, skill and commitment of future leaders.

Rick Foss, ’71 and ’92, was called as bishop to the Eastern North Dakota Synod after years of pastoral service in Minneapolis; Moorhead, Minn.; Fargo, N.D.; and Seattle. After finishing his service as bishop, Rick was called back to Luther Seminary to provide leadership in our Contextual Education Program, which helps students integrate their studies with real-life experience. This program covers almost 30 percent of our whole curriculum! These mentoring relationships shape young pastors in deep and abiding ways. To have someone of Rick Foss’ experience, dedication and talent in this critical position makes all the difference in the world to what the seminary can accomplish.

Rich Omland, ’73, also served as an ELCA bishop—in Rich’s case, in the Montana Synod. After 28 years of pastoral service and six years as bishop, he answered the call to return to Luther as a philanthropic adviser. In this capacity, Rich brings together his deep understanding of the church and the mission of the school, as well as his vast network of relationships, to build up the school’s financial capacity for its mission.

Paul Harrington, ’72, serves as pastor part time at Shepherd of the Valley in Apple Valley, Minn. Since it began in an elementary school in 1980, the congregation has grown to include more than 9,000 members. With his wealth of experience in leading such a mission-minded congregation, Paul returns to Luther to share that experience with our students as interim seminary pastor.

God calls each of us into a fascinating life of service. We are grateful for our alumni/ae whom the Spirit calls back to our community. Their leadership is life-giving to us all and a key to educating missional leaders. Oh, yes, in lifting up future leaders, the experience of alumni/ae counts!

Pax,

Richard H. Bliese
Mid-Winter Convocation encourages participants to engage Scripture in their congregations


Plenary speakers presented theological ideas and practices to help attendees interpret and understand Scripture in a faith community. Plenaries were given by:

- Mike Housholder, Senior Pastor, Lutheran Church of Hope, West Des Moines, Iowa
- Mark Allan Powell, Professor of New Testament, Trinity Lutheran Seminary
- Mary Hinkle Shore, Associate Professor of New Testament, Luther Seminary

Here is what participants had to say about Convocation:

"Being at Convo is like having your batteries recharged."

"I appreciated the opportunity to gather and reflect with colleagues."

"Hearing such great speakers reminds me of the great minds working for us out there. I feel so motivated!"

"The speakers helped me refresh my thinking of ministry and mission."

Audio of the keynote presentations, along with short workshop recaps, is available at www.luthersem.edu/convo2010.

To see more photos of this year’s event, visit www.flickr.com/photos/lutherseminary, choose Sets, and then choose 2010 Convocation.

Mark your calendar for next year’s Mid-Winter Convocation, Engaging Scripture as Communities of Moral Deliberation, Feb. 2-4, 2011. Watch for speaker information and other details at www.luthersem.edu/convo.
The idea of being called by God into ministry usually evokes a pulpit, a collar or a lifetime of service in a faraway destination. But two Luther grads have built a nonprofit ministry around a different definition of the word “call.”

Joel, ’87, and Wendy Berthelsen, ’88 and ’05—along with parishioners Steve and Kathy Harr—started Call Inc. in December 2006. Call Inc. is “a teaching mission dedicated to helping individuals discover and incorporate God’s unique call into all of life.” What it boils down to is this: Whether you’re a preacher, a pianist or a pilot, you’re called by God.

“We want to help people understand their lives as something God wants to use to bring forth Jesus’ redemptive plan for the world,” said Wendy. “It’s not about dropping everything and becoming a pastor or missionary. It has to do with whatever God has for you. It’s about putting ministry in daily life and the priesthood of all believers into action.”

A new way of thinking

Though Call Inc. was officially founded in 2006, the Berthelsens’ work on the subject goes back nearly two decades. The couple has worked together at three parishes over the past 20 years. A few years into serving their first parish in Michigan, Joel says, they experienced what would be a defining moment in their ministry.

“It’s been the Berthelsens’ guiding philosophy ever since, including the last 10 years at their current congregation, Hope Lutheran Church in Cedar Hill, Texas, where they met the Harrs.

A divine partnership

Members at Hope, Steve and Kathy found themselves wanting to give more and more time to the ministry approach the Berthelsens were introducing. Now, Kathy manages Call Inc.’s finances and offers friendly hospitality. Steve, using his experiences as founder and CEO of his law firm, gives leadership and teaches classes with Wendy. He brings a different perspective to Call Inc.

“I know my limits when it comes to the message and the clarity of the message from a theological and biblical basis, and I look heavily to them to help me with that,” said Steve. “Having lived outside the professional church life and being a lawyer that has focused 30 years of practice on the resolution of disputes between people, I’ve seen a wide variety of the human spirit. When I teach, I think they relate to me differently than they would a pastor.”

After some prayerful consideration, Steve and Kathy made an additional commitment to Call Inc.
"Steve just called one day and said he wanted to put his personal finances toward me directing my time toward Call Inc. for 18 months," said Wendy. "We didn't see that coming. It's pretty overwhelming when someone offers to do something like that."

With the Harrs' financial gift, Wendy has redirected her pastoral time over the past nine months to Call Inc. as a mission outreach of Hope.

"Launching and growing Call Inc. would have been tricky without the Harrs' generosity," said Joel. However, in what Joel calls "just one of those God things," Call Inc. has also unexpectedly received other large gifts from those personally touched by the seminars they attend.

A blessed endeavor

For Steve, others' financial gifts are one more assurance that the commitment he and Kathy have made—both personally and financially—was the right one.

"I come away from these sessions just rejuvenated, full of life and full of energy about my life," said Steve. "There are many things you can pay a lot of money for that don't do that."

Now Call Inc. is focusing on growing its ministry outside the walls of Hope. Wendy is talking with other area leaders and Bible camps and recently met with the city manager in Cedar Hill. He is interested in incorporating call teaching into his city-management practices.

"Jesus' call doesn't just happen inside a church building. It happens in all kinds of places. It permeates people's entire lives," said Wendy.

Her dream is to train other young leaders, so they can spread the message of God's call around the world. Steve hopes Call Inc. is one day as well known as any ministry in the world and that its profound message touches as many lives as possible.

"If people, no matter what age, have the ability to understand how to discern God's will for them, it's a process that can be repeated throughout life," said Steve. "This message is one that every single human being can benefit from."

Wendy came to a deeper understanding of call while using a method she learned while at Luther Seminary. She read the entire Bible through the lens of call. "A professor had suggested I do that with another topic while at seminary, and it was an incredible experience," she said.


You may recognize a familiar name in "Custom Designed." Luther Seminary Professor of Church History Walter Sundberg serves on the advisory board for Call Inc. He wrote the foreword and endorsed the book, writing, "Not since Clarence Stoughton's 'Whatever You Do' from over a generation ago have I seen a more helpful, down-to-earth guide on Christian vocation. 'Custom Designed' is concrete, helpful and biblically based. There is no more important question than the one the book asks: 'How do we live worthy of Christ in our daily lives?'"
YOUR GIFTS, YOUR IMPACT

Everyday donor gifts are put to work supporting students like Jon Lund.

Jon Lund, an M.Div. intern with an emphasis in Children, Youth and Family Ministry, is actively preparing to share the gospel message with today’s youth, just as his own high school youth director shared it with him.

By 10th grade, Lund knew he was meant to serve in the church. Now, as he prepares for ordained ministry through Luther Seminary’s Children, Youth and Family program, Lund says he has been given “the tools to see a bigger picture of God and God working.”

“God is present when we meet these kids. Sometimes they just want someone to walk alongside them. Seminary has helped me see that sometimes that is enough.”

Lund realizes that while seminary is where he is meant to be, it would not be possible without donor support.

“Though I am called to be a pastor, I also have to be financially responsible,” he says. “I can only take out so much debt before I won’t be able to pay it back. Donors make seminary possible. I couldn’t become a pastor without donor support.”

Are you interested in learning more about how your support helps prepare future leaders for children, youth and family ministry? Contact the Office of Seminary Relations at 888-358-8437 or semrel@luthersem.edu.

PREACHING ACROSS THE NATION

Luther has sent out nearly 350 students to serve in ministry across the U.S. since the youth leadership program expanded to become the CYF program in 2006. They serve as Christian lay leaders and ordained pastors in:

- Children’s ministry
- Youth ministry
- Young adult ministry
- Family ministry

States in yellow represent locations currently served by CYF grads.
The first thing Greg Van Dunk noticed when he stepped back on Luther Seminary’s campus was that the student body seemed a lot younger. It’s a perspective that comes from spending 25 years out of the classroom. As the 2010 alum-in-residence, Van Dunk, ’85, came back to Luther not as a student but a teacher. During the week in March he spent talking with students about his experiences, he noticed a smaller student body than what he remembered. Enrollment has actually gone up since Van Dunk’s time at Luther, but the growth in distributed learning programs and commuter students means fewer bodies on campus.

He feels the changes on campus signal hope for the future of the church.

“Folks in my generation need to know how to build community in new ways,” said Van Dunk. “It used to be that community just happened. But (now) we live in a world of virtual community. As a church, we need to be intentional about guiding people, inviting them to gather and get to know each other. (Distributed learning students) have a unique perspective on how to do this and how important it is.

“Van Dunk is also encouraged by the development of the Congregational Mission and Leadership emphasis in the seminary curriculum.

“When you leave seminary you know you have to preach, teach, care and administrate effectively. But what’s especially needed in the parish today is the ability to help folks spiritually discern where they are now and how we discover what God calls our congregations to be.”

His passion for revitalizing congregations comes from what he has seen God do in his churches and his own life.

“I love (Professor of Systematic Theology Pat) Keifert’s philosophy that we can’t simply say we are in a time of post-Christendom decline—there are too many things happening that the Spirit is clearly stirring up.”

The distributed learning program is a great asset for those students who are living out their ministries and learning at the same time. After all, isn’t that what we want our congregation members to understand, that their ministries take place in their everyday settings?”

Alum-in-Residence Greg Van Dunk sees change, hope on Luther Seminary campus


Did You Know?

Greg Van Dunk’s pastoral career included 15 years planting the multi-racial All Peoples Church in inner-city Milwaukee. He’s currently starting his fifth year at Atonement Lutheran Church in Muskego, Wis., redeveloping a suburban congregation that had been conflicted over relocation. He has also served on the Greater Milwaukee Synod staff as part-time ELCA Mission Director since 2004.
Each Wednesday morning, Luther Seminary’s library is a calm, quiet place. The room upstairs is a different story.

Through a corridor lined with portraits of pioneer pastors and professors, the seminary Archives is buzzing with activity as six volunteers work to keep history alive. One transcribes an interview with a retired professor while others file away parish reports, clergy biographies and newspaper clippings on church issues. Another puts the finishing touches on a database of Minnesota congregations whose records are on microfiche.

And even when they break for coffee, the activity doesn’t let up.

“We never are lacking for conversation,” says Elaine Westby, a 10-year veteran volunteer.

“We share our joys and our sorrows, aches and our pains,” retired parish nurse Lydia Volz adds with a chuckle.

“And we just wait for a break to burst into the conversation,” exclaims Evelyn Sonnack, the longest-serving Archives volunteer.

“We have to fight for the right to speak,” says retired pastor Wayne Tellekson, ‘60, as they all erupt in laughter.
“We learn a lot from them because they know these people—they know the connections,” affirms Archives Assistant Kari Bostrom, ’07. “It can be a small Lutheran world.”

Their expertise comes from personal experience in the various church bodies and institutions that across the decades have become the ELCA. Sonnack’s and Volz’s husbands were history professors at Luther. Marion Eklund, who began serving in the Archives three years ago, wrote books on early leaders of the Augustana Synod with her husband after he retired from teaching history at Pacific Lutheran University.

Marilyn Boe, who along with Westby once worked for the old Evangelical Lutheran Church, retired from a job in the Archives in 2000 only to begin volunteering immediately.

“I really look forward to coming,” she says. “I enjoy very much what I’m doing, and I feel it’s very satisfying because it’s important work that I don’t think would get done if I didn’t do it. And I just enjoy the fellowship.”

On this particular Wednesday, Boe sparks a conversation based on a book she found about the origins of the Old Muskego Church whose historic building is now on the campus. Her discovery prompts a unison cry of “Oh!” from the others. In short order, they identify the last name of the author with that of a retired professor’s relative.

Sonnack recently found a connection of her own when a man donated a collection of recordings from church radio broadcasts. One included audio of Sonnack singing a solo at her church in 1944. “I thought, ‘Oh, well, I wish I could sing like that now,’” she says.

There are perks aplenty to volunteering, but Sonnack points to one pet peeve: archived items that include a church’s name but no location or date. On cue, Tellekson reads the mug he’s drinking from: “Calvary Lutheran Church”—where?—“50th anniversary.” (The group has amended the mug with permanent marker to include the city and state.)

“Make it sound like it’s a drudge,” jokes Tellekson, drawing guffaws with a show of cartoonish piety: “We don’t enjoy it at all—we just do it out of our love for the Lord.”

After all, the volunteers don’t want to let on that they’re having too much fun.

Wednesday FRIENDS

The Archives isn’t the only place on campus where volunteers cheerfully give their time. A group of women from the Luther Seminary FRIENDS is also busy on many Wednesday mornings preparing mailings, assembling information packets or making favors for events, all of which cut costs for the seminary.
“It’s fun, and we know it’s something that needs to be done, and it’s a good way to get together and help the seminary out,” says Linda Olson, who began as a FRIENDS board member and volunteer in 2008 after retiring as a church administrative assistant.

Since 1940, the FRIENDS have sought to uphold the seminary and its students and faculty in various ways. In the days before Luther built up its own housing and dining resources, they made bedspreads and prepared food. Now with about 200 members, they continue to pray for the students and seminary while also providing annual endowed scholarships and hosting three annual events. About 20 of the FRIENDS are Wednesday Volunteers.

“We really know how to put addresses on—and stamps,” second-year volunteer Florence Hopp says with a smile during a complimentary lunch after a morning of preparing mailings.

“Getting to meet others connected with the seminary has been fun and interesting,” adds Olson, whose daughter, Marie, is a Luther student. “I feel strongly about our seminary education for our students and future leaders of our congregations, and it’s one small way we can help them out.”

Ambassadors

Not all ways to help are on campus.

Pat Day doesn’t let the fact that he spends each winter in Florida keep him from serving the seminary. For the past few years, Day has used his dual residency to Luther’s
Q&A WITH SUSAN STEKEL RIPPLEY, ARCHIVES VOLUNTEER

How did you become interested in volunteering at Luther Seminary?

As a lifelong Lutheran, I’ve known about Luther Seminary for years. I became interested in volunteering after I left my full-time job in a public library last fall. Volunteering allows me to learn more about the places that I’ve always thought would be great places to work. Luther Seminary is easily my favorite!

How easy was it to get involved?

Very easy—there’s information about getting involved on the Luther Seminary website (www.luthersem.edu/gifts/getinvolved.aspx). I contacted the Office of Seminary Relations, and Mary Steeber (Luther’s volunteer coordinator) got back to me promptly. We sat down over coffee to talk about my skills and interests, and she found opportunities for me with the Archives and FRIENDS groups.

What interests and abilities have you brought to the table, and how well have they connected to your volunteer work at Luther?

My background is in libraries and archives, and I have a lot of experience working with rare books and prints. This made me a good fit for a couple of projects working with some of Luther’s art and artifacts collection in the Archives. I love it—it’s fascinating work, and I’m always learning something new.

What’s your favorite part about volunteering at Luther?

The people. The staff in the Archives and in Seminary Relations are wonderful. While the art and artifacts are great, it’s the people that I look forward to seeing every time I come to campus.

How did you become interested in the Luther Seminary FRIENDS?

For seven years I was the assistant curator in a rare book collection, and I worked with that library’s Friends group in its efforts to raise awareness of and financial support for the library. I learned how important such outreach is—and also that I enjoy it! I’m looking forward to working with the Luther Seminary FRIENDS; it’s a great way to meet wonderful people and to help the seminary during these tough economic times.
In less than 10 years, Geoff Sinibaldo has gone from intern pastor to internship supervisor—all at the same church where he first grew in his ministry. His first role at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Avon, Conn., helped him in his current position.

“That hands-on practicum piece is just so important,” said Sinibaldo, ’02. “To have somebody who kind of knows what they are doing supervise that and reflect with the person really is helpful.”

When called to St. Matthew in 2003, Sinibaldo encouraged St. Matthew to continue its internship program, which had operated since 1986. Today, he sees three pieces to his role as supervisor—guiding the intern, encouraging growth in the congregation and connecting the intern to the larger church. By following these steps, Sinibaldo hopes that his interns find their paths, even if it doesn’t come easily.

“I am against trying to shape a person into what I think they should be or to create cookie-cutter people,” said Sinibaldo. “It’s more helping to affirm them than breaking them down. I think bombing at something as an intern can be the best learning one can have.”

Much of this wisdom has come both through experience and from his mentor, William S. Carter. Carter served first as his internship supervisor and has been the head pastor at St. Matthew since 1984.

While Sinibaldo has given much to the five interns he has supervised, he’s also learned much as an internship supervisor.

“It’s helped me not be critical of myself and think about why I do things a particular way,” he said. “I have certainly learned things from every intern that have strengthened my own ministry, which has just been a real blessing.”
International Students Hand-Pick Theological Books for Their Home Countries

By Laura Kaslow, Communication Specialist

Ph.D. student Sekenwa Briska knows firsthand the need for good theological books.

A native of Nigeria, Briska began his studies at Luther in 2003. Soon after his classes started, he started working for the Lutheran International Library Assistance Project (LILAP), which sends theological books to libraries in developing countries. Students who are completing their biblical studies in developing countries often have limited access to theological books like the ones LILAP provides.

“This is important to me for many reasons,” says Briska. “These books mean teachers are well-equipped and students will get quality teaching.”

LILAP coordinator Marianna Forde says each year several international students will hand-pick theological books to send back to their home countries. Since beginning his work with LILAP, Briska has personally sent 7,000 books to more than a dozen Bible schools and seminaries in Nigeria. He’s also helped other international students send books to their home countries through LILAP.

“People are hungry for books,” says Briska. “The importance of these books is beyond what we can imagine here.”

Those who wish to donate books can learn more at www.luthersem.edu/lilap. Due to increased shipping costs, an additional donation of 25 cents per book is kindly requested.

If you otherwise wish to support the ministry of LILAP, consider a gift to the Global Mission Institute, a major supporter of LILAP. Learn more at www.luthersem.edu/gmi.

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This fall, three Luther Seminary students entered dorm life in a whole new way. Jane Harris, Nile Sandeen and Carl Joyner moved into apartments at Augustana Health Care Center, a senior housing facility in Minneapolis, where they are getting an immersion experience in pastoral care with the elderly. Through this partnership, the seminarians are given an inexpensive place to live and, in turn, provide spiritual care to the building’s senior residents.

By living together, the students and residents are developing meaningful relationships. “I feel like I’m a part of their lives,” said Harris.

**A unique partnership**

The idea for the partnership came from Gary Wilkerson, visiting professor of congregational care and community leadership. Wilkerson, who is also Augustana Care’s board president, was intrigued by a similar program through the University of Minnesota medical school that allows students to live with Augustana residents to better understand geriatric health care needs.

“To the best of our knowledge there is not another arrangement like this in the country,” said Wilkerson. “Visiting and engaging with residents on a formal and informal basis benefits the students and the facility. The students gain understanding and wisdom by living among the residents. No book is as rich as the living human documents, the residents and staff, from whom the students learn.”
“The students gain understanding and wisdom by living among the residents. No book is as rich as the living human documents, the residents and staff, from whom the students learn.”

— Gary Wilkerson, visiting professor of congregational care and community leadership

Master of Arts student Jane Harris enjoys apartment life at Augustana.

Photos © Mary Stoneback
Students Jane Harris, left, and Nile Sandeen, center, talk with resident Virginia Prest in the halls of Augustana.

Harris learned about the opportunity while at a crossroads in her ministry path. “I had been debating about going into aging and health ministries, so I thought it would be interesting,” she said.

Harris, who enrolled at Luther as a Master of Divinity student, is now pursuing a Master of Arts in aging and health. She has found that her experiences at Augustana build on what she’s learning in the classroom.

“It’s really just getting to know people in that age group,” she said. “It’s one thing to go visit, but I am living with them day to day, knowing their actions.”

Real-world experience

Nile Sandeen calls his decision to move to Augustana “a little random and yet divine.” He plans to pursue parish ministry after completing his M.Div. degree and is glad for the in-depth chaplaincy experience with an aging population.

“The reality is that congregations are getting older. Being among the elderly will be an important part of my congregational life.”

The time at Augustana helps Carl Joyner better understand a population that is often neglected. An M.Div. middler, Joyner serves at Holsey Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Minneapolis in addition to his work at Augustana and his studies. Living and working with the elderly population provides Joyner with knowledge he can use in his current and future ministry settings.

“One of the things I’ve noticed is that the older segments of society are often sent to nursing homes. This creates a disconnect. The younger folks are missing out on what happens during that time of life. Because they miss these experiences, the young folks have little to no idea what to expect as they grow old,” said Joyner.

“We need to be better connected and provide more service to the elderly to help them so we can better understand their needs. Working at Augustana has helped me see the extent of this need, especially as it relates to working with elderly in a congregation.”

Hands-on care

As part of Augustana’s spiritual care team, the students meet with residents in both the apartments and the care center to listen and talk about their needs and struggles.

“Realizing the maturity of faith and how much someone can learn in a lifetime—you can’t learn that in a classroom,” said Sandeen. “Even those so well-rounded in faith have a constant need and thirst for God.”

Having additional people on the team has helped give greater presence to spiritual care services, said Augustana Chaplain Jim Meyer. “People are responding and talking. We’re doing a lot of pastoral care, a lot of referrals.”

In addition to their pastoral care duties, the students lead Bible studies and worship services. Meyer said worship attendance has gone up in the last year, mainly due to the fact that the students can assist the elderly population in physically getting to worship.

“It is very helpful to have the students down in the chapel. They often do the readings. They also get there early. They have been very good about getting people there and placing them. That’s been a big help,” said Kay Hencinski, an Augustana resident.

Because they live in the facility, the students also spend time informally socializing with the residents, including playing board games and participating in hymn sings. Having younger people around brings comfort to the residents. Virginia Prest, a resident at Augustana, said, “It’s just so much fun to have young people here!”

Hencinski seconds that: “It’s delightful to have someone to talk to.”

“The younger presence (gives the residents) hope,” said Meyer. “It is gratifying for them to see the new ‘doers’ coming up. It is gratifying for them to see that life, love and ministry will go on.”
Do you feel called to serve in the church and the world?

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Aging and Health     Children, Youth and Family Ministry
History of Christianity

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Dual Degree: Master of Arts in Theology with Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy (St. Mary’s)  
Dual Degree: Master of Arts in Theology with Master of Arts in Social Work (Augsburg)
As the Region 3 outreach coordinator for the ELCA Board of Pensions, Sandy Rothschiller knows she has her work cut out for her.

“For 17 years, I’d get this stuff in the mail from the Board of Pensions, and I would say, ‘I can't look at that. It’s too confusing,’” she said. “Now I’m out trying to teach people like me that it’s not that hard.”

For those 17 years, Rothschiller, ’90, served as a parish pastor. But in 2007, she was ready for a change. Rothschiller now educates members in Minnesota and the Dakotas about benefits available through the Board of Pensions. Both her experiences in seminary and as a pastor have assisted her in her new role, making her appreciate the benefits the ELCA offers.

“Our bundled benefit structure means that when pastors interview for calls, they never have to negotiate benefits,” she said. “So, when I was in North Dakota, I had the same...”

“I’D GET THIS STUFF IN THE MAIL FROM THE BOARD OF PENSIONS, AND I WOULD SAY, ‘IT’S TOO CONFUSING.’ NOW I’M OUT TRYING TO TEACH PEOPLE LIKE ME THAT IT’S NOT THAT HARD.”

— SANDY ROTHSCILLER
benefits as in Minnesota. If all of a sudden pastors were negotiating benefits, their calls would be about benefits, not about a call from God.”

Rothschiller is especially passionate about church leaders’ spiritual wellness. Since social, physical and emotional wellness affect spiritual wellness, she notes that pastors must remain healthy to lead their congregations. A recent partnership with Mayo Clinic has aimed to improve members’ health, and, in just three years, Rothschiller has already seen great changes.

"We are working toward getting healthier," she said. "Sixty percent of people who took the Mayo Clinic health assessment last year had emotional or mental well-being issues. That’s dramatic. Yet there are so many things people are starting to do after that assessment. It’s making the difference, and it’s fun to see."
The David W. Preus Servant Leadership Award was established in 1988 to honor the contributions to civic and religious life of Dr. David W. Preus, ’50. Past recipients of the award were community members recognized for their dedication to servant leadership through a nonprofit organization. In 2009, the award was granted to a Luther Seminary student to recognize and encourage outstanding leadership. The award will continue this way, granted to a student to support a structured experience intended to build understanding and encourage outstanding leadership that expresses itself in service to others. Kirsten Laderach was the first student recipient of this award.

KIRSTEN LADERACH: Servant Leadership Unmasked

By Kirsten Laderach, M.Div. intern
There were many full circles of learning that came out of my summer at Shekinah Chapel. I am thankful to Pastor Yehiel Curry, Shekinah Chapel and to the David Preus Servant Leadership Award for the support of friendship, encouragement, prayer and finances. Few fruitful journeys are possible without any of these things.

Location: Riverdale, Illinois
Congregation: Shekinah Chapel
Mentor: Pastor Yehiel Curry

From my initial meeting of Pastor Yehiel Curry in January 2009 to the last day I spent at Shekinah Chapel, I was in the company of a true friend and mentor.

Our plan for learning was a leap of faith and determination. I was determined to spend time at Shekinah Chapel, and Yehiel was determined to share great hospitality, be a mentor and put me in positions that would allow me to experience things I would never have understood otherwise.

I am most thankful for my time spent at SIMSA/SIMBA camp. SIMBA is where Shekinah started. Shekinah is a congregation born of a camp. It was at the SIMBA camp that my summer experience began to come together.

The kids make masks in the middle of their camp experiences, so I joined in. The process spoke of the trust necessary to truly engage one another. It reminded me that surrender is part of fully accepting and embracing. I thought of the crossing of cultural realities that summer. I had seen things that I hoped couldn’t possibly be. I struggled to articulate what I now knew to be true. With this I painted my mask. And with this I continue to toil.

I painted two sets of lines. One set was green, red and black to represent the African-American community that I had been a part of all summer. The other set was blue, pink and blue again to represent me. The eight-pointed star from the eye represents the vivid and enlightening experiences I had. The yellow line that connects the eye to the mouth represents what I am working on now, putting what I saw and experienced into words.

At camp, Yehiel said, “You want to know Shekinah? This is where it started; it’s only fitting that you would be here last ... to come full circle.”

The Mission Statement of SIMBA/SIMSA (Safe In My Brother’s/Sister’s Arms)

An Africentric community grounded in the gospel of Jesus Christ that creates a space for listening, teaching and responding to the needs of young African-Americans.
Eric Barreto, assistant professor of New Testament, presented "A Citizen of Rome?: The Negotiation of Paul’s Ethnic Identities in Acts 16:16-40" at the Upper Midwest Regional AAR/SBL/ASOR meeting in St. Paul, Minn., in April. He presented "Acts and/or Hechos?: Rethinking Race, Ethnicity and Biblical Studies" and "Negotiating Identities upon Timothy’s Body: Circumcision, Multiculturalism and Jewish Identity" in November at the SBL Annual Meeting in New Orleans. He contributed "Closed: A Historical Commitment" to the Fall 2009 issue of Word & World; and "Puerto Ricans" and "Hispanic Theological Initiative" to "Hispanic American Religious Cultures" (ABC-CLIO, 2009). He taught at Judson Memorial Baptist Church in Minneapolis in March, February and December and at First Presbyterian Church in Hudson, Wis., in January.

Terence Fretheim, Elva B. Lovell Professor of Old Testament, made a presentation at the Akeda conference at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, S.D., in April. He was the Theta Phi lecturer at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Ky., in March. He was lecturer and resident biblical theologian at an annual conference of Presbyterian senior pastors in Chapel Hill, N.C., in January. He presented a paper at a conference on the Bible and the Pursuit of Happiness at Emory University in Atlanta, in December.

Mark Granquist, associate professor of church history, gave a historical workshop and preached at Zion Lutheran Church in Long Valley, N.J., for its 250th anniversary. He did an educational presentation at First Lutheran Church in Lake City, Minn., for its 140th anniversary. He preached at East Koshkonong Lutheran Church in Cambridge, Wis., for its 165th anniversary.

Sarah Henrich, professor of New Testament, spoke at Drawn to the Shepherd: Immersed in the Word 2010 at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Apple Valley, Minn., in March.

Mary Hess, associate professor of educational leadership, is currently directing the 2009-2010 Wabash Center Workshop for Pre-Tenure Faculty in Theological Schools. She delivered the Hei Fry lecture, "Learning the Bible in the 21st Century: Lessons from Harry Potter and Vampires," at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago in February; and at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Wash., and Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia in March. She gave a plenary lecture for the Association of Youth Ministry Educators and taught a series about simplicity at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis.


Arland Hultgren, Asher O. and Carrie Nasby Professor of New Testament, wrote an article titled "The Augustana Liturgy: Its Significance for Shaping a Community of Faith" for the spring issue of Lutheran Quarterly. He gave presentations at adult forums in February at United Lutheran Church in Red Wing, Minn.; and on the Apocryphal Gospels at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Eden Prairie, Minn., and Hope Presbyterian Church in Richfield, Minn.

Rolf Jacobson, '91, associate professor of Old Testament, gave keynote addresses at the Northwest Minnesota Synod Theological Conference, the La Crosse Area Synod Theological Conference, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada Manitoba/Northwest Ontario Leadership Day and the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod Learning Ministry Day. He contributed to the books "Images and Prophecy in the Ancient Eastern Mediterranean" (Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2010) and "An Introduction to the Study of Religion" (Saint Mary’s Press).

Tom Jolivette, ’80, philanthropic adviser, was named vice president for Seminary Relations and executive director of the Luther Seminary Foundation.

Dirk Lange, associate professor of worship, was the keynote speaker at Liturgy and Ethics, a conference sponsored by the Stead Center for Ethics.
and Values at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill., in April. He served as a consultant for Lenten Evening Prayer at Westwood Lutheran Church in St. Louis Park, Minn., and led Lenten studies at St. Matthew Episcopal Church in St. Anthony Park, Minn., and Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church in St. Paul, Minn. He was a presenter at the Christian Ministry, Theological Education and Practical Theology Consultation in Indianapolis in January. He led workshops on communal prayer and leading Advent Evening Prayer at Westwood Lutheran Church in St. Louis Park, Minn., in December. He was a seminar teacher at the University of Uppsala and the Stiftelsen Fjellstedtska Skolan in Uppsala, Sweden, in November. He was a presenter at Societas Liturgica in Sydney, Australia, in August.

**Theresa Latini, assistant professor of congregational and community care**, led a workshop on preventing clergy sexual misconduct at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Mich., in January. In the same month, the Presbytery of the Twin Cities received her as a member. She was appointed to serve as a parish associate at Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis.

**Amy Marga, assistant professor of systematic theology**, did adult forums at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Golden Valley, Minn., and Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

**Andrew Root, assistant professor of youth and family ministry**, appeared on Doug Pagitt’s AM950 radio show in January. In-studio video can be viewed at www.ustream.tv.

**Mary Hinkle Shore, ’86, associate professor of New Testament**, presented “Rooted in God’s Word” as part of the 125th anniversary of Zion Lutheran Church in Muscatine, Iowa, in April. She spoke on “Being Church in the Book of Acts: Preaching, Healing and Getting into Trouble” at a Southeast Iowa Synod event in March. She led a Bible study as part of a Women’s Day event at Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church in Plymouth, Minn., in February. She led studies on Luther’s Marks of the Church at Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church in Minneapolis in January and February. In February and March, she preached at St. Anthony Park Lutheran and Immanuel Lutheran Church in St. Paul, Minn. She wrote “How I Pray is Breathe: Yoga, Christianity and Healing” for the Winter 2010 issue of Word & World.

**Paul Westermeyer, professor of church music**, received the 2009 Faithful Servant Award from the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians in August in Milwaukee. Friend of the seminary Jerry Evenrud, who gifted his Prodigal Son-themed art collection to Luther, also received the award.


**COMING SOON . . .**

**David Fredrickson, ’80**, professor of New Testament, will lead his fourth study tour to Greece and Turkey in May.

**Terence Fretheim** will present papers at the meetings of the Korean Bible Society on May 27 and the Korean Old Testament Society from May 28-29 in Seoul, Korea.

**Theresa Latini** will co-lead a workshop for Christian leaders seeking to transform conflict and build community through authentic dialogue in June at Luther Seminary.

**Mary Hinkle Shore** will give the keynote address, “Treasure in Earthen Vessels,” at the North Carolina Synod Assembly at Lenoir Rhyne University in Hickory, N.C., May 3-5. She’ll teach a KAIROS course, Retooling Greek for Parish Ministry, in June at Luther Seminary.


**FACULTY’S PUBLISHED BOOKS**

**Hollie Holt-Woehl** published “Congregations as Trinitarian Communities: Accepting, Welcoming and Supporting People with Mental Illness” (VDM Verlag, 2009).

**Dirk Lange** published “Trauma Recalled: Liturgy, Disruption, Theology” (Fortress Press, 2009).

**Amy Marga** published “Karl Barth’s Dialogue with Catholicism in Göttingen and Münster” (Mohr Siebeck, 2010).

**Alan Padgett, professor of systematic theology**, published “Christianity and Western Thought, vol. 3: Journey to Postmodernity in the 20th Century” (IVP Academic 2009).
The second annual Celebration of Biblical Preaching rises from the conviction that Bible preaching matters. Through the faithful interpretation of Scripture, God works to bring people through death to new life.

This celebration gathers nationally known preachers, teachers and pastors to explore the life and death gravity of our biblical preaching.

**Workshop Leaders**

David Lose, Matthew Skinner, Karoline Lewis, Eric Barreto, Diane Jacobson, Dan Lee, Fred Gaiser, Mary Hinkle Shore, Craig Koester, Andrew Root, Gloria Roach Thomas, Richard Howell, Donald Bryant, Kelly Chatman, Anthony Machado

**LEADERS**

**Michael Curry,**
Bishop of North Carolina,
Episcopal Church of the USA

**Anna Carter Florence,**
Associate Professor of Preaching and Worship,
Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Ga.

**Karoline Lewis,**
Assistant Professor of Preaching, Luther Seminary

**Thomas Long,**
Bandy Professor of Preaching, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta

**Paul Scott Wilson,**
Professor of Homiletics, Emmanuel College, Victoria University, University of Toronto

Watch for Celebration updates at www.luthersem.edu/celebration, where you can also view video of the inaugural Celebration of Biblical Preaching: Bridging the Gap Between the Bible and Our World Today.

**Mark your calendar!**

**Celebration of Biblical Preaching: Biblical Preaching as a Matter of Life and Death**

Oct. 4-6, 2010

Registration opens in May!

**Loren Halvorson**

1927-2010

The Rev. Dr. Loren Halvorson, ’53, long-time professor and friend of Luther Seminary, died Feb. 16 in Minneapolis of prostate cancer. He was 82.

Halvorson worked with Lutheran World Federation after World War II to find homes for Baltic refugees, and during the 1960s he led Faith and Life community conversations advocating for justice and reconciliation.

“Professor Halvorson was a man of great vision, peace and commitment to the community,” wrote Gary Koutsopoulos, ’93. “He foresaw the need of pastors to one day be ‘worker/priests,’ both in partnership with all humankind and in affinity for those who practiced their lives, faith and vocations in one humble movement. I will never forget the grace and empowerment of this beloved teacher and brother in Christ.”

Halvorson taught at Luther Seminary from 1959 to 1992 as a professor of church and society.

“Loren once described his own professorial mission at the seminary in military terms—as being a ‘forward observer,’ as one who ‘relays intelligence from the front lines,’ all as part of Christ’s ongoing mission to ‘overcome the world’ (John 16:33b),” remembered John Riggle, ’85 and ’91. “For me, as a Christian and a pastor, Loren’s vision was compelling, and became part of the thrust of my own life and ministry.”

With his wife, Ruth, he co-founded the ARC Retreat Center in 1976. Located in Stanchfield, Minn., ARC was founded by the Halvorsons as “a quiet place and a reflective atmosphere for individuals and groups on spiritual journeys of search and renewal who seek to slow down the pace of life, restore balance and deepen relationships with self, others and God.”

Halvorson wrote three books, “Grace at Point Zero,” “Peace on Earth Handbook” and “Exodus Into the World.”

"Loren Halvorson
1927-2010"
Darlene Grega, ’06, campus pastor at Valparaiso University, died April 7. She was 55.

Charlie Leonard, ’05, accepted a call to First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie, Minn.

Emily Myallis, ’08, was consecrated as a diaconal minister in Lebanon, Penn., Lower Susquehanna Synod. She is called to Eldercare, and Zion’s Lutheran Church in Jonestown, Penn.

Craig Nehring, ’07, accepted a call to serve Zion & Peace Lutheran Church in Caroline and Split Rock, Wis.

Leslie Neist, ’09, was installed at Little Cedar Lutheran Church and Marshall Lutheran Church in Adams, Minn.


Wendy Berthelsen, ’88 and ’05, published “Custom Designed: A Life Worthy of the Call” (Tate Publishing).

Carl Eeman, ’83, published “Recounting Minnesota: Blogging the Al Franken Election Saga” and “Encampment” (Melange Press, 2009).

Russell Graef, ’83 and ’90, a chaplain of the 3rd Battalion of the 10th Marine Regiment, appears in a photo gallery at www.washingtonpost.com titled, “Marines conduct incursion in Marja, Afghanistan.” He can be seen in photo 52, dated Feb. 10.

David E. Johnson, ’83, 52, of Venice, Fla., died Jan. 22.

Richard Nelson, ’80, was named chair of Lutheran World Relief’s board of directors.

Walt Kallestad, ’78, published “Turn Your Church Inside Out: Building a Community for Others” (Augsburg Fortress).


Peter Hovland, ’66, of Mora, Minn., died Dec. 21. He was 74.

Joe Nelsen, ’69, published “Got a Minute, Pastor? Reflections on Ministry and Life” (Xulon Press, 2010).

Walt Kallestad, ’78, published “Turn Your Church Inside Out: Building a Community for Others” (Augsburg Fortress).


E. J. Haanstad, ’43, died Oct. 2 in Mendota, Ill.


Professor Dirk Lange awarded Lilly Research Grant

Dirk Lange, associate professor of worship, has been selected to receive a Lilly Theological Research Grant for 2010-2011. Dirk Lange’s Fellowship was for the project, “Rethinking Communal Prayer: A Baptismal Discipline.”

Lange’s project will examine the ways in which the underground prayer groups in communist East Germany lived out a testimony that brought them into a significant dialogue with a secular and religion-less society. His project reflects on the possibilities that a particular Christian practice—communal prayer—can have on the life and witness of communities of faith in North America. How does communal prayer, as it was lived in East Germany, offer a path of renewal for worship and mission beyond the classic contemporary verses traditional framework? Ultimately, he maintains, a new relationship between worship and culture is written.

Supported by a grant from Lilly Endowment, the Lilly Theological Research Grants program is designed to encourage high quality research across the theological disciplines by scholars at all stages of their careers. The Association of Theological Schools helps award the grants which come in four categories. Professor Lange received a Faculty Fellowship, the highest grant offered within the four categories.
Rethinking Stewardship: Our Culture, Our Theology, Our Practices
July 19-21, 2010
St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie, Minn.

Why aren't American Christians more generous?
American Christians, the richest in history, are surprisingly reluctant to part with their money. What are the limiting forces at work? How do we overcome them to reframe all of life as God’s gift?

Keynote speakers:
- Eric Barreto, Assistant Professor of New Testament, Luther Seminary
- Daniel Conway, Consultant; author of “What Do I Own and What Owns Me? A Spirituality of Stewardship”
- Mary Sue Dreier, Associate Professor of Congregational Mission and Leadership, Luther Seminary
- Michael Emerson, Professor of Sociology, Rice University
- Rolf Jacobson, Professor of Old Testament, Luther Seminary
- Fred Gaiser, Professor of Old Testament, Luther Seminary; Editor, Word & World
- Janet T. Jamieson, Associate Professor of Accounting, University of Dubuque Theological Seminary
- Philip D. Jamieson, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, University of Dubuque Theological Seminary
- Ed Kruse, Director for Stewardship, ELCA
- David Lose, The Marbury E. Anderson Chair in Biblical Preaching, Luther Seminary
- Gary Moore, Founder, The Financial Seminary
- Mark Allan Powell, Robert and Phyllis Leatherman Professor of New Testament, Trinity Lutheran Seminary
- Jill Schumann, President and Chief Executive Officer, Lutheran Services in America
- Martha Stortz, Professor of Historical Theology and Ethics, Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

www.luthersem.edu/rethinking

Breaking Down Barriers That Keep People from Engaging Scripture
August 16 - 20, 2010

The biannual Book of Faith Jubilee will return in August 2011, but that doesn’t mean the conversation will stop! We’re happy to offer this course, led by Luther Seminary Bible faculty, to the Jubilee community in alternate years.

Most people in the pews don’t have a beef with the Bible on the whole. They probably agree it would be good if they were more conversant with Scripture. So what’s preventing them from getting there? All sorts of barriers keep people distanced from the Bible or confused by it. In this course we will take aim at some of the barriers that Christian leaders can actually do something about—through their teaching, preaching and other appeals to the Bible in congregational life.

What can we do to break down barriers and invite people into the challenging yet rewarding work of engaging Scripture in their communities of faith? We are hopeful case studies will seed the conversation, tended by Diane Jacobson and her handpicked team.

www.luthersem.edu/kairos
EVENTS CALENDAR

The 141st Commencement
May 30, 3 p.m.
Central Lutheran Church,
Minneapolis
Graduate information, calendars
and key dates at
www.luthersem.edu/commencement

Rethinking Stewardship:
Our Culture, Our Theology,
Our Practices
July 19-21
St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church,
Eden Prairie, Minn.
Rethink stewardship for the
21st century in light of cultural
assumptions, theological possibilities
and leadership practices.
www.luthersem.edu/rethinking

Word & World Lecture
Sept. 29
Chapel of the Incarnation
Elizabeth Marquardt, Vice President for
Family Studies; Director of the Center
for Marriage and Families, Institute for
American Values, New York City
“Between Two Worlds: The Inner
Lives of Children of Divorce”
www.luthersem.edu/lectures/wordworld

Celebration of Biblical
Preaching: Biblical Preaching as
a Matter of Life and Death
Oct. 4-6
Luther Seminary
The second annual Celebration of
Biblical Preaching gathers nationally
known preachers, teachers and pastors
to explore the life and death
gravity of our biblical preaching.
www.luthersem.edu/celebration

Ventures in Vocation
Oct. 10-11
Luther Seminary
A two-day conference for post-
college and college-age students
interested in exploring ministry in
the church.
www.luthersem.edu/admissions/ventures

Cultivating Sent Communities:
Missional Spiritual Formation
Sixth Annual Consultation on
the Missional Church
Nov. 12-13
Luther Seminary
Scholars, pastors, judicatory executives
and other church leaders come together
for a theologically-probing and practically
relevant exploration of this important
theme for the missional church.
www.luthersem.edu/missional_consult

Take Your Ministry to the Next Level with KAIROS!
Continuing education opportunities for pastors, associates in ministry, diaconal ministers and lay leaders. www.luthersem.edu/kairos

June
2–3 Pastoral Imagination in Practice
Instructors: Christian Scharen, Assistant Professor of Worship and Director, Learning Pastoral Imagination Project, Luther Seminary; Eileen Campbell-Reed, Assistant Director, Learning Pastoral Imagination Project, Luther Seminary
7–9 Jesus and the Gospels: A Crash Course on Recent Biblical Scholarship That’s Worth Knowing
Instructor: Matthew Skinner, Associate Professor of New Testament, Luther Seminary
10–11 Women of the ELCA Bible Study
Instructors: D. Jensen Seyenkulo, Director, Rostered and Authorized Leadership, ELCA; Linda Johnson Seyenkulo, Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, Park Forest, Ill.
14–16 What’s Going on in American Religion?
Instructor: Mark Granquist, Associate Professor of Church History, Luther Seminary
21–25 Retooling Greek for Parish Ministry
Instructor: Mary Hinle Jorgensen, Associate Professor of New Testament, Luther Seminary
28–July 1 School for Lay Ministry
Instructors: Mark Granquist; Rolf Jacobson, Associate Professor of Old Testament, Luther Seminary; Kathryn Schillerdecker, Assistant Professor of Old Testament, Luther Seminary

July
12–14 Breaking Down Barriers That Keep People from Engaging Scripture
Instructor: Karoline Lewis, Assistant Professor of Biblical Preaching, Luther Seminary
27–28 Prayer, Presence and Ritual: Creating Holy Time and Space in Everyday Ministry
Instructor: Anne Andert, former parish nurse now ordained in the ELCA

August
16–20 Breaking Down Barriers That Keep People from Engaging Scripture
Instructors: Luther Seminary Bible faculty
23–25 Discover Your Call—Dependable Strengths® for Congregations
Instructors: Sally Peters and Patty Bales

September
15–17 Desert Spirituality
Instructor: Lois Farag, Assistant Professor of Early Church History, Luther Seminary
STUDENT POLL: What is your best memory from the past academic year?

“Playing hacky sack between classes.”
—Felix Malpica, M.Div. junior

“Preaching the Good Friday sermon. My pastor dared me to write a poem for a sermon, so I did.”
—Ben Worley, M.Div. intern

“Going on my honeymoon last January.”
—Lindsay Colwell, M.Th. 1st year

“Dessert night at Bockman.”
—Kimberly Jacobson, M.A. junior

“I went to Feed My Starving Children Summer Kickoff Program at Christ Lutheran Church, my CYF Internship site.”
—Beatrice Kanake, M.A. senior

“Coming back from internship and catching up with friends I hadn’t seen in a year.”
—Jacob Anderson, M.Div. senior
David, ’66, and Karen Nasby give to ensure the future of the Church

The church has always been at the core of David and Karen Nasby’s lives. Both have worked in the church their entire lives and David is a graduate of Luther Seminary.

“It was an important guidepost for my entire life,” says David of his Luther experience. “I wouldn’t trade those three years at Luther for any.”

As the seminary changes and faces new challenges, the Nasbys see the need of donors to play an increasing role.

“One of the only ways I can play a role in the future of the church is through financial generosity,” says David.

In addition to contributing to capital campaigns, the sustaining fund and scholarships named for David’s grandparents, the Nasbys have made provisions in their will for a legacy gift to go to Luther.

“The reality is that this is the place of deep scholarship. This is the place of mission development. This is the place of creating excellence—and if our pastors aren’t excellent, then the church is going to be mediocre.”

Would you like to learn more about supporting the excellence of the church? Contact us today.

The Office of Seminary Relations
John Kilbride, 888-358-8437
jkilbride001@luthersem.edu
www.luthersem.edu/gifts

To learn more about the Nasbys’ story, watch a video at www.luthersem.edu/giftplanning.
You make a difference!

Gifts to the Sustaining Fund are a powerful way to ensure the church thrives by:

- Providing future church leaders with a high quality, seminary education.
- Supporting innovative online resources like workingpreacher.org and enterthebible.org
- Keeping tuition low so anyone can say “yes” to God’s call to ministry.

Donate today using the enclosed envelope and your gift will be doubled by the Promise Challenge Match.