

ELCA Fund for Leaders Table of Contents

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Dear siblings in Christ, both near and far, God's grace and peace to you all!

This is the 20th year in which the ELCA Fund for Leaders has awarded scholarships to candidates for ministry studying at ELCA seminaries. Over the last 20 years we have provided more than 1,000 students with over \$25 million in scholarship support. We have come a long way since our first eight scholarships were awarded in 2000, but we still have a long way to go before we will be able to support every ELCA candidate for ministry. Thanks to your generosity, we will get there someday. In the meantime, against a backdrop of a global pandemic, economic challenges, sustained cries for social and racial justice, and — on a more positive note — the implementation of a new structure for the ELCA churchwide organization, the mission and ministry of the Fund for Leaders continues. In addition to celebrating the remarkable students featured in this program book, I invite you to celebrate with us the following milestones.

- Building on the success we saw during *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, the Fund for Leaders received over \$4.8 million in new gifts last year. Thank you to all of the many generous individuals, families, congregations and synods who made 2019 such a successful fundraising year!
- For the 2020-2021 academic year, the Fund for Leaders will be supporting 297 candidates for ministry at our ELCA seminaries with just over \$2.8 million in scholarship support.
- This year, we celebrate 50 new recipients of full-tuition, mission developer and federal chaplaincy ministry scholarships. Those students come from 33 of the ELCA's 65 synods, and 16% of those recipients are people of color and/or people whose first language is one other than English.
- The Fund for Leaders Mission Developer scholarship program was created in 2007, thanks to a generous matching grant from the ELCA's Mission Investment Fund (MIF). Since then, we have awarded Mission Developer scholarships of \$10,000 per year to qualifying Master of Divinity (M.Div.) students and scholarships of \$4,000 per year to Theological Education for Emerging Ministries (TEEM) students. For 2020, we are pleased to share that we have increased the value of these scholarships to \$18,000 per year for M.Div. students and \$8,000 per year for TEEM students, putting the awards on par with our full-tuition awards.
- I am excited to share that generous donors have made it possible for us to establish two new named scholarship funds to help commemorate significant 2020 anniversaries.
 - *The Rev. Elizabeth A. Platz Seminary Scholarship Fund* has been created to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of Lutheran women being ordained in the United States and as a lasting tribute to the life and ministry of the Rev. Elizabeth A. Platz, the first woman ordained a Lutheran pastor in North America.

- *The Rev. Earlean Miller Seminary Scholarship Fund* has been created to help celebrate the 40th anniversary of Lutheran women of color being ordained in the United States and as a lasting tribute to the life and ministry of the Rev. Earlean Miller, the first African-American woman ordained a Lutheran pastor in North America.

Gifts in honor of either the Rev. Platz or the Rev. Miller, or of any other ordained women, may be made at any time to these funds. The Platz and Miller seminary scholarships will support candidates for ministry who are women and women of color, respectively.

In this program book you will meet this year's new scholarship recipients and learn more about our major partners and donors. However, there are many more supporters of the Fund for Leaders than we can list in this small book. For each of them, for each of you and for those answering the call to public ministry in our church, we give thanks to God.

Your servant in Christ,



The Rev. Mark W. Olsen
Director, ELCA Fund for Leaders
Director, Mission Funding

2020-2021 Fund for Leaders Full-tuition Scholarship Recipients

We celebrate with this year's called and gifted group of future leaders. This year, 38 scholarships are supported by Fund for Leaders general and named endowment funds, valued at \$43,060,057 on June 30, 2020. Recipients supported through the Fund for Leaders general endowment fund are marked with an asterisk (*) below.

RILEY ANDERSON-REED

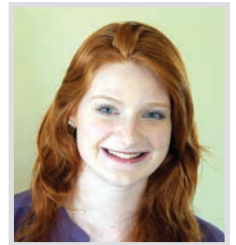
Scholarship made possible by the Gunther C. and Johanna W. Holpp Memorial Endowment Fund

Synod: Montana

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: American Lutheran Church, Harlowton, Mont.

A guiding Bible verse: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:34-35).



"The person who has been a mentor in my journey toward rostered ministry is Pastor Jen Rude. Pastor Jen was named as Pacific Lutheran University's campus pastor in 2016. Pastor Jen always had time to chat or answer my questions. She is honest, open, genuine and authentic. She was the one who pushed me to be the best version of myself and to pursue things that otherwise I would have been too scared to do."

BLANCA BETANCOURT

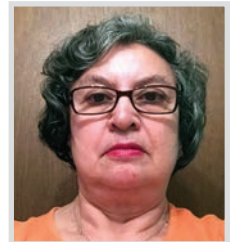
Scholarship made possible by the Irma K. Lauffer 1999 Memorial Fund

Synod: Southwestern Texas

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Gethsemane Lutheran Church, San Antonio, Texas

A guiding Bible verse: "The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts; so I am helped, and my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him" (Psalm 28:7).



"I have several mentors, but Pastor Luis I. Echandía is always accessible whenever I need help. He has been supportive, encouraging and patient. He is a very good role model as a pastor and as a professional religious leader. I like how he handles difficult people and unpredictable situations. I would like to follow his footsteps as a pastor myself."

Scripture is from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

BRYCE BOMMERSBACH

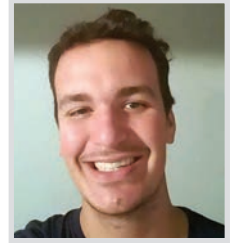
Scholarship made possible by the Omer G. and Annabelle K. Voss Family Donor Advised Fund

Synod: Eastern North Dakota

Attending: Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Sharon Lutheran Church, Grand Forks, N.D.

A guiding Bible verse: "Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"?' (Matthew 21:42).



"I was fortunate to have [Kathy Fick, former director and campus minister of Christus Rex Lutheran Campus Center, University of North Dakota] as an unyielding voice of external call and direction during the most climactic times of life during my college career. She was able to name gifts in me by interweaving my passion for the church with my passions in my major of social work, while acknowledging how my childhood has impacted this theological framework."

GABRIELLE BROWN

Scholarship made possible by the Arthur and Vera Mabis Endowment Fund

Synod: Rocky Mountain

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Ascension Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs, Colo.

A guiding Bible verse: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105).



"Pastor Dan Holt, Ascension Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs, Colo., is the kind of pastor I hope to be. He helps me maintain perspective and places me where I can better understand my abilities, my own faith, my growth areas. Pastor Dan's unwavering confidence in me nurtures and encourages me in my faith and in discernment."

BENJAMIN COX

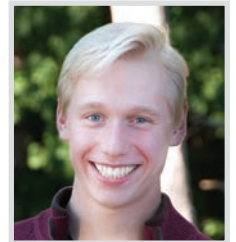
Scholarship made possible by the Rev. Arne Strandjord Memorial Endowment Fund

Synod: Minneapolis Area

Attending: Luther Seminary

Home congregation: Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Excelsior, Minn.

A guiding Bible verse: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).



"My dad [the Rev. Douglas Cox] never pushed me toward ministry. Nonetheless, he inspired my passion for Christ simply by encouraging me to keep asking questions. He taught me to think critically, to listen for the voice of God and, if nothing else, to keep my mind open and never stop asking questions, all of which have led me to where I am today."

LAURA FROST

Scholarship made possible by the Orville R. Klopf Memorial Endowment Fund

Synod: South-Central Synod of Wisconsin

Attending: Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Home congregation: Luther Memorial Church, Madison, Wis.

A guiding Bible verse: "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).



"My spouse, Matthew Frost, has been a patient, loving support to me for over 21 years. He has faithfully walked alongside me on my long, strange vocational journey. He has borrowed theological books for me from JKM Library and helped to inform my understanding of Scripture. He has prayed for me and provided endless encouragement. Thank you, Matt, for being my ezer."

AMBER HARBOLT

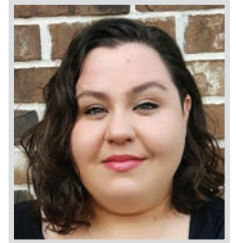
Scholarship made possible by the Abiding Savior Lutheran Church Seminary Scholarship

Synod: Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast

Attending: Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Celebration Lutheran Church, Cypress, Texas

A guiding Bible verse: "The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn" (Isaiah 61:1-2).



"Brother Chris Markert was the first rostered leader I contacted when I sensed my call. He encouraged me to continue listening for the Holy Spirit and offered guidance on pathways to professional ministry. His enthusiasm, unconditional acceptance and passion for justice have helped shape my perspective on what it means to be a leader in the church."

ALANA HARMS*

Synod: Central/Southern Illinois

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: St. Petri Lutheran Church, Flanagan, Ill.

A guiding Bible verse: "But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?'" (Matthew 14:30-31).



"Dr. Chip Bouzard was one of my professors at Wartburg College, and he quickly became a mentor for me. He never failed to affirm my gifts and create space for my voice to be heard, which in turn allowed me to wrestle with theological questions and gain confidence in my call to rostered ministry. I can't thank him enough for his impact on my journey."

LAURA JASICZEK

Scholarship made possible by the John E. and Marcia F. Grove Memorial Scholarship Fund

Synod: South-Central Synod of Wisconsin

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Lakeview Lutheran Church, Madison, Wis.

A guiding Bible verse: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid" (John 14:27).



"Pastor Dean Kirst has consistently and enthusiastically supported my call to ministry and helped to shape my faith journey while giving me space and encouragement to proceed down the path to ministry in my own unique way. He has faithfully answered my numerous questions over the last six years and has encouraged me to continue to question the status quo."

ERIC JENSEN

Scholarship made possible by the John E. and Marcia F. Grove Memorial Scholarship Fund

Synod: Central States

Attending: Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Home congregation: Reformation Lutheran Church, Wichita, Kan.

A guiding Bible verse: "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope" (Jeremiah 29:11).



"As I grew up, Pastor Kristin Neitzel Woelk was heavily involved in the confirmation and high school youth programs at Reformation Lutheran Church in Wichita. In my university years, she encouraged my early work in outdoor ministry, which was a catalyst in discovering my call to the church."

CHRISTINA JOHNSON

Scholarship made possible by the Merlin Flesner Memorial Endowment Fund

Synod: East-Central Synod of Wisconsin

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Wausau, Wis.

A guiding Bible verse: "A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'" (John 4:7).



"Pastor Jenn Collins specifically stepped into my life as an important mentor when I discovered my call to ministry. The most significant moment was when she vocalized an external call she saw in me before I had told her about my internal sense of call. Since then, she has continued to support me and provide me encouragement throughout my discernment process."

MORGAN KAUS

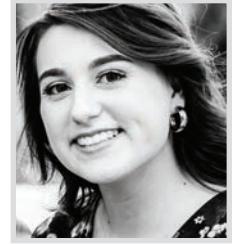
Scholarship made possible by the Rev. Donald P. Schneider Seminary Scholarship Fund

Synod: Grand Canyon

Attending: Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Home congregation: Peace Lutheran Church, Peoria, Ariz.

A guiding Bible verse: "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).



"Pastor Al Cassel has been an amazing mentor to me throughout my discernment journey. Through mission trips, coffee chats and working as his youth director, he has helped to deepen my faith and challenge me every step of the way. I will always be grateful for the way he encouraged me to believe in myself and God's call upon my heart."

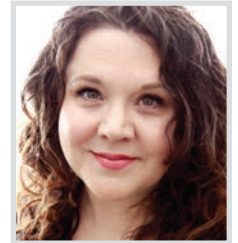
KATHARINE KENNEDY SPINDLER*

Synod: Saint Paul Area

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Pilgrim Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn.

A guiding Bible verse: "And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me'" (Matthew 25:40).



"Carol Tomer and Jennifer Rome both met with me to personally encourage me. They are two women living out their faiths in ways that use the gifts they've been given from God, and that has shown me how I might live out my own call to leadership and the church."

SAMANTHA LaDUE

Scholarship made possible by the Omer G. and Annabelle K. Voss Family Donor Advised Fund

Synod: Southwest California

Attending: Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Santa Monica, Calif.

A guiding Bible verse: "My child, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them escape from your sight; keep them within your heart" (Proverbs 4:20-21).



"Pastor Eric Shafer, Mt. Olive Lutheran Church | Pastor Julie Kelly, Hope Lutheran Church | Pastor Sharon Mead Ruff-Richter, Trinity Lutheran Church | John Flaherty, associate director of campus ministry, liturgy at Loyola Marymount University | Each of these people has encouraged me to explore God's call and consider responding to the invitation to serve."

KATLIN LESLIE

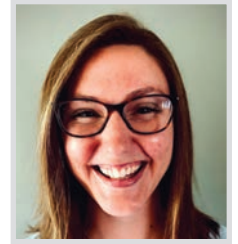
Scholarship made possible by the Carl E. and Alice E. Schaedel Memorial Endowment Fund

Synod: Northwestern Ohio

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Memorial Lutheran Church, Toledo, Ohio

A guiding Bible verse: "But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31).



"Pastor Craig Scholl was my first mentor. He was the pastor at my home congregation when I first started thinking about this journey, almost 10 years ago! He helped walk me through the discernment process and got me in contact with many ELCA representatives. He helped me find other chaplains in the area and was always willing to answer any questions I had! I appreciate all that he helped me do to start this journey."

BAIRD LINKE

Scholarship made possible by the George A. and Dorothy L. Johnson Living Legacy Fund

Synod: Montana

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Helena, Mont.

A guiding Bible verse: "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you" (Isaiah 43:2).



"Pastor Tyler Sit leads New City Church in Minneapolis and has shown me creative and faithful ways to build community with people from many backgrounds. I am grateful for his leadership and kind mentorship!"

KATHRYN LINTHICUM

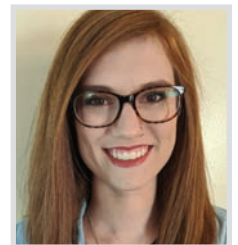
Scholarship made possible by the Rev. Milton Gustafson Memorial Endowment Fund

Synod: Southeastern Iowa

Attending: Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Home congregation: St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Urbandale, Iowa

A guiding Bible verse: "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these" (Mark 12:30-31).



"Pastor Brian Beckstrom (dean of spiritual life, Wartburg College) is an example of a pastor who completely overflows with grace and dedication to the community. He saw potential in me when I was unaware and encouraged me to grow into it through countless opportunities to lead. Through conversations about discernment and vocation, Pastor Brian helped me become the person and leader I am today."

DaMISHA McFARLAND-POLLOCK

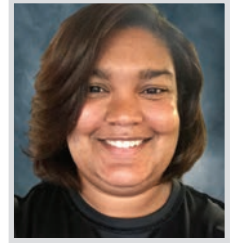
Scholarship made possible by the Gerald and Karen Kolschowsky Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund

Synod: Southwestern Pennsylvania

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh, Pa.

A guiding Bible verse: "Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love" (1 Corinthians 16:13-14).



"Pastor Scott Bryte had the biggest impact on my journey. When I first became Lutheran years ago, Pastor Scott taught adult catechesis to me and my husband. He confirmed my sense of call and helped connect me to resources to further my journey. He prays for me and answers all questions I have. Pastor Scott taught me what Lutheranism means today."

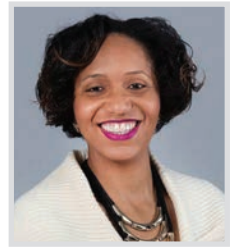
CLAIR MINSON*

Synod: Delaware-Maryland

Attending: Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

Home congregation: St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Baltimore, Md.

A guiding Bible verse: "Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed'" (Genesis 12:1-3).



"Pastor Louis Tillman IV, senior pastor of St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church, serves as my mentor and guide. As a young pastor of African descent, I am inspired by his commitment to God and to the Lutheran faith. Having his example and guidance has been critical to my faith journey, and I'm grateful for his support as my mentor."

KATHERINE MUELLER

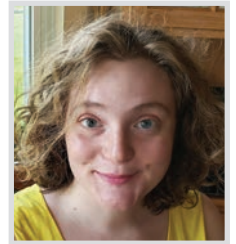
Scholarship made possible by the William D. Wubben Memorial Endowment Fund

Synod: East-Central Synod of Wisconsin

Attending: Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Home congregation: Trinity Lutheran Church, Appleton, Wis.

A guiding Bible verse: "For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light" (Ephesians 5:8).



"Knowing Rev. Linda Morgan-Clement (dean of spiritual and religious life at Lawrence University) has had a tremendous impact on my life. She is committed to interfaith understandings, she is a powerful storyteller, and she is skilled at fostering strong communities. Seeing Linda work on my college campus helped me understand that God is calling me to a similar vocation."

AARON MUSSER

Scholarship made possible by the Paul M. Dauten, Jr. Memorial Endowment Fund

Synod: Greater Milwaukee

Attending: Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Home congregation: Redeemer Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, Wis.

A guiding Bible verse: "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep" (John 10:11).



"Dr. Anton Armstrong was my musical mentor at St. Olaf College. His passion, compassion and commitment to justice inspire me. Through musical leadership his values shine — values instilled in me and all his choristers, values deeply rooted in his Lutheran faith. Having witnessed lives changed through his faith-filled music, I am thankful for Dr. Armstrong's mentorship."

COURTNEY NOYA

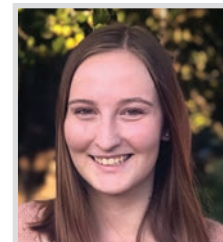
Scholarship made possible by the A. Craig Settlege Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund

Synod: Florida-Bahamas

Attending: Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

Home congregation: All Saints Lutheran Church, Lutz, Fla.

A guiding Bible verse: "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well" (Psalms 139:14).



"Pastor Rick Malivuk and Pastor Joshua Gyson were/are pastors in my home congregation who saw a call to ministry in me before I recognized it myself. They guided my education, encouraged me to ask questions, supported my involvement in Global Mission and now celebrate my ongoing journey and call to rostered leadership within the ELCA."

MELISSA PAGEL

Scholarship made possible by the Frances and Donna Olson Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund

Synod: East-Central Synod of Wisconsin

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Manitowoc, Wis.

A guiding Bible verse: "Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand" (Isaiah 41:10).



"Pastor Bruce Hanstedt is a retired pastor and member of my home congregation. He is a quiet and unassuming influence. He shares his faith willingly when he provides pulpit supply. It is unassuming and encouraging. It reaches my heart like no other. It drives me to be better. It has awakened my sense of call. Where there was a quiet nudge, he has helped nurture it, and when I have asked why, he has prompted, 'Why not?'"

CURTISS PETERSON*

Synod: Northwestern Minnesota

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Dilworth Lutheran Church, Dilworth, Minn.

A guiding Bible verse: "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you" (Isaiah 43:2).



"Pastor Elizabeth Hiller (Dilworth Lutheran Church) has been a friend since college. Through the twists and turns of life, I joined the church where she was called. She invited me to join the church council and was always available to listen and advise. Through discernment, she gave valuable advice and support on applying for candidacy, seminary and scholarships."

SAVANNAH PHELAN

Scholarship made possible by the David D. and Barbara A. Swartling Seminary Scholarship Fund

Synod: Southwestern Washington

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Messiah Lutheran Church, Auburn, Wash.

A guiding Bible verse: "And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord" (Luke 1:45).



"Deacon Traci Vatne (director of faith formation, Messiah Lutheran Church, Auburn, Wash.) has been my partner in ministry and beloved mentor for the past year. She has taught me to be generous, to love without limits, to care for everyone as my family and to boldly preach the gospel in all that I say and do. Traci has shown me, and so many others, that there is a place for us in the church, and that is an immeasurable gift."

JAMIE RICHARDS*

Synod: Southeastern Iowa

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Lutheran Church of Hope, West Des Moines, Iowa

A guiding Bible verse: "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert" (Isaiah 43:19).



"For the past four years Pastor Jeremy Johnson has encouraged me to consider what I want to do next. Even though I've hesitated about seminary for a decade, Jeremy has been a leading voice in encouraging me. I can't thank Jeremy enough for the ways he has supported me toward stepping into the call God has placed on my life to be a pastor!"

SPENCE ROBERTSON

Scholarship made possible by the Rev. Guy Edmiston Mission Endowment Fund

Synod: North Carolina

Attending: Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

Home congregation: Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hickory, N.C.

A guiding Bible verse: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1).



"Rev. Dr. Steven Mowery, a retired Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) minister. It all started in a small-town college cafe over biscuits and jelly. While we were already joined together by common interests in sacred choral music, Dr. Mowery has walked with me and talked with me, listened to me and encouraged me as I seek and discern God's calling for my life. Dr. Mowery continues to pray with me and for me as I now journey down the pathway of seminary studies."

EMILY RONSBERG

Scholarship made possible by the Corrine Wehvilainen Memorial Endowment Fund

Synod: Saint Paul Area

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: St. Mark's Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn.

A guiding Bible verse: "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).



"Pastor Elly McHan was my campus pastor at Concordia College. A supportive discernment and conversation partner, she affirmed and encouraged me to use my gifts in our campus ministry community. As a compassionate mentor and friend, she embodies deep hope in resurrection and new life and inspires me in her practice of following Jesus."

NATHAN SLIWA

Scholarship made possible by the William D. Wubben Memorial Endowment Fund

Synod: North Carolina

Attending: Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Christ the King Lutheran Church, Cary, N.C.

A guiding Bible verse: "For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another" (Romans 12:4-5).



"Pastor Daniel Pugh has been a mentor to me for the past three years as I have served as minister of contemporary music. Pastor Daniel has lifted up my gifts and given me the freedom to pursue my passions in ministry, venturing beyond areas of music, and he challenged me to pursue my lay preaching certification to help in my discernment process."

AMY SPERLINE

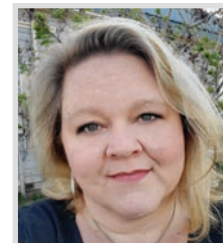
Scholarship made possible by the E. Marilyn Oberle Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund

Synod: Northwest Intermountain

Attending: Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Moses Lake, Wash.

A guiding Bible verse: "And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me'" (Matthew 25:40).



"My mother [Colett Sperline, spiritual guide] has been pivotal in my faith formation, always calling me back to God's love for me and for my brothers and sisters in Christ, no matter what hurdle I was facing. She has been my teacher, guide and support through all the stages of my life. She instilled in me a love for justice and a desire to help others."

ALEXANDER THESHIP-ROSALES

Scholarship made possible by the Rev. Jeanette Bialas Strandjord Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund

Synod: Minneapolis Area

Attending: Luther Seminary

Home congregation: Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Excelsior, Minn.

A guiding Bible verse: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).



"Pastor David Olson (Mount Calvary Lutheran Church) has been a true mentor to me. He influenced my faith through openness, offering grace and exemplifying a deep, progressive faith. He once said, 'Ministry is about how you make people feel.' My sense of call was shaped by Pastor Dave through his intentionality, invitations to leadership opportunities, and conversations about ministry."

KATHRYN THOMPSON*

Synod: Northeastern Iowa

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Decorah, Iowa

A guiding Bible verse: "O Lord, you will hear the desire of the meek; you will strengthen their heart, you will incline your ear to do justice for the orphan and the oppressed, so that those from earth may strike terror no more" (Psalm 10:17-18).



"Pastor Amy Larson, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, has been an important mentor on my journey of discernment. Her ability to walk with me, support me, grieve with me and celebrate with me showed that a pastor's call can be less about providing answers and more about accompaniment and relationship building. It is a model I aspire toward."

CHARLOTTE TRENT*

Synod: Oregon

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Emmaus Lutheran Church, Eugene, Ore.

A guiding Bible verse: "I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect" (Romans 12:1-2).



"My pastor, mentor and friend Larry Wagner was the first person to ask, 'Have you thought about going into ministry?' That question stopped me in my tracks when I was 15 and has since then blossomed into a clear understanding of who God is calling me to be in the world. I have been deeply blessed by his guidance throughout my journey."

JAEN UGALDE*

Synod: Rocky Mountain

Attending: Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Home congregation: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Albuquerque, N.M.

A guiding Bible verse: "I can do all things through him who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13).



"Anne Morawski is a radical pastor rooted in service, critical thinking and the love of Christ. Seeing her love for others and her actions helped me understand the importance of serving students on campus and community. Pastor Anne is a pillar in my life and in the lives of many other people in my community whom she has served wholeheartedly."

VICTORIA VALCARCEL

Scholarship made possible by the Omer G. and Annabelle K. Voss Family Donor Advised Fund

Synod: Delaware-Maryland

Attending: Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Home congregation: St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Walkersville, Md.

A guiding Bible verse: "He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8).



"Pastor Ray Ranker (Lutheran chaplain, University of Maryland, College Park) has been without a doubt one of my most important mentors (and friends) in the discernment process. Ray is the reason I was able to explore ministry in different contexts, and always encouraged me to lead. I've learned so much from him about grace, patience, the beauty and struggles of ministry, and how important relationship is above all else."

J. CAROLINA VAN LUVENDER*

Synod: Southern Ohio

Attending: Trinity Lutheran Seminary

Home congregation: North Riverdale Lutheran Church, Dayton, Ohio

A guiding Bible verse: "Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand" (Isaiah 41:10).



"Pastor Brian Whitton was my first ELCA pastor after I left the Roman Catholic Church. He helped me learn about the ELCA, its traditions, its doctrine and the mission of the church. We spent time in discipleship training and prayer, during which I was reminded of the call to rostered ministry that God had placed on me."

MOLLIE VARPNESS*

Synod: Southwestern Minnesota

Attending: Luther Seminary

Home congregation: Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Montevideo, Minn.

A guiding Bible verse: "A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans)" (John 4:7-9).



"Pastor Andrea DeGroot-Nesdahl, former bishop of the South Dakota Synod, has been one of the many people who has impacted me in my faith and sense of call. She represents the reformation that has happened within the church and has paved the way for women in the ELCA like myself. I hope to walk in her footsteps, being an advocate for others and learning about our ever-changing world."

ADAM WADDELL*

Synod: Southeastern

Attending: Luther Seminary

Home congregation: Epiphany Lutheran Church, Germantown, Tenn.

A guiding Bible verse: "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children" (Ephesians 5:1).



"Pastor Monica Weber found me at a time when I was doubting myself, my sense of calling and my ability to be used by God. She mentored, counseled and encouraged me. She showed me my own gifts. She connected me to the right people in the ELCA to begin discernment. She remains a friend."

2020-2021 Fund for Leaders Mission Developer Scholarship Recipients

This year, nine scholarships are being supported by Fund for Leaders Mission Developer named endowment funds, valued at \$2,758,557 on June 30, 2020.

JONAH DAVIS

Scholarship made possible by the Rev. P. Richard and Nancy L. Grove Mission Developer Scholarship Fund

Synod: Lower Susquehanna

Attending: United Lutheran Seminary

Home congregation: St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church, Schaefferstown, Pa.

A guiding Bible verse: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:34-35).



"Daniel Donmoyer, pastor of St. Luke Lutheran Church, Schaefferstown, Pa., has provided guidance and encouragement throughout my seminary journey. He has been showing me new ways to teach, preach, minister and walk alongside of various communities. Pastor Dan engages in deep and challenging conversations with me, which stretch me in ways that are spiritually fruitful."

MICHAEL DICKSON

Scholarship made possible by the Sara E. and John R. Wise Mission Developers Seminary Scholarship Fund

Synod: North Carolina

Attending: Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Raleigh, N.C.

A guiding Bible verse: "For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us" (Ephesians 2:14).



"Pastor Rose Mary Sánchez-Guzman was my pastor and boss at Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey in El Paso. She helped me discern my call and showed me the leadership, compassion and dedication I want to emulate in my work. It was deeply formative to witness and share in her ministry doing the work of the gospel and working in solidarity with the least of these."

PERRIE DRALLE

Scholarship made possible by the Rev. Stanley E. Olson Mission Developer Seminary Scholarship Fund

Synod: Greater Milwaukee

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Mount Zion Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa, Wis.

A guiding Bible verse: "Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7).



"Dr. Kristine Stache, interim president, Wartburg Theological Seminary, has served as my advisor and instructor, opening my eyes to the importance of discerning 'what God is up to in the world.' Through her deep faith, she has challenged me to find my voice, to stand in my gifts and to continue to discern God's call. Her presence in my life gives me courage!"

ANDY GRAVES

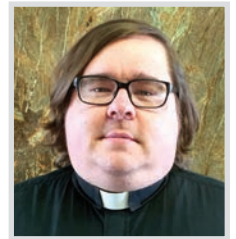
Scholarship made possible by the Mission Investment Fund's Mission Developers Seminary Scholarship Fund

Synod: Northeastern Iowa

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Waterloo, Iowa

A guiding Bible verse: "The Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and persecutions are waiting for me. But I do not count my life of any value to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the good news of God's grace" (Acts 20:23-24).



"Pastor Ryan Cosgrove of Burlington, Iowa, has been a mentor for me on my journey toward becoming a rostered leader. We met at Grand View University through the campus ministry team. Ever since then he has been a great sounding board for theological discussion and personal reflection, and his insights and passion for ministry have been great assets for me as I continue to discern what my call to the larger church is."

JENNIFER HATLELI

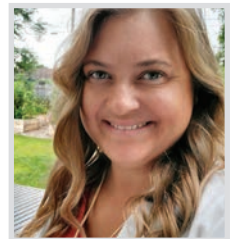
Scholarship made possible by the Rev. Dr. Lauritz and Mrs. Margaret Vigness Mission Developer Scholarship Fund

Synod: Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

Attending: Luther Seminary

Home congregation: Spirit Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wis.

A guiding Bible verse: "To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ" (Ephesians 4:12).



"Pastor Diane House has been an amazing mentor and has helped me to define my role as a pastor who has a heart for redevelopment and mission starts."

LUIS OCHOA

Scholarship made possible by the Our Savior's Lutheran Church Mission Developer Scholarship Fund, Lake Oswego, Ore.

Synod: Grand Canyon

Attending: Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Chandler, Ariz.

A guiding Bible verse: "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible" (Hebrews 11:1-3).



"Pastor Carlos Paiva was not only a pastor to me but also one of my best friends. He is the reason I became a Lutheran and stayed active in the church. Pastor Paiva's compassion for others, his love for his family and his strong relationship with his wife were an example of the kind of leader I wanted to be someday. Most of all, I admired his ability to lead and continue to live for Jesus even when hardships affected his ministry."

HAROLD RINKER, JR.

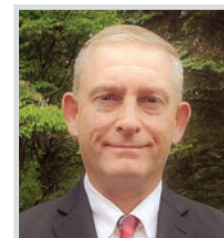
Scholarship made possible by the Helen S. and Earl Randolph Hessler Jr. Family Mission Developer Scholarship Fund

Synod: Upper Susquehanna

Attending: United Lutheran Seminary

Home congregation: Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Renovo, Pa.

A guiding Bible verse: "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope" (Jeremiah 29:11).



"I've known Pastor Kerry Aucker, St. John Church, Jersey Shore, Penn., for approximately 20 years. He is very encouraging and has never failed to assist me when needed. I point to Pastor Aucker as one of the main supporters of my journey and a significant role model in the church to learn and grow from."

BRANDY SCHNECK

Scholarship made possible by the Lois and Gerald Olsen Mission Developer/Redeveloper Scholarship Fund

Synod: Florida-Bahamas

Attending: Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

Home congregation: Faith Lutheran Church of Rotonda West, Rotonda West, Fla.

A guiding Bible verse: "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).



"Dr. Ginger Barfield, professor of theology at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, has influenced my faith and sense of call by caring and wanting what is best for me. She helps me grow spiritually and become more mature in my faith, while reminding me that grades are not my identity. Dr. Barfield models how to live out my faith in my daily life. She also helps me recognize what God is doing in my life."

JAMIE ULRICH

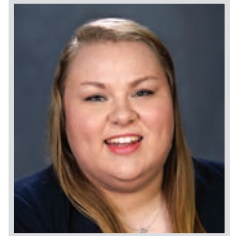
Scholarship made possible by the Mission Investment Fund's Mission Developers Seminary Scholarship Fund

Synod: Southwestern Pennsylvania

Attending: Trinity Lutheran Seminary

Home congregation: Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Glenshaw, Pa.

A guiding Bible verse: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13).



"Dan Smail, senior pastor at Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church in Glenshaw, Pa. Pastor Dan has been the pastor at my home congregation for over a decade now, and he has been absolutely formative in my faith journey and sense of call to rostered ministry. He has been an excellent role model for me and has taught me so much over the years."

2020-2021 ELCA Federal Chaplaincy Scholarship Recipients

This year, three scholarships are being supported by Fund for Leaders Federal Chaplaincy Ministry named endowment funds, valued at \$551,705 on June 30, 2020.

LUKE BEAVER

Scholarship made possible by the ELCA Federal Chaplaincy Scholarship Fund

Synod: Upper Susquehanna

Attending: United Lutheran Seminary

Home congregation: Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kratzerville, Selinsgrove, Pa.

A guiding Bible verse: "The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this" (1 Thessalonians 5:24).



"I led a Bible study for Temple University's ROTC, and Hugh Willis has been instrumental in my ability to lead this through, forcing me to evaluate, question and grow in the word. We meet on a weekly basis and have done this for the last two years, and he has been instrumental in the strengthening of my conviction in my calling and spiritual growth."

REBEKAH NELSON

Scholarship made possible by the ELCA Federal Chaplaincy Scholarship Fund

Synod: Southwest California

Attending: Wartburg Theological Seminary

Home congregation: Peace Lutheran Church, Lompoc, Calif.

A guiding Bible verse: "We love because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19).



"Chaplain John Connolly was the Lutheran chaplain when I went through Marine Corps boot camp. He also had enlisted and felt the call later in his military service. His example helped me leave my enlisted roots to follow the call to chaplaincy. He showed me how important it is to serve those who serve by showing God's love to everyone."

WILMUS ROGER RANDOLPH III

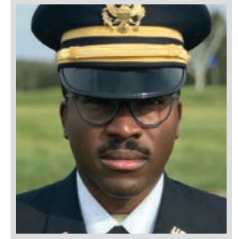
Scholarship made possible by the ELCA Federal Chaplaincy Scholarship Fund

Synod: Southwestern Pennsylvania

Attending: United Lutheran Seminary

Home congregation: First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh, Pa.

A guiding Bible verse: "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).



"Pastor Brian Evans, First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh, Pa., has fielded tough theological questions from me with grace since I was in high school. It is a gift to discuss ideas and concepts from classes and the world with him. He pushes me to build my own opinions and strive to be a more grounded and balanced theologian."

2020-2021 Synod Fund for Leaders Scholarship Recipients

This year, 193 scholarships are being supported by the Fund for Leaders synod endowment funds, valued at \$15,930,620 on June 30, 2020.

Florida-Bahamas Synod Fund for Leaders (9E)

Adam Baroni — Luther Seminary
Boris Camille — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Ruth Ann Hoy — Luther Seminary
Brandy Schneck — Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

Florida-Bahamas Synod Women of the ELCA Fund for Leaders (9E)

Trixie Richter — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Brandy Schneck — Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

Grand Canyon Synod Fund for Leaders (2D)

Veronica Alvarez — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Julie Gerrish — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Indiana-Kentucky Synod Fund for Leaders (6C)

Jaren Summers — Trinity Lutheran Seminary

La Crosse Area Synod Fund for Leaders (5L)

Alex Aakre — Luther Seminary
Michele Engh — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Lucy Hardie — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Elise Hynek — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Wesley Isberner — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia/Metropolitan New York Synod Fund for Leaders (7C)

Eric Brown — United Lutheran Seminary
Zachary Dean — United Lutheran Seminary
Eric Faret — United Lutheran Seminary
Sarah Humphrey — United Lutheran Seminary

Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia/Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Fund for Leaders (7F)

Ann Shade — United Lutheran Seminary
Courtney Smith — United Lutheran Seminary

Metropolitan Chicago Synod Fund for Leaders (5A)

Llewellyn Dixon — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
Alex Molina — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Sean Ramsey — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
Pamela Willey — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
Jason Williams — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
Michael Willis — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Metropolitan New York Synod Fund for Leaders (7C)

Gretchen Olson Kopp — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Metropolitan New York Synod Fund for Leaders/Dr. John G. Huneke (7C)

Zachary Dean — United Lutheran Seminary
Marilyn Dolloway — United Lutheran Seminary
Eric Faret — United Lutheran Seminary
Sarah Humphrey — United Lutheran Seminary

Minneapolis Area Synod Fund for Leaders (3G)

Leif Johnson — Luther Seminary
Yesenia Morales Bahena — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Montana Synod Fund for Leaders (1F)

Melanie Forrey — Luther Seminary
Kristin La Ve' — Luther Seminary
Baird Linke — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Logan McLean — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Tim Tharp — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Nebraska Synod Fund for Leaders (4A)

Erick Hill — Luther Seminary
Dave Maloy — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Doug Rothgeb — Wartburg Theological Seminary

New England Synod Fund for Leaders (7B)

Gail Angellis — United Lutheran Seminary
Elizabeth Goehring — United Lutheran Seminary
Eric Heinrich — United Lutheran Seminary
Hector Lugo-Cuadrado — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Raphaella Mueller — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Rosa Rafaela Radcke — United Lutheran Seminary

New Jersey Synod Fund for Leaders (Advent Lutheran Church) (7A)

Naeem Harry — United Lutheran Seminary

Jaymie Kosa — United Lutheran Seminary

North Carolina Synod Fund for Leaders (9B)

Michael Dickson — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Rebekah Forst — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Robin Johnson — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Justin Mauney — Luther Seminary

North/West Lower Michigan Synod Fund for Leaders (6B)

Christopher Clark — Luther Seminary

Mary Hughes — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Edward Ruble — Luther Seminary

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Fund for Leaders (Holy Spirit) (7E)

Cody Danner — United Lutheran Seminary

Dillon Epler — United Lutheran Seminary

MaryAnn Farnsworth — United Lutheran Seminary

Northern Great Lakes Synod Fund for Leaders (5G)

Patrick Kempf — Luther Seminary

Krystle Moraska — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Melissa Salminen — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Northern Illinois Synod Fund for Leaders (5B)

Callie Arendt — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Michael Markwell — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Trevor Skorborg — Luther Seminary

Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod Fund for Leaders (4D)

Sean McConathy — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Northwest Intermountain Synod Fund for Leaders (1D)

Miranda Joebgen — Luther Seminary

Pat Kaley — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Wendy Kenney — Luther Seminary

Lori Tharp — Luther Seminary

Zachary Wonderly — Luther Seminary

Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Fund for Leaders (5H)

Justin Arnold — Luther Seminary
John Baynton — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Matt Dietsche — Luther Seminary
Corina Forcey — Luther Seminary
Jenny Hatleli — Luther Seminary
August Hohl — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Ally Klug — Luther Seminary
Dan Shimon — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Hillary Toulson — Luther Seminary
Katie Wagner — Luther Seminary
Bethany Walker — Luther Seminary

Northwest Washington Synod Fund for Leaders (1B)

Katrina Bentsen — Luther Seminary
Angela (Anna) Czarnik-Neimeyer — Luther Seminary
Benjamin Fowler — Luther Seminary
Stephanie Johnson — Luther Seminary
Joseph Lual — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Matthew Wilkerson — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Northwestern Minnesota Synod Fund for Leaders (3D)

Karin Bergstrom — Luther Seminary
Devlyn Brooks — Luther Seminary
Julie Carlson — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Ben Dyrhaug — Luther Seminary
Jilene Fiemeyer — Luther Seminary
Madeline Gray-Elliott — Luther Seminary
Amy Kelly — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Lynn Melchior — Luther Seminary
Anna Monke-Gervais — Luther Seminary
Curtiss Peterson — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Melissa Pickering — Luther Seminary
Daphne Urban — Luther Seminary
Michael Wicklund — Luther Seminary

Northwestern Ohio Synod Fund for Leaders (6D)

Tanyce Addison — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Ann Augustin — Luther Seminary
Ryan Cordle — Luther Seminary
Dawn David — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
David Frye — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Kayla Keller — Trinity Lutheran Seminary
Carol Pretorious — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Robin Small — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Rebecca West-Estell — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Katlin Leslie — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Oregon Synod Fund for Leaders (Allert) (1E)

Rachel Kramer — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Sena Norton — Luther Seminary

Pacifica Synod Fund for Leaders (2C)

Jennifer Barker — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Beulah Chambers — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Elena Enriquez — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Emily Erisman — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Amanda Hutchinson McGlynn — Luther Seminary
Kendall Jeske — Luther Seminary
Michelle Kuan-Yang — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Andy Lin — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Rachel Reeder — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Alicia Saenz — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Jasmine Waring — Luther Seminary

Saint Paul Area Synod Fund for Leaders (3H)

Ana Becerra — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Kaitlyn Hendrikson — Luther Seminary
Amy Mihelich — Luther Seminary
Susie Modrow — Luther Seminary
Michael Poeschl — Luther Seminary
Victoria Remer — Luther Seminary
Esther Sianipar — Luther Seminary

South Carolina Synod Fund for Leaders (9C)

Christopher Girardeau — Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary
Christopher Shealy — Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

South Dakota Synod Fund for Leaders (Anderson, Harrington, Ketterling, Wall) (3C)

Teri Gayer — Luther Seminary
Shadoe Hanson — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Corey Scott — Luther Seminary
Tami Steffensen — Luther Seminary
Erica Varcoe — Luther Seminary
Kari Webb — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Maxwell Whitehead — Luther Seminary

South Dakota Synod Women of the ELCA Fund for Leaders (3C)

Laura Beall — Luther Seminary

South-Central Synod of Wisconsin Fund for Leaders (5K)

Thomas Kreis — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Lily Brellenthin — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Southeast Michigan Synod Fund for Leaders (6A)

Kathleen Butler — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
Lorie Gladyness — Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

Southeastern Iowa Synod Fund for Leaders (5D)

Nathaniel Adkins — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Jonathan Fry — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Tim Jacobsen — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Holly Knouse — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Will Negrón — Luther Seminary
Dennis Rodenberg — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Ashley Rosa — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
Haley Schepers — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Christine Vincent — Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary
Anne Williams — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Southeastern Minnesota Synod Fund for Leaders (3I)

Krysta Flaharty — Luther Seminary
Kristine Kincaid — Luther Seminary
Marcia Pedersen — Luther Seminary
David Reedstrom — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Yang Tut — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Southeastern Synod Fund for Leaders (Gordy) (9D)

Amanda Spangler — Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

Southeastern Synod Fund for Leaders (Skillrud) (9D)

Toni McSorley — Luther Seminary

Mardy Ringer — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Amanda Spangler — Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA Fund for Leaders (9D)

Amanda Spangler — Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

Southwestern Minnesota Synod Fund for Leaders (Green Lake) (3F)

Tina Magner — Luther Seminary

Hannah Sackett — Luther Seminary

Southwestern Minnesota Synod Fund for Leaders (Trinity, Marble) (3F)

Paul Bravinder — Luther Seminary

Susan Christianson — Luther Seminary

Myron Crawford — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Jon Wendt — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Southwestern Minnesota Synod Lutheran Men in Mission Fund for Leaders (3F)

Robert Ossefoort — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Jim Rach — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Southwestern Texas Synod Fund for Leaders (4E)

Lory Alves — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Johnene Cunningham — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Fred Klinker — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Lea Walker-Clark — Wartburg Theological Seminary

Upstate New York Synod Fund for Leaders (7D)

Lisa Frauens — United Lutheran Seminary

Meghan Garland — Luther Seminary

Gerry Zimmerman — United Lutheran Seminary

Upstate New York Synod Fund for Leaders-Schwartz (7D)

Meghan Garland — Luther Seminary

Christa Wentworth — United Lutheran Seminary

Virginia Synod Fund for Leaders (9A)

Ginny Banister — United Lutheran Seminary
Lucas Cochran — United Lutheran Seminary
Mycah McNett — United Lutheran Seminary
Christopher Miller — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Dalton Ruggieri — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod Fund for Leaders (8H)

Devin Ames — Luther Seminary
Mary Sanders — United Lutheran Seminary

Western Iowa Synod Fund for Leaders (5E)

Edward Pease — Wartburg Theological Seminary
Anna Wolf — Luther Seminary

Western North Dakota Synod Fund for Leaders (3A)

Deidre Wall — Luther Seminary

Additional synod funds:

Grand Canyon Synod-Santa Cruz Fund for Leaders (2D)

Northeastern Iowa Synod Fund for Leaders (5F)

2020-2021 Congregational Fund for Leaders Scholarship Recipients

This year, nine scholarships are being supported by Fund for Leaders congregational endowment funds, valued at \$1,435,624 on June 30, 2020.

Bethlehem Lutheran Seminary Scholarship Fund — Joliet, Ill.

Michael Markwell — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Desert Hills Lutheran Church Seminary Scholarship Fund — Green Valley, Ariz.

Amanda Hutchinson McGlynn — Luther Seminary

Edison Park Lutheran Church Nasby-Anderson Seminary Scholarship Fund — Chicago, Ill.

Daniel Beirne — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Our Savior Lutheran Church Seminary Scholarship Fund — Menomonie, Wis.

Esther Sianipar — Luther Seminary

St. John's Lutheran Church Seminary Scholarship Fund — Knoxville, Tenn.

Issac Taylor — Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Doylestown, Pa. — The Rev. Herbert and Lucy Piehler Seminary Scholarship Fund

Courtney Smith — United Lutheran Seminary

The Rev. Walter E. Wittman Seminary Scholarship Fund/Gloria Dei Lutheran Church — Downers Grove, Ill.

Kim Maschoff — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church: Forrest and Betty Reid Scholarship Fund — Moline, Ill.

Charbel Zgheib — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Trinity Lutheran Church Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund — Fort Collins, Colo.

Kaari Nieuwlandt — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Additional congregational funds

Advent Lutheran Church Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund — LaGrange, Ga.

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church Endowment Fund — Chicago, Ill.

Epiphany Lutheran Church Seminary Scholarship Fund — Pleasantville, N.J.

First Lutheran Church Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund — Colorado Springs, Colo.

Abiding Presence Lutheran Church Seminary Scholarship Fund — Burke, Va.

The Rev. John Weber Seminary Scholarship Fund/Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church — Peachtree, Ga.

Trinity Lutheran Church Seminary Scholarship Fund — Greenville, S.C.

Gratitude for and Acknowledgment of Donors and Partners

We wish to thank all of the faithful people, congregations and synods who, from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020, gave gifts to the ELCA Fund for Leaders endowment funds (general, Mission Developer, Federal Chaplaincy Ministry, synod, and congregational funds) totaling \$4,648,050. Your commitment to raising up and supporting leaders makes the ELCA Fund for Leaders possible.

ELCA Fund for Leaders endowment funds in perspective

A Fund for Leaders named endowment fund can be established with a gift of \$25,000 or more. At the current standardized value of a full-tuition scholarship at \$18,000 per year, an endowment of \$450,000 sustains a full-tuition Fund for Leaders scholarship.

New endowment funds established July 1, 2019– June 30, 2020

General

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund — Independence, Mo.
Erckmann-Miller Seminary Scholarship Fund
Inspire Faith Seminary Scholarship Fund
Gerald and Karen Kolschowsky Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
The Rev. Elizabeth A. Platz Seminary Scholarship Fund

Synod

Ascension Lutheran Church/NT-NL Synod Seminary Scholarship (Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod)
The Rev. H. Julian Gordy, Bishop Emeritus, Seminary Scholarship for Advocacy and Justice (Southeastern Synod)

Endowment fund valuations, calculated as of June 30, 2020.

* Endowment funds that contribute to a variety of ELCA churchwide ministries, including Fund for Leaders.

** Endowment funds that support Mission Developer scholarships, which provide \$18,000 (\$8,000 for TEEM candidates) per year for up to two years.

*** Endowment funds that support Federal Chaplaincy Ministry scholarships, which will provide \$4,000 this year.

**Endowment
valued
\$400,000+**

The Rev. Olaf A. Berge Memorial Endowment Fund
The Bethel Lutheran Church Endowment Fund*
Paul M. Dauten Jr. Memorial Endowment Fund
ELCA Federal Chaplaincy Scholarship Fund***
Kenneth and Sandra Falkinham Seminary Scholarship Fund
The John E. and Marcia F. Grove Memorial Scholarship Fund
Mr. and Mrs. Peter, William and Esther Herlein Fund*
The Ruth Walker Holliday Memorial Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
Gunther C. and Johanna W. Holpp Memorial Endowment Fund*
Orville R. Klopff Memorial Endowment Fund*
MIF Mission Developers Seminary Scholarship Fund**
E. Marilyn Oberle Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
Marius and Cora Newell Titterud Memorial Endowment Fund
Omer G. and Annabelle K. Voss Family Donor Advised Fund
Dr. Adelia E. Weis Memorial Ministerial Scholarship Fund*
Astrid V. Wilson Memorial Endowment Fund
The William D. Wubben Memorial Endowment Fund*

**Endowment
valued
\$200,000-
\$399,999**

Rick and Kathy Ambrose Scholarship Endowment Fund
Albert G. and Svea H. Anderson Memorial Fund
The Rev. Dr. E. Earl Anderson Seminary Scholarship Fund
The L. Travis and Jean M. Brannon Endowment Fund
The Christ Lutheran Church Endowment Fund*
George and Frances Cornell Family Mission Developer Seminary Scholarship Fund**
The Rev. Milton Gustafson Memorial Endowment Fund
Alice D. Hillstrom Legacy Endowment Fund*
Max W. and Phyllis Krell Family Seminary Scholarship Fund
Lahm Family Seminary Scholarship Fund
Irma K. Lauffer 1999 Memorial Fund
Dr. Oliver A. Muhonen Memorial Endowment Fund*
The Rev. Dr. Lauritz and Mrs. Margaret Vigness Mission Developer Scholarship Fund**
The Rev. Eric Wogan Seminary Scholarship Fund
J. Binnie Wolfe Memorial Scholarship Fund
Sara Kramer Wolfe Memorial Scholarship Fund

**Endowment
valued**

\$100,000-

\$199,999

Bishop H. George and Jutta F. Anderson Endowment Fund
The Marvin D. Anderson Tuition Legacy
The Ascension Lutheran Church Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund — Garland, Texas
Doris M. Bagley Fund for Leaders Memorial Endowment Fund
Carrie J. Brown Memorial Endowment Fund
Dr. Carol Craig Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
First Lutheran Church and Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church Seminary Scholarship
The Rev. Harold and Rachel Goers Seminary Scholarship Fund
Lester Eugene Gyllstrom II Seminary Scholarship Fund
George A. and Dorothy L. Johnson Living Legacy*
Imogene Lewin Seminary Scholarship Fund
Paul L. and Valerie C. Miller Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
Portico Benefit Services Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
Carl E. and Alice E. Schaedel Memorial Endowment Fund
The Rev. Donald P. Schneider Seminary Scholarship Fund
The Florence E. Von Behren Memorial Endowment Fund*
Sara E. and John R. Wise Mission Developers Seminary Scholarship Fund**

**Endowment
valued**

\$50,000-

\$99,999

The Rev. Kenneth R. Ahlstrand Seminary Scholarship Endowment
The Rev. Dr. Phyllis Anderson Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
The Rev. Victor Brandt Seminary Scholarship Fund
Cox Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund
The Rev. Guy Edmiston Mission Endowment Fund
Merlin Flesner Memorial Endowment Fund*
Mildred A. Flotow Memorial Endowment Fund*
P. Richard and Nancy L. Grove Mission Developer Scholarship Fund**
Bjorg Davidson Johannesson Mission Developer Scholarship Fund**
Charles, Joe Anne, Nan and Al Lintz Scholarship Fund
The Earl L. Mummert Memorial Endowment Fund
Margarete Ursula Nitschke Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
Frances and Donna Olson Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
The Rev. Dr. Richard D. and Mrs. Melba N. Reichard Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
Raymond and Ruth Schultz Christian Education Fund*
Corrine Wehvilainen Memorial Endowment Fund*
Elizabeth K. Weisburger Mission Developer Seminary Scholarship Fund**
Bryn, Nicholas and Betty Ziemendorf Seminary Scholarship Fund

**Endowment
valued
\$25,000-
\$49,999**

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund — Independence, Mo.
George and Martha Benson Memorial Endowment Fund
Howard and Marie Cleer Seminary Scholarship Fund
The Rev. Paul Cobb Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
ELCA Seminary Presidents Fund
Van and Linnea Grosse Seminary Scholarship Fund
Bishop Mark S. Hanson Fund for Leaders Scholarship Fund
Helen S. and Earl Randolph Hessler Jr. Family Mission Developer Scholarship Fund**
Ben Splichal Larson Memorial Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
Arthur and Vera Mabis Endowment Fund*
Lois and Gerald Olsen Mission Developer/Redeveloper Scholarship Fund**
Eddie H. and Donald L. Olson Memorial Endowment Fund*
The Rev. Stanley E. Olson Mission Developer Seminary Scholarship Fund**
Our Savior's Lutheran Church Mission Developer Scholarship Fund — Lake Oswego, Ore.**
Delilah (Dee) E. Ross Memorial Endowment Fund**
The Rev. Franklin G. Senger III and Mr. Edward J. Wilhelm Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
A. Craig Settlege Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund
The Erik and Barbara Stone Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
The Rev. Arne Strandjord Memorial Endowment Fund
The Rev. Jeanette Bialas Strandjord Seminary Scholarship Fund
David D. and Barbara A. Swartling Seminary Scholarship Fund
Gerald and Marihope Troutman Scholarship Fund

**Other
endowments
supporting
Fund for
Leaders**

Curtis A. and Elaine V. Anderson Memorial Endowment Fund*
The Armia Family Scholarship Endowment Fund
Calvary Lutheran Church Fund for Leaders Endowment Fund
Carmen Chavez Memorial Endowment Fund*
The Ottilya Elliott Memorial Endowment Fund*
The Rev. Murray D. and Rhoda M. Finck Federal Chaplaincy Seminary Scholarship Fund***
Inspire Faith Seminary Scholarship Fund
The Rev. Ivan and Kathryn Ives Federal Chaplaincy Seminary Scholarship***
The Gerald and Karen Kolschowsky Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
William Larsen Memorial Scholarship Endowment
The Rev. Scottie and Karen Lloyd Chaplaincy Seminary Scholarship***
The Rev. Elizabeth A. Platz Seminary Scholarship Fund
The Earl Melvin Sletten Fund for Leaders Scholarship Endowment
The Louise Stroud Sullivan Federal Chaplaincy Seminary Scholarship Fund***
The Rev. Dr. Gerald S. Troutman Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund
The Elaine P. Tucker Seminary Scholarship Fund

In Memoriam

With thanksgiving to God, we remember the faithful and generous supporters of the Fund for Leaders whose deaths we have learned of in the past year. The gifts they gave and/or named endowment funds they established provide a legacy that will make a difference for years to come in the lives of ELCA seminary students and the congregations and ministries they serve. Those whose names are known to us are listed below with thanks for their faithful witness to the gospel.

Mrs. Carol E. Anderson
The Rev. Earl W. Carlson
The Rev. Herbert W. Chilstrom
The Rev. Donald L. Conrad
Ms. Rosemary Dassel
Mr. Ken A. Doxtad
Mr. Ted Dress
Mr. William G. Garens
The Rev. August M. Hannemann
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The Rev. Earl F. Nelson
The Rev. Norman I. Olson
Ms. Sarah M. Peterson
Mr. John G. Satter
Mrs. Marjorie Thiel
Ms. Iris M. Thoreson

Numbers for the 2020-2021 Academic Year

Fund for Leaders endowment (value as of June 30, 2020): **\$63,736,566**

FFL churchwide scholarships	131	
Full-tuition	115	
Half-tuition	1	
Mission Developer	12	
Federal Chaplaincy	3	
Total amount to be distributed		\$2,206,500
Synod and congregational partner scholarships	202	
Total amount to be distributed		\$636,356
Total number of scholarships awarded	333	
Students supported in 2020-2021	297	
Total amount to be awarded in 2020-2021		\$2,842,856

Notes

Notes

The ELCA Fund for Leaders scholarship program supports students of tremendous promise attending ELCA seminaries. By making seminary more affordable, the ELCA Fund for Leaders enables more future ministers to go to seminary and helps them graduate with less debt, empowering those whom God calls into ministry to go and serve as the church needs and as the Holy Spirit leads.

We are a thriving church, and each of us has a unique role to play in helping the mission and ministry of this church to thrive. Your gifts to the ELCA Fund for Leaders not only support students now but are also an investment in our church's future.

To make a gift or to learn more about naming the ELCA Fund for Leaders as a charitable beneficiary in your estate plan, please contact us today.

ELCA Fund for Leaders
The Rev. Mark W. Olsen
Director, ELCA Fund for Leaders
Director, Mission Funding
773-380-2925
Mark.Olsen@elca.org
ELCA.org/FundForLeaders



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