



## • ANNUAL REPORT FROM GUSTAVUS CHURCH RELATIONS — DECEMBER 2016 •

Greetings to you from your partners in ministry at Gustavus Adolphus College! The College community has been looking forward, dreaming big and thinking strategically. In alignment with our mission and core values, we have identified a bold, 10-year vision to energize and focus our work. Here is our vision: *Gustavus equips students to lead purposeful lives and to act on the great challenges of our time through an innovative liberal arts education of recognized excellence.*

For more than 150 years, Gustavus Adolphus College has educated students to lead fulfilling lives of leadership and service. The people of Gustavus are academics and artists, scientists and stewards, learners and landscapers. We are designers and dancers, cooks and coaches, theologians and teachers. We are a diverse community of people passionate about the power of the liberal arts to transform lives and improve our world. Gustavus stands on a strong foundation of tradition and heritage that has shaped who we are today.

Embracing our living connection to the Lutheran tradition, the College is actively dedicated to the longstanding principles of Lutheran higher education, including education explicitly aimed at developing the whole person and contributing to the common good, a love for and openness to the world in its complexity and diversity, and critical questioning in the ongoing search for truth and the advancement of knowledge.

As you gather for congregation annual meetings and synod assemblies, we hope you are inspired by the reminder of the many others who walk along side you in mission. We are blessed to be able to share numerous resources with your congregation. Thank you to the many of you who have made good use of our church and college ministry partnership.

### MARK YOUR 2017 CALENDARS AND JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL EVENTS:

- **STEP UP — MARCH 9, 2017**, a leadership development resource for high school youth. Students will be introduced to college level concepts of leadership that will help them develop a stronger personal plan for continuing to grow as a leader. For more information: [www.gustavus.edu/churchrelations/stepup](http://www.gustavus.edu/churchrelations/stepup)
- **Annual Gustavus Faith Conference and Association of Congregations Business Meeting Luncheon — APRIL 22, 2017**  
The theme for the 2017 conference is "Faith, Science, and the Freedom to Serve." Dr. Philip Clayton, Ingraham Professor of Theology at Claremont School of Theology and Rev. Siri Erickson, Chaplain of the College at Gustavus Adolphus College are the featured presenters. The Annual Business Meeting of Gustavus Adolphus College Association of Congregations will take place during the luncheon meeting. For more information: [www.gustavus.edu/faithconference](http://www.gustavus.edu/faithconference)
- **MAYDAY! Peace Conference—MAY 3, 2017** "What Would You Do? Citizenship and Mass Surveillance"
- **The Gustavus Academy for Faith, Science, and Ethics — JUNE 24-30, 2017**, an exciting new resource for high school youth interested in exploring creative alliances between faith and science. For more information: [www.gustavus.edu/chaplain/academy](http://www.gustavus.edu/chaplain/academy)
- **Annual Nobel Conference® — OCTOBER 3-4, 2017** "Reproductive Technology: How Far Do We Go?"
- **STEP UP — NOVEMBER 2, 2017**, a leadership development resource for high school youth.
- **Christmas in Christ Chapel—DECEMBER 1-3, 2017**

For more information about these events and the many resources we offer congregations, please contact the Office of Church Relations or visit us on-line at: [www.gustavus.edu/churchrelations](http://www.gustavus.edu/churchrelations). Thank you for your partnership and prayers!

Rev. Grady St. Dennis  
College Chaplain/Director of Church Relations

**MAKE YOUR LIFE COUNT**