



GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE

• **ANNUAL REPORT FROM GUSTAVUS CHURCH RELATIONS — DECEMBER 2018** •

Greetings to you from your partners in ministry at Gustavus Adolphus College! The definition of community at Gustavus has always included the wider ELCA community. 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.

We have witnessed the power of network collaboration in the 15 years of the Pastor-to-Pastor ministry, a clergy led program for learning and supportive collegiality that Gustavus manages in partnership with the Southeastern and Southwestern Minnesota Synods of the ELCA. We were pleased to announce earlier this year the award of a \$1 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. to greatly expand the existing clergy support program to create *The Continuous Growth Pathway*, a combined and comprehensive leadership development and continuing education structure for the ELCA rostered leaders of Southern Minnesota.

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 2019 CALENDARS AND JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL EVENTS:**

- **STEP UP — MARCH 7 and 14, 2019**, 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: [gustavus.edu/churchrelations/stepup](http://gustavus.edu/churchrelations/stepup)
- **Annual Gustavus Faith Conference and Association of Congregations Business Meeting Luncheon — APRIL 27, 2019**  
The theme for the 2019 conference is *“Developing Spiritual Intelligence: From Filling Committees to Growing Spiritual Leaders.”* Featured presentations by Dr. Terri Elton, Associate Professor for Leadership at Luther Seminary and the Rev. Dr. Kai Nilsen, Lead Pastor at Elton Lutheran Church, Gahanna, Ohio and Institute Faculty member of Renovaré Institute of Christian Spiritual Formation. The Annual Business Meeting of Gustavus Adolphus College Association of Congregations will take place during the luncheon meeting. For more information: [gustavus.edu/faithconference](http://gustavus.edu/faithconference)
- **MAYDAY! Peace Conference—MAY 1, 2019** *“Journalism and Peacebuilding”* with featured speaker Award-winning *New York Times* journalist and author Thomas Friedman. For more information: [gustavus.edu/events/mayday](http://gustavus.edu/events/mayday)
- **The Gustavus Academy for Faith, Science, and Ethics — JUNE 22-28, 2019**, an exciting resource for high school youth interested in exploring creative alliances between faith and science. The theme for the 2019 Academy is *“Faith and Science in a Changing Climate: Modeling a Just Response.”* For more information and to nominate a high school student: [gustavus.edu/chaplain/academy](http://gustavus.edu/chaplain/academy)
- **Annual Nobel Conference®— SEPTEMBER 24-25, 2019** *“Climate Changed: Facing Our Future”*
- **Christmas in Christ Chapel— NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 1, 2019**

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**

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