



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

College Corporation Meetings

Luther College, Decorah, Iowa

St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota

Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa

Fourteenth Churchwide Assembly

August 8–13, 2016
New Orleans, Louisiana

Luther College

Decorah, Iowa

Report of the President

I began as Luther College's tenth president in July 2014, and it is a privilege to submit my first ELCA assembly report. As president, I am emboldened by theologian Joseph Sittler's statement that "The best way church colleges can serve the church is to be good colleges." Luther is a distinctive, extraordinary college that lives its mission with integrity. This is a place where students, faculty and staff are "enlivened and transformed by encounters with one another, by the exchange of ideas, and by the life of faith and learning."

At Luther, faculty and staff serve as faithful guides and mentors as students discern their vocations. Recently, Luther received a grant from the Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education to help strengthen collaboration between College Ministries, our Career Center and academic student advising. This grant supports retreats and other opportunities for students to engage in vocational reflection and conversation. Among the many vocations our graduates pursue, we are proud of the number of graduates who choose ordained ministry. Luther also sends a strong group of graduating seniors into service and volunteer corps, including Lutheran Volunteer Corps and the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission program.

There are many other ways Luther College nurtures its relationship with the larger church. College Ministries works with the Northeastern Iowa Synod on a summer leadership development camp for ELCA high school youth, and on special events that benefit global relief and development efforts. Our Grace Institute for Spiritual Formation — now in its 15th year — provides a two-year continuing education program on spiritual practices for individual and congregational renewal. Luther faculty and staff are involved in a wide range of synod, national and global ministries as well, serving on boards and as resource persons in areas such as worship and music, environmental stewardship and interfaith relations. Music is another way we connect with congregations, as our ensembles go on tour to proclaim the gospel through sacred choral music, orchestra and band concerts.

Plans are well underway on campus to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. We are pleased that Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton will speak at opening convocation next February, and in late March, Luther will host a conference focused on the role of the reformation in the contemporary church. Pastor and author Nadia Bolz-Weber is among the speakers, and the conference will conclude with a performance of Bach's Mass in B-minor by the Luther College Orchestra and Nordic Choir. More information will become available at luther.edu/reformation-2017.

A reminder that a tangible way your church can support Luther College is to encourage your high school students to visit. Should they choose to enroll, we hope you will consider supporting them with an EPIC grant (Education Partners in Covenant). Luther will match up to \$1,000 per year in support of each student from your congregation. More information can be found at luther.edu/financialaid/current/scholarships.

I am convinced that a community of faith and learning provides the best possible environment for young people to discern their callings. You should be proud of our ELCA colleges. These institutions are serving the church by equipping engaged, capable leaders to serve on behalf of the common good. Thank you for your partnership in this ministry.

PAULA J. CARLSON, *president*

I. Amendment to Articles of Incorporation

Recommended Action by the Corporation:

To approve the amendment of Article V of the Articles of Incorporation as follows:

- 5.01.** The location of the principal office of the corporation shall be 700 College Drive, Decorah, Iowa. The name of its current registered agent at such address is Paula J. Carlson.

Rationale: Luther College has a new president so Article 5.01 needs to be changed.

II. Ratification of Elections of Regents

Recommended Action by the Corporation:

To ratify the action of the Board of Regents of Luther College in electing the following persons to the Board:

- **Mr. Jeffrey Anderson (Des Moines, Iowa)**
- **Ms. Sandra Joppa (Plymouth, Minn.)**
- **Mr. Michael Osterholm (St. Louis Park, Minn.)**
- **Ms. Connie Plaehn (South Salem, N.Y.)**
- **Mr. James Young (Edina, Minn.)**

and

To ratify the action of the Board of Regents of Luther College in re-electing the following persons to the board for second four-year terms:

- **Ms. Wendy Davidson (Chicago, Ill.)**
- **Mr. Dennis Flatness (St. Louis, Mo.)**
- **Ms. Susan K. Sorlien (Bonita Springs, Fla.)**
- **Ms. Diane Thormodsgard (Bonita Springs, Fla.)**
- **Ms. Chinyere Ukabiala (Urbandale, Iowa)**
- **Mr. Lance Vander Linden (Dallas, Texas)**
- **Mr. Enwei Xie (Beijing, China)**

and

To ratify the action of the Board of Regents of Luther College in re-electing the following persons to the board for third four-year terms:

- **Mr. Russell J. Bruemmer (Arlington, Va.)**
- **Mr. Ronald Have (Bloomington, Minn.)**
- **Mr. Arne M. Sorenson (Chevy Chase, Md.)**
- **Mr. Jon M. Stellmacher (Appleton, Wis.)**
- **Mr. Paul M. Torgerson (Lake Elmo, Minn.)**
- **Ms. Judy Vijums (Arden Hills, Minn.)**

St. Olaf College

Northfield, Minnesota

Report of the President

Since 1874, St. Olaf College has educated students in an academic community shaped by the Lutheran theological tradition. Conversations about faith and values — not only in the classroom and among students, but among faculty and staff as well — are inspired and informed by Lutheran practices of theological study, vocational reflection and dialogue across difference. All St. Olaf students take two religion courses, one focusing on the Bible and the other on Christian theology. They also complete an upper-division course in ethics that includes normative frameworks drawn from the Christian theological tradition.

St. Olaf offers daily chapel services led by the college pastors and featuring St. Olaf faculty, students and staff as speakers and musicians. In addition, the St. Olaf Student Congregation and guests gather for Sunday worship with Holy Communion during the academic year. All services at Boe Chapel are streamed live via the Internet and then archived on the St. Olaf website; please join us at <http://wp.stolaf.edu/ministry/worship/>.

The college continues to attract a broad pool of talented students, currently representing all 50 states and 80 countries. In 2015-2016, incoming first-year students had an average high school grade point of 3.59 and a median ACT composite score of 29. Our diversity continues to increase, with 17 percent of the Class of 2019 self-identifying as domestic students of color, 8 percent as international students, and 19 percent as first-generation college students. Among the 72 percent of all students who provide information about their religious affiliation, 38 percent are Lutheran and another 14 percent are members of a denomination in full communion with the ELCA.

In July 2014, Dr. Jo Beld, professor of political science and former director of evaluation and assessment at St. Olaf, was appointed Vice President for Mission. Shortly thereafter, St. Olaf also welcomed a new associate college pastor, the Rev. Katherine (Katie) Fick. Finally, since the submission of our report in August 2013, four individuals have been elected to an initial six-year term on the St. Olaf College Board of Regents, and 11 individuals have been re-elected to a second six-year term. (See the first Recommended Action on page 5.)

Through discussions with the ELCA and the St. Olaf Board of Regents, it has been determined that certain amendments to the governing documents of the college are appropriate to ensure that the ELCA's relationship with the College is clearly articulated and remains consistent with ELCA policy. As a result, St. Olaf College recommends the attached amendments to the St. Olaf College Articles of Incorporation for approval by the Churchwide Assembly. (See the second Recommended Action on page 5.) The ELCA retains approval rights over certain actions of the college. Such rights are set forth in the St. Olaf College Bylaws. A copy of the St. Olaf College bylaw provisions which include those rights is attached for your reference (beginning on page 7).

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

DAVID R. ANDERSON, *president*

I. Ratification of Election of Regents

Recommended Action by the Corporation:

To ratify the action of the Board of Regents of St. Olaf College in electing the following persons to the Board for the terms cited:

Regents elected to an initial six-year term:

- Mr. Ward Klein, St. Louis, Mo. (2014-2020)
- Ms. Susan Gunderson, St. Louis Park, Minn. (2016-2021)
- Mr. Mark Jordahl, Edina, Minn. (2015-2021)
- Mr. Jeffrey Bolton, Rochester, Minn. (2016-2022)

Regents re-elected to a second six-year term:

- Mr. Kevin Bethke, Wilmette, Ill. (2013-2019)
- Mr. Eric Hanson, New York, N.Y. (2013-2019)
- Mr. Philip Milne, Wayzata, Minn. (2013-2019)
- Mr. Larry Stranghoener, Plymouth, Minn. (2013-2019)
- Mr. David Hill, Waukegan, Iowa (2014-2020)
- Mr. Glenn Taylor, Libertyville, Ill. (2014-2020)
- Mr. Peter Gotsch, Chicago, Ill. (2015-2021)
- Mr. John Grotting, Rancho Santa Fe, Calif. (2016-2022)
- Ms. Jody Horner, Fremont, Neb. (2016-2022)
- Mr. Jon Salveson, Wayzata, Minn. (2016-2022)
- Mr. Alphonso Tindall, South Orange, N.J. (2016-2022)

II. Amendments to Articles of Incorporation

Recommended Action by the Corporation:

To approve the following amended St. Olaf College Articles of Incorporation, pending approval by the 2016 Churchwide Assembly of the proposed revision of ELCA bylaw 8.32.02.

On February 5, 2016, the St. Olaf College Board of Regents considered and approved amendments to the St. Olaf College Articles of Incorporation and submits the following such amendments for approval by the Corporation:

ARTICLE V Members and Meeting of Members

Section 5.01. Members. The members of this Corporation shall be those individuals holding the following positions and offices:

- (a) The members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Church Council, or succeeding body of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or its successor, (the "Church Council"), as such members are appointed in accordance with the discipline and usage of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, or its successor. Such members of the Church Council shall remain members of the Corporation until they no longer serve as members of the Church Council;

- (b) The officers of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, or its successor;
- (c) The President of the Corporation; and
- (d) The members of the Board of Regents of the Corporation.

Section 5.02. Member Powers. The members shall have only those powers explicitly set forth in these Articles and Article XII of the Bylaws of the Corporation.

Section 5.03. Meetings of Members and Other Provisions. The Bylaws of the Corporation shall set forth such other provisions with regard to the members as are desired.

ARTICLE VI

Board of Regents

Section 6.01. Composition. The management and direction of the business and affairs of the Corporation shall be vested in a Board of Regents. To the extent consistent with these Articles and permissible under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 317A, the Bylaws of the Corporation shall specify the qualifications, number, term of office, method of selection, removal, powers and duties of the Board of Regents of the Corporation, the time and place of their meetings, voting rights and such other regulations relating to the Board of Regents as may be desired.

Section 6.02. Action in Writing. An action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the Board of Regents may be taken by written action signed by the number of Regents that would be required to approve an action taken at a meeting of the Board of Regents at which all members were present; provided, however, that a Board of Regents' action requiring approval of the members of the Corporation may be taken by written action only if signed by all of the Regents then in office and approved by the members.

Section 6.03. Election of the President. The President of the Corporation shall be elected by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of Regents in the form established by the Board at the time of such election. The President shall be a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or its successor.

ARTICLE IX

Amendments

These Articles of the Corporation may be amended by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board of Regents then in office and entitled to vote on the proposed amendment. Such action may be taken at a meeting, by an action in writing, or by means of electronic communication. No amendment to these Articles adopted by the Board of Regents shall take effect unless subsequently approved by the members of the Corporation by a majority vote of those present and voting at a meeting. The Bylaws may be amended as set forth in Article XII of the Bylaws.

III. Amendments to Bylaws

On February 5, 2016, the St. Olaf College Board of Regents approved amendments to several sections of the St. Olaf College Bylaws to read in their entirety as follows:

Section 2.02. Meetings of Members. The meetings of the members of the Corporation shall be held on an annual or less frequent periodic basis and shall be held at the same place as the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or its successor ("Church Council") at such time as may be determined by the Church Council; provided that a meeting is not validly held if participation by remote communication is not available. The presiding officer of the Church Council shall preside at the meeting of the membership of the Corporation. The Secretary shall take fair and reasonable steps to notify all of the members, including providing written notice of the meeting to the President, the Board of Regents, and to the Secretary of the Church Council.

Section 3.03. Number and Qualification. The Board of Regents of the Corporation shall be composed of not less than twelve (12) members as determined by the Board of Regents from time to time either by resolution or through the act of election of Regents. Such number shall exclude the *ex officio* and appointed Regents selected as provided in Sections 3.05 and 3.06 of this Article III. The Board of Regents shall maintain a composition in which a majority of Regents are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or another denomination with which the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or its successors has established full communion, and at least 40 percent shall be members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. No vacancy in the number, classifications or representative qualification of members of the Board, including any *ex officio* position, shall render any Board action void or voidable.

Section 3.04. Elected Regents. Except for *ex officio* Regents and appointed Regents, the Regents shall be elected by the Board of Regents. The elected members of the Board of Regents shall be divided into three (3) classes, based on the length of the term to be served by such Regents, so that the terms of office of approximately one-third of the Regents shall expire every third year. Regents elected by the Board of Regents shall take office at the first meeting of the Board next following their election and shall have full authority and voting rights. Regents shall be elected for a term of six (6) years and may serve a successive term. The Board of Regents may waive this term limitation for one or more members of the Board in its sole discretion. A Regent's term shall expire at the annual meeting of the Board of Regents at which the Regent's class must stand for election or until the Regent's earlier death, resignation, removal or disqualification.

At least one member of the Board of Regents shall be a bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or a person who is widely recognized as a thought or practice leader in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Such Regent(s) shall be elected by members of the Board of Regents. The expiration of such bishop's term of office, resignation or removal as a bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America shall be deemed such bishop's tender of his or her resignation as a member of the Board of Regents to the Secretary of the Corporation. The Board of Regents may accept or reject such resignation in its sole discretion. If the Board rejects such resignation, such bishop shall continue to serve until the end of his or her term, or until such bishop's earlier death, resignation, or removal.

Section 3.05. Ex Officio Regents. The President of the Corporation shall serve as an *ex officio* voting member of the Board of Regents.

The Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, or the successor church officer equivalent thereto, or a person designated by such Presiding Bishop or the successor church officer equivalent thereto, shall be invited to serve as an *ex officio* voting Regent solely for purposes of voting on the election of the President of the Corporation and may participate in the search for and vote on the election of the President but shall have no other voting rights with respect to any other matters before the Board of Regents. At its discretion, the Board of Regents may elect as a non-voting Senior Regent, a former Regent who has rendered sustained and significant service to the Board and to the Corporation to such term as it deems appropriate.

The Board of Regents, by the majority vote of the elected members of the Board of Regents, may designate such other *ex officio* voting or non-voting members of the Board of Regents as it may determine desirable from time to time by resolutions of the Board.

ARTICLE XII

Amendments

These Bylaws of the Corporation may be amended by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the Board of Regents then in office and entitled to vote on the proposed amendment. Such action may be taken at a meeting, by an action in writing, or by means of remote communication where due notice of the proposed amendment has been given. Except as to Sections 2.02, 3.03, 3.04, and 3.05 and this Article XII, amendments to the Bylaws shall not require approval of the members of the Corporation. This section is an express limitation on the members' ability to amend the Corporation's Bylaws as set forth in Minnesota Statutes Sections 317A.111, Subd. 3 and 317A.181, Subd. 2, and successor statutes thereto.

Wartburg College

Waverly, Iowa

Report of the Administration

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

Abundant examples demonstrate the ways in which Wartburg fulfills its distinctive mission by offering students transformational academic and co-curricular opportunities:

Transforming Tomorrow, Wartburg’s \$75 million comprehensive campaign publicly launched in 2014, has been enthusiastically received by alumni, parents and friends. The campaign features three components:

- **People:** Wartburg has awarded new or additional scholarships to more than 120 students, representing \$335,000 in additional aid. Raymond ’65 and Judith ’65 McCaskey provided the College with an \$11.5 million gift commitment that provides significant scholarship support to Chicago-area Wartburg students who demonstrate financial need. Two sizeable estate gifts created new endowed scholarships for science and education students.
- **Places:** Wartburg broke ground in February 2016 on an \$8 million renovation of Clinton Hall that will create an innovative living and learning environment for students. Fueled by several major gifts, the project includes major interior updates and new academic and social spaces. Other significant gifts have made possible the Knief Outdoor Athletics Pavilion, a new lacrosse field, and a first-of-its kind virtual acoustic system in Neumann Auditorium.
- **Programs:** In 2013, Wartburg received its largest outright gift of \$2 million from Mike and Marge McCoy to establish the Mike and Marge McCoy Family Distinguished Chair in Lutheran Heritage and Mission, now held by The Rev. Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans, professor of religion. The chair strengthens the College’s commitment to the exploration of vocation and lifts up our rich history as a college of the church. Other generous gifts have enabled Wartburg to elevate the Gerald R. Kleinfeld Distinguished Professorship in German History to an Endowed Chair, establish endowed professorships in engineering science and music education, create the Baldwin Leadership Fellows program, and inaugurate a German Institute to provide organization and focus for Wartburg’s wealth of Germany related programs and relationships.

Wartburg strives to live its distinctive mission in bold, innovative contexts. Many new programs have been developed to meet the needs of tomorrow’s students:

- Wartburg has launched new majors in digital cinema production, environmental science and studies, neuroscience, criminal justice, and actuarial science. New cooperative agreements with Iowa State University and the University of Iowa will enable students to pursue post-baccalaureate work in industrial engineering and law, respectively, in a shortened timeframe. The College will inaugurate its first master’s-level program in music therapy in Fall 2017.
- In 2014, the College enhanced its Wartburg West program in Denver, Colorado, through a groundbreaking new partnership with Saint John’s Episcopal Cathedral. More students now enjoy an upgraded apartment complex, classroom facilities and meeting space. Both institutions emphasize community engagement in their missions.
- A new internship program in Des Moines will provide another compelling learning opportunity in an urban environment, building on the success of the Wartburg West program.
- Wartburg is Iowa’s first private institution – and only the ninth in the nation – to earn a gold rating from the leading authority on sustainability in higher education.

Wartburg’s Strategic Plan lifts up a commitment to vocation and mentoring:

- Twenty faculty and staff travelled to several locations in Germany as part of the third Heritage Seminar Trip.
- The Graven Award, an annual award highlighting lay vocation, was awarded in 2014 to Michael Dennis Browne, an award-winning author, poet and librettist. The 2015 recipient was Yale University’s Dr. Elijah Anderson, one of the nation’s leading urban ethnographers and cultural theorists.

- Thousands of people explored the handwritten, illuminated Saint John's Bible in 2014 through campus and community programs held in the College's Art Gallery, at Vogel Library, and at Christmas with Wartburg.
- The Rev. Dr. Stephen Bouman, ELCA executive director, Domestic Mission, joined the Wartburg Board of Regents as an *ex officio* member in 2015.

Thank you for your continued ministry, partnership and prayers as together we prepare young people for productive lives in society, their communities and in the church.

DARREL D. COLSON, *president*

Ratification of Election of Regents

Recommended Action by the Corporation:

To ratify the action of the Board of Regents of Wartburg College in electing the following persons to the Board for the terms cited:

- Ms. Barbara Gamez Sims (Rochester, Minn.) (2013-2017);
- Ms. Amy Kilgus Chamley (Champaign, Ill.) (2014-2017);
- Ms. Sharon Corrigan (Sparta, N.J.) (2014-2017);
- Mr. Ed Engelbrecht (Maple Grove, Minn.) (2014-2017);
- The Rev. Stephen Bouman (Chicago, Ill.) (2015-2018);
- Mr. Tom Buchheim (Madison, Wis.) (2015-2019);
- Mr. Ahsan Khan "Sunny" Chowdhury (Dhaka, Bangladesh) (2015-2018);
- Mr. Mark Hanawalt (Waverly, Iowa) (2015-2018);
- Ms. Sara Tomson-Hooper (Eatonton, Ga.) (2015-2018);

and

To ratify the action of the Board of Regents of Wartburg College in re-electing the following persons to the Board for the terms cited:

- Bp. James Arends (La Crosse, Wis.) (2015-2018);
- Ms. Ruth Bahe-Jachna (Hammond, Ind.) (2013-2016);
- Dr. Grady Ballenger (DeLand, Fla.) (2013-2016);
- Dr. Hans-Peter Brodhun (Eisenach, Germany) (2013-2016);
- Ms. Janet Felberg (Laguna Beach, Calif.) (2015-2018);
- Dr. Marilyn Flachman (Westminster, Colo.) (2013-2016);
- Mr. Fred Hagemann (Waverly, Iowa) (2015-2018);
- Mr. Sherman Hicks (Chicago, Ill.) (2014-2017);
- Mr. Gary Hoover (Scottsdale, Ariz.) (2014-2017);
- Mr. Kirk Kinnear (Oklahoma City, Okla.) (2015-2018);
- Mr. Jim Loveridge (Brookfield, Wis.) (2013-2016);
- Mr. Liz Mathis (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) (2015-2018);
- Mr. Raymond McCaskey (Chicago, Ill.) (2014-2017);
- Mr. Michael McCoy (Ellison Bay, Wis.) (2015-2018);
- Ms. Rachel Riensche (Edina, Minn.) (2015-2018);
- Mr. Jack Salzwedel (Middleton, Wis.) (2013-2016);
- Mr. Günther Schuchardt (Eisenach, Germany) (2013-2016);
- Bp. Steven Ullestad (Cedar Falls, Iowa) (2014-2017);
- Dr. Gil Wessel (Tomahawk, Wis.) (2015-2018); and
- Ms. Andrea Westmeyer (Clive, Iowa) (2013-2016).