Auggie class challenge
What the world wants is a good job
Augsburg College Homecoming 2013
Keeping track of Auggies
Augsburg 2019: A strategic vision
In this issue of Augsburg Now, you will find a summary of Augsburg 2019, a strategic framework developed over the past several months with the involvement of Regents, faculty, staff, and students. Focused on Augsburg’s 150th anniversary in 2019, the plan sets out an ambitious vision, which claims that in 2019, “Augsburg will be a new kind of student-centered, urban university—small to our students and big for the world.”

I hope you find in this vision statement a glimpse of the Augsburg we all know and love—and that we all want to support and help strengthen for the future.

The Augsburg that we all know is a college where students are central to our daily lives; where personal relationships and a sense of community combine to provide rare opportunities to learn and serve; and where academic, civic, and faith commitments are explored and strengthened. A college that is small to our students.

At the same time, we are a college that makes a remarkable impact on the world—as a community and through our thousands of graduates pursuing their vocations in various settings around the globe. A college that is big for the world.

When reviewing the editorial plan for this issue of Augsburg Now, I was struck with how this vision of “big for the world” is evident in so many different ways. And at the risk of violating what my predecessor, President Bill Frame, called Augsburg’s “militant modesty,” allow me to brag a bit about this very special college...

• About one of the largest first-year classes in Augsburg’s history this fall—more than 460 first-year students—and the effect they already are having on campus with their spirit and activism.

• About the fact that our science faculty have generated unprecedented funding from the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies, ranking Augsburg third in the state among all higher education institutions, behind only the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

• About the fact that we were named this past fall as one of the top 25 colleges in the country for service learning programs, exemplifying how our commitment to education for service is imbedded in the curriculum and recognized by others as a high-impact way of learning.

• About the fact that we are partnering with more than a dozen colleges and health care institutions in the Twin Cities to combine our human and fiscal resources in support of neighborhoods along the new Central Corridor Light Rail Line between downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul.

• About the fact that we raised more than $19 million in gifts and pledges during the 2012-13 academic year from alumni, parents, friends, corporations, and foundations—another record year in fundraising for Augsburg, our third record year in a row—and that we have now raised more than $25 million for the planned Center for Science, Business, and Religion.

• About the fact that we continue to develop innovative academic programs, including our new Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, which was launched this past summer with a first cohort of 16 students, and a partnership with the Minneapolis Community and Technical College to offer the first fast-track RN/Bachelor of Science in Nursing professional program in Minnesota between a two-year public institution and a four-year private college.

And I could go on. There’s more in the pages that follow and even more in the daily life of the Augsburg community. Come and visit, as Minnesota State Senator Terri Bonoff, chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee, did recently, and see for yourself what she described this way: “This is a special college—one where being small to students and big for the world is really true.” I couldn’t have said it better.

Faithfully yours,

PAUL C. Pribbenow, President
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On the cover
Edor Nelson Field, home to Auggie football, softball, lacrosse, and soccer, was resurfaced with more durable and safe FieldTurf Revolution this summer. The field is named for Edor Nelson ’38, longtime Auggie athletics coach and World War II veteran. Read about other Auggie veterans on page 12.

All photos by Stephen Geffre unless otherwise indicated.
In January 2013, the Augsburg College Board of Regents launched a strategic planning initiative that involved conversation and input from across the campus community. The outcome of that work is a strategic vision statement that looks out to 2019, Augsburg’s sesquicentennial year:

“In 2019, Augsburg College will be a new kind of student-centered, urban university that is small to our students and big for the world.”

“Small to our students” reflects the relationships, community, and personal attention that are hallmarks of the educational experience at Augsburg. “Big for the world” acknowledges the significant impact we know our students—and alumni—do and will make in the world.

The strategic plan is grounded in Augsburg’s mission statement, which was updated in 2010. The plan is organized into three categories, or dimensions, each with three goals. Detail about each of the strategic planning dimensions is provided on the next page. The strategic vision will anchor the College’s institutional initiatives and priorities throughout the next five years, reflecting the values and commitments stated in our mission:

**AUGSBURG EDUCATES STUDENTS TO BE**
INFORMED CITIZENS,
THOUGHTFUL STEWARDS,
CRITICAL THINKERS,
AND RESPONSIBLE LEADERS.

**THE AUGSBURG EXPERIENCE IS SUPPORTED BY AN ENGAGED COMMUNITY**
THAT IS COMMITTED TO INTENTIONAL DIVERSITY IN ITS LIFE AND WORK.
AN AUGSBURG EDUCATION IS DEFINED BY EXCELLENCE IN THE LIBERAL ARTS AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES, GUIDED BY THE FAITH AND VALUES OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH, AND SHAPED BY ITS URBAN AND GLOBAL SETTINGS.
The first dimension articulates OUR ACADEMIC DISTINCTION: Augsburg educates students for lives of purpose. The goals in this category challenge us to:

- rigorously integrate the liberal arts and the professional studies;
- use high-impact teaching and learning practices, enriched by our core commitments of faith and spiritual inquiry, vocational discernment, civic engagement, and global understanding; and
- provide each student with pathways for success to graduation and beyond.

The second dimension focuses on OUR REPUTATION AND IDENTITY: Augsburg is “at the table” with our neighbors and institutional partners in shaping education to address the world’s needs. The goals here call on us to:

- prepare an intentional mix of diverse learners for a complex, interconnected world;
- provide experiential opportunities that enable students to discover their gifts, discern their vocations, and open doors to careers; and
- publicly advance the core commitments that enrich our learning environment—faith and spiritual inquiry, vocational discernment, civic engagement, and global understanding.

The third dimension is about how OUR INSTITUTION WILL THRIVE NOW AND IN THE FUTURE. The goals in this category call on Augsburg to be:

- a welcoming, sustainable campus, anchored in our community and designed for educational excellence;
- organized for collaboration, efficiency, and effectiveness; and
- committed to maintaining a sound and sustainable financial footing.
Top 25 schools for service learning

U.S. News & World Report designated Augsburg College as one of the top 25 colleges and universities in the nation for its dedication to service learning. Schools named to the list were nominated by college presidents, chief academic officers, and deans from more than 1,500 higher education institutions. Augsburg was the only Minnesota school named to the list.

Best Regional Universities by U.S. News & World Report

U.S. News & World Report named Augsburg one of the Best Universities in the Midwest. Rankings are based on several factors, including average first-year retention rates, graduation rates, class sizes, student-faculty ratios, acceptance rates, and more.

“Best in the Midwest” by Princeton Review

Augsburg College is one of 155 colleges that The Princeton Review has named “Best in the Midwest” for academic excellence.

Named Top 200 school by Winds of Change

The American Indian Science and Engineering Society Winds of Change magazine has selected Augsburg as one of the Top 200 Schools in 2013 for Native American and Alaska Native students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Recognized nationally for contribution to the public good

Augsburg College was the No. 2 institution in Minnesota named by Washington Monthly in its 2013 Master’s Universities Rankings. The list rates schools based upon their contribution to the public good in three categories: social mobility, research, and service.

Named a High ROI College by Affordable Colleges Online

Augsburg College was named a top college for return on investment (ROI) in Minnesota for having high-earning graduates in comparison to tuition and fees. The ranking, by Affordable Colleges Online, is the result of a partnership among the National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Post-Secondary Education Data System, the Carnegie Foundation, and PayScale.com.

Elected to their first term on the Augsburg Board of Regents:

- Wayne Jorgenson ’71 serves as senior vice president of wealth management with UBS Financial Services, Inc. and brings decades of financial planning and investment management experience to the Board.
- Dennis Meyer ’78 has extensive experience in strategic marketing and global business development. He has held executive positions in several industries, most recently in architecture and building engineering with AECOM Ellerbe Becket, as well as in communications, printing and imaging, and supply chain management.

Elected to a second or third term:

- Ann Ashton-Piper, president of The Bridge Group
- Norman Hagfors, president (retired), Norsen, Inc.
- Jodi Harpstead, chair of the Augsburg Board of Regents and chief executive officer, Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
- Dr. Paul Mueller ’84, physician and chair of general internal medicine, Mayo Clinic
- Lisa Novotny ’80, vice president human resources, International, General Mills

Mike Good ’71 and Jennifer Martin were named Regents Emeriti at the May meeting of the Augsburg Board of Regents. Each had served three four-year terms on the board. Marie McNeff also was named Regent Emerita by the Board at that meeting. McNeff, who passed away in September, was elected to the Board in 2005 and served as a Regent for the College until her retirement from the Board earlier in 2013.
Augsburg science faculty awarded more than $695,000 in grants

Augsburg College science faculty continue to be awarded grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for research. During 2012, the College was ranked third in Minnesota for the total dollar amount awarded to a school, behind only the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities and the University of Minnesota, Duluth. In addition, science faculty members recently were awarded an additional $695,087 in grants. These grants include:

MARK ENGEBRETSON, professor of physics, was awarded a three-year, $185,940 grant for continued study and probing of Earth’s space environment, known as the magnetosphere. The project will help society better understand the relationship between Earth’s magnetosphere and its interaction with the solar wind and the interplanetary magnetic field. The project, which builds upon a long-standing relationship with the University of New Hampshire and that also makes data available to space physics researchers throughout the world, will study ultra-low-frequency waves on Svalbard, Norway, which is the only place in the northern hemisphere where the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) can be observed for long periods in darkness at noon. The grant, Federal Award ID Number AGS-1202267, brings to more than $2 million the awards earned by Engebretson since mid-2008. Funds will support the continued operation of four search coil magnetometers and the analysis of the data gathered.

DAVID HANSON, assistant professor of chemistry, was awarded in excess of $386,000 for a three-year project that ultimately will help increase understanding of the sources of particulate matter that are harmful to human health. Hanson will test models for what is called nucleation rates that can be incorporated into global climate models. Nucleation is a process that drives the formation of new particles in the atmosphere. Hanson’s team will look specifically at nucleation in sulfuric acid, water, and amines. The funds from Federal Award ID Number AGS-1337582, along with an additional award of more than $52,000 that Impulitti received from the LiCor Environmental Education Fund, will be used to purchase a suite of instruments for plant ecophysiology research. The instrumentation will enhance research experiences for undergraduates and will improve student instruction and discovery-based labs in plant biology, environmental science, and mathematics. Co-principal investigators on the grant include John Zobitz, Augsburg associate professor of mathematics, and Dean Malvick, associate professor of plant pathology at the University of Minnesota.

ANN IMPULITTI, assistant professor of biology, received an NSF grant for nearly $123,000 to investigate the physiology and productivity of economically important plants infected by parasitic, mutualistic, and commensal fungi. Research will focus on soybean due to its high economic value and the diverse uses of soybean products. The funds from Federal Award ID Number AGS-1202267, brings to more than $2 million the awards earned by Impulitti since mid-2008. Funds will support the continued operation of four search coil magnetometers and the analysis of the data gathered.

Editor’s Note: Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.
Augsburg College renamed its music building the Charles S. Anderson Music Hall to honor the legacy of the College’s eighth president, who passed away June 14. Anderson oversaw significant growth in the College’s enrollment, program offerings, commitment to its Lutheran heritage, and student diversity. He was a constant advocate for Augsburg and helped to establish the College’s public presence in the Twin Cities.

During his 17-year tenure, Augsburg launched the Weekend and Evening College (WEC) program, established the Center for Global Education, and introduced the StepUP® program for young people in recovery and the CLASS office for differently abled students.

“Charles Anderson’s influence on the Augsburg community is deep and long-lived,” said Augsburg College President Paul C. Pribbenow. “The priorities Anderson outlined and championed during his tenure continue to shape how we live out our institutional mission and celebrate life and learning in the city each day.”

Anderson Music Hall occupies a central location on campus and houses an array of music programs that welcome students of diverse musical interests. More than 100 students each year pursue traditional liberal arts music studies as well as degrees in music business, music education, music performance, and music therapy. More than 350 music majors and non-music majors alike participate in the College’s numerous vocal, concert band, symphony orchestra, and jazz ensembles.

Anderson’s legacy also includes the College’s beautiful annual Advent Vespers—celebrating the Advent season with a service of traditional and contemporary hymns, anthems, and carols. The celebration is one of the largest seasonal events in the Twin Cities, with 300 participants, including choral and instrumental performers, readers, a full liturgical party, and more than 10,000 worshipers annually.

Each year, two Augsburg music students receive the prestigious Orville and Gertrude Hognander Music Scholarship. Initiated during Anderson’s tenure, Orville and Gertrude (Lund) Hognander, both 1936 Augsburg graduates, established the Hognander Scholarships in 1998 to provide up to full tuition for students with exceptional music performance and academic achievement.

Last summer, nine researchers from Augsburg College traveled to California for one of the largest national gatherings of McNair Scholars. The Auggies presented findings from their summer research at the University of California, Berkeley for the 21st Annual Ronald E. McNair California Scholars Research Symposium, which boasts more than 300 student attendees. Augsburg students spent an average of 400 hours exploring their research topics, developing theses, collecting and reviewing data, and preparing formal paper presentations. Scholars were paired with a faculty mentor in their discipline to gain extensive skills and knowledge, learn research methods, and practice writing and public speaking. The students represented a wide range of disciplines including biology, philosophy, physics, and sociology.
First held in 1990, the Augsburg College Convocation Series is an annual speaker series that incorporates long-standing endowed and special programs. This fall, the series kicked off with the Bernhard M. Christensen Symposium featuring Krista Tippett, host and producer of the public radio show, On Being. Tippett shared thoughts from her book, Einstein’s God: Revisiting Science and Religion in a New Century.

During the Center for Counseling and Health Promotion Convocation in October, Sian Beilock, an expert on performance and cognitive science, revealed the brain science behind “choking under pressure” in a lecture based on her book, Choke—What the Secrets of the Brain Reveal About Getting it Right When You Have To.

The Humanities and Fine Arts Convocation in mid-November featured the Rose Ensemble’s performance of Portraits of Peru, 1785 Exotic Folksongs and Dances from Trujillo, inspired by a collection of watercolor paintings compiled by the local bishop for Spanish King Carlos IV, imaginatively depicting the plants, animals, people, and archaeological monuments of this diverse region in northern Peru.

The next event, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Convocation, is scheduled for January 20 and will celebrate the life and legacy of this important civil rights leader. Convocations are free and open to the public.

CONVOCA TION SERIES 2013–14

GIVE FROM YOUR HEART
GIVE TO THE MAX

GiveMN, an online resource that helps Minnesotans donate to the state’s nonprofit community, hosted its annual Give to the Max Day on November 14. Auggies created more than 20 fundraising projects to help raise money for an Augsburg cause that they are passionate about. Contributions from Give to the Max Day help:

• Faculty develop creative course offerings that encourage Augsburg students to think beyond the classroom.

• Augsburg graduates prepare for their next chapter.

• Keep Augsburg affordable—thanks to the generosity of donors, more than 94 percent of Augsburg day undergraduate students receive financial aid through grants and scholarships.

• Encourage a tradition of vocation and faith, going back to Augsburg’s roots as a Lutheran seminary.

• Make healthy food accessible to all people in and around the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood and provide for basic needs, service learning, leadership development, and genuine engagement between the College and the community through Campus Kitchen.

Check out the final results from the challenge online at givemn.org/auggiesgive.
A new partnership between Augsburg College and Minneapolis Community and Technical College (MCTC) gives students the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) in only three years. The program, the first fast-track BSN professional program in Minnesota between a two-year public institution and a four-year private college, allows the schools to respond to the changing needs of health care professionals and local communities.

“Augsburg has long been committed to offering high-quality bachelor’s and master’s programs in nursing,” said Augsburg College President Paul C. Pribbenow. “We are excited to partner with MCTC given our shared commitment to educating diverse student populations.”

The partnership leverages unique relationships and strengths in each program. Students will study for two years at MCTC and then transfer to Augsburg for the third year. During their study at Augsburg, students will experience first-hand community health nursing in diverse settings including at the Augsburg Health Commons in downtown Minneapolis and at Dar Ul-Quba in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood. In addition, third-year students in the program will be offered BSN practicum opportunities locally or abroad in Namibia or Nicaragua. Prior to their time at Augsburg, students will study in new, state-of-the-art classrooms and labs at MCTC.

State, local, and education officials attended an opening ceremony at MCTC to announce the partnership. Those in attendance included Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton, Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin, and leaders from Augsburg, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, and MCTC.

Dozens of Augsburg College students, faculty, and staff took part in a September town hall meeting with Minnesota Rep. Phyllis Kahn and Sens. Terri Bonoff, Greg Clausen ’69, and Kari Dziedzic. The legislators visited Augsburg as part of a statewide “listening tour” effort launched by Bonoff, chair of the Minnesota State Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee.

The legislators were enthusiastic to learn more about private colleges in Minnesota and invited Auggies to consider ways to improve the state’s higher education system. The Augsburg students discussed with the legislators a number of issues, including transfer credits, financial aid options, career preparation, and on- and off-campus service learning experiences. One of the key themes the legislators stressed during the meeting was the important role colleges and universities play in educating the nation’s future leadership and workforce.

“Education is the engine that runs our Minnesota economy,” Clausen said, addressing the Augsburg crowd. “We need to invest in you, and you need to invest in your education.” Clausen is part of an Augsburg legacy family—his wife, Roberta ’69, and son, Steven ’96, also attended the College.
When college students and their parents think about the value of higher education, they typically think about it too narrowly,” said Brandon Busteed, executive director of Gallup Education. “People tend to get caught up with things—like potential income or getting a job with a ‘blue chip’ company—that don’t matter” when it comes to predicting career success and satisfaction, Busteed said. “Focusing on those things is not the best way to think about a great job and a great life.”

**WELLBEING** **AS A MEASURE OF CAREER SUCCESS**

What factors do predict career success? According to Gallup, it’s being able to respond affirmatively to statements like the following:

- “I like what I do each day.”
- “I do what I do best every day.”
- “My supervisor cares about my development.”
- “I have a best friend at work.”

Agreeing with statements like these indicates that a person is engaged in interesting and meaningful activities at work, is using his or her strengths to achieve goals, is motivated by the team leader, and is supported by colleagues who share a common purpose. Those characteristics, according to Gallup’s “wellbeing” research, correlate more with top performance than income or title or working for a prestigious organization.

Gallup has been studying wellbeing, on a global basis, since the 1930s.

“Wellbeing is not ‘wellness,’” Busteed said. “It is a multidimensional measure of how people rate their lives.”

In the past several decades, Gallup’s study of people in more than 150 countries has revealed five universal, interconnected elements that shape our lives: career wellbeing, social wellbeing, financial wellbeing, physical wellbeing, and community wellbeing.

“We didn’t invent these categories,” Busteed said. “The factors that correlate with wellbeing are what we found from the data collected over time and across populations.” Of those five

*Source: Gallup World Poll, 2010*
What does a ‘GOOD JOB’ look like?

Opportunities to learn and grow
Progress in last six months
I have a best friend at work
Coworkers committed to quality
Mission/purpose of company
At work, my opinions seem to count
Someone encourages my development
Supervisor/someone at work cares
Recognition in the last seven days
Do what I do best every day
Materials and equipment to do the job
I know what is expected of me at work

interconnected elements of wellbeing, career wellbeing is the most important, Busteed said.

“Our careers are a fundamental piece of how we define ourselves,” Busteed said. “Plus, work is where you spend the majority of your waking hours,” so it is going to have a major impact on your life evaluation—not to mention your social, financial, and physical wellbeing.

Gallup’s research shows that those who have high career wellbeing are 4.5 times more likely to be “thriving”—versus merely surviving or, worse, suffering—in life. However, just 31 percent of the U.S. population has very high career wellbeing.

WELLBEING AND WORKPLACE ENGAGEMENT

The career wellbeing issue is connected with low worker engagement, Busteed said. According to Gallup’s 2012 “State of the American Workplace” report, only 30 percent of full-time U.S. workers are engaged and inspired at work. Fifty percent are not engaged, the report states—“they’re just kind of present, but not inspired by their work or their managers.” The remaining 20 percent of all full-time U.S. workers are actively disengaged in their jobs.

One significant driver of high or low engagement is a person’s manager, Busteed said. People looking for a “good job” focus so much on income and landing a position at a “good” company, but finding a good manager is vastly more important than working for a well-known company, he explained.

Another factor causing low worker engagement is whether a person is using her or his strengths every day. “Not just once in a while, not once every week or so, but every day,” Busteed said. Among college graduates, he said, the lack of opportunity to use one’s strengths at work every day points to career misalignment—either getting a degree in a field in which one isn’t able to get a job or pursuing a field because of others’ expectations instead of based on one’s own strengths.

“The onus is certainly on the individual [student], but it is also on the college and mentors to make sure that students are asking themselves” what they are truly good at, what engages and excites them, Busteed said.

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES THAT SUPPORT CAREER SUCCESS

In addition to studying workplace dynamics that correspond with career wellbeing, Gallup also has identified specific college experiences that correlate with subsequent career success. In its research, Gallup has found two educational experiences that are twice as likely as other factors to predict high work performance:

1) Working on a long-term project that took several classes to complete, and
2) Using what was learned in class to develop solutions to real-world problems.

In short, Busteed said, “what works in school is ‘real work.’” “Real work”—including problem-solving and experiential education opportunities—helps prepare students for success after graduation, but Gallup also has done extensive research on the factors that predict success during college. Here, Busteed said, Gallup has found that “hope” is statistically a stronger predictor of educational outcomes than test scores or grade-point averages. (In fact, according to the work of Gallup Senior Scientist Shane Lopez, hope is the leading indicator of success in relationships, academics, career, and business—as well as of a healthier, happier life.)
HOPE: AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN COLLEGE SUCCESS

“Hope is a strategy,” Busteed said. However, it is not just wishful thinking, he explained. Instead, it refers to one’s ideas and energy for the future and includes the following three elements:

1) Attainable goals,
2) The ability to see multiple pathways to achieve those goals, and
3) Agency—i.e., a belief that you can achieve your goals.

Measures of hope, engagement, and wellbeing account for one-third of the variance of student success in college, Busteed reported. And, although college success is also driven by other things—such as academic preparation and content knowledge—those things are being measured fairly consistently and systematically through cognitive measures, such as tests.

“But no one is paying attention to measuring the non-cognitive factors that account for a whopping one-third of student success,” Busteed said. “We need better balance and alignment around how we track and promote student success (in college).”

The same is true for college outcomes, where job placement percentages and average salaries tell only part of the story. “What’s the ultimate outcome of an education?” Busteed asked. “To have a better life,” he said. We need to pay attention to how we measure that.

MATCHING YOUR GIFTS TO THE NEEDS OF THE WORLD

According to Gallup, career wellbeing requires that people understand what they are truly good at and pursue career opportunities that allow them to use their strengths every day.

“Augsburg is about forming and shaping students to lead lives of meaning and purpose,” said Mark Tranvik, professor of religion and director of Augsburg’s Bernhard Christensen Center for Vocation. “At Augsburg, we encourage students to move beyond self-enhancement and think about their lives within a wider horizon. We want them to ask questions like, ‘What am I good at?’ and ‘How can my gifts best be used to make a difference in the world?’

“For many at the College,” Tranvik said, “faith plays an important role in how those questions are answered.” The exploration of one’s gifts is rooted deeply in the Lutheran theological tradition of vocation, and it is a critical part of the educational journey at Augsburg—for students of all faith and spiritual backgrounds, Tranvik said.

FINDING THE RIGHT WORKPLACE ENVIRONMENT

Another important part of the self-discovery journey is determining what types of work environments might suit you best, said Keith Munson, director of the Clair and Gladys Strommen Center for Meaningful Work. “You can get a job doing something you love, but if that job is not in the right place—the right work environment or culture—you won’t be able to sustain your motivation for the job very long,” he said.

In other words, you need to pay attention to where and how your gifts will be used.

A good way to learn about work environments is through informational interviews, Munson said. “Networking, of course, ensures that people learn more about you than can be picked up from your résumé, but that’s not the only reason to network,” he said. It is as important “for you to actually find out if a given company or department is a good place for you to work.”

Determining whether a given work environment is a fit, however, requires that you understand what kind of work cultures and relationships are best for you. This involves self-reflection and, usually, some amount of coaching. But many students—and many adults in job transitions, for that matter—skip that step and just focus on securing a job.

EXPANDING THE DEFINITION OF A “GOOD JOB”

Munson said he understands why students (and their parents) think it’s important to get a “good job” after college. “For many students, following their passion without worrying or thinking about their income is not a realistic option,” he said. “I always tell these students that it’s okay for them to think about the realities of their career choices. You can be practical about those matters and still pay attention to the other piece”—the search for work and work environments that suits you—as well.

“You’re looking for a job anyway,” Munson tells students. “Why not also try to find something that you are going to like to do?” In fact, Munson said, by actively seeking work environments that suit them, students tend to be more effective in the job search process. “When you are looking for something—and someplace—that’s interesting to you, you are likely to be more motivated in the job search,” he said. You’ll do more background preparation, seek more informational interviews, and ask more purposeful questions.

In the end, Munson said, students shouldn’t think that they need to choose between following their hearts and getting a “good job.” You can—and should—do both.
Augsburg College celebrated 56 Master of Social Work graduation candidates at the June 2013 Commencement, and it’s quite possible that Christine Dawson ’13 MSW was the only graduate who began her professional career as a mechanic.

Shortly after high school, Dawson joined the United States Marine Corps where she spent three decades and worked in two distinct military occupations.

While Dawson met her goals of traveling the world and doing something “most women didn’t do” at the time, she felt called to serve the Marine Corps troops—rather than Marine Corps vehicles—and began a new assignment as a licensed alcohol and drug counselor. This role turned out to be a perfect fit because of her ability to help “people go on to live their best life and achieve their goals,” she said.

Dawson completed a 17-year tenure with the Marine Corps and served an additional 13 years in the Army National Guard where she continued work as a mental health specialist. When she approached military retirement, she returned to school to earn a graduate degree at Augsburg College, which offered her the opportunity to advance in her civilian career and integrate her military experience into a challenging professional role.

Augsburg, she found, was a place that understood her desire to live a purpose-driven lifestyle and to embed meaningful service within her career.

Military and veterans support
Many of Augsburg’s students with military experience enroll in an undergraduate or graduate degree program to build upon the education and training that were part of their military service. For other students, Augsburg is a way to prepare for a civilian career that’s unlike any past duties.

Some students who have served in the armed forces are eligible for state and federal financial aid assistance to help pay for college. At Augsburg, more than 100 students with military experience are working one-on-one with the College’s Student Financial Services and Registrar’s offices to successfully claim their education benefits and get individualized help navigating complex eligibility rules.

Augsburg College also directly supports these students by hosting an on-campus space for them to meet and by employing a Student Veteran Liaison who mentors peers and works to connect students with College resources.
“We’re seeing more nontraditional-age students in our undergrad population and some of those people have been around the world and have served our country,” said Lori York, assistant registrar and Veterans Affairs certifying official. “A veteran’s sense of ‘a call to serve’ totally meshes with Augsburg, and we want to make sure they can make the most of their education here.”

From call to campus
During four years of Marine Corps service, A.J. Anderson ’15, Augsburg’s student veteran liaison, led an amphibious assault team as the crew chief for vehicles that he likens to those that carried troops onto Normandy beaches during World War II. At age 25, Anderson had reconsidered his decision to attend a large public university and left school to become a Marine.

“I felt that joining the military was my calling for a little bit,” he said. “Other people backpack in Europe or just take a break. I went to war.”

Anderson served around the globe and later joined the Marine Corps Reserve military police unit at Fort Snelling in St. Paul before he began thinking about his long-term career.

He said his military experiences didn’t translate into a civilian profession, but—through his service—solidified his aspirations. He resumed his education and in 2012 transferred to Augsburg with a plan to serve his country in a new way.

“I’m devoting my life to helping veterans,” he said. “I didn’t know I wanted to do social work until I got out of the military, so coming to Augsburg and working toward that goal is a big part of my life.”

And, Anderson is getting a jumpstart on this career through his student involvement.

“We know that peer mentors and peer leaders play an important role in students’ achievement,” said Ann Garvey, vice president of Student Affairs. “For example, student athletes serve on the Student Athlete Advisory Committee and Orientation Leaders welcome our new Auggies to campus. Our Student Veteran Liaison does outreach with a different group, but the premise is the same.”

For Anderson, helping other veterans succeed at Augsburg College couldn’t be a better fit.

“I want to give other students the tools I’ve been working with,” he said, “and make sure they have the support I’ve experienced.”

From assisting veterans on campus to one day serving them as a clinical social worker, Anderson’s Augsburg education has prepared him for a meaningful career that aligns with his passions. And Dawson, who has been working with veterans for decades, shows that this path is clearly a worthwhile one.

LAURA SWANSON
Thanks to the generosity of our donors, Augsburg College realized another record year of fundraising in 2012-2013, with $19,367,258 received from more than 4,500 donors.

This philanthropy helps Augsburg to attract gifted, engaged students and the talented faculty and staff who teach and guide them. Your gifts provide financial aid, building and maintenance support, and instructional and other resources that help Augsburg provide a quality education to more than 3,500 undergraduate and graduate students at our Minneapolis and Rochester, Minn., campuses—students like Zach Baltich, Jenna Leahy, and Hector Camarena.

The Sateren and Gyllstrom scholarships were awarded to Jenna Leahy ’15, a music education major. Leahy is from New Richmond, Wis.

Zach Baltich ’14 is studying music performance. Originally from Ely, Minn., Baltich received the Sampson and Carlson scholarships.

Hector Camarena ’16, a physics major from Fridley, Minn., received the Grindal and Gjerde scholarships.

The Sateren and Gyllstrom scholarships were awarded to Jenna Leahy ’15, a music education major. Leahy is from New Richmond, Wis.
In the year ending May 31, 2013, the value of the endowment increased by 16.04 percent. Our five-year average annual return on the endowment is 2.24 percent and the ten-year average annual return is 4.22 percent. We are committed to maintaining the value of the principal and to providing support to the College in perpetuity.

Please visit augsburg.edu/giving/report for our 2013 Honor Roll of Donors.
Nine years ago, Aaron Griess moved from the middle of the Pacific to the middle of the United States to become the Augsburg College men’s basketball coach. It was a path back to his Midwest roots and to a culture that values college athletics.

“Living in paradise has its obvious advantages, but athletics just isn’t part of the culture in the same way it is in the Midwest,” said Griess about serving as coach at Chaminade University in Honolulu. “Here, lots of families go to games together, many kids grow up in organized sports.”

Griess found in Augsburg not only a school that values the student-athlete experience, but also one whose mission reflects his own vision for coaching and leadership.

“Coaching gives me a chance to instill important principles of life in the athletes I work with,” he said. “I want to provide these students tools that will help them succeed beyond the court.

“My vision of success in coaching is fairly unique in this profession,” said the head men’s basketball coach. “I want to build a sustainable program of first-class leaders who don’t complain about challenges, and who solve problems. A team that consistently wins. A program that helps graduates land good jobs, and helps them understand the value of giving back.”

Augsburg College Athletic Director Jeff Swenson said the program epitomizes what Augsburg College strives for throughout its teams.

“Coach Griess and his staff exemplify what we want to see in all our sports—student athletes who display great athleticism and who work hard to achieve in the classroom and in the community,” Swenson said. “Griess’ program has helped student-athletes become leaders on and off the court during their time at Augsburg—leaders who stay connected and who give back when they graduate.”

Griess also requires that players take seriously their academics. “We communicate throughout each semester about their academic progress. We expect our student-athletes to know exactly where they stand in their progress toward graduation,” Griess said. “They need to learn to be able to talk about progress or struggles, and to be able to communicate that with us, their professors, and families.”

Mentoring and service work also are components used by Griess. Juniors and seniors help younger players understand the culture and values of the team. The team currently is part of an Adopt-a-Road program and is exploring the start of a reading program with a neighborhood school.

The impact of Griess’ effort is visible in the players’ grades, the team’s standing, and the players’ actions after graduation.

“Coach Griess’ guys are known for their work ethic. We never have to worry about his student-athletes meeting eligibility standards,” said Kelly Anderson-Diercks, associate athletic director and compliance director.

During his nine seasons with the Auggies, the team’s overall winning percentage steadily has climbed to .750. The team, which is a member of the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC), has made it to conference playoffs four times.
times, twice reaching the semifinals. In 2012-13, the team earned a spot in the championship game. In the past five seasons, the Auggies have won 65 percent of their games—the second-highest men’s basketball winning percentage in the MIAC for that time period. Griess’ work earned him MIAC Men’s Basketball Coach of the Year honors during the 2009-10 season.

Assistant coach comes full circle

The impact of Griess’ vision also can be seen in the growing number of players who contribute to the team and College after they graduate. One of the best examples of this can be seen in Charlie Scott ’08, who now serves as Griess’ assistant coach.

Scott, who hails from Ely, Minn., was recruited as a first-year student to Augsburg by former Coach Brian Ammann. Scott picked Augsburg because of its urban location, which he said allowed him to make campus as small or as large as he wanted. He played for Ammann for two years and for Griess for two years.

Griess and Scott both acknowledge that at the time Griess arrived at Augsburg, just as Scott finished his second year as an Auggie, Scott wasn’t yet the leader he later grew to be.

“When we met, Charlie wasn’t ready to be a team leader. He didn’t completely believe in himself because he hadn’t put in the necessary work. I talked to him about whether he wanted to be a leader,” Griess said. “I wanted him to take himself seriously, and to use the tools he had. I knew the players would follow him, but he had to become our team’s hardest worker.”

Scott said he was ready, and he was in the weight room and gym every day the summer before his fourth year of college. He also talked to Griess every day, picking his brain for advice on how he could help the team and reach his potential.

“Coach sparked the drive and determination in me,” Scott said. “When Coach shared his vision for how he wanted the team to be, I wanted to be part of that. I wanted to help the team accomplish its mission to be nationally known and respected as a first-class program and to cultivate student-athletes who understand the values of hard work, perseverance, honesty, integrity, and teamwork.”

Scott was so committed to the success of the team that he wanted to stay involved even after his four years of eligibility expired. He served as a volunteer coach during the fifth year of college that it took him to finish his double major in finance and business management.

After graduation, Scott continued to volunteer while working full time in financial services. He gradually became a part-time coach. Then, when the opportunity to apply for the position of full-time, assistant coach opened up, Scott chased it. He was one of more than 100 applicants who wanted to work with Griess at Augsburg.

“I look for leadership qualities in my assistant coaches, no matter whether they are volunteers, fellows, or paid coaches. They have to be willing to learn and work,” Griess said. “Charlie is the guy who jumps in and works as hard as anyone. He leads. He digs in.”

Developing strong relationships with prospective families is one thing Scott is looking forward to as he works to fulfill his recruiting responsibilities.

“I have a huge passion for Augsburg, for basketball, for working with Coach Griess,” Scott said. “I’m excited to meet prospective athletes and their families, helping them learn about Augsburg and our program, and decide whether Augsburg is the right place for them as it was—and is—for me.”

While Scott exemplifies a student-athlete turned servant-leader, he’s just one of Coach Griess’ players who is finding a way to give back to a program and school that means much to them.

Some players give back by volunteering as Scott did. Others serve as a resource to students to help ready them for the working world, and some have hired qualified alumni to work at their companies, knowing they are hiring people with shared ethics and determination to succeed—qualities honed on and off the basketball court at Augsburg. Others give back in the form of gifts to the College.

Today, the two coaches are continuing to build a special program founded on communication, accountability, and service. They know that the program will support student-athletes in their studies and when they look for their first jobs. They also know that new recruits are coming to a college that will help them not only develop as an athlete, but also as a whole person.

STEPHANIE WEISS

“Coaching gives me a chance to instill important principles of life in the athletes I work with.”

—AARON GRIESS
A promising experiment in organic chemistry:

MIXING TEAMWORK INTO THE COURSE LOAD

Capitalizing on an opportunity to recreate Augsburg College’s advanced organic chemistry class, assistant professor of chemistry, Michael Wentzel, has developed a highly attractive approach to a complicated subject matter. He forces his students to work together.

“Originally, I wanted to make it so everybody understood how to write a reasonable organic mechanism,” said Wentzel. “But after taking a step back, my major goals became communications, and group work, and teaching students how to work together and how to communicate better as scientists.”

Each week Wentzel breaks his students up into teams of four. The groups are then given a simple assignment: prepare to send a randomly selected group representative to a guest lecture at the University of Minnesota.

After the lecture, each group is required to put together a presentation on what they feel is the essence of the subject matter. “Every person got a chance to be the point person for his or her group,” said Wentzel, in reference to his first class. “I wanted to see people work together. To force them to be uncomfortable.”

Inside the lab, Wentzel’s unique approach to teaching ensues. He delegates his workload by directing his students’ questions to other students. He assigns individual students specific pieces of lab equipment, has them write out instructions for that equipment, and then dubs them the go-to person for that instrument’s technical support moving forward.

The results of this interactive style of teaching are compelling. “The biggest thing I’ve seen is the students are confident in talking about science,” he said.

Using the confidence learned in his class, some of Wentzel’s former students have landed internships and entry into competitive graduate degree programs following graduation from Augsburg. Wentzel is clearly proud. “We had a Goldwater Scholarship winner and an honorable mention [this year]. These were kids that were in [my] classes,” he said.

As for the class itself, Wentzel’s methods are driving enrollment. “You can imagine how many people are excited to take organic chemistry, let alone advanced organic chemistry,” joked Wentzel. “I think the most students to ever take the course at one time was maybe five students before I got it,” he said. “And now we have [another] 20 or at least 15 people for next year. It’s been exciting.”

Editor’s Note: An integrated course design grant from Augsburg College’s Center for Teaching and Learning funded peer-review sessions and other opportunities allowing Wentzel to revise the advanced organic chemistry class.

Reprinted with permission. Article by Phil Meagher for JoVE, the Journal of Visualized Experiments. JoVE is a peer-reviewed journal dedicated to publishing methods and research in a visual format.
Augsburg shifts student’s dream into high gear

Trevor Rodriguez-Sotelo ’13 was the kid who was fascinated by anything with a steering wheel and motor. From a young age, instead of playing with Matchbox cars or Tonka trucks, he would tinker with real engines in his uncles’ garages.

Later, when Rodriguez-Sotelo enrolled at Augsburg College, he had a clear vision of his dream: to work as an engineer designing automobile—specifically BMW—engines. He knew entering this highly specialized field was going to be a challenge, but he soon learned that Augsburg faculty and staff were eager to help him achieve his dream.

During his first semester at the College, Rodriguez-Sotelo took Calculus Workshop, an elective course designed by Rebekah Dupont, the coordinator of an Augsburg program that seeks to increase the number of minority students who complete degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Rodriguez-Sotelo said Dupont helped prepare him for success in college-level mathematics courses, supporting him inside and outside the classroom. She recognized Rodriguez-Sotelo’s remarkable abilities and suggested that he take them to the next level through undergraduate research on campus, which he went on to conduct with Benjamin Stottrup, associate professor of physics.

“Trevor came with a dream, and he had to slog through my biophysics lab to get to that dream,” said Stottrup, who for two years advised Rodriguez-Sotelo in the use of scientific instruments to measure resistance to flow in biomaterials.

Rodriguez-Sotelo said he knew this research wasn’t linked perfectly to his automotive engineering interest, but would give him priceless experience.

Part of Rodriguez-Sotelo’s on-campus research was made possible through Augsburg’s McNair Scholars Program, a federal grant-funded graduate school preparatory program to help ready underrepresented students for doctoral study.

“Stottrup stressed writing skills even though we’re in the sciences,” Rodriguez-Sotelo said. “This helps you become more articulate and allows you to present yourself better—those skills are applicable in my future.”

Rodriguez-Sotelo’s work on campus bolstered his off-campus research applications and opened the door to a prestigious summer automotive engineering position at Oakland University outside of Detroit, Mich.

In addition to conducting research on and off campus, Rodriguez-Sotelo was a member of the men’s track team, was president of Augsburg Latin American Students and of Augsburg’s Society of Physics Students chapter, mentored first-year STEM students, and more.

“Augsburg is that faculty and staff pay attention to their students…they care what kind of person I am and where I go after Augsburg,” he said. “Since I was a little kid, I knew this was where I wanted to be, and now I’m here—an automotive engineer.”
Homecoming brings alumni, friends back to campus

Homecoming 2013 reunited former classmates, friends, roommates, and professors, and invigorated the Auggie spirit in everyone in attendance.

Traditional celebrations ensued, including the Homecoming Convocation with Distinguished Alumni Awards; the Taste of Augsburg event in Murphy Square featuring food, carnival-style booths, and bounce houses; and lively athletic events including an alumni baseball game and dugout dedication ceremony, as well as volleyball, soccer, and football games.

The week also boasted the Eye-Opener Breakfast featuring Augsburg alumnus Dr. Paul Mueller ’84; reunion brunches; campus tours; an Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony to honor 2013 inductees; an Auggie Author book reading with Cheri Johnson ’99; a panel discussion about the Center for Science, Business, and Religion; and the Augsburg Associates luncheon with a presentation by Jacqueline deVries, Augsburg professor of history and director of general education.

The merriment came to a close at the Auggie Block Party with live music and s’mores.

Homecoming is just one of many ways for Augsburg alumni to stay connected to the College. If you are interested in serving on your reunion committee or volunteering to help plan next year’s events, contact alumni@augsburg.edu. For more information, visit augsburg.edu/alumni.
AUGGIES AREN’T ORDINARY. NEITHER IS THEIR HOMECOMING.
First Decade Award
Honors an Auggie who graduated during the past 10 years who has exemplified the mission of the College while achieving significant progress in his or her professional achievements and contributions in the community.

Alexa Halford ’03
Halford, who graduated from Augsburg with a bachelor of arts in physics and mathematics, currently is a lecturer and postdoctoral researcher in physics at Dartmouth College.

After graduating from Augsburg, she earned a master’s degree in astronomy and planetary sciences from the University of Colorado Boulder and a doctorate in physics at the University of Newcastle. Shortly afterward, she won a highly competitive Visiting Young Scientist fellowship from Dartmouth College. “Augsburg is small, but that’s what makes it so special. I have people here in my corner, and you will, too.”

Spirit of Augsburg Award
Honors alumni and friends of the College who have given of their service to substantially impact the well-being of Augsburg’s mission and programs.

Alfred Reesnes ’58
Reesnes is dedicated to using his love of music to serve the College. For 33 years, he taught high school music and developed choirs noted for high-quality performance and literature. He was a charter member of the Augsburg Centennial Singers and assistant director from 1993-2001. “I’ve had the wonder of studying music for many years...it’s for Him we sing, to tell the wonders of His love.”

Distinguished Alumni Awards
Honors alumni in recognition of a significant achievement in their vocation, for outstanding contribution to church and community, and for leading a life that exemplifies the ideals and mission of the College.

Alan Rice
Rice, an Olympic athlete and coach, is one of the most respected and honored men in U.S. Greco-Roman wrestling. He also is a member of the U.S. Wrestling Hall of Fame. He is a long-time friend and supporter of the College, and responsible for the world-class Alan and Gloria Rice Wrestling Center in Kennedy Center. “I’ve been so privileged to be so involved in Augsburg. Thank you for allowing me to participate. Thank you, Augsburg.”

H. Theodore Grindal ’76
Grindal is former chair of the Augsburg Board of Regents and a partner in the law firm of Lockridge Grindal Nauen PLLP. He repeatedly has been recognized as one of Minnesota’s top lobbyists. “I’ve tried to follow five principles throughout my life: God, family, friends, work, and service. Remember who you are. Be true to yourself, be authentic, let that be your guidepost.”

Clayton McNeff ’91
McNeff is vice president of research at SarTec, Ever Cat Fuels LLC, Mcgyan Biodiesel LLC, and other family businesses. He is known as the co-creator of the patented Mcgyan process, which uses non-food sources to create biodiesel. “I dedicate this award to my mother, Marie Olive McNeff, and I urge you to use your gifts to help those around you. Work together to pay it back and pay it forward.”

Roselyn Nordaune ’77
Nordaune is founder of the law firm, Nordaune & Friesen PLLC, and is known for her work in family law. She is a former member of the Augsburg Board of Regents and dedicated to engaging Augsburg alumnae in the philanthropic priorities of the College. “I pledge you: I’m not done yet. I pledge to Augsburg my work, my resources, my service.”

ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

HOMECOMING 2013
IT TAKES AN AUGGIE

Class Challenge spurs friendly competition among Auggies to build new academic building

Alumni from throughout the decades have responded to a charge presented by Augsburg College Regent Wayne Jorgenson ’71 and former Alumni Board President Christopher Ascher ’81. The two men established alumni Class Challenges to create a friendly philanthropic-giving competition between their respective classes, and to invite all alumni to give back to the College to help build the Center for Science, Business, and Religion (CSBR).

“Early gifts from alumni and friends of the College made it possible for each of us to experience a great Augsburg education,” Ascher said. “We are convinced. Now is our time to make the investment and help open doors for others.”

“No other campus we know has created such an exciting intersection of disciplines—science, business, and religion—to serve students and forge a pathway to a better future for all of us,” Jorgenson said.

Many classes already are involved in Class Challenges, and some have surpassed their goal of donating $1 million to the campaign. As of October 15, 42 classes had contributed more than $25,000 (see chart below).

The Class Challenges, combined with a recent gift of $10 million from a member of the class of 1965, bring the CSBR fund to more than $25 million. The overall goal for the campaign is $50 million.

To see the status of all Class Challenges—and to learn more about the CSBR—visit blogs.augsburg.edu/alumni. To join an existing Class Challenge or to start a new Class Challenge, contact Kim Stone at 612-330-1173 or stonek@augsburg.edu.
Dear alumni and friends,

Thank you to those of you who participated in the alumni survey that was conducted earlier this fall. We received a tremendous response: More than 4,000 alumni records have been updated, and the Alumni Board is able to more effectively connect with alumni with whom we had lost touch.

We’ve included many of the alumni updates from the survey in a special “Keeping Track of Auggies” Class Notes section on pages 24 to 30 of this issue of *Augsburg Now*. You can also discover information about your fellow Auggies in the recently relaunched *Auggie Maroon Pages* online. To open the door to this network, go to augsburg.edu/alumni and click “Auggie Maroon Pages.” This will take you to an overview page for the Auggie Maroon Pages, where you can click the “Sign In or Sign Up” button and log in or register as a new user.

In reading all the wonderful notes sent in response to the survey, it is obvious to me that an Augsburg education has made a huge difference in the lives of our alumni!

Sincerely,

TRACY (ANDERSON) SEVERSON ’95
ALUMNI BOARD PRESIDENT

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**42** Ebba (Johnson) Brooks recently was presented the Swedish Council of America’s Award of Merit. She was acknowledged in the Duluth News Tribune with an article and photo (above). Brooks is pictured in the center of the image.

**43** Evelyn H. Sonnack Halverson married Dr. Bill Halverson on July 14, 2013. They honeymooned in Norway and England, and currently reside in Edina, Minn.

**45** Mary Lou Nelson received a scholarship to Syracuse but got married instead. She is 90 years old, and a 50-year member of AAUW and LWV.

**46** Jack E. Jacobsen was ordained as an Auxiliary Bishop in 2010 by the Ordaining Council of the Minnesota Graduate School of Theology.

**47** Peter A. Lokkesmoe retired after 36 years with the Boy Scouts of America. Immediately after college, he served in the U.S. Navy.

**48** Eugene Hasselquist was ordained in 1951 at Holy Communion Lutheran Church in Racine, Wis. He retired in 1987 from St. Paul Lutheran Church in Red Wing, Minn.

**49** J. Forrest Anderson and his wife are blessed to be healthy and active at ages 89 and 86, respectively.

**50** Joseph T. Seto received a Congressional Gold Medal in 2011 in Washington, D.C., for Military Intelligence, Service Veteran WWII.

**51** Arne Simengaard is blessed with a loving family of five daughters, 11 grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

**52** Carol V. Larson, at age 85, was thankful to walk up the 203 steps of Florida’s Ponce De Leon Lighthouse. She and her husband have four sons: Gary Larson ’72, James Larson ’73, Daniel Larson ’77, and Fred Larson ’81.

**53** Joseph T. Seto received a Congressional Gold Medal in 2011 in Washington, D.C., for Military Intelligence, Service Veteran WWII.

**54** Arvid D. Dixe published a book titled *Come, Meet the Church*, which included a foreword written by Minnesota journalist Jim Klobuchar.

**55** Charlotte M. Rimmereid served for three years as a teacher in North Branch, Minn., where she directed two choirs and taught music, geometry, and algebra for grades 1-12.

**56** Dorothy Christopherson recently retired from serving 11 years as director of the women’s choir for First Lutheran
Gloria M. Thorpe and her husband, Gordon, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on August 23.

Helen Witt is very thankful for her two years spent at Augsburg while earning her nursing education at Deacon’s Hospital from 1949-52, also being included in the class of 1953 at Augsburg College. Both the school and the hospital were a major influence in her life.

Woodrow W. Wilson’s niece, Catha Jones, attended Augsburg and graduated in 1970. After graduation she was diagnosed with cancer and passed away. In 1975, her parents, Kenneth and Carmen Jones, endowed the Catha Jones Scholarship, which has supported 21 students who share Catha’s interest in elementary education and music.

Herbert W. Chilstrom and his wife, Corinne, recently wrote Every Morning New—a book of devotional readings for every day of the year.

George W. Fisher and his wife, Mary, began their 18th year singing with the Lexington County (S.C.) Choral Society. George has played violin for 17 years and recently began learning clarinet.

James W. Anderson taught music for 40 years and was a real estate agent for 27 years. Four of his children also graduated from Augsburg College.

Dorothy Devick worked for three years as a school teacher, then worked with her husband at their business.

Beverly J. Oren and her husband have 12 grandchildren. All of their children have children of their own and live close to them in Minnesota. Their sons, Dan, Dave, and Brad, all work for Dart Transit. Daughter, Angie, is very busy at home with her three sons.

Elayne V. Veide-Conyers retired in 2011 but continues to write a weekly column in the Marshall Independent newspaper. She hosts a public access television program in Marshall, Minn., once per week, and was elected to the Marshall City Council in 2012.

William Anderson taught at Bagley High School and Mound-Westonka High School. He has visited more than 100 countries.

Robert R. Lockwood was inducted into the Augsburg College Hall of Fame in 1994. He taught and coached for 42 years in Golden Valley and Hopkins (Minn.) District 270. At 82, he continues to spend his time swimming, skiing, biking, and golfing.

Mark C. Thorpe retired from a lifetime of aircraft design work at McDonnell Aircraft, McDonnell Douglas, and Boeing in St. Louis.

E. William Anderson taught at Bagley High School and Mound-Westonka High School. He has visited more than 100 countries.

Oscar E. Olson taught for many years, including as a substitute for Willmar (Minn.) Public Schools. He partially retired to Bozeman, Mont., where he substitute taught for several years before moving to Billings, Mont.

Dennis E. Barnaaf and his wife, Doris, in 2011 traveled to Norway and the Barnaaf Farm/ Mountain Hotel with their children and children’s families. While in the Luther College Physics Department, he conducted three research sabbatical leaves in Norway, including one with Keith Anderson ’54.

Harland P. Danielson continues crop farming in Wisconsin. He and his wife have 10 children, 23 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Reidun H. Newquist had several music therapy students from Augsburg observe at Michael Dowling School.

Lois A. Agrimson’s son Erick Agrimson ’98 welcomed son, Anders David Agrimson, on June 22, 2012.

Luther A. Anderson is a founding board member of the Lake Region Writers Network, and serves as the managing editor of Lake Region Review, an annual regional literary magazine.

Carol A. Casperson’s granddaughter, Harley Ann Fulton, was born on September 1 to parents Laura Casperson and Scott Fulton.

Arden Flaten with his wife, Alice, celebrated a 50th wedding anniversary in September.

Dennis E. Glad continues to coordinate work teams for the United National Church to the Caribbean and Central America. Glad will lead work teams with the Caribbean Mission Cruise in 2014.

Gordon L. Syverson retired in 2008 but continues to lead worship services. He welcomed grandchildren in 2011 and again in 2013.

Lowell “Zeke” Zieman was honored by Marshall (Minn.) High School in April and inducted into the school’s Hall of Honor.

Kenneth L. Akerman and his wife, Marilyn A. Akerman ’62, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2012.

Larry B. Cowl practiced law for more than 30 years prior to his retirement in 2005. He continues to work part time as a legal consultant.

James E. DeMars has been married to Susan for 52 years, and they have six grandchildren.

Lawrence E. Gallagher and his wife, Barbara, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in August.

James N. Holden recently received the Distinguished Service Award from the Northfield (Minn.) High School Booster Club for support of the tennis program.

Karen (Ericksen) McCullogh in 2012 walked the pilgrimage route, Camino Frances, from St. Jean Pied de Port, France, to Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

Philip Q. Bauman was blessed with three great-granddaughters in 2013.

Roger and Judy Lerstad Hill ’62 reunited with Gretchen Carlson at the Miss Minnesota/Miss America Sisters Reunion Gala held at the Radisson Blu in Bloomington, Minn., in June. Hill was Augsburg’s first Miss Minnesota in 1962, and Carlson was Miss Minnesota in 1987 and Miss America in 1988. Hill was the first Alumni Director for the Miss Minnesota Pageant from 1964-78.

Glenn D. Peterson retired in 1997 after 35 years as a teacher of choral music in Rush City, Minn., and Duluth, Minn. In 2001, he founded Garden Street Landscape.

David D. Proctor was ordained into the Lutheran ministry in 1963. He served congregations in Ohio and Michigan before his retirement in 2000.
all 50 states, Norway numerous times, and many European countries.

Roger G. Johnson, a Minnetonka, Minn., native, was awarded Fergus Falls (Minn.) High School's Hall of Fame award for Distinguished Service.

Arla P. Landon retired in 1985.

Jean S. Olson retired in 2011 following 23 years of service as an employee of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Carolyn E. Anderson celebrated 50 years of marriage with her husband, Don Anderson ’66, in September.

Larry G. Buboltz and his wife, Adrienne, recently celebrated 50 years of marriage. Larry served as the Director of Rural Minnesota CED, Inc. He was a member of the Detroit Lakes (Minn.) City Council from 1976-1988, and elected mayor from 1988-2008.

Dennis D. Gray celebrated 50 years of marriage to Marilyn Rokke Gray on July 13. They have three sons and eight grandchildren.


Marie D. McNally retired from her work as an English teacher. Her husband, Tom, continues employment as chief operating officer of Mount Olivet Lutheran Church in Plymouth, Minn.

Jane M. Norman is a business co-owner of Kultur Hus, a Norwegian heritage shop in Sunburg, Minn.

Lois J. Peterson enjoys living in Colorado, spending time with her grown children, friends, and family, and spoiling her six-year-old granddaughter. She and her husband have done a lot of traveling around Colorado and the U.S., plus trips to Norway, China, Mexico, Costa Rica, and Hawaii.

Adeline R. Sarkela is involved in volunteer ministry with church music and children.

When Harold J. Bagley graduated in 1966, he was the last (youngest) of several children of Rev. Emil G. Bagley ’49 to attend Augsburg College. He also was the first lawyer from a family of ministers, teachers, and social workers.

Bruce L. Hansen is a retired English teacher from Minneapolis Public Schools, and now serves as a lay minister for his local church.

Susan E. Ferguson earned her masters of theology in 2004 from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio.

Kay E. Jenness and her husband, Dave, moved from New Mexico to Washington to be closer to their family.

Dennis D. Miller and his wife, Christine, are members of the faculty at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y. Miller serves as the chair of the Department of Food Science.

Diane S. Ristrom sang in a special choral concert in October with hundreds of alumni to celebrate the 100th birthday of Augsburg’s Leland B. Sateren ’35.

Marlys Tron, retired, stays involved in her community through church activities and as chair of a polio support group.

Paul A. Andell retired from his call of 39 years as senior pastor of St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church in Philadelphia, Penn.

Charles A. Niles and Bonnie (Board) Niles ’71, welcomed their third grandchild, Bridget Erin Caubsy, on July 3. Their other grandchildren are Charles Lawton Ogburn, IV and Selah Eliot Ogburn.

Jan Pedersen Schiff was honored and inducted into the Marin Women’s Hall of Fame for her community service as the founder and artistic director of Singers Marin. For the past 26 years, Pedersen Schiff has created structured programs to develop vocal skills that support musical development.

Myrna J. Sheie retired in 2011 after more than 30 years working in the Twin Cities, Minn., and Chicago for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and the American Lutheran Church (ALC).

Diane J. Tiedeman is retired from Bloomington (Minn.) Public Schools where she taught second- through fourth-grade students.

Karen M. Alm recently retired after 31 years teaching elementary education in the Forest Lake (Minn.) School District.

Richard E. Cummings has been active in civic and service organizations, including the Stillwater (Minn.) City Council and, since 1983, Rotary International for which he is proud of his 30 years of perfect attendance.

Mim Jacobson and Marian Korth were married in September in Augsburg’s Harbo Meditation Chapel.

Glen J. Peterson has been employed for 27 years as the director of the Hyland Snow Sports Academy in Bloomington, Minn.

Patricia A. Piepenburg was inducted into Augsburg’s Athletic Hall of Fame in 2011.

Richard E. Sandeen retired from teaching and coaching in Edina, Minn.

Jerome Schaubach was inducted into Minnesota Cross Country Coaches Hall of Fame in 2013.

Margaret P. Albright and her husband have two daughters. One is a kindergarten teacher in Bemidji, Minn., and the other works for Mayo Clinic in the Legal Department.

James Fischer was inducted into the Augsburg Athletic Hall of Fame and received the Excellence in Coaching award.

Ric Hovda retired last June from San Diego State University, where he served as dean of the College of Education for six years. Prior to his work at SDSU, Hovda was dean of the College of Education at the University of Memphis.

Susan M. Pursch was awarded the ELCA’s Tom Hunstad Award for Excellence in Youth and Family Ministry in 2007. She currently works as a development officer at The Cancer Support Community of Philadelphia, Penn.

Bonnie K. Risius retired during 2010.

Mary J. Loken Veiseth retired last July following 24 years of work at Apple Valley (Minn.) Medical Clinic.

Jane C. Bracken retired in 2012 from Cannon Falls (Minn.) Area Schools after teaching first grade for 41 years. She continues to work as an organist and pianist at St. Ansgar’s Lutheran Church in Cannon Falls, Minn.
Wayne D. Jorgenson has long enjoyed Civil War re-enacting and studying the Civil War. He recently published a book on the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, titled *Every Man Did His Duty*.

Janice K. Thompson retired in 2012 after 35 years of teaching. She enjoys traveling with her family, and she is the Pine Island, Minn., WCCO Weather Watcher.

Darrell L. Skogen is in his 43rd year of teaching, with a goal of being in the St. Michael-Albertville (Minn.) High School football.

Robert A. Engelson’s son, Matthew, graduated from Luther College with a degree in music education this past May.

Kristin P. Parbst Rohde retired in June.

Scott J. Brown is a customer service specialist at Walser Honda in Burnsville, Minn.

Joyce L. Casey retired after 39 years of teaching elementary grades in the St. Michael-Albertville (Minn.) School District.

Mark A. Ladwig is retired and enjoys his grandchildren, running, playing viola, genealogy, and learning German.

Beth C. Walen retired in January after more than 33 years of service as a flight attendant.

Debra D. Johnson has worked as a pediatrician and clinical geneticist for HealthPartners since 1985 and is the mother of two daughters.

Patti (Edwards) Kramlinger was honored with the Claire E. Faust Public Service Award from Minnesota State University, Mankato, Minn. The award is presented to faculty or staff members in recognition of their years of dedicated service to the university, the Mankato community, the state of Minnesota, and the United States.

Clifford G. McCann’s three children, Kevin, Meredith, and Allison, are married and he has three grandchildren.

Heidi (Leaf) Haagenson recently was named vice president of Academic and Student Affairs at Anoka Technical College.

Ruth A. Underdahl-Peirce welcomed her first grandson, Cyrus Steven Richard, born to her daughter, Beth Underdahl-Peirce, on August 9 in Bloomington, Ind. Son, Jon Underdahl-Peirce, served in the Peace Corps in Burkina Faso, Africa, and now works for the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C.

Robertta Aitchison Olson gets together with five of her former classmates and roommates on a regular basis, and cherishes lifelong friendships and professional support. They call themselves “chez nous” and started out by forming an intentional living community based on social justice principles: Megan Webster Stemper ’78, physical therapist; Jackie Goheen ’78, gardening business owner; Grit Youngquist ’79, health educator, adjunct professor at the University of Minnesota; Patty Frazier, psychology professor at the University of Minnesota; and Jane Bjornal MccAdams ’78, pharmaceutical compensation director.

Marion G. Hinz is an “empty nester” with her only child now in college in Chicago.

David L. Norgard was appointed a teaching faculty member in the Graduate Management program at Antioch University Los Angeles.

Roxanne K. Williams is in her 34th year of teaching physical education and credits Laverne “Ma Pete/Mrs. Pete” Peterson for her skills in the classroom.

Jennie Clark-Anderson is the executive director for the Living at Home of the Park Rapids (Minn.) Area, which helps seniors remain in the home of their choice. She performs with the Northern Light Opera Company and the Park Rapids Area Community Band.

Kirsten M. Schwappach is a full-time proofreader at Medical Arts Press. She began her career as an assistant librarian at the Blake Upper School and a reference librarian at Hamline University.

Jodi L. Holden is enrolled at Saint Mary’s University pursuing a master’s degree in counseling and psychology, and she expects to graduate in May 2014. Holden works as a career counseling graduate intern in the career and internship services center of the University of Minnesota. She holds an MBA in international management from the University of Dallas.

Lynda C. Ott has worked at Seward Montessori School for seven years, and many Augsburg students have volunteered in her fourth- and fifth-grade classrooms. Ott and her husband, Peter, have two grown sons.

Diane Wells received the 2012 Lifeworks Advocate of the Year award.

Kyle A. Anderson’s daughter, Kaitlyn, married Peter Langston, Jr. on July 14 in Delwood, Minn. Both Kaitlyn and Peter are graduates of Bethel University.

Janet B. Bolm welcomed her grandson, Brody, on November 13, 2012.

Brent J. Crego co-founded Comfort Love Care Assisted Living Operations. Crego helps nonprofit organizations care for their older members while generating income.

Charles K. Evans retired as a correctional police officer in 2013.

Kathi A. Osmonson has a new job with the State Fire Marshal Division as the youth firesetting prevention and intervention specialist.

Liz Sheahan recently became the director of transformational gifts with Society of St. Andrew, a national nonprofit focused on getting fresh produce to hungry Americans.

Matthew Butler in 2013 was promoted to Lt. Colonel.

Jacqueline E. Forrester is working to establish a nonprofit in her home country of Jamaica. The organization will provide food, clothing, and other services to children.

Dan Wright and his wife, Kristen Haglund, celebrated the birth of their second son, Bjorn Arthur. Their first son, Johan Rowen, is now 8 years old. Dan is a senior applications engineer at Nike, Inc. and Kristen is a naturopathic physician.

Michele L. Boyer and her wife, Melissa Conway, have two kids, Evan (age 10) and Rita (age 9)—both adopted from Nepal. They came home in 2003 and 2006.
Michelle C. Goldberger is the program director of COR Retreat, a nonprofit spiritual retreat for food addicts. She is mother to five children ranging in age from 10 to 24.

Marilee A. Mowry completed three degrees through Augsburg College and recently retired from teaching music and kindergarten in St. Paul Public Schools. She continues to teach piano and woodwinds in her home.

Julie A. Edstrom accepted a new position in enrollment management at the University of Great Falls in Great Falls, Mont. Her son, Cameron, began his first year at Augsburg in August.

Joel B. Bue has an 18-month-old daughter and another baby due in February 2014.

Stephanie A. Trump is serving as adjunct professor of music at the University of Northwestern-St. Paul, and she directs the Women’s Chorale.

Madelyn D. Browne earned a Green Belt certificate at the University of St. Thomas in 2012.

Terri A. Burnor is a student at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, and she will intern with two Unitarian Universalist congregations.

Sharol Tyra, a professional certified coach at Life Illumination Coaching, was elected president of the Board of Directors, effective in 2014, for ICF Minnesota, a chartered chapter of the International Coach Federation.

Marilyn J. Vick-Kalar is a working artist.

Lisa M. Zahn recently opened her own business as a Co-active Life Coach.

Kristin A. Lehne is a physical therapist and works at Pediatric Therapy Services, Inc. in Mankato, Minn.

Summerei-Dawn Hamille is creating an original ballet to “Thumbelina.”

Beryl J. Deskin is semi-retired and employed part-time as a business writer and facilitator.

Robert P. Wasik retired from corporate life in 2012 and opened his own business in White Bear Lake, Minn.

Holly (Kolander) McCune, a Minnesota Vikings cheerleader for five years, recently was interviewed by the NFL Alumni Organization for its “Where are they now?” series. McCune lives in Scottsdale, Ariz., with her husband and twin daughters.

She recently was crowned Mrs. Arizona International 2013 and competed in the Mrs. International competition in July. Throughout her reign as Mrs. Arizona International, McCune continues to support Adopt a Senior Citizen programs as her platform and raise awareness for the nation’s growing senior citizen population.

Michael P. Schmidt married Steven A. (Bartkowicz) Schmidt in Decorah, Iowa, on April 6.

Michelle Boyum Breen and Trenda Boyum-Breen legally were wed on August 1.

Shari Hornseth welcomed daughter, Claire, on February 19. She joins big brother, Andrew. Shari is a social work MSHO manager with HealthEast. The family lives in Farmington, Minn.

Kat Wolfe and her husband opened a talent agency, Wolfe Talent, which serves the Twin Cities.

Emily E. Larsen Scaglia and her husband recently welcomed their son, Logan Thomas, born on February 10.

Jacob M. Wegscheider welcomed a daughter, Whitney Nichole, on June 6. She joins brother, Henry Tate, born April 6, 2011.

Brian L. Kuhl graduated summa cum laude from the University of Wisconsin Law School, finishing in the top 1 percent of his graduating class. He is an associate attorney at Mayer Brown’s Chicago office, a proud husband, and a father of a five-year-old son and 10-month-old daughter.

Matt Christensen and his wife Katie Lindenfelser ’02 welcomed their baby boy, Daniel Gordon Christensen, on January 16, 2012. They are working to build
a children’s hospice and respite care home for kids with life-limiting conditions and their families, the first in the Midwest.

04 Kari A. Badali and partner, Jodi, welcomed their first son, Oliver Joseph Badali-Winters, November 29, 2011.

Deanne M. McDonald performed as Rosalind in “As You Like It” in Chicago’s Hamlin Park with her theater company, The Traveling Players.

Colleen R. Peterson welcomed son, Cole Lee Peterson, on August 5.

Lauren Wood relocated to San Francisco, Calif., after accepting a position as an associate at the law firm, Glynn & Finley LLP. Her practice focuses on commercial litigation.

Dallas Worth, and her husband, Jarod Worth, welcomed their son, Kainen David Worth, on June 15.

Jennifer L. Annett married Douglas Annett on May 18, 2008. Their son, Julian, was born on October 7, 2010.

Lenette M. Baron is married to Jason with three daughters, ages 8, 5, and 3; another baby due in November.

Therese M. Maas completed her master’s degree and graduated as adult-nurse practitioner from the College of St. Catherine. She is completing her doctorate of nursing practice degree at the University of Minnesota.

Brooke H. Brown welcomed Morgan Elizabeth to her family in November 2012.

Chad Greenwaldt and his wife welcomed their third child, Nikolas Greenwaldt, on April 10.

Kevin M. Haglund graduated from the doctor of physical therapy program at A.T. Still University and began a physical therapist position at Spooner Physical Therapy in Fountain Hills, Ariz.

Jessica H. Snider is teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) in Guanajuato, Mexico. Prior to teaching in Mexico, Snider taught in Istanbul, Turkey.

Webster L. Ford teaches through the Minnesota Math Corps, and he is the sports director of a small-market radio station.

Shonna L. Fulford began a senior admissions counselor position at Augsburg College in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

05 Jennifer L. Galvin-Anderson published her memoir about overcoming cancer and traumatic brain injury, Crawl Walk Run, and welcomed son, Evan Craig, in 2012.

Bethany Stolle recently graduated from an interaction design and social entrepreneurship program at the Austin Center for Design. She won the Intel-sponsored Student Design Challenge at the Interaction Design Association’s annual international conference. Her concept was playful technology to support communication and connection for nonverbal people on the Autism Spectrum.

06 Perry D. Mathison’s son, Alex, attended St. Thomas University and graduated in May of 2013 with a major in neuroscience.

David L. Nash is planning to pursue a fellowship and career in pediatric ophthalmology and strabismus. Sara Nash ’06 is a senior marketing coordinator for HDR Engineering. The couple is expecting their first child in February.

07 Jennifer L. Annett married Douglas Annett on May 18, 2008. Their son, Julian, was born on October 7, 2010.

Cody Lewis Oaks graduated from Luther Seminary with a master’s degree in systematic theology. He and his wife, Melody, recently welcomed their first son, Theodore.

Jenni Pickford is completing her master’s in philosophy at Northern Illinois University. She and her husband, Thomas R. Anderson, Jr., live in DeKalb, Ill.

Whitney P. Holman recently graduated from St. Cloud State University with a master’s in communication sciences and disorders. Holman received the Mary E. Weise Clinical Excellence Award and Plural Publishing Master’s Research Award for her work on Parkinson’s disease and pre-motor brain potentials, which was presented at the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association Conference.

Stephanie A. Hubbard married William (Will) Hubbard on May 4. Stephanie started a master of arts in music therapy program at Saint Mary of the Woods College in July.

Roxanne L. Nelson is a loan document specialist at Wells Fargo. She and her husband, Miles Nelson, live in Bloomington, Minn. Augsburg librarian Mike Bloomberg was the officiant at their wedding, which included several other Auggies: mother of the bride, Teresa Lynch ’95; maid of honor/sister of the bride, Charlotte Johnson ’15; and father of the bride, Bruce Johnson ’68.

Ryan Sorensen and Kristi Castelic ’09 were married in Green Bay, Wis., on August 3. Ryan is the St. Francis High School boys’ varsity head coach and Augsburg men’s soccer assistant coach. Kristi is employed at DCM Services in Richfield, Minn. The couple resides in Maple Grove, Minn.

Brett T. Thompson works full-time as a customer service team member at Whole Foods Market in Minnetonka, Minn.

Kirsten (Bar) Wells married Garth Wells on July 27 in Evergreen, Colo. Kirsten is a music therapist at Mountain Vista Retirement Community, and Garth is a helicopter pilot for Flight for Life. The couple resides in Evergreen, Colo.

Jaclyn D. Willis became a certified trainer for Proloquo2Go assistive software, a communication program that helps those with speech impairments and with challenges in communicating with others.

11 Jennifer L. Avery is a freelance muralist. She recently completed her first project for CND’s Nuts N Bolts, a machine shop in South St. Paul, Minn.
Seth Lienard was named in the July/August SpecialEvents.com list of “25 Young Pros to Watch” for the admirable work he is doing and for his belief in the ongoing power of special events.

Brett Quick and Jenna (Forbrook) Quick ’10 were married on December 1, 2012, at Incarnation Lutheran Church in Shoreview, Minn. Auggies in the wedding party were Steven Quick ’06 (best man), Ashley (Hovey) Holten ’10 (bridesmaid), Seth Lienard ’11 (usher), and Kendra (Christiansen) Oxendale ’11 (photographer). Jenna is a kindergarten teacher at Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School in Rockford, Minn., and Brett is a team lead in the Margins Department at the Royal Bank of Canada in Minneapolis. They live in Maple Grove, Minn.

Ali Rapp finished her master’s in communication studies at the University of Minnesota, and began a position as product marketing specialist at Nintedo of America in Redmond, Wash.

John W. Truax welcomed son, Parker Wayne Truax, on July 14.


Brittany A. Juntunen and Scott Hemann ’12 moved to Oklahoma City, Okla., where Juntunen teaches fifth grade as a special education corps member with Teach for America. She was accepted into Johns Hopkins Graduate School of Education.

Angela L. Lee and husband, Adam, in August welcomed their son, Alexander Michael Lee.

Andrew J. Witte’s undergraduate research is being reviewed for the Journal of Geophysical Research.

Meghan A. Novak has a new job as executive team leader of hardlines at Target Corporation. She is engaged to marry Ryan Bachman ’13 in 2014.

Graduate Programs

Mary Simonson Clark ’07 MSW recently received the David and Nancy Olson “Leadership for a Missional Church Award” at the Minneapolis Area Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Assembly.

Sandra J. Laski ’07 MSW was awarded Veteran’s Administration national recognition for work on LGBT issues.

Leland B. Sateren’s 100th Birthday Celebration

A special choral concert in honor of Leland B. Sateren ’35, on what would have been his 100th birthday, took place on October 13 at Normandale Lutheran Church in Edina, Minn. Sateren taught at Augsburg from 1946 through 1979, during which time he also served as chair of the Music Department. Sateren was also a renowned composer, having composed hundreds of choral works. More than 180 Augsburg choir alumni, spanning four decades and coming from all over the U.S., participated in the concert, which was directed by several of Sateren’s former students, many of whom now serve as choral directors across the country.

Christopher Annand ’09 MBA was named the global ethics and compliance program director for Cargill, Inc. and is responsible for representing and administering Cargill’s Code of Conduct.

Rachel Loftus ’10 MAE teaches math at Kennedy High School in Bloomington, Minn.

Kirsten Spreck ’10 MAL recently accepted a new role at Thrivent Financial as vice president of talent management.

Hector R. Matascastillo ’10 MSW began a private practice and recently developed a batterer intervention program for veterans. He received the Returning Veteran’s Resiliency in Response to Trauma award and the Veteran’s Voices award from the Humanities Center in Minnesota.

Julie A. Lundberg ’12 MAN works in an enhanced critical care unit (E-ICU). She is the founder of the patient family advisory council, One World, which is dedicated to understanding health and wellness needs.
In memoriam

Roy A. Johnson '41, Fargo, N.Dak., age 94, on May 14.
Sylvia (Sevig) Rovenko '41, Minot, N.Dak., age 93, on February 21.
Muriel M. (Melhus) Rusvold '42, Lisbon, N.Dak., age 93, on May 11.
LaVille Caroline (Henjum) Larson '44, Bozeman, Mont., age 89, on June 7.
Mildred E. (Serstock) Boxrud '45, Minneapolis, age 90, on June 1.
Edna Marion (Carlson) Johnson '45, Yuma, Ariz., age 90, on July 24.
Wedel Daniel Nilsen '45, Cape Girardeau, Mo., age 90, on July 5.
George M. Sverdrup '46, Edina, Minn., age 88, on September 20.
Theodore “Ted” LeRoy Anderson '48, Iowa City, Iowa, age 89, on April 26.
Calvin Bryan Hanson '48, Bellingham, Wash., age 87, on May 10.
Barbara A. (Schindler) Berg '49, Janesville, Wis., age 85, on May 31.
Erling M. Helland '49, Olmsted Falls, Ohio, age 87, on April 12.
Marilyn Avenell (Halvorson) Parker '50, Trempealeau, Wis., age 86, on June 2.
Joann (Wicklund) Welinski '50, Northfield, Minn., age 85, on July 19.
Harold Roy Schafer '51, Windsor Heights, Iowa, age 91, on August 15.
Eleanor Marian (Landsverk) Gargrave '52, Northfield, Minn., age 82, on July 24.
Jerome “Jerry” M. Engseth '53, Eim Grove, Wis., age 82, on August 4.
Richard “Dick” John Larson '54, Litchfield, Minn., age 80, on June 1.
Franklin John Skolos '56, Bloomington, Minn., age 83, on January 30.
Virgil Robert Gehring '57, Eagan, Minn., age 82, on June 16.
Robert “Bob” W. Tyson '65, Murphysboro, Ill., age 69, on July 5.
Victoria Mae Koelling '66, Fertile, Minn., age 68, on July 10.
Dale E. Sturzenegger '66, Olympia, Wash., on June 2.
Suzanne Marie (Lundeen) Matthews '69, Minneapolis, age 66, on July 31.
Christine E. (Hansen) Scott '70, Glasgow, Ky., age 64, on July 24.
Brian Christian Nielsen '74, Cold Spring, Minn., age 60, on January 3.
Mary Jean (Clapp) Overend '74, Grand Rapids, Minn., age 85, on July 21.
Susan Heidi (Thorkelson) Ryan '74, Ivanhoe, Minn., age 61, on July 6.
Doris Winnifred (Larson) Sunde '74, Maryville, Tenn., age 86, on January 4.
Joseph Rafael Becquer '85, Naples, Fla., age 50, on April 20.
Kathleen George Tobin '87, Minneapolis, age 90, on July 12.
Keith Emmet Hanrahan '89, Minneapolis, age 53, on May 27.
Ray Stanley Ganoyo '91, Grand Forks, N.Dak., age 52, on July 27.
Jill Marie (Sculthorp) Stich '96, Hudson, Wis., age 43, on May 20.
Ann Kristin Johnson '00, St. Paul, age 49, on July 21.
Leslie Kathlene Lynch '04, Savage, Minn., age 54, on March 22.
Settar M. Altioi '09, Plymouth, Minn., age 43, on February 11.
Regent Emerita Marie Olive McNeff, Anoka, Minn., age 76, on August 23.

Send us your news and photos

Tell us about the news in your life, your new job, move, marriage, and births. Don’t forget to send photos! (Digital photos must be at least 300 dpi or a 1MB file.)

For news of a death, printed notice is required, e.g., an obituary, funeral notice, or program from a memorial service.

Send your news items, photos, or change of address by mail to: Augsburg Now Class Notes, Augsburg College, CB 146, 2211 Riverside Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55454, or email alumni@augsburg.edu. You can also submit news at augsburg.edu/alumni.

Full name
Maiden name
Class year or last year attended
Street address
City, State, ZIP code
Is this a new address?  Yes  No
Home telephone
Email
Okay to publish your email address?  Yes  No
Employer
Position
Work telephone
Is spouse also a graduate of Augsburg College?  Yes  No
If yes, class year
Spouse’s name (include maiden name, if applicable)
Your news:

☐ I know a student who is interested in attending Augsburg.
Marie Olive McNeff

IN MEMORIAM

Lifelong teacher.
Pilot.
Regent.
Dean of Academic Affairs.
Mom.
Entrepreneur.
Cook.

These are only a handful of words and titles that describe Marie Olive McNeff, a dedicated leader in the Augsburg College community for nearly 40 years, who passed away August 23 at her home following a yearlong battle with cancer.

McNeff’s commitment to the College crossed all departments, but started in 1968 when she was a member of the Education Department. McNeff taught for 27 years in the College’s elementary education, adult undergraduate, and Master of Arts in Leadership programs.

“Marie’s willingness to think ‘large’ and beyond traditional bounds and take calculated risks serves as a model for all of us in the Education Department,” said Vicki Olson, director of the Master of Arts in Education program, in a 2001 nomination of McNeff for the Spirit of Augsburg Award.

“Always we have been challenged by Marie’s ‘reach for the stars’ attitude,” Olson said. “She pushed, prodded, and encouraged us to think large. Sometimes we could, often we couldn’t. As I grow older, I find that those stars don’t seem as far away, and that is largely due to the conditioning and practice that Marie has led me through.”

In 1995, McNeff was appointed vice president of academic affairs and dean of the College. She left this position in 1999 to spend her last year prior to retirement as Augsburg’s academic master planner, creating a blueprint to implement the academic provisions of Augsburg 2004, a College vision document. She was elected to the Board of Regents in 2005 and served in that position until her retirement.

“I became Marie’s student when I arrived at Augsburg and slowly realized that this remarkable woman did indeed have the heart of a teacher. She did strive each and every day to create opportunities for learning—learning that was grounded in community, learning that was lifelong, learning that changed lives,” said Augsburg College President Paul C. Pribbenow in his eulogy for McNeff.

“I was invited into her extended classroom, where she taught me about Augsburg and its deeply held values—about community and shared leadership and walking the talk. She taught me about ways in which a small business such as SarTec can partner with a college like Augsburg to serve our mutual needs and aspirations. She taught me to dream big and then give away what you find. She taught me courage and resilience.”

McNeff’s reach extended into many areas outside of Augsburg, most notably in her commitment to McNeff family businesses where she served in varied roles, including as assistant to the president at SarTec Corporation, president of McNeff Research Consultants, and member of the Board of Directors of Ever Cat Fuels.

It was in her role with SarTec that McNeff’s commitment to mentoring, leadership, and hospitality was again made evident. Every day McNeff prepared lunch for employees of the company. Staff and family would gather in fellowship and community just upstairs from the offices.

McNeff was a graduate of Genoa High School in Genoa, Nebr., and earned bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees in education from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She was a member of the Anoka United Methodist Church and held a private pilot’s license.

As an educator, leader, entrepreneur, and philanthropist, McNeff was deeply committed to the vision for the Center for Science, Business, and Religion, and the McNeff family is a great benefactor of the College.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, LeRoy Rockey. She is survived by her sister, Marece; her husband, Larry; her son, Clayton ’91, and daughter-in-law, Denise; and three grandchildren: Charles, Alexander, and Bridget.

Memorials may be directed to the Augsburg College Center for Science, Business, and Religion (augsburg.edu/giving).
Since their graduation in 1963, Paul and LaVonne Batalden have seen Augsburg grow and change, and—at the same time—have appreciated the ways in which the College upholds its founding traditions. The Bataldens attend several Augsburg events each year, and—as the holiday season approaches—recognize that the upcoming Advent Vespers services and on-campus Velkommen Jul celebration play an integral part in many Auggies’ annual traditions.

We hope you are able to take part in these treasured Augsburg celebrations. And, whatever your plans, we wish you a blessed holiday season.
Charles S. Anderson Music Hall

This fall, Augsburg renamed its music building the Charles S. Anderson Music Hall to honor the legacy of the College’s eighth president (see story, page 6). To watch a stop-motion video of the building sign installation, go to augsburg.edu/now or scan the QR code.