

Ten Things You Might Not Know About Augsburg Fortress

- 1 Augsburg Fortress is the ministry of publishing of the ELCA, but we receive no financial support except through the sale of resources to our partners in ministry.
- 2 We publish for two communities: congregations and higher education.
- 3 For congregations, we publish worship and music resources and faith formation resources for children, youth, and adults.
- 4 We create faith formation resources that are specifically Lutheran in their theological perspective, such as our comprehensive collection of Book of Faith resources.
<http://www.augsburgfortress.org/bookoffaith>
- 5 In 2009, we launched a new ecumenical imprint, sparkhouse, to create dynamic faith formation resources for Lutherans and other Christians with similar theological perspective. <http://wearesparkhouse.org>
- 6 For higher education, our Fortress Press imprint publishes in three categories: education (textbooks), academic (specialized monographs), and reference.
<http://fortresspress.com>
- 7 Augsburg Fortress is the #1 denominational publisher in the creation of innovative digital resources, with web-based subscription resources for worship, music, and faith formation; downloadable “a la carte” faith formation resources, 1350+ eBooks, and 1100+ POD (print on demand) titles.
- 8 Augsburg Fortress, sparkhouse, and Fortress Press are all very active in social media channels. A full list is available at <http://www.augsburgfortress.org/social.jsp>
- 9 Augsburg Fortress and sparkhouse offer free webinars every week on a variety of topics related to congregational life. <http://www.augsburgfortress.org/webinars>
- 10 We offer free eNewsletters to learn more about our resources. Sign up at:
<http://augsburgfortress.org/eNewsSignup.jsp>
<http://wearesparkhouse.org>
<http://fortresspress.com>



Augsburg Fortress
Creative. Christian.

800-328-4648





CONCORDIA COLLEGE

Moorhead, Minnesota

2014 Annual Report to ELCA Synods and Congregations

Greetings

Concordia abides in valuing its founding and heritage as a liberal arts college within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. At conclusion of this one hundred twenty-third academic year, the College continues to prepare students to be globally aware, intellectually capable, ethically grounded, religiously fluent, justice oriented, vocationally prepared, and compassionately guided.

Strategic Plan

Concordia is in the midst of a five-year strategic plan, *“Whole Self, Whole Life, Whole World: The Plan for Concordia College, 2012 – 2017.”* The document, along with related progress reports, may be viewed online at <http://www.concordiacollege.edu/about/our-mission/strategic-plan>.

Enrollment

2,505 undergraduate students, representing 34 states and over 30 countries, currently attend Concordia. These students come from a variety of cultural backgrounds and faith traditions. 62% are female, 38% are male, and 56% claim Lutheran affiliation. Concordia’s Student/Faculty ratio is 12 to 1.

Offutt School of Business

In April 2013, Concordia formally dedicated the newly renovated Grant Center, home of the Offutt School of Business. As part of dedication festivities, the College welcomed Bill Gates, entrepreneur and global philanthropist, as keynote speaker. Concordia President William J. Craft commented, *“The imagination and philanthropic spirit that define the achievement and generosity of Bill Gates made him a splendid person to inaugurate the new home of Concordia’s Offutt School of Business, which expresses the innovative character of the College and its commitment to educating leaders dedicated to the common good.”*

Commitment to Interfaith Cooperation

Because of its Lutheran dedication to prepare thoughtful and informed global citizens who foster wholeness and hope, cultivate peace through understanding, and serve the world together, Concordia has a growing commitment to practice interfaith cooperation. Within recent communication to President Craft, the director of faculty partnerships at the Interfaith Youth Corps in Chicago, Illinois wrote, *“Concordia College embodies not only the hospitality and generosity necessary for effective interfaith work, but a dedication to excellence in its pursuit. When other schools ask what exceptional interfaith engagement looks like, we hold up the shining star of Concordia College.”*

Vocation and Ministry

Concordia continues to invest in a collaborative network of faculty and staff who tend to campus ministry, worship, spiritual practice, community outreach, justice journeys, and vocational exploration. The College remains at forefront among undergraduate institutions preparing students for theological study and leadership within the church. In 2013, ELCA Outdoor Ministries benefited from 52 Cobber students serving on summer staffs, coast-to-coast. Concordia graduates serve around the world within the ELCA’s Young Adults in Global Mission. Current students are now partnering with Lutheran World Relief in experiential learning, service, and internship experiences.

Grateful

Thank you for commending Concordia College to students, and for the abundance of gifts which encourage and sustain our mutual work in the world. Soli Deo Gloria.

Tom Schlotterback, Office of Vocation and Church Leadership

901 South 8th Street, Moorhead, MN 56562

Ph: 218.299.3146



Dear Friends,

Warm greetings on behalf of President Kent Henning, our faculty, staff, students and alumni! Here are some highlights of recent additions or enhancements to the campus:

Transforming Lives: Celebrate Vocation Week: March 24-30, 2014

Grand View received a grant to develop a week to celebrate our gifts. This week is a time to celebrate who we are and what we all do to serve others, promote the common good and/or care for creation. The week will include many celebrations and activities as well as the Gifted Vikings auction. This auction is designed to showcase the gifts that we all have, and the variety of ways that we use those gifts for the benefit of others.

Grand View to Join Heart of America Athletic Conference

After applying for membership in December, Grand View has been accepted into the Heart of America Athletic Conference (HAAC). Grand View will remain a member of the Midwest Collegiate Conference and Mid-States Football Association through the 2014-2015 academic year, joining the HAAC for all sports, including football, for the 2015-2016 academic year. Go to www.HAACsports.com to learn more on the Heart of America Athletic Conference and its member institutions.

Under Construction: Bowling Alley Takes Shape

Since hosting Grand View's faculty and staff Christmas Open House in December the former AMF Lanes has become a construction site. Demolition is under way and approximately two-thirds of the existing bowling lanes will be removed to make room for additional flexible-use space and Grand View's state-of-the-art wrestling practice facility.

Grand View Graduate Programs Expand

Grand View now is fully approved and set to launch four distinct graduate offerings for fall 2014: Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), Master of Science in Sport Management, Master of Education (M.Ed.), and Master of Science in Organizational Leadership. Previously, Grand View offered one, leadership-focused degree with three tracks: Organizational Leadership, Nursing, and Education.

Financial Empowerment Program Pilot Set to Launch

Last fall in his State of the University Address, President Henning announced initial plans for a program to improve the way students and families plan and pay for their Grand View education. Planning has continued in recent months and recruitment is underway for a pilot group of freshman to test the Financial Empowerment Plan (FEP) beginning fall 2014. The FEP is built upon a set of mutual commitments between Grand View and participating students and has the potential to increase affordability, reduce student debt, and help students graduate on time. Former Grand View staff member, Beth Carlson, has returned to Grand View in a part-time position as Financial Empowerment Coach. Beth will begin conducting initial planning meetings with FEP pilot participants after financial aid packages are awarded in March.

Grand View Awarded Legacy Grant

In January, the Prairie Meadows Board of Directors approved a \$1,000,000 Legacy Grant to Grand View in support of the forthcoming Student Center Project. The award represents the largest possible gift Prairie Meadows awards through the Legacy Grant Program. Since 1995, Prairie Meadows has awarded nearly \$1.4 billion to Central Iowa non-profit organizations in support of vital community projects and programming.

The Center for Renewal Continues

The Center for Renewal, an outreach ministry of the University, continues its mission of renewing the saints and the church so that the light of Christ can be more brightly reflected in the world. In addition to events and services, the Center has also been doing a lot of work on how congregations can support and encourage ministry in daily life. For more information and a schedule of programs, go to www.renewingchurch.org.

If you have not visited Grand View University, or have not visited us for some time, we extend a special invitation for you to come for a visit sometime soon! Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers for the Colleges of the ELCA.

God's Peace and Joy,

The Grand View University Campus Community
1200 Grandview Avenue / Des Moines, IA 50316
1-800-444-6083 / www.grandview.edu



ELCA Synod Assemblies 2014

Greetings from St. Olaf College!

Since 1874, St. Olaf College has educated students in an academic community shaped by its commitment to the Lutheran tradition. At St. Olaf, students work closely with dedicated faculty who challenge them to grow in mind, body, and spirit. St. Olaf has always seen its vital connection to the Lutheran tradition as enhancing its standing as one of the leading liberal arts colleges in the United States.

In both the curriculum and the co-curriculum, St. Olaf students explore theological issues and are challenged to choose their vocations in light of this exploration. All St. Olaf students take two religion courses, one focusing on the Bible and the other on Christian theology. The Harry C. Piper Center for Vocation and Career provides programs and services to assist students as they discern their vocations and prepare for their careers during their four years at St. Olaf.

The Martin E. Marty Professor of Religion and the Academy for 2013-15 is the Rev. Dr. Darrell Jodock '62. Dr. Jodock holds the MDiv degree from Luther Seminary and the PhD from Yale University. He founded the Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding at Muhlenberg College and most recently served as the Drell and Adeline Bernhardson Distinguished Professor of Religion at Gustavus Adolphus College. Dr. Jodock is the author of numerous articles and books, including *The Church's Bible: Its Contemporary Authority* (Fortress, 1989). He is the co-editor of *Covenantal Conversations: Christians in Dialogue with Jews and Judaism* (Fortress, 2008).

We look forward to welcoming you to visit St. Olaf. Come to campus to join us at concerts, lectures, conferences, or summer camps. Or, visit the St. Olaf website at www.stolaf.edu to join in streamed events on-line. During the academic year, daily Chapel and Sunday morning worship services are held at Boe Memorial Chapel and streamed on-line at <http://www.stolaf.edu/church/chapel>.

We encourage you to send students to St. Olaf, we thank you for your prayers and support, and we wish you well.

David R. Anderson '74
President



2013 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE SYNODS

Wartburg College is dedicated to challenging and nurturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning.

Wartburg, founded in 1852, is a selective liberal arts college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Students discover and claim their callings—connecting their learning with faith and values, their understanding of themselves and their gifts, their perspective on life and the future, and the opportunities for participating in church and community in meaningful ways.

- The Heritage Edition of *The Saint John's Bible* debuted at Wartburg, allowing the college to welcome more than 1,000 guests to the gallery exhibit. Two volumes will remain on campus for the 2014 calendar year so community members, congregations, and students can continue to interact with its message, beauty, and creative spirit.
- Torrence Warren was hired as the new Pathways associate for vocation and mentoring.
- Wartburg's wrestling team and the women's outdoor track and field team won national championships. IAC Coaches of the Year include Monica Severson, women's golf; Rick Willis, football; Jennifer Walker and Doug Frazell, volleyball; Kirk Artist '06, men's soccer; and Steve Johnson, women's cross country. Artist also earned NSCAA Central Region Coach of the Year. Johnson also earned UTFCCCA Central Region Coach of the Year.
- Student Life was awarded a federal grant to implement a campus suicide prevention program and a new student organization, SAFE (Suicide Awareness for Everyone), coordinated by Kelly Moeller '10.
- The annual Graven Award was presented to Iowa District Court Judge James Ellefson, a 1974 Wartburg College graduate and longtime attorney active in both the community and church.
- The Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Craig Hancock, performed in China and Japan during its May Term international music tour.
- Aman Gebremariam '13, a native of Ethiopia, and Sibusiso Kunene '14, from Swaziland, were among the 2013 winners of a \$10,000 Davis Projects for Peace grant to provide clean water for an Ethiopian village.
- Nearly 400 students exhibited 500 academic and co-curricular projects during Wartburg's second annual Research, Internship, and Creative Endeavor Day.
- The college was, for the third time, named "with distinction" to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. In 2013, there were 27 student-led service trips with 278 participants.
- Wartburg enhanced its Wartburg West program in Denver, Colo., through a groundbreaking new partnership with Saint John's Episcopal Cathedral.
- Raymond '65 and Judith '65 McCaskey, provided the college with its largest-ever gift commitment, an \$11.5 million contribution that will provide significant scholarship support to Chicago-area Wartburg students who demonstrate financial need.
- Wartburg received a \$2 million gift from Mike and Marge McCoy to establish the Mike and Marge McCoy Family Distinguished Chair in Lutheran Heritage and Mission, now held by the Rev. Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans. The chair is intended to support the four pillars of the college's mission—leadership, service, faith, and learning, and strengthen its commitment to the exploration of vocation.
- Gary and Donna Hoover gave a \$1 million gift to create an endowed distinguished professorship in engineering science, which will support one of the college's fastest-growing academic programs. Dr. Daniel Black holds the distinguished professorship.
- Dr. Philip Geier, executive director of the Davis United World College Scholars program, received an honorary doctorate of Humane Letters.
- Dr. Susan Vallem '66, Wartburg College professor of social work, received the Iowa National Association of Social Workers' Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Dr. Karen Black, professor of music, college organist, and director of Kantorei Chapel Choir, was named Paul Bouman Chapel Choir Conductor for the 32nd annual Lutheran Summer Music Academy and Festival.
- Dr. Jennifer McBride, Board of Regents Chair in Ethics, was interviewed in the Nov. 27 issue of *The Christian Century* in an article entitled, *The Witness of Sinners*.

Faculty, staff, students, and administrators find a sense of purpose and hope as they work together to proclaim the news of God's goodness at work in the world.

Darrel D. Colson
President

Gail Sexton
Coordinator of Church Relations and Faith Community Outreach