

Greetings from the campus of Luther College! I am pleased to submit this 2018 Synod Assembly report as a way to connect with you, the college’s extended community. At Luther, students discern their vocations and prepare for their careers in a college community committed to the life of faith and learning. We count on your partnership in this important work.

On October 31, 2017, the Luther College community experienced a highlight in our yearlong commemoration of the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther’s nailing of the Ninety-Five Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. The all-day symposium, “The Reformation of Everything” brought together scholars, faculty, students, staff and the Decorah community to engage in the distinctive education that Martin Luther championed and that we at Luther College embrace. The event was devoted to the investigation of the Reformation, its historical impact, and its continuing influence in religion, education, academic disciplines, social and political thought, art and music. The evening of October 31st featured the premiere of the “Reformation Cantata.” This new music was a collaboration among alumni and current students, working together and inspired by Martin Luther, to question ideas, discern meanings, and ultimately to express their conclusions beautifully and powerfully in music.

All Luther College pastors on campus are available to all within the Luther community for conversation, reflection, vocational discernment and counseling. At the core of College Ministries is the Luther College Student Congregation. The student congregation elects a council each year who work in partnership with the college pastors to provide a rich range of ministries and opportunities for students to explore their faith, build community and discern their particular gifts and calling for leadership and service.

One tangible way your church can support Luther College is to encourage your high school students to visit campus. 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. Thank you for your prayers, your support, and for encouraging high school students to look closely at all that an ELCA college like Luther offers.

Sincerely,



Paula J. Carlson, Ph.D.

President