



GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE

• **ANNUAL REPORT FROM GUSTAVUS CHURCH RELATIONS — DECEMBER 2017** •

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 are guided by a bold 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.*

As our mission partner, you can contribute to the way we live into this vision. The network of institutions and relationships which holds our Lutheran congregations, synods, camps, colleges, seminaries, and social agencies together plays a vital role in nourishing and advancing our collective and important contribution to the world. We all make a greater impact because of this diverse network to which we belong.

Many years ago Gustavus established the Gustavus Adolphus College Association of Congregations as a way of living our Lutheran identity and to create a tangible structure through which we might serve the wider Lutheran church. The Gustavus Association of Congregations network of congregations continues to thrive, energized by the John D. and Ruth Hogenson-Rutford Endowment for Church Relations at Gustavus.

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 2018 CALENDARS AND JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL EVENTS:

- **STEP UP — MARCH 8, 2018**, 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
- **Annual Gustavus Faith Conference and Association of Congregations Business Meeting Luncheon — APRIL 21, 2018**
The theme for the 2018 conference is *"Doubt & Difference: Finding Faith through Authentic Engagement."* Dr. Jacqueline A. Bussie, Professor of Religion and Director of the Forum on Faith and Life at Concordia College is the featured speaker. 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
- **MAYDAY! Peace Conference—MAY 2, 2018** *"Mighty Be Our Powers: Gender, Justice, and Peacebuilding"* with featured speaker Nobel Peace Prize winner Leymah Gbowee.
- **The Gustavus Academy for Faith, Science, and Ethics — JULY 14-30, 2018**, an exciting resource for high school youth interested in exploring creative alliances between faith and science. The theme for the 2018 Academy is *"Land and Identity: How our Food and Microbiomes Change Who We Are."* For more information and to nominate a high school student: www.gustavus.edu/chaplain/academy
- **Annual Nobel Conference®— OCTOBER 2-3, 2018** *"Living Soil: A Universe Underfoot"*
- **Christmas in Christ Chapel—NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 2, 2018**

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. Thank you for your partnership and prayers!

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

MAKE YOUR LIFE COUNT

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