Gustavus College Chaplain/Rev.

www.gustavus.edu

Church Relations

For more information about these events and the congregations, please contact Church Relations in the Center for Servant Leadership (507-933-7001) or visit us on-line at: www.gustavus.edu/churchrelations. Thank you for your partnership and prayers!

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

MAKE YOUR LIFE COUNT

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• ANNUAL REPORT FROM GUSTAVUS CHURCH RELATIONS — DECEMBER 2014 •

Greetings to you from Gustavus Adolphus College! We consider ourselves your partners in ministry as we carry out our calling to help students attain their full potential as persons, develop a passion for lifelong learning, and launch into life prepared for lives of leadership and service. Our Lutheran identity is central to who we are as a college. We are proud of the tangible connection we maintain with the Lutheran Church and seek to be intentional in our efforts to involve the congregations in the life and governance of the College with more than 540 congregations that make up the Gustavus Adolphus College Association of Congregations. This Association is important as the place where official governing boards of the College are elected each April. Within this Association, key relationships are formed that help us maintain and grow this connection.

On July 1, Rebecca M. Bergman officially began her duties as the 17th president of Gustavus Adolphus College. The College’s Board of Trustees announced in late February that Bergman would replace Jack Ohle, who retired after serving as president since July 2008. Bergman is the first woman in the 152-year history of the College to be named president. Bergman served on the College’s Board of Trustees from 2007 to 2014 in a lay representative role from the Gustavus Association of Congregations. “Gustavus Adolphus College is a special place. Because I have been on the Board, I know firsthand the important role the Association of Congregations plays in the life of the college. I look forward to strengthening the partnerships with our congregations and continuing to bring the College to the Church and the Church to the College.”

As you gather for your annual assembly, we hope you are inspired by the reminder of the many others who walk alongside 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 ministry partnership.

MARK YOUR 2015 CALENDARS AND JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL EVENTS:

• Annual Gustavus Faith Conference — APRIL 25, 2015
  The theme for the 2015 conference will be “Road to the Reformation: Deepening our Lutheran Theological Roots.” Dr. Samuel Torvend, Endowed Chair in Lutheran Studies and professor of religion at Pacific Lutheran University will speak on the topic, “Lutheran Convictions and Economic Justice: Biblical Themes, Current Realities, and Ethical Choices.” Dr. Kathi Tunheim, Endowed Chair in Management and Leadership and associate professor of economics and management at Gustavus Adolphus College will speak on the topic, “Generosity as a Response to a Culture of Greed.” The Gustavus Faith Conference is open to the public. The Annual Business Meeting of Gustavus Adolphus College Association of Congregations will take place during the luncheon meeting. Thank you for sending your lay and clergy delegates to this important annual meeting.

• MAYDAY! Peace Conference—APRIL 29, 2015  “The War Within: How can the Soldier be at Peace?”

• Annual Nobel Conference®—OCTOBER 5-6, 2015  “Addiction: Exploring the Science and Experience of an Equal Opportunity Condition”

• Step Up — NOVEMBER 2015, a day-long workshop opportunity for congregations to draw upon the leadership development resources of Gustavus to equip key high school student leaders for ministry in the congregation. Students will interact with other student leaders from across the upper Mid-west region.

• Christmas in Christ Chapel—DECEMBER 4-6, 2015

For more information about these events and the many resources we offer congregations, please contact Church Relations in the Center for Servant Leadership (507-933-7001) or visit us on-line at: www.gustavus.edu/churchrelations. Thank you for your partnership and prayers!