

Dear Assembly Members:

I often say that my official title is “president.” But, my unofficial title, and one that I prefer much more, is “storyteller.”

Ultimately, my job is to tell the Augustana story – to share the amazing things that happen on our campus and to describe the inspiring outcomes that we are lucky enough to help create. By telling the story, hopefully we can inspire others to support our mission of providing an education of enduring worth ... an education that helps our students chart their course.

I’m happy to tell you that even in her 152nd year, our Augustana continues to produce great stories to tell.

For the fall semester, our total student enrollment was 1,839. Our campus is home to students from 35 states. In September, we welcomed our largest-ever class of international students — 131 students from 42 countries.

For Interim-2013, 165 students traveled to 32 countries around the globe from New Zealand to India to Cuba, Greece, Thailand and others, studying everything from culture to religion to architecture.

Last summer, 69 students participated in scientific research projects on- and off-campus through the College’s Undergraduate Summer Research Program.

Despite a still-challenged economy, 98 percent of our recent graduates reported accepting a job related to their major or chosen field. In addition, 28 percent are enrolled in, or are planning to enroll in, graduate school.

Augustana is ranked fourth among NCAA Division II schools and 28th amongst 1,066 active NCAA member schools in the NCSA Athletic Recruiting power rankings, an assessment of the academic and athletic standards of all NCAA athletic programs across the country. Augustana is the only school listed in the overall top 100 from South Dakota or North Dakota. Fewer than six percent of colleges and universities earned a spot in the NCSA top 100 for 2012, Augustana is in this elite class.

We’re proud to say that all our hard work is being recognized. We’re ranked among “America’s Top Colleges” by *Forbes*, *Washington Monthly*, *The Princeton Review* and *US News*.

Augustana’s 2011 fiscal year closed on July 31, 2012, with promising advancements:

- Annual giving closed at \$1.4 million, inclusive of gifts to the Augustana Fund, the Center for Western Studies, Augustana Library Associates, the Performing and Visual Arts Fund and the Athletic Club.
- The \$120 million Momentum Augustana Campaign, the largest fundraising effort in the history of the College, made significant strides, most notably a \$20 million challenge grant from Sanford Health in support of our science project.

Today is, indeed, an extraordinary time at Augustana. I’m proud to tell you we’re making a difference in the lives of our students, recording breakthroughs in our scientific and social research, enriching the hearts and minds of thousands through the performing and visual arts, and forging strong connections in our community.

This fall alone, we announced plans for a new \$30 million science facility, the largest building project in our 152-year history, brought home athletic championships, climbed in influential national rankings and strengthened our connections abroad.

We are honored, humbled and grateful for your generosity and we remain hopeful that you will continue to think prayerfully about ways in which you can continue to support the important mission and vision of our Augustana.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you and God bless you.

Robert C. Oliver
President, Augustana College

May 6, 2013

Report to the South Dakota Synod of the ELCA

submitted by Craig Lewis, Manager

The Chapel in the Hills is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation formed to maintain and operate the Chapel in the Hills. It is considered a Special Ministry of the Synod and the Chapel is an ELCA church building. The Chapel and grounds are open to visitors from May 1st to September 30th and during special programs and services during the remainder of the year.

We have no Pastor or Congregation. We may have no congregation but it is our belief that our congregation is the world. Since becoming Manager we have had visitors from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico each of the past two years. People from 51 foreign countries visited in 2011 and 48 countries in 2013. We see between 25,000 and 30,000 visitors each year.

The Chapel receives no major funding from local, state, or national church organizations. We receive no funding from government of any kind. All of our support is generated through donations we receive, weddings preformed, and sales in our gift shop. Our funding allows us to remain open but does not build our endowment fund or cover major repairs.

We see the Chapel in the Hills as a seed planting organization. We plant the seed of the Gospel in each visitor and wedding party coming to the Chapel. We educate and demonstrate the Norwegian heritage that is such a part of the Black Hills. We bring history alive and put it on a level visitors can touch, see and participate in. Our hope is to create a place where living history and living church can take place together. This past year the Chapel was nominated and accepted for placement on the National Register of Historic Places

Local Lutheran Pastors help with services and weddings here at Chapel in the Hills. We will again begin Vesper services on Memorial Day and end them on Labor Day. Services are daily at 7:30 pm and last about ½ hour. We will host 100 to 120 weddings from April 1st to October 30th. This past year we offered a Memorial Day service, Advent service, and Easter Vigil service and these will become annual events. We are a working church that wants to bring all believers together in an inspiring setting.

The Board of Directors has identified a number of major projects that need to be accomplished at the Chapel and are working to develop funding for them. Our first priority is to build a new restroom facility that will house handicap accessible restrooms, a Bride's room for wedding preparations and a meeting room to hold classes and allow church and community groups a place to get together. We are looking to raise \$100,000 before we begin construction.

There is a need to replace our 44 year old organ. All members of the Board agree we want to replace it with an electronic church organ similar to the one we presently have. This past year we began rebuilding our 40 year old sprinkler system spending over \$10,000 to upgrade valves and a number of sprinkler heads. This project will continue as money allows and will require an additional \$10,000 to complete.

The Board has agreed to develop a fund raising program to increase our endowment fund to a level that will guarantee a long future for the Chapel in the Hills and insure monies for future major projects. It is our hope that we can strengthen our ties with local ELCA Lutheran churches, churches throughout the state and country as well as individuals who believe in planting seeds, preserving our Norwegian and Scandinavian heritage and preserving a piece of Black Hills history.

The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society

“Walking boldly into the future” describes the Good Samaritan Society’s journey as it continues to transform its programs and services by leading the way to support well-being for the people we serve.

But, we are not alone “walking boldly into the future,” we are **“walking boldly into the future with faith.”** How comforting it is to know that we have a God who guides and protects the Society and those we serve along with staff, volunteers and families. We are also blessed by the support of our donors.

How have we walked “boldly into the future” this past year? We have framed our mission work around:

Obligation (mission: to share God’s love in word in deed)

Opportunity (strategic direction: to lead the way in supporting well being. . . at your place or ours)

Outcome (vision: to create an environment where people are loved, valued and at peace)

It is from this foundation that we serve people and their ever-growing diverse need of services wherever they call home.

The Society has developed a strategic business plan to provide a road map for our work. This important document includes outcomes and aspirations related to the important initiatives of the Society and exists to ensure mission and financial success for the future of the Society.

Our organization must always be aware of emerging trends, challenges and opportunities. The future cannot always be known. The Society, however, is confident of its direction and willing to lead the way in providing new and innovative programs and services for all those we serve.

We are blessed by God to have this opportunity. As we **“walk boldly into the future in faith,”** we do so with the love and the hope that is ours in Christ Jesus.

2012 Revenues and Percent of Total

Rehabilitation/skilled care	\$757,324,044	79.68%
Assisted Living	\$64,643,685	6.80%
Senior Housing with Services	\$88,477,100	9.31%
Home Health	\$30,229,463	3.18%
Affordable Housing	\$9,818,506	1.03%
Total Revenue	\$950,492,798	
Total Assets (Total Liabilities and Equity)	\$1,618,398,066	

Heartland Ephphatha is a group of people committed to spreading the word of Christ throughout the Deaf and hard of hearing community in South Dakota.

ELDA Conference.

First of all thank you to all who donated their time, talent and money to our ministry to help us host the national conference this summer. Thanks to you our conference was a success.

Over sixty people attended from nine states. Our theme was “Love in Action”. We had several workshops to learn different ways to help work with other people in this country and around the world. We went to “Kids Against Hunger” to pack meals. This was an awesome experience for all involved. We learned about different mission trips that several deaf people from the ELDA attended. They showed how they can make a difference in the lives of people in our own country as well as the lives of people all over the world. The experience that people had at Peace Lutheran Church during our worship services will be remembered. We had so many positive comments on how welcoming our church was to them.

Service

Our goal is to do group service projects at least once each quarter. Our small group of deaf members have served the hungry at the Banquet in downtown Sioux Falls this year. We also served by helping with the Necessities for Neighbors distribution. Many deaf members participated in two Kids Against Hunger packs. We also helped a deaf lady move into a new apartment. People from our group are always ready to help.

Worship

We continue to broadcast our worship sermons in ASL to the world through our video podcasts at www.DeafFaith.com. This year our Bible studies have followed the Narrative Lectionary.

Outreach

We made a special effort to visit other churches in the area this year. We spread the mission of HEM to several churches. Thanks to all of our members who made this effort to spread our mission to “Be Open” to the word and deeds of God in our life.

Business

We faced a year of budget cutbacks with a positive attitude and a will to serve and minister to those who are Deaf and hard of hearing. We always supplement our budget each year by doing fund-raisers. This year our fundraisers were aimed at supplementing our needed funds for the ELDA conference.

Goals

Now that our ELDA conference planning is behind us we plan on re-focusing our efforts on service and outreach to a shrinking deaf population in Sioux Falls. We plan to study ways we can either provide or supplement services for the deaf and to see where our long-term goals for our ministry take us.

God’s Peace, Jason & Sarah Andera
Directors for Heartland Ephphatha

Lutheran Planned Giving in South Dakota

Lutheran Planned Giving of South Dakota (LPG of SD) was formed in May of 2003 with the following mission:

We will help people of God make lifetime financial gifts to the South Dakota ministries who are members of Lutheran Planned giving and create a rising tide of financial support for all ELCA ministries.

Lutheran Planned Giving partner ministries in 2012/2013 were:

Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD	Heartland Ephphatha, Sioux Falls, SD
Bethany Lutheran Home, Sioux Falls, SD	Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN
Bethany Meadows Brandon, SD	Lutheran Campus Ministry
Bethel Lutheran Home, Madison, SD	Lutheran Social Services of SD
Bethesda Home, Beresford, SD	Lutherans Outdoors in SD
Bethesda Home of Aberdeen, SD	Prison Congregations of America
ELCA Foundation, Chicago, IL	Shetek Lutheran Ministries, Slayton, MN
Good Samaritan Society, Sioux Falls, SD	South Dakota Synod, Sioux Falls, SD

Lutheran Planned Giving of South Dakota is available to assist congregations in establishing and growing mission endowment funds with an emphasis on supporting and enhancing all the ministries of the church both locally and worldwide through bequests and other planned gifts. They can provide educational information to congregations, and their members through seminars on the importance of wills, estate and charitable gift planning.

Kurt Osborne and Jim Schade are available to your congregation as a gift in itself with no cost, no obligation information seminars regarding the gift planning strategies. Congregation members will be able to come and hear information, ask questions, and set up personal one-on-one visits with LPG staff concerning the stewardship of their assets. At those visits members will discuss their intent, the options and the most helpful strategies regarding gift planning. We also are able to offer suggestions for other advisors to contact in order to bring additional expertise to best accomplish those wishes. All conversations are confidential and the donor determines when, or if, any communication is shared with others.

Materials are available free of charge to congregations to personalize and use for establishing and promoting their endowment funds and planned giving programs. These materials are also available to be downloaded from the LPG web site, www.lpgsd.org which allows them to be personalized for your congregation. You can contact Lutheran Planned Giving of South Dakota by calling 1-800-653-9520 or Jim Schade at schade@augie.edu or Kurt Osborne at osborne@augie.edu.

Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota

Touching People's Lives More than 57,000 Times

**Whatever you did for one of the least
of these brothers & sisters of mine —
You did for me.**

Matthew 25:40

Suzie was removed from her parents care when she was four years old because she was neglected and abused. There also were numerous allegations toward her biological father for physical and sexual abuse. Suzie's parents' rights were terminated immediately and she shuffled from one placement to another.

Her anger and aggression had progressed to the level where she began to self-harm. Extended family support was sporadic, ranging from interaction every day to as little as once a month.

After five different residential placements and two failed adoption attempts, she came to LSS Summit Oaks Residential Services for Children & Youth.

While at Summit Oaks, an intensive psychiatric residential treatment center, Suzie learned to maintain healthy relationships with peers and family. She learned to reduce and control her physical outbursts. And, she learned to verbalize her feelings and her frustrations instead of self-harming or aggression.

Since being discharged from Summit Oaks, Suzie was welcomed home by her aunt and uncle and started attending public school. She found safety and belonging in her new environment, started making friends, engaged in school activities, and continued growing in her maturity.

Peterson Joins LSS As Vice-President of Resource Development

Bill Peterson joined the LSS Executive Team as Vice President of Resource Development. Peterson is responsible for all resource development activities including annual fundraising, major gift campaigns, corporate sponsorships, planned giving and communication efforts.

2012 Highlights

Nearly 6,000 people were served through counseling services, 53% served had incomes below \$30,000 (25% below \$10,000). Economic conditions continue to make access to behavioral health care even more challenging.

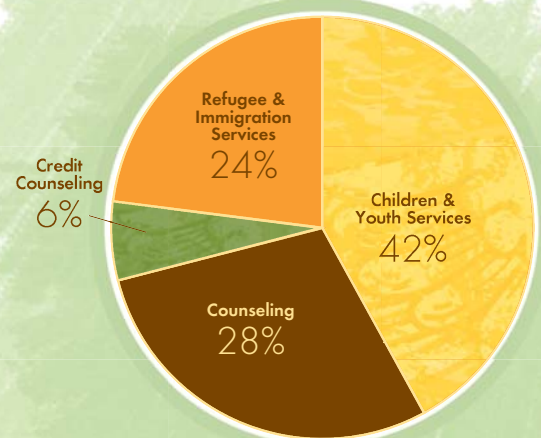
Last year, Consumer Credit Counseling Service served more than 8,000 individuals through financial counseling and nearly 5,000 individuals through financial education and debt management programs.

LSS Fatherhood & Families program added a new element to help fathers inside state correctional facilities. In cooperation with the Department of Corrections, LSS has created an intensive workplace readiness development curriculum for newly released fathers to help them become employed.

Because of a generous donor, a kitchen remodel was completed at Canyon Hills Center in Spearfish with an addition of a walk-in cooler/freezer. This enables LSS to reduce overall food costs, ease preparation and storage, and enables LSS to meet the updated National School Lunch Program requirements.

Follow LSS through our Blog, Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest. Just go to the LSS website for links to various social media: www.LssSD.org

How Your Gift Serves



Lutheran Social Services
Strengthening Individuals, Families and Communities

Luther Seminary's 2012-2013 academic year report to the
SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD



A lasting commitment to educating church leaders

In recent months we've experienced many changes at Luther Seminary. But our mission remains the same: to educate leaders for Christian communities.

As you likely know, President Rick Bliese resigned in mid-December. On Jan. 1, I moved from my position as Director of Contextual Learning at the seminary to accept the call to serve as interim president.

Changes at Luther Seminary

The seminary's finances are the catalyst behind recent leadership changes. In simple terms, over the past few years, we have been spending well beyond our means. The money has been spent on excellent things, such as personnel, programs and innovative missional work. Unfortunately, our revenues did not support the expenses. We are now in the midst of making hard decisions as we look to the long-term health and financial sustainability of the seminary.

Moving Forward with Hope

In the midst of these hard realities, there is hope. Our institutional structure will surely change, but our mission to prepare leaders for Christian communities is still essential. We are just starting to experience a clergy shortage. At the February ELCA assignment for first-call pastors, there were 220 requests for pastors and only 139 candidates to fill those requests. The church's call for well-equipped future leaders is stronger than ever.

To that end, a lot is happening on campus. In mid-February, we hosted 46 very talented future leaders for Scholarship Weekend, held Feb. 17-18. These prospective students applied for our best scholarships. We spent those two days getting to know each other. I was impressed with the commitment and caliber of these young people. In them, I see the future of the church!

For the last year, our outstanding faculty has been working to reconstruct a curriculum that will shape theological education so that future leaders can address the changing needs of the world. I am proud of our faculty, who are continuing this work in the midst of all the other uncertainties and challenges.

Humble Gratitude

I believe God is blessing us with what we need as we address our current challenges. Our entire community—faculty, staff, students and boards—are engaged in the process of creating our future. We give thanks for your prayers, support and continued commitment to our mission.

In hope,
Rick Foss, Interim President

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Synodical and churchwide support accounted for just under 8 percent of Luther Seminary's 2011-12 budget.

During the fiscal year 2011-12, the South Dakota Synod provided direct financial support of \$63,740.

CURRENT STUDENTS

Thank you for sending and supporting the education of Luther Seminary students.

- There are 25 students from your synod enrolled at Luther Seminary.
- There are four interns serving in your synod.

SEMINARY FINANCES

- Of Luther's operating income, 36 percent comes from private gifts and grants.
- Of Luther's operating expenses, 61 percent goes toward student instruction and institutional support.

FACULTY ROSTER ED in SYNOD

Frederick Gaiser

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Roald Eidsness

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.

2481 Como Ave. + St. Paul, Minn 55108 + www.luthersem.edu

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LUTHER SEMINARY
moved by the promise



LUTHERANS OUTDOORS IN SOUTH DAKOTA

FAITH TAKES TIME AWAY

Dear Partners in Mission,

Outdoor ministry in South Dakota is moving forward to meet people with the love of Christ!

One year ago at our Lutherans Outdoors Annual Meeting, I shared with you that in the world of church and outdoor ministry, "the ground is moving beneath our feet". Today I share with you that your SD camps are actively taking steps forward to exceed expectations and meet God's people where they are in their lives; and as a trusted colleague of mine has told me, people are in different places today.

THANK YOU for your support of camps! Together we are reaching more and more people with the love of Christ. So, let me extend an invitation to YOU...to experience Christ's love in community and creation at Lutherans Outdoors THIS YEAR!



Rev. Layne Nelson
Executive Director

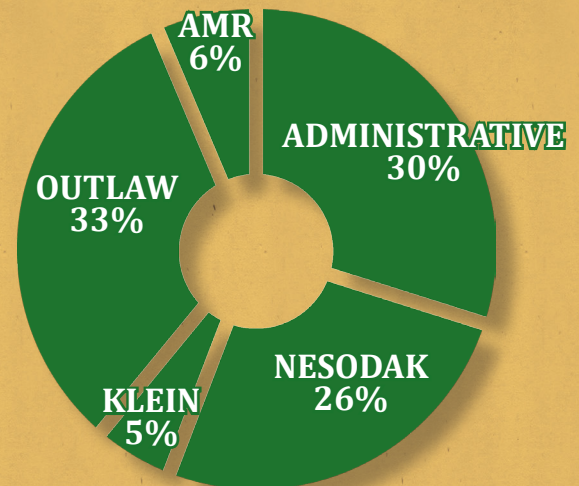
GOD IS RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW!

In 2012 LO served
19,427 people,
15,790 at Retreats
and 2,248 at
Summer Camp
and 1,389
at Day
Camps.

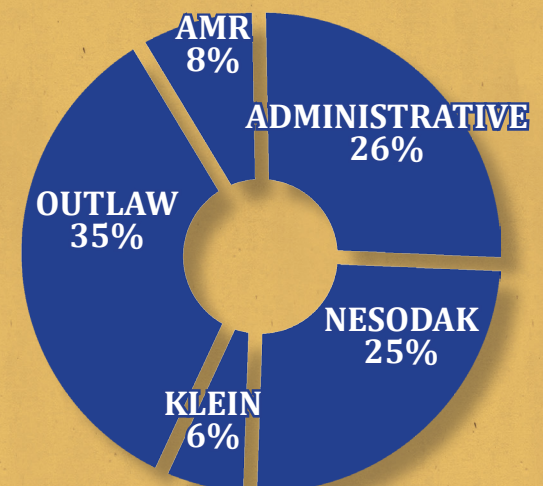


2012 FINANCIAL STATEMENT*

REVENUE - \$1,610,498



EXPENSES - \$1,601,897



**As of print date numbers are unaudited. Does not include depreciation (\$173,652), in-kind Gifts (\$253,069), nor Joy Ranch, capital campaign income and expense. As of January 31, 2013 the balance in the Lutherans Outdoors endowment is \$741,945.*

A Full financial report from the auditor, Thurman, Comes & Foley, is available in the Lutherans Outdoors in SD Inc. administrative office. Please call 605-274-5326



TAKE TIME AWAY CONNECT GROW BE RENEWED



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HAVE YOU LIKED US YET?**



ARE YOU ON OUR EMAIL LIST?



DO YOU FOLLOW LO CAMPS ON TWITTER?

**GO ONLINE FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE LO
NEWS & PICTURES.**

www.LOSD.org



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

ATLANTIC MOUNTAIN RANCH

605-673-4040
amr@losd.org

50th Celebration Weekend
Friday, July 5 -
Sunday, July 7, 2013

LO Quilt Auction
Sunday, August 25, 2013
Auction begins at 1pm
Quilt Viewing and Events
begin August 22nd

JOY RANCH

605-886-4622
joyranch@losd.org

KLEIN RANCH

605-947-4440
nesodak@losd.org

40th Celebration Weekend
June 21 - 23, 2013

Sunday Worship
June 2nd - August 18, 11am

NESO DAK

605-947-4440
nesodak@losd.org

OUTLAW RANCH

605-673-4040
outlaw@losd.org

Work Day
Saturday, June 2, 2013
Outlaw Rendezvous with Reza
Saturday, June 29, 2013
Rapid City Main Street Square,
7:30pm



Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota
"Welcomes all to explore and experience Christ's love in
community and creation"

info@losd.org • 800-888-1464 • www.LOSD.org

ST. DYSMAS OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Greetings from your two brother congregations of the South Dakota Synod, one located at SD State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls, served by Pastor Marlin Wangsness, and the other located at Mike Durfee State Penitentiary in Springfield, SD., served by Pastor Kwen Sanderson.

As many of you know, Dysmas is the name given to one of the criminals who was crucified next to Jesus. He defended Jesus when the other (tradition gives him the name of Gestas) ridiculed Jesus. Dysmas then asked Jesus: "Remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus replied: "Today you will be with me in paradise." Dysmas became a saved, accepted person. Not just a convicted criminal who was getting what he deserved.

This year the Acts of the Apostles is one of the highlighted passages for our Sunday worship readings. It is not a comfortable book. It is an exciting book as the rapid progress of the church is described. It is inspiring to see the dedication of so many people as they responded to the Holy Spirit's leading. Paul, Peter, Barnabas, Stephen, Philip, Cornelius, Lydia, Timothy....the list goes on. They are truly inspiring. But....the book of Acts isn't really about what they did. It is about what God did through them. God is the author of the mission. The Holy Spirit is really what the book is about.

So, we gather every year in synod assembly and ask ourselves what did God do last year? What has God been doing among us? Even more important: What **IS** God doing not only among us, but through us? How is he reminding us that he is the author of the mission and we are merely swept along by the power of the vision he gives.

One can (and should) look at statistics. In 2009 average attendance of inmates was 56. In 2013 average attendance was 101. In Springfield that attendance was nearly 70. In both Sioux Falls and Springfield 52 Thursday worship services were held (Holy Communion is served at all worship services). Once again, we had, in Sioux Falls, nearly 900 outside worship visitors. Weekly Bible Study and Choir practices are held. Half of my call is as Pastor/Developer for St. Dysmas and as part of those duties I was privileged to be in 29 parishes, 35 churches, with 11 other speaking engagements. Financially, St. Dysmas ended 2013 with an income that met expenses. Truly the Spirit has been moving not only within the walls of our penitentiaries with among the churches and individuals of South Dakota who have been moved to support his ministry of grace and hope.

2013 will be a year of transition for St. Dysmas. Toward the end of the year I will be retiring as pastor in Sioux Falls after 5 years of ministry here. Jaki Thoms, our Office Manager, will also be leaving to pursue full-time employment opportunities. Change is rarely easy. Yet, we are reminded that God is the one who directs the mission and he will continue to do that. Please pray for the ministry of St. Dysmas that God will move to bring together a new team that he will use to carry the mission forward.

Thank you to all who, by your prayers, contributions, worship attendance, and witness, have made this piece of God's mission such an exciting thing to be part of!

In Christ,
Pastor Marlin Wangsness