Study abroad shapes lives
24 hours on campus
Homecoming 2014
An Auggie shines on screen
I am writing these notes on Reformation Day—October 31—the occasion on which we celebrate the legacy of our Lutheran Christian tradition and the ways in which that legacy has shaped the sort of college Augsburg has become. There are many gifts of our Lutheran heritage that are worth noting—the concept of vocation, our commitment to serve the neighbor, the call to critical and humble inquiry—but these days I’m especially focused on the gift of semper reformanda, the reminder that we must always be open to change, to reform, and to imagining better ways to do God’s work in the world.

A year ago, the Augsburg College Board of Regents affirmed our strategic plan, Augsburg2019, with its bold vision that we will be “a new kind of student-centered urban university, small to our students and big for the world.” (To review the plan, go to augsburg.edu/Augsburg2019.) And then they charged the Augsburg community—faculty, staff, students, and alumni—with the work of making our vision a reality. That is the meaningful and urgent work we are now pursuing on campus and in the world.

As we undertake this important work, we are keeping the gift of semper reformanda firmly in mind as a lens for deciding how we will achieve our vision. Across campus and beyond, we are thinking about how we can be innovative and entrepreneurial. Three simple ideas are guiding our thinking and action:

- **We innovate for the world,** affirming that what we do as a college ultimately serves our call to serve the neighbor.

  In these three ideas—innovation out of abundance, in community, and for the world—we have the markers of our daily life at Augsburg.

  In this issue of Augsburg Now, you see glimpses of this innovation in all corners of our community. Start with the remarkable work of staff photographer, Stephen Geffre, whose photo-documentary of 24 hours in the life of Augsburg reminds us of all the gifts we enjoy as a community. Celebrate with us the various recognitions and awards we have received as a college—research and cultural grants, top rankings for our academic and co-curricular programs, 40 years of music therapy, 30 years of the Augsburg Associates, and fundraising success on many fronts! And then listen to the voices of Auggies on campus and around the world—young alumni, Auggie football players, our 2014 Homecoming alumni award recipients, and alumni from our global education programs; you’ll hear the poetry of a college community boldly moving toward its 150th anniversary, faithful to its heritage and at the same time relevant to the needs of the world.

- **We innovate out of abundance,** the belief that we can do more together than we can do alone. We share our individual gifts so that the good of all might be served.

- **We innovate in community,** the sense that there is wisdom and experience within our community that needs to be engaged to ensure a vibrant future for Augsburg.

- **We innovate for the world,** affirming that what we do as a college ultimately serves our call to serve the neighbor.

  Finally, please take a moment to review our annual report to alumni and donors—as well as our results from the November 13 Give to the Max Day. I am deeply grateful for all of you who have joined with us to support the important work of our college. May semper reformanda be our rallying cry as we live into our ambitious vision.

Faithfully yours,

PAUL C. PRIBBENOW, PRESIDENT
AUGSBURG NOW

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On the cover
Light from Lindell Library illuminates Augsburg College’s Minneapolis campus on a fall evening. See photos of the College throughout the 24 hours that make up a day: pages 20-27.

All photos by Stephen Geffre unless otherwise indicated.
“Best in the Midwest"
Augsburg College was designated a “Best in the Midwest” institution in the annual U.S. News & World Report rankings. Augsburg’s ranking was 23 in the Regional University Midwest category. This is up from 2013, when Augsburg ranked 26.

2014 Top 50 LGBT-friendly Colleges & Universities
In 2014, Campus Pride recognized Augsburg as an institution where community members develop supportive and inclusive understandings related to gender identity and sexual orientation. Augsburg was featured on Campus Pride’s Top 50 LGBT-friendly list, which reflects various colleges’ and universities’ progress toward making their institutions welcoming to students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, intersex, and asexual. Augsburg was named among institutions that have achieved the highest ratings across all benchmarks for inclusive policies, programs, and practices.

2015 Military Friendly School
Augsburg was named a 2015 Military Friendly® School, a list compiled through extensive research and a survey of more than 10,000 schools nationwide that are approved by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Military Friendly Schools have gone above and beyond to provide transitioning veterans the best possible experience in higher education.

Top 50 college for nontraditional-aged students
Augsburg College was named one of 50 Top Colleges for Older Students by BestColleges.com. Augsburg was listed at No. 9—making it the highest ranked Minnesota college—and was recognized for its hybrid learning format, percentage of students older than age 25 (31 percent), and schedule flexibility.

Winds of Change magazine recognizes Augsburg
The American Indian Science and Engineering Society’s Winds of Change magazine selected Augsburg as one of the Top 200 Colleges for Native American and Alaska Native students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering, and math. Augsburg was one of only five Minnesota institutions to make the list, which was published in a special college issue designed to inform and inspire college-bound students.

Augsburg College’s commitment to interfaith and community service work was nationally recognized in October when the College was named one of five finalists in the United States for the prestigious 2014 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. More than 500 schools competed for this prominent national award that celebrates outstanding achievements in and commitment to interfaith and community service work.

This past summer, Augsburg Now staff invited Augsburg College alumni and friends to provide feedback on the publication. Participants responded to the Council for Advancement and Support of Education Readership Survey, which offers the opportunity to compare Augsburg survey results with those acquired at more than 250 other institutions. If you were one of the survey participants, thank you! Your responses will help guide Augsburg Now content planning in the future. Look for an overview of the survey findings in the Spring 2015 magazine.
BOARD OF REGENTS WELCOMES NEW CHAIR AND MEMBERS

Dr. Paul S. Mueller ’84, staff consultant and chair, Division of General Internal Medicine at Mayo Clinic, was elected chair of the Augsburg College Board of Regents at its May 2014 meeting and began his term July 1. Mueller will play a key leadership role in Augsburg’s planning and fundraising initiatives.

In addition, the Augsburg Corporation, at its annual September meeting, elected four new members to the Board of Regents and re-elected five members.

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

- Diane Jacobson is professor emerita of Old Testament at Luther Seminary, where she taught from 1982-2010. She serves as the director of the Book of Faith Initiative for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and on the advisory board of Augsburg College’s Bernhard Christensen Center for Vocation.
- Dr. Steve Larson ’72 is chief executive officer and chairman of the board of Riverside Medical Clinic, a multi-specialty medical practice in Riverside, Calif., where he oversees 130 health care professionals.
- Earl Sethre ’68 is vice president and part owner of Jorgensen Laboratories, a veterinary instruments company in Loveland, Colo.
- Dean Sundquist ’81 serves as chair and chief executive officer of Mate Precision Tooling, a Minnesota business with offices in Belgium, China, the Czech Republic, Germany, Malaysia, Mexico, and the United States.

Elected to a second or third term:

- Toby Piper LaBelle ’96, senior vice president of Northland Securities in Minneapolis
- André J. Lewis ’73, director of marketing and community affairs and president of the RBC Dain Rauscher Foundation
- The Honorable LaJune Thomas Lange ’75, former Fourth Judicial District Court Judge for the State of Minnesota and Honorary Consul for the Republic of South Africa in Minnesota
- David L. Tiede, president emeritus and professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary
- Norman W. Wahl ’76, executive pastor of Bethel Lutheran Church, Rochester, Minn.

Ann Svennungsen, bishop of the Minneapolis Area Synod, and Rick Hoyme, bishop of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, were appointed ex-officio to a three-year term.
Faculty grants

National Science Foundation grants support hands-on student research experience

Nancy Steblay, professor of psychology, has been awarded $134,219 from the National Science Foundation for a project investigating eyewitness identification errors (NSF SES-1420135). Augsburg College will receive funding over the next three years as part of a collaboration with Iowa State University. Researchers will conduct laboratory experiments using police investigation data and audio files to test theoretical ideas related to lineup bias, witness confidence statements, and more. This project will provide hands-on research experience for up to 18 Augsburg undergraduate students.*

Mark Engebretson, professor emeritus of physics, was awarded a three-year, $396,635 grant to continue collaborative research regarding the magnetosphere and ionosphere, areas of the Earth’s space environment. The project extends a long-standing relationship with the University of New Hampshire and aims to further the scientific community’s understanding of geospace phenomena and improve the capability to forecast and characterize major space weather events. Such events may cause disruptions in electronic communications, degrade the accuracy of GPS technology, disable satellites, and damage the electrical power grid. The funds from Federal Award ID Number PLR-1341493 will support research training for up to six Augsburg undergraduate students over the project period.*

*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.

Chemistry professor to collaborate on Department of Energy research

David Hanson, assistant professor of chemistry, is collaborating with Colorado State University to develop computer models that more accurately represent the growth rates of particulate matter suspended in the Earth’s atmosphere. By synthesizing research data from new laboratory experiments as well as past observations, the research team will establish an understanding of the mechanisms of nanoparticle growth. These results will then be integrated into models to assess the role of new particle formation on the Earth’s climate. This research is made possible by a grant through the Department of Energy (Award Number DE-SC0011780). Over the next three years, Augsburg College will receive $79,705 to support Hanson’s research activities. Additionally, this project will provide hands-on research training for an undergraduate student.**

**Editor’s note: This material was prepared as an account of work sponsored by an agency of the United States Government. Neither the United States Government nor any agency thereof, nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe on privately owned rights. Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government or any agency thereof. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government or any agency thereof.

Russian Academy of Sciences honors Augsburg physics professor

The Institute of Physics of the Earth, part of the Russian Academy of Sciences, honored Professor Emeritus Mark Engebretson with the Otto Schmidt Medal Award. Engebretson was recognized for his fruitful and sustainable collaboration with Russian researchers in space physics and planetary geophysics. For more than 30 years, he has conducted research at Augsburg College and has gathered data using ground-based observatories located at high latitudes in Arctic Canada, in Scandinavia, and in the Antarctic. This research has garnered more than $2.2 million in grant funding since 2008. During his career at Augsburg, Engebretson has been awarded nearly $10 million in grant funding.
Augsburg professors’ books GAIN ACCLAIM

Sweetness #9
Augsburg Assistant Professor and Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing mentor Stephan Eirik Clark has garnered a great deal of media attention since his debut novel, “Sweetness #9,” received publicity on “The Colbert Report” as part of host Stephen Colbert’s effort to raise awareness of and interest in new novels. “Sweetness #9” is a comic satire, family story, and profound examination of cultural anxieties.

The Nazi and the Psychiatrist:
Hermann Göring, Dr. Douglas M. Kelley, and a Fatal Meeting of Minds at the End of WWII
Augsburg Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing mentor Jack El-Hai recently won the Minnesota Book Award for General Nonfiction for his book, “The Nazi and the Psychiatrist: Hermann Göring, Dr. Douglas M. Kelley, and a Fatal Meeting of Minds at the End of WWII.” El-Hai’s book tells the story of the remarkable relationship between U.S. Army Psychiatrist Capt. Douglas M. Kelley and the elite of the captured Nazi regime, particularly Hermann Göring. El-Hai was interviewed about this work for a History Channel program set to air next year.

Cedar-Riverside neighbors launch program
A $200,000 grant awarded to Augsburg College and The Cedar Cultural Center is supporting a program to build cross-cultural awareness, knowledge, and understanding of Somali culture through music. The grant will be used to launch a first-of-its-kind, two-year project titled, “Midnimo: Music for Unity, Campus, and Community.” Through Midnimo, the Somali word for “unity,” Augsburg students, Cedar-Riverside residents, and the general public will engage in a series of educational and experiential events. One of only six grants of its type presented in the U.S., the award was made as part of the highly competitive Building Bridges: Campus Community Engagement grant by the Association of Performing Arts Presenters funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.

Lights, Camera, Auggie!

More than a dozen Augsburg College students took part in prestigious off-campus research opportunities during summer 2014. Promise Okeke ’15, an Auggie biology major, interned and researched at Harvard Medical School’s Stem Cell Institute. The institute released a video in which Okeke described his experiences growing up with malaria, his departure from his home country of Nigeria to study at Augsburg, and his determination to make an impact on the malaria epidemic. At the Harvard Stem Cell Institute, Okeke networked with Harvard entrepreneurs and professors as he began to explore the business side of health care.

to watch the Harvard Stem Cell Institute video, go to augsburg.edu/now.

Cedar-Cultural neighbors launch program

A $200,000 grant...
First held in 1990, the Augsburg College Convocation Series is an annual speaker series that incorporates longstanding endowed and special programs. This fall, the series kicked off with the Bernhard M. Christensen Symposium featuring The Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber and her presentation, “The spirituality of being a total screw-up.” Bolz-Weber is the pastor of House for All Sinners and Saints in Denver and the author of The New York Times best-selling book “Pastrix” and the blog “Sarcastic Lutheran.”

In October, the Center for Counseling and Health Promotion Convocation welcomed Rick Hanson, PhD, neuropsychologist and senior fellow of the Greater Good Science Center at the University of California, Berkeley, in Berkeley, Calif. The theme of his presentation was based on The New York Times best-selling book, “Hardwiring Happiness: Turning Passing Experiences into Lasting Inner Strength and Peace.”

$150,000 grant funds internships for nearly 40 Auggies

Learning at Augsburg College is more than textbooks and tests. Augsburg is committed to helping students discern and live their vocations and to inspiring them to explore their gifts and passions. This year, the College’s efforts garnered a boost when the nonprofit Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation awarded Augsburg $150,000 to fund paid internships during the 2014-15 academic year. As one of 10 Minnesota colleges to receive a grant award from Great Lakes, Augsburg has used the funds to form new partnerships with for-profit corporations and nonprofit organizations offering internships that support learning on and off campus.

The Clair and Gladys Strommen Executive Speakers Series at Augsburg College, which brings local business leaders to campus to share their insights and expertise, kicked off in November with Stan Hubbard, chairman and CEO of Hubbard Broadcasting, Inc., and his presentation, “Success from any angle: Lessons learned from a lifetime in broadcasting.”

The series continues in February with CEO of PadillaCRT, Lynn Casey.
On November 13, Augsburg College celebrated a record day of giving through its participation in Give to the Max Day. A one-day online giving event, Give to the Max Day is a contest among Minnesota nonprofits in which donors support their favorite organizations and schools.

Augsburg competed in the “Colleges and Universities” category and, for the second time, raised more money than any other Minnesota college or university. The College also set a one-day giving record—more than 1,300 donors gave more than $430,000 to Augsburg in 24 hours. Because of the College’s first-place finish, Augsburg also received a prize of $17,500 from GiveMN, the parent organization of Give to the Max Day.

Like last year, faculty, staff, and alumni developed projects to raise funds for 34 different departments across campus—from biology to women’s lacrosse. Donors were able to give to a fundraising project close to their hearts—and, in many cases, supported multiple projects.

Augsburg students got in on the fun, too. Christensen Center was abuzz with activity as students helped spread the word and thanked donors via social media. Students recruited their friends to give and watched the results throughout the day. The generosity continued off-campus as donors gave from 45 states and as far away as Colombia, Norway, and Scotland.

Thanks to the alumni, parents, students, and friends who made this year’s Give to the Max Day a success!
Thanks to the generosity of our donors, Augsburg College’s total fundraising for fiscal 2013-2014 was $14,619,536, marking the third year in a row in which gifts to the College exceeded $10 million.

The philanthropy of more than 4,600 donors this past year has helped Augsburg attract talented students and the dedicated faculty and staff who teach and guide them. These gifts provide financial aid, building and maintenance support, and instructional and other resources that allow Augsburg to provide a quality education to nearly 3,500 students of diverse backgrounds.

Steven Saari ’15, a special education and English double major from Princeton, Minn., received the Dagny Christensen Scholarship.

Malia Thao ’16 is studying accounting and finance. Originally from St. Paul, Thao received the Gary Tangwall Scholarship.

The Robert and Joyce (Engstrom) Spector Scholarship was awarded to Kristine Volz ’16, a chemistry major from Blue Earth, Minn.
As of May 31, 2014, Augsburg had annual realized and unrealized gains of 10.9 percent on the Augsburg College endowment. The five-year average annual return on the endowment is 8.53 percent and the 10-year average annual return is 4.45 percent. The College is committed to maintaining the value of the principal in order to provide support to the College in perpetuity.

Visit augsburg.edu/giving/report for our 2014 Honor Roll of Donors.
More than 10,000 people from across the United States and from 300 educational institutions have studied abroad in more than 40 countries through Augsburg College’s Center for Global Education and Experience. Nearly 80 percent of those—now living and working throughout the globe—credit their study abroad experience with having a strong impact on their work lives. It’s accepted as common wisdom that studying in another culture yields recognizable benefits including personal growth, intercultural development, foreign language improvement, and the formation of friendships.

Less well explored is how being immersed in another culture plays a role in helping people discern their callings and find employment within their vocation. This past spring, the center conducted a survey to gather data about its programs, specifically the impact of programs on the personal and professional lives of participants. The survey found that 79 percent of summer and semester program alumni feel their experience abroad has had a strong effect on their ability to secure employment after graduation.

To find out how studying abroad influences the lives of its participants, we talked to Auggie alumni about their experiences, how studying abroad helped shape their careers and lives, and what they would like current students to take away from it all.
Auggies discover their calling around the globe

IN A STUDY BY THE INSTITUTE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION OF STUDENTS, two-thirds of 17,000 alumni surveyed credit their education abroad with influencing their lives by opening up an interest in or passion for another culture. It’s that passion that leads students to lifelong careers in global work.

“"You should follow your passion," Eric Canny, Augsburg dean of global education, confirmed. "I always say I ‘fell into’ global [education]. But I think it’s critically important for students’ academic and personal growth to study abroad.”

Bruce Shoemaker ’81 believes that not only does studying abroad create an interest in global work, but it also helps graduates obtain that work. “Having international experience lets employers know that you have challenged yourself; that you have stepped outside of your comfort zone—done something innovative, creative, and new,” he said. “It is one of those things that allows you to broaden your perspectives and—in my case—bring about social change.”

That experience helps students to get ahead in life, too. “Never stop asking questions...recognizing assumptions, evaluating arguments, and drawing the correct conclusions,” Stephen Hindle ’89 said. “I learned this through my experiences studying abroad and that is why I have dedicated my life to teaching in one form or another.”

So, we wanted to know, if studying abroad so dramatically shaped the lives of these Auggie alumni, what influence could it have on current and future college students’ career paths?

We asked our experts. See their responses on pages 12-13.
“Studying abroad didn't help me to discern my vocation, it literally became my vocation. I was just really into traveling, and THE INTERNATIONAL WORK GRIPPED ME AND BECAME MY CAREER. My participation...led to a lifelong interest in international development and justice issues.” –SHOEMAKER

“As I studied and traveled through Mexico, Nicaragua, and Honduras, I realized that I WANTED TO DO SOMETHING THAT WOULD HELP OTHERS reach their goals and fulfill their potential.” –HINDLE

“THERE OFTEN IS NO OTHER EXPERIENCE IN COLLEGE THAT WILL BE AS TRANSFORMATIONAL AS STUDY ABROAD. WE NEED TO REACH STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT JUST INTERESTED IN A VACATION ABROAD, BUT IN THE SOCIAL JUSTICE FOCUS, WHO MAY NOT REALIZE WHAT ALL THEIR OPPORTUNITIES ARE.” –CANNY

“IT OPENED MY EYES TO THE WORLD outside of the United States. It made me realize that people around the world have similar desires and needs, and helped me understand that we can make a difference if we put our minds to it and work in a cooperative manner with the people living in the areas that need assistance.” –HINDLE

“I would challenge anyone to find a career that isn't somehow global today. It doesn't matter what you do, there is probably somehow a global connection. Even if you don't work in global—studying abroad helps students to gain those sought-after 'soft skills' that can apply to any major.” –CANNY

“STUDYING IN CUERNAVACA, MEXICO, WAS EYE OPENING—ESPECIALLY LEARNING ABOUT SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES ON AN INTERNATIONAL SCALE. WE LIVED WITH VERY POOR FAMILIES IN LOW-INCOME NEIGHBORHOODS AND GOT A GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THEY WERE FACING, INCLUDING THINGS LIKE INEQUALITY AND SOCIAL INJUSTICE.” –SHOEMAKER
“Mexico [where I studied abroad] is certainly different culturally from Southeast Asia where I do my work, but I was able to develop the skills needed to RELATE TO PEOPLE WHO ARE DIFFERENT FROM MYSELF.”

—SHOEMAKER

“Being a middle-class boy from a small town in Minnesota, I really had no understanding of other cultures. And yet, after all my travels around the globe, it still strikes me as fascinating how children play the same games, parents fear and rejoice over their children in similar ways, and WE ALL STRIVE FOR THE SAME THINGS.”

—HINDLE

“PEOPLE WHO STUDY ABROAD KNOW HOW TO READ PEOPLE BECAUSE THEY’RE USED TO READING THE INTERPRETATION OF DIFFERENT CULTURES. IT’S ABOUT HAVING AN ‘OPENNESS TO THE OTHER.’ YOU DON’T HAVE TO GO ABROAD TO BE EXPOSED TO DIVERSITY. LOOK AT AUGSBURG’S INTENTIONAL DIVERSITY—INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ON THIS CAMPUS HELP GIVE THE CLASSROOM A TRULY GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE.”

—CANNY

“I LEARNED RESPECT—for myself, but more importantly for others. I learned that life is not fair but that with hard work, a good idea, and luck you can sometimes turn things around. I learned that information is key—learn as much as you can about your surroundings.”

—HINDLE

“STUDying abroad is really CHALLENGING. Individuals who study abroad usually have great interview skills; they know how to navigate complex situations; it can increase their sense of self worth and their survival skills.”

—CANNY

“One important skill I gained was critical analysis. When living in another culture, you need to do a lot of real thinking about what you’re being told versus what the reality is. Additionally, it helped me to develop a cross-cultural understanding, refine communication skills, and learn to listen to people and perspectives from other cultures.”

—SHOEMAKER
Uniting members of a team is one of a coach’s biggest responsibilities and challenges; teams with cohesion amplify their success on and off the field.

At Augsburg, football coaches Frank Haege and Mike Matson ’06 have articulated a shared vision that has struck a chord with their team and also honors the College’s heritage. Since Fall 2012, the team has embraced the motto, “Here we stand, we can do no other.”

What’s unique about this motto is its historic and Lutheran roots. One day, Haege, head football coach, and Matson, assistant football coach and chaplain to student athletes, were talking about the history of Augsburg College and the Reformation.

Matson explained the Augsburg Confession, a period in the 1500s when Martin Luther was put on trial for his religious stance—and ordered by Catholic leaders to recant his writings and criticisms of the Church. Luther’s response was that he could not and would not. “Here I stand, I can do no other,” Luther is reported to have said.

Haege found this story so powerful that he assigned
Matson the duty to serve as unofficial team historian. Matson was charged with sharing with the team’s players the history of each week’s opponent, including background on the school’s religious affiliation. At the first team meeting, Matson told the team that the “Here we stand” motto—a revision of Martin Luther’s words—is in the DNA of the College and that, as Auggies, the players are called to go forth boldly.

Over time, the motto evolved. What began as a history lesson and locker room banner became a call and response by the third game of the 2012 season. In the locker room before the team ran out on to the field, Matson yelled, “Where do you stand?” and the team answered, “Here we stand.” The call and response went back and forth until the Auggies were motivated for victory. The team embraced this new segment of the pregame warm-up and has been doing the rouser ever since.

For the coaches and players, the slogan is a way to articulate that, together, all are stronger on the field and in their daily lives.

Haege said Matson is the perfect vehicle for this uniquely Augsburg message.

“Mike is our motivation guy,” Haege said. “He has an unbelievable passion for [the College]. He’s a natural emotional leader—for Augsburg, for Lutheranism, and for our football program.”

As an Augsburg student, Matson was a junior captain on the football team during Haege’s first season as head coach. Matson earned All-American honors and finished his Auggie career as one of the best linebackers in the College’s history. In 2011, Matson graduated from the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago and in 2012 was ordained by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. He now serves his call through a joint position with Augsburg and Bethany Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

“Augsburg is a special place, and football is a microcosm of that,” Matson said. “Augsburg teaches students about being part of something bigger than yourself. Augsburg challenges students to be willing to be vulnerable, to be willing to stay out on the margins of life where the Gospel calls us.”

The players certainly have bought in and the program is headed in a positive direction. The Augsburg football team finished with a 7-3 overall record in 2012—the debut season of the new team philosophy, which marked the team’s best finish since its 1997 MIAC Championship. The football program views its slogan as long-term. It’s about team. It’s about unity. And, it’s about what can happen when those two things come together.

“I think we are tapping into something that transcends coaches, sports, and time. This motto ties us to our past,” Matson said. “It’s an identity that we can claim. An identity we can be proud of.”
MY AUGGIE EXPERIENCE

MEET KUOTH WIEL

BY LAURA SWANSON
And, if you ask this Augsburg College alumna about her past few years, she’d likely add to the list of descriptors, “a person blessed by an enormous leap of faith.”

During her final semester at Augsburg, Kuoth Wiel ’13 landed her debut film role in “The Good Lie,” a drama that tells the story of a family-like group of Sudanese refugees who are offered shelter in the United States more than a decade after militia attacks in their home country left them orphaned and homeless.

While the characters themselves are fictional, the film is based on the experiences of thousands of real refugees—people sometimes dubbed the “Lost Boys of Sudan”—who immigrated to the U.S. in the thousands before Sept. 11 prompted authorities to suspend a resettlement program.

As People magazine suggests, Reese Witherspoon is the film’s biggest name, but the real stars of “The Good Lie” are her castmates.

In the movie, Wiel plays the character Abital, the 19-year-old sister of one of the Lost Boys. In reality, Wiel has personal ties to the conflict in Sudan. She was born in an Ethiopian refugee camp to Sudanese parents and lost her father at age 3 after he was killed while working as a United Nations medic in the Sudanese Civil War. She immigrated to the U.S. in 1998, spent her childhood in Faribault, Minn., and as a young adult moved to Minneapolis to attend Augsburg, study social psychology, and model part time.

Today, Wiel calls West Hollywood, Calif., home. She has appeared in more publications and on more television shows since the film’s release at the 2014 Toronto International Film Festival than she can recall, and she’s driven to use her brush with stardom to serve her community and spread messages of hope and empowerment among people who have been displaced due to global conflict.

Auggies on and off campus have followed Wiel’s personal storyline since she earned her movie star status, so we’re delighted to share a brief reflection on Wiel’s experience in her own words.

All images on this page are courtesy of ©Warner Bros. Entertainment, Inc.
Top left: A scene from “The Good Lie.”
Top right: Film director Philippe Falardeau speaks with Kuoth Wiel (center) and her cast mates.
Lower left: “The Good Lie” movie poster.
Not all students at Augsburg or anywhere else, for that matter, receive the opportunity to act in a feature film. How did this come about?

I have to give thanks to the power of social media. A friend of mine saw the opportunity to audition on his Facebook page and forwarded it to me. They were looking for Sudanese actors and actresses around the U.S. and around the world. I sent in my bio and then they sent me the script. I read it and fell in love. Then I sent in a video made on my MacBook of me going over my life; it was nothing professional. I didn’t hear back for a month, but [finally they said], “Okay, we want you to meet with the director.” A week later, I flew to Atlanta to rehearse with the cast, and that’s how it all began.

When you decided to say “yes,” sign your contract, pack your bags, and head off to Atlanta, what did people say?

I had already told my mother and my girlfriends. My mother—she was at first taken aback by it. She said, “Are you going to finish school? You only have one month left, so why are you going to leave school just like that?”

I felt like I gave it to a higher power; I can’t control this. Luckily, I was in a position where I had finished all my exams, and I had finished everything except for my final essays for my seminar class. I was very fortunate to be in the position…where my teachers were very excited for me and allowed me to Skype to stay on track.

Why do you think it was important for “The Good Lie” to cast Sudanese actors?

It is the experience of being in a war. My character and I had parallel worlds but lived in different times. She was a Lost Girl; I was never away from my parents in that sense, but we share the same story of going through this traumatic event and wanting to leave it.

In the film you play Abital, who you mentioned was a Lost Girl. How did she fit into the storyline?

Abital becomes a significant figure throughout the story in that [the Lost Boys] try to find her again because they are separated from her when they come to America.

How did the director or other members of the film crew help you get into character and deepen your understanding of this person?

It’s about knowing the background for each character; they made sure that we knew our story. The director really helped me in controlling my emotions and knowing when to remind me to call on my background as a refugee or recall something that I had lost in my life.

How did your own life experiences allow you to relate to the character?

It helped a lot. I mean the journey definitely put into perspective how far I have come from Sudan to Ethiopia and then to America. I didn’t remember it very well because I was a child, but now I know what this conflict was—it put into life the story of people who I can relate to.

What was a typical day like for you on the film set? Or, was every day completely different?

You’re given a different scene each day…sometimes you wake up as early as 4 a.m., and sometimes you don’t [wake up] until noon. And, so, it all depends on what time they want to shoot.

I’d wake up in the morning and then have a van come pick me up to go to set. Once you get there, they do the hair and makeup and the wardrobe and then, after that, you stay in your trailer until
they come get you to do the scene. Sometimes they give you a few hours to stay in your trailer and get into character. They didn’t want a lot of interaction with other actors there. It was important to make sure you just concentrate and get yourself physically and mentally ready for the next scene.

Did you feel that “The Good Lie” was a job, or did you think, “How could this possibly be work?”

For me, I felt like it was a job. Not a job in the sense where you show up and mechanically do things, but it was a job where you are responsible to give this character life like a real person. I felt like I owed that to this story. Sure, you get to meet cool people, but it was a responsibility for me to portray this person—to show the world how this person lived—and it was my responsibility to do it well.

The best-known actress in this film is Reese Witherspoon. Were you pinching yourself when you met Reese?

I love her. I think I was a little shocked. When you meet someone who you admire, it becomes a totally different experience. Sure, you get to meet cool people, but it was a responsibility for me to portray this person—to show the world how this person lived—and it was my responsibility to do it well.

Is acting something you want to pursue in the long run? Can you tell me about your vision for the future?

I love it. Right now I’m exploring different realms of acting. I’m doing improv. I want to learn how to regulate my emotions in a better way so that I can do it in different scenes. I would really love to perfect [acting], that’s why I’m studying it in greater depth.

What has been the most surprising aspect of working on “The Good Lie?”

I would say the traveling. I traveled a lot. A lot. I literally lived in airports…I had to get used to adjusting to different situations and knowing what to bring, what not to bring, what to look out for, and stuff like that. And, when we went to South Africa, that was my first time back to Africa so that was a really good experience for me. I just felt that anywhere in Africa was home.

Things have been busy for you the past couple of months—to say the least—but what do you hope to achieve through your humanitarian work in the future?

Right now we are working on raising awareness. The producers have set up The Good Lie Fund, which you’ll find after the film—TheGoodLieFund.org. This raises money for people in the refugee camps right now. Our main priority is to raise money for aid. We’re also working with UNICEF. When we were in Nashville we sent a message for the kids who are [in refugee camps]. We talked about our own experience in the camps and tried to give people hope.

An Augsburg education emphasizes that vocation is not simply finding a job but, instead, using your passions and talents to serve the world. How has this experience shaped your calling in life?

I remember writing about that—initial thoughts on what I wanted to do—my senior year. I knew I wanted to give back to my community, but I also wanted to use [my vocation] as a message of empowerment for women because there are girls, like me, in refugee camps who probably don’t know that there’s a better life out there. I always tell people I came from a place where I thought there was nothing left. But, I’m here. So, for me, I think it’s to raise the message of hope for women.
For nearly 145 years, Augsburg College has been going about its work of creating thinkers, leaders, and world citizens in the heart of Minneapolis. This work isn’t confined to a typical 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. workday. The work stretches throughout the 24 hours that make up a day.

This photo essay is a glimpse into the vibrant community of Augsburg and the neighborhood that shapes the work the College does in our world.

(Editor’s note: All images in this story were taken from 4 a.m. to 11 p.m., September 22 and from 11 p.m. to 4 a.m., September 24.)

BY STEPHEN GEFRE

6:19 a.m.
The lights on Edor Nelson Field still are off when Adam Maronde, Augsburg College strength and conditioning coach, calls out to members of the women’s hockey team: “Twenty seconds of rest, ladies.” The team is doing interval training. Players are bent over, breathing hard. “Ten seconds, push yourselves to finish strong,” he says. “Five, four, three, two, one, go!” The student athletes bolt upright to do another wind sprint, wrapping up their early morning practice while most people on campus still slumber.

5:29 a.m.
Abennut Tulu, custodian, starts his day at 5 a.m. in Kennedy Center when he grabs his custodial gear. Tulu, a recipient of a 2013-14 Outstanding Staff Award, makes his first order of business getting the third-floor classrooms cleaned, organized, and ready each day for faculty and students.
6:43 a.m.
Groundskeeper Bruce Rowe, who retired in November after 31 years of service to the College, changes from street shoes to work boots. Rowe’s day will start in a few minutes when his student worker arrives and the two tackle cleaning the garbage chutes in each of the residence halls.

7:51 a.m.
Not-yet-caffeinated students wait in line for their morning coffee at Einstein Bros. Bagels in Christensen Center. Classes start at 8 a.m.

8:40 a.m.
“Use your fingers to feel the edges of the vein. Now anchor the vein and quickly and confidently slide the needle in,” said alumnus Tom Towle ‘14 (not pictured) to Rachel Johnsrud ‘15 (left) as she practices a blood draw on classmate Kevin Hein ’15. Most blood draws that happen on campus are for blood drives, but this one is part of the Clinical Phase Transition course in the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies program. The CPT course combines classroom, laboratory, and clinical experiences for the students prior to beginning the clinical phase of the program and completing 13 months of rotations.
10:03 a.m.
“I think it is like this. What does this knob do? I think I just broke it!” Laughter erupts from Nia Ross ’17 (right), Nikki Whittaker ’17 (center), and Callie Jones ’17 (left) as the three women use, for the first time, this specific film gear. Ross’s film, “Best Friends,” is her directorial and screenwriting debut and will star Whittaker and Jones.

10:48 a.m.
Augsburg College is one of only a few colleges in the United States that has time set aside each weekday for chapel. These 20 minutes a day offer attendees time to reflect on faith and to learn from members of the community. Seth Lienard ’11, Augsburg College senior event planner, addressed chapel attendees on the topic of coming home during Homecoming Week. Lienard was a recipient of a 2012-13 Outstanding Staff Award.

11:56 a.m.
Large elm trees in the Quad cast dappled shadows across the heart of campus. The trees, each more than 60 years old, have been silent witnesses to a growing, changing campus.

1:17 p.m.
Janet Morales, program manager of the College Access Partnership, plucks a handful of potatoes from her plot in the Augsburg College community garden. The garden, which has about 80 plots, is open to members of the Augsburg College community and Cedar-Riverside neighborhood.
2:20 p.m.
Purple, yellow, yellow, purple, purple...Each color corresponds with a kernel on a cob of corn. The students in this genetics class, led by Matthew Beckman, assistant professor of biology, are recording the distribution of kernel colors to learn about genetic patterns of inheritance.

3:19 p.m.
“Try holding your hands in the air, wiggling your fingers, and moving your body like a spooky tree blowing in the wind,” says Mark Sedio, a music instructor and director of the Cedar Singers. “Now sing the line again.” Incorporating movement into choral rehearsals enhances the singers’ delivery.

4:10 p.m.
Students study and relax on the lawn of Old Main, which was built in 1901.
**4:34 p.m.**
Upon his return from Washington, D.C., Augsburg College President Paul Pribbenow is greeted by his family’s dog, Auggie. Pribbenow was in the nation’s capital to attend the Fourth Annual President’s White House Forum on Interfaith and Community Service where the College was named a Presidential Awardee finalist for this prestigious national award.

In 2010, Augsburg College won the Presidential Award for Community Service, the premier presidential award for community service work.

**6:27 p.m.**
As the late-summer sun starts to set, a student passes through the Paulson Link that connects Lindell Library to Sverdrup Hall.

**6:47 p.m.**
“Cross away from him to stage right when he starts the line. Now, try the scene from the top,” says Martha Johnson, professor of theater arts, as she directs students in rehearsals of Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.” While the set still is under construction, Johnson, who has taught at the College for 26 years and is retiring later this year, can envision how things will look on opening day.
7:50 p.m.
The Cedar-Riverside business district glows in the background while MBA students attend a marketing course. The class is led by Bill Arden, assistant professor of business. When Augsburg opened its doors in 1869, the College was in Marshall, Wis., and had only three professors. Today, with campuses in Minneapolis and Rochester, Augsburg College has 396 part- and full-time faculty members.

9:19 p.m.
Intramural sports are about community, friends, and fun. Augsburg College’s co-ed volleyball games pit teams of six players against one another, and given the high use of the College’s athletic facilities by varsity teams and classes, it’s often the case that intramural teams take the court when other students start settling in for the night.

9:40 p.m.
Auggies gather on Edor Nelson Field for a screening of “22 Jump Street” on the new scoreboard. In addition to being used for community-wide events such as films on the field, the scoreboard adds a fun dimension to home athletic games with video introductions of players and instant replay. In addition, Auggie student workers get hands-on skills programming and managing this top-notch technology.
10:54 p.m.
“It’s all over. We’re dead,” says Nywong Vang ’16 (right) to Siew Thao ’16 (left) while playing “League of Legends.” Their sparsely decorated dorm room on the main floor of Anderson Residence Hall doesn’t have a TV. But it does have four laptops, three fish tanks, and about 100 feet of network cables squiggling across the floor. Vang continues his gaming while Thao studies aspects of the game on the Internet.

11:44 p.m.
Ben Richer ’18 reaches for a ball after losing a point to Nicole Logeais ’18 in their nightly game of pingpong. The two are reported by their friends to spend most evenings in the lobby of Mortenson Hall playing the game.

12:28 a.m.
“Incarnation” is a vibrant, stained glass window by August Molder, a refugee from Estonia who in the late 1960s was an artist in residence at the College. The window, best seen at night and from the outside of Christensen Center, provides a brilliant contrast to the monochromatic squares and rectangles of the building’s exterior. Molder has a scholarship named after him that is awarded annually to an art student.
1:16 a.m.
At all hours of the night, bright lights shine on the second floor of Science Hall. These grow lights sit over the biology department’s collection of “Wisconsin Fast Plants,” a variety of plants used as model organisms in many educational settings. The little green plant is used in biological research because it grows, well, fast—allowing faculty and students to conduct many experiments in just one semester.

3:05 a.m.
During the course of a year, Department of Public Safety staff log thousands of miles at night patrolling the College’s 23-acre campus and surrounding neighborhood. Many miles are covered by Officer David Wanstall.

4:52 a.m.
In the early morning hours, even Interstate 94 is quiet and practically empty. But if you look closely, lights are on in Mortenson Hall as some students already are rising to greet another day.

To see additional photographs taken during the 24 hours of this project, go to augsburg.edu/now.
HOMECOMING 2014

Thank you for joining us for our Homecoming 2014 celebration. We look forward to seeing you at next year’s events, October 8-10.

If you are interested in serving on your alumni reunion committee or volunteering to help plan Homecoming 2015 events, contact alumni@augsburg.edu.
First Decade Award
Honors an Auggie who graduated during the past 10 years and who exemplifies the mission of the College.

**VICTOR ACOSTA ’04**
An Augsburg physics major, Acosta completed his PhD in atomic, molecular, and optical physics at the University of California, Berkeley, in 2011. He is a research engineer with Google X.

“I want to thank the StepUP® Program…the McNair Scholars Program…and the Physics Department for some of my fondest memories.”

Distinguished Alumni Award
Honors alumni in recognition of a significant achievement in their vocation; for outstanding contribution to church and community.

**MICHAEL R. GOOD ’71**
After 36 years in real estate, Good became the national campaign chair for Augsburg’s Center for Science, Business, and Religion. His inspirational drive has created new momentum for this essential building.

“It's great to be called. And it's great to be called an Auggie.”

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.

**JACQUIE BERGLUND ’87**
Berglund, a political science and communications major, in 2000 founded Finnegans, a charitable beer company that donates 100 percent of its profits to programs that alleviate hunger.

“This place—Augsburg College—really was where I found my calling and it was truly where I decided I wanted to make the world a better place.”

**GARRY HESSER**
Hesser is the Sabo Professor of Citizenship and Learning Emeritus at Augsburg and also teaches in the Master of Arts in Leadership and Honors programs.

“If there’s been a theme, a set of gifts here at Augsburg…it’s been a sequence of being invited in.”

**DEAN R. KENNEDY ’75**
Kennedy, founder of Texakoma, one of the most respected small, private oil exploration companies in the United States oil and gas industry, continues to be one of Augsburg’s most generous supporters.

“A common question that I get asked is, ‘How did a guy from Fridley get started in the oil business?’ and I say the seed was started right here at Augsburg College.”

**REV. MARK S. HANSON ’68**
This fall, Hanson joined Augsburg as a Distinguished Fellow in the Bernhard Christensen Center for Vocation. He has served as presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, president of the Lutheran World Federation, and pastor for three congregations.

“The future of Augsburg depends on all of us encouraging our children and grandchildren…to root their lives in this community of learning and service.”
Mark Twain said that the two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why.

On any given day, Josh Linde ’07 knows he was born to create love, joy, and opportunities for others. He’s doing exactly that today. As a dedicated family man. As a successful social entrepreneur. And as a cofounder of Ethnotek Bags, a socially responsible company that builds high-quality laptop and travel bags that feature ethically sourced handmade textiles.

Linde will tell you that although the process of uncovering his vocation took twists and turns, it’s Augsburg College that deserves the credit for giving him the skills and practice to unearth where his gifts and talents meet the world’s needs.

“My whole education at Augsburg could be subtitled, ‘Vocation.’ I learned to be meditative. Directional. I learned to write and reflect and repeat that practice many times,” Linde said. “This reflection and practice has informed every decision I’ve made since being at the College.”

And he isn’t kidding.

Linde feels tremendous pressure to make Ethnotek Bags a stable venture. Families and villages across the globe—in Ghana, Guam, India, Indonesia, and Vietnam—depend upon the company for a living and to help maintain their cultures.

His ability to question deeply and reflect laid the foundation for what has become the nontraditional business practices that put the company’s global partners in the driver’s seat and that give Linde the assurance he’s living out his vocation to create opportunities for others.

“We ask our partners what their time is worth and then we pay that price. We don’t negotiate lower prices, and we aren’t looking to reduce those costs,” Linde said.

The company offers its partners a generous delivery time of 90 days, a bonus for on-time delivery, and a premium for early delivery. The extended delivery window is important for the company’s partners, many of whom work out-of-doors and can encounter significant weather-related work delays.

But for Linde, it makes Ethnotek Bags’ approach all the more rewarding. In the end, each bag made and sold by the company is an individual and complex story with the power to maintain cultures and change lives for the company’s suppliers and customers.

“Our bags have three layers of existence—utility, beauty, and as a living story,” Linde said. “When you own one of our bags, people ask about and reach out to touch the bag. Each bag creates a connection to and meaningful conversation about the people who made it.”

“My whole education at Augsburg could be subtitled, ‘Vocation.’”

—JOSH LINDE ’07
Dear alumni and friends,

As you may recall, President Pribbenow in the fall 2013 issue of Augsburg Now shared that the Augsburg College Board of Regents launched a strategic planning initiative in January of that year. 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, small to our students and big for the world.

This vision statement calls for the College to build on its key strengths, which include experiential learning, academic excellence, and strong alumni networks. A core part of the College’s plan is being “At the Table” by providing opportunities that enable students to discover their gifts, discern their vocations, and open doors to careers. One of the College’s greatest resources—we, the alumni—could be playing an even more crucial role in achieving the College’s commitment to increase internship opportunities available to students and graduates. Such hands-on roles are increasingly essential for amplifying the campus learning experience and competing successfully for jobs after graduation.

As alumni, we can provide students with opportunities and guidance that will prepare them for an important first step on their vocational journey. I had the pleasure of connecting with then-junior Gary Mariscal ’14 two years ago at the Student and Alumni Networking Event. It was my pleasure to talk with him during his interview process with National Sports Center, which led to his selection as a sports administration and event management intern. I also was able to connect him with Auggie alumni who have supported him in the process of finding meaningful work.

More recently, I celebrated with Gary when he decided to accept a position as a baseball fellow at Augsburg College, a role that will allow him to pursue a graduate degree through the College’s Master of Arts in Leadership program, while gaining experience coaching and mentoring students. He is looking forward to the opportunity to continue to make a difference at Augsburg.

Recently, the College community mourned the loss of two Augsburg legends, Ed Saugestad ’59 and Edor Nelson ’38. As I have reflected during the past year on the influence these coaches and educators have had on the lives of hundreds of students, and the legacy they created at the College, I’ve begun considering my own legacy and the influence I want to have as an alumni leader. I am not a legendary coach or a member of the faculty but I am a member of the Augsburg community and I, too, can make a difference.

As alumni, we all can make a difference at Augsburg by participating in a student and alumni networking event, speaking in a classroom, representing your company at an Auggies Connect with Employers event, or posting a job or internship opportunity with Augsburg’s Clair and Gladys Strommen Center for Meaningful Work.

Please join me in assisting current students on their vocational journey. It is one of the most important ways that alumni can ensure that Augsburg College and its students are “At the Table.”

Sincerely,

CHRIS HALLIN ’88, ALUMNI BOARD PRESIDENT

P.S. Save the date for the next Student and Alumni Networking Event: Tuesday, February 10. Find out more at augsburg.edu/alumni.
This summer, hundreds of Auggies of all ages gathered on Edor Nelson Field to celebrate the 100th birthday of legendary Augsburg College athlete, coach, and instructor Edor Nelson ’38, who led the Auggie football and baseball teams during a career that spanned four decades. His birthday festivities corresponded with the dedication of a new, state-of-the-art video scoreboard in his honor.

Ten days later, Edor passed away. He was honored in a memorial service on September 5.

“Few people in Augsburg’s history could claim as long and lasting an impact on this college as Edor Nelson,” said Augsburg College President Paul Pribbenow. “He touched the lives of many here at Augsburg through his years as football coach, his years as baseball coach, and his support in building the wrestling and men’s hockey programs.”

Augsburg Athletic Director Jeff Swenson ’79 said, “I’m so grateful that we had a chance to honor Edor on his 100th birthday. It’s an event that all of us in the Augsburg community will remember forever.”

Bruce Nelson ’71, current president of Augsburg’s A-Club service organization, said that his father’s support of athletes extended far beyond the playing field and graduation. This is why lead donors for the scoreboard project, Dan ’65 and Alice Anderson, Rick ’74 and Nancy Colvin, Rick ’72 and Tammie Ekstrand, Harvey ’52 and Joanne (Varner) ’52 Peterson, Mark ’53 and Jean Raabe, Alan Rice, and many others, chose to donate to the project to honor their coach and mentor.

Fundraising efforts for the new scoreboard have not yet met a $300,000 goal. To make a gift honoring Edor, contact Keith Stout, assistant vice president of major gifts, at 612-330-1616 or stoutk@augsburg.edu. Donors to the scoreboard will be listed on a special plaque to be installed later this academic year.

In his 100 years, Edor represented true Auggie spirit as a soldier, educator, father, husband, and coach. Consider honoring his legacy with a philanthropic gift to athletics that will positively influence Auggies of tomorrow.

Join Augsburg College ON STAGE AT CARNEGIE HALL

Peter Hendrickson ’76, Augsburg associate professor and head of choral activities, and members of The Augsburg Choir and the Masterworks Chorale will perform at New York City’s historic Carnegie Hall on March 22.

Hendrickson has opened this performance opportunity to all choir alumni who would like to participate. Rehearsals for the concert begin in January and take place on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9:45 p.m. in the choir room on the Minneapolis campus. Repertoire for Augsburg’s portion of the concert will be Eric Whitacre’s “Lux Aurumque” and Morten Lauridsen’s “Lux Aeterna,” performed with a full orchestra. Email hendricp@augsburg.edu for additional rehearsal and performance details.

Ticket information will be posted on augsburg.edu/alumni.

Augsburg alumni, parents, and friends are invited on a New York City tour to coincide with the performance. The March 19-23 trip will include a visit to Carnegie Hall to see The Augsburg Choir, an Augsburg alumni reception at Scandinavia House, local tours led by Augsburg professor and our resident NYC expert Joe Underhill, a Broadway play, and four nights at the Sheraton Manhattan Times Square. Contact tour leader Sally Daniels Herron ’79 for more information at 612-330-1525 or herron@augsburg.edu.
A custom Augsburg College travel program is being designed and planned to celebrate the 500th anniversary of when Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses on the church doors in Wittenberg, Germany, which marked the beginning of what became known as the Reformation. The tour will occur October 27 to November 6, 2016, and include a visit to Wittenberg on October 31, the date on which the town celebrates Reformation Day with a parade, medieval fair, special church service, and evening concert. The tour itinerary also includes stops in the German cities of Berlin, Dresden, Eisenach, Erfurt, and Leipzig, and in Prague, Czech Republic.

Join Mark Tranvik and Hans Wiersma, Augsburg College religion faculty members and Reformation historians, in discovering the lives and ministries of Martin and Katie Luther and influential Lutheran musicians J. S. Bach and Paul Gerhardt. Learn about Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a 20th century German theologian and martyr, and Jan Hus, a 15th century Czech church reformer. Hear about the church’s role in the Peaceful Revolution that brought down the Berlin Wall and remember the sobering days of WWII at Buchenwald concentration camp. Explore the close connection among people, culture, and historical events, while understanding the Reformation as an ongoing influence in the 21st century. To receive updates about this alumni tour as plans are finalized, email alumni@augsburg.edu or call 612-330-1085 to be included on a mailing list.
This fall, Augsburg College’s Department of Music Therapy commemorated the 40th anniversary of its undergraduate program with a celebratory dinner in Hoversten Chapel. Students, alumni, faculty, and staff gathered to hear from keynote speaker Alan Turry, the managing director of the Nordoff-Robbins Center for Music Therapy in New York City. Doug Schmitt, vice president of Minneapolis-based Schmitt Music Company, presided as master of ceremonies.

Established in 1974 by Roberta Kagin, associate professor of music, the Department of Music Therapy provides students with a holistic approach to health care through music medicine.

This year also marks the inception of the new Master of Music Therapy, the College’s ninth graduate degree program. The MMT program prepares students for careers in the growing music therapy field within hospitals, clinics, schools, and other organizations.

The evening concluded with the dedication of the installation of three outdoor, interactive musical instruments, which will be known as the “Ode to Joy” Music Plaza. These instruments, located on the south side of the Charles S. Anderson Music Hall, serve as a reminder of the importance of music in everyday life and will be enjoyed by members of the campus community and beyond for years to come.

Bill Nye “The Science Guy” will share his love for science when he speaks February 14 at Augsburg College’s Scholarship Weekend in an address that is open to the general public. Nye, who will talk about “How Science Can Save the World,” will speak with academic depth and humor about planetary science, climate change, evolution, environmental awareness, and more.

“We’re excited to host Bill Nye during our Scholarship Weekend when bright students from across the United States visit campus to compete for our top academic scholarships,” said Augsburg College President Paul Pribbenow. “We want to give these scholarly, prospective Auggies the chance to grapple with some of the world’s deepest questions so they can experience what Auggies are called to do each and every day.”

Last year, during the 2014 Scholarship Weekend, nearly 100 prospective students and the public had the opportunity to be challenged by deep questions of compassion and humanity posed in a talk by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama.

Nye, a mechanical engineer and seven-time Emmy Award winner as host and head writer of the “Bill Nye the Science Guy” program, will speak from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in Augsburg College’s Si Melby Gymnasium.

Ticket information for Augsburg College alumni is posted online at augsburg.edu/now.
AUGSBURG ASSOCIATES CELEBRATE 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

A labor of love

“It was a little mustard seed of an idea,” said Gladys (Boxrud) Strommen ’46, remembering the early days of the Augsburg College Associates, which this fall celebrated three decades of service to the College, resulting in about $1 million in total giving.

From their earliest days, the Associates focused on making connections, hosting events to raise awareness of Augsburg, and providing fundraising and volunteer leadership. Between 1985 and 1996, Trash and Treasure Sales brought in hundreds of thousands of dollars for the College. Since then, the Associates have devoted countless hours to organizing, cleaning, pricing, and selling household items at estate sales that have raised funds for large-scale projects.

Associates’ gifts shape campus

Take a walk around Augsburg’s Minneapolis campus, and you will see the impact of the Associates’ work on nearly every corner. Enjoy the sound of the Dobson Organ in Hoversten Chapel? You can thank the Associates’ $250,000 contribution for that. Walk through Christensen Center, and see the welcome desk, Augsburg Room, and Marshall Room, which were supported by the Associates.

Down the street, the renovation of the Ailene Cole Green Room in Foss Center and the Special Collections Room in Lindell Library were made possible by the Associates’ generosity. And, when the new Center for Science, Business, and Religion opens, the Adjunct Faculty Suite will be named in recognition of the Associates’ $50,000 gift to the building.

The Associates’ dedication and generosity also includes funding scholarships that total about $120,000.

Krumkake and Bunads – the Associates’ hospitality

In 1996, the Associates became involved with Augsburg’s annual open house, Velkommen Jul, a celebration of Norwegian culture replete with traditional foods—such as lefse and krumkake—and folk costumes—known as bunads. In 2010, the group started the Kaffe Stuga booth, providing traditional Norwegian coffee at the signature Taste of Augsburg event during Homecoming—as well as the annual Spring Tea.

When Their Majesties King Harald V and Queen Sonja of Norway visited Augsburg in 2011, Associates wearing traditional Norwegian attire greeted Their Majesties. In 2012, the organization received the Spirit of Augsburg award.

For 30 years, the Associates’ fellowship, fun-loving spirit, and dedication to the College have remained true. As current president Lennore Bevis ’69 said, “The whole attitude of our organization is members giving of themselves and serving the community.”
Augsburg Now

ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

1958  Gwen (Johnson) Krapf is retired from her position as an associate in ministry with the ELCA and now enjoys beating the drum in the RTO (Really Terrible Orchestra) of Lehigh Valley, Pa. RTO members are musically challenged on certain instruments, but do their best and have a lot of fun in the process. The RTO is an international phenomenon that originated in Scotland, but there are only five such groups in the U.S.


REUNION 1964  Carolyn (Aadland) Allmon is married to Philip Allmon and works as a demand forecasting consultant. She is an organist and sings in Augsburg’s Masterworks Chorale.

Andrew Berg is married to Jean (Amland) Berg ’65, and they have four children and eight grandchildren. He received his master of social work and has spent nearly 40 years in the social work field. He has become very involved in Norwegian heritage and genealogy.

Bill Chartrand resides in Anthem, Ariz., and stays busy volunteering, scuba diving, playing percussion, and singing with ProMusica Arizona. He plans to marry his partner of 25 years, Neil “Terry” Froyd.

Laurene (Hjelmeland) Clarke retired from a career of teaching grades 1-8 in California, Nebraska, and South Dakota. As of this June, she will be married for 50 years to James E. Clarke, a Presbyterian pastor. They have three children.

Dallas C. Day is still active in business and training his son to succeed him. He has four children, and resides in Vancouver, Wash., with his wife, Sharon (Porter) Day.

Avis (Hoel) Dyrud remains busy as an organist, pianist, and choir director at Our Saviour’s Lutheran in Thief River Falls, Minn. Her husband, Phil Dyrud, passed away in 2006 following a bone marrow transplant. She has five children and 22 grandchildren.

Dennis J. Erickson has been married to the love of his life, Mary Lou (Ervin) Erickson, for more than 49 years, and has been a New Mexico resident for four decades. A retired physicist, he held positions at both Los Alamos National Laboratory and the University of California. He continues to be an active Lutheran layman at parish, synod, and regional levels.


Charlotte (Gerdeen) Oswood Fruehauf is presently a roadie for her husband, Dave Fruehauf, who has a banjo band. She and her late husband, Christian Oswood, were married for almost 40 years and had three sons. She remarried in 2006 and lives in Maple Grove, Minn.

Sharon (Woolson) Groff and her husband served as missionaries for 18 years in Bolivia with World Mission Prayer League. She attended Lay Ministry Training Center at North Heights Lutheran Church in Roseville, Minn. She taught Spanish and English as a second language in Colorado and Minnesota.

1954  Anyone who has ever loved a dog will enjoy Herb Chilstrom’s fourth book, “My Friend Jonah – and Other Dogs I’ve Loved.” In a foreword to the book, U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar writes, “As Bishop Chilstrom shepherds us through the lessons his dogs have taught him, from loyalty and discipline and companionship to forgiveness, curiosity, and rest, he makes us think about the big issues in life: how to live, how to treat others, and even how to die.”

Income from book sales will honor Joel Torstenson, who was professor of sociology at Augsburg for more than 30 years. Part of the new Center for Science, Business, and Religion will be named for Torstenson. As Chilstrom puts it, “Torstenson coaxed this small town Minnesota boy out of his zones of comfort and into the real world of need.” The book may be ordered online at huffpublishing.com or by mailing a check to Chilstrom Books, 1211 Pine Pointe Curve, St. Peter, MN 56082. Enclose a check for $22 per book. Postage and sales tax, where applicable, are included.

Margery (Kygiv) Haaland and her husband, Sheldon, have two daughters and live in Marshall, Minn. She serves on the Marshall Area Fine Arts Council, plays organ at St. Lucas Lutheran, and is active in the Southwest Minnesota State University Booster Club and Senior College.

Charlotte (Gerdeen) Oswood Fruehauf is presently a roadie for her husband, Dave Fruehauf, who has a banjo band. She and her late husband, Christian Oswood, were married for almost 40 years and had three sons. She remarried in 2006 and lives in Maple Grove, Minn.

Sharon (Woolson) Groff and her husband served as missionaries for 18 years in Bolivia with World Mission Prayer League. She attended Lay Ministry Training Center at North Heights Lutheran Church in Roseville, Minn. She taught Spanish and English as a second language in Colorado and Minnesota.

Raul “Ray” Jackson has been married to Ruth Wilsie ‘65 for 50 years. They live in Hastings, Minn., and have three children and seven grandchildren.

Ann (Tjaden) Jensen lives in Minneapolis with her husband, Jon Jensen. After graduation, she and then-husband, Bill Chartrand, were Peace Corps teachers in Ethiopia. This led to the formation of a multiracial family and spurred their efforts to create a nonprofit to educate girls in Ethiopia.

Ellen (Paulson) Keiter has spent her career as a chemistry profes-
sor at Eastern Illinois University.
Jack Kelly has three children. He lives in Moscow, Idaho, with his wife, Karen Kelly, and keeps busy with reading, choral singing, and travel.

Sharon (Swanson) Knutson spent her career working with the University of Minnesota-Extension Service. She helped develop the “Who Gets Grandma’s Yellow Pie Plate?” program designed to help provide families practical information about inheritance and transfer of non-titled personal property through workshops, resources, and more.

Arla (Pedersen) Landon is active in Democratic-Farmer-Labor politics related to issues of social justice, peace, and fairness. She keeps busy after retirement with a rich variety of activities, including church, plays, concerts, dinners out, and volunteering.

Karla (Krogsrud) Miley lives in Rock Island, Ill., has two sons, and enjoys quilting, gardening, and traveling.

Anita (Martinson) Mock is married to Dean Mock and lives in Nelson, Wis. She works part time in special needs education for K-12. She also sings in the Lyster Sisters gospel quartet, plays piano, key picking, and keeps busy with her nine grandchildren.

Sharon (Lindell) Mortrud lives in Park Rapids, Minn., and enjoys lots of travel along with church activities, gardening, and serving on the local hospital auxiliary.

Mary (Fenrick) Olson and Ted Olson met at Augsburg and just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They spend winters in Florida and enjoy keeping up with their eight grandchildren.

Jim Parks lives in Plymouth, Minn. with his wife, Rose Ann. Retired since 2005, Jim still appreciates Augsburg’s roots in the Christian faith and its location in the heart of Minneapolis. “We were not at college on the edge of a corn field,” he writes.

Faye (Sawyer) Phillips shares that she fills her days in Fullerton, Calif., with church, family, bridge, and travel. She works as a docent at the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana and as a member of a retired senior volunteer patrol for the Fullerton Police Department.

Ron Poeschel officiates basketball, umpires baseball, and enjoys golfing, singing in the choir, and volunteering at church.

Linda (Hamilton) Senta relishes singing in the Duluth Superior Symphony Chorus of Duluth, Minn., and another choir, as well as volunteer work and travel.

Olivia (Bylund) Smith and her sister, Lenmore Bevis ’66, both have homes on Big Hanging Horn Lake in Minnesota. They have traveled together the past few years, and last year went to Australia and New Zealand.

Bev Benson has been a prosecutor for 28 years; her career includes 25 years in Hennepin County and 3 years in Stearns County. She has specialized in the prosecution of domestic abuse, child abuse, sexual assault, and homicides.

Joyce (Nelson) Schrader taught in elementary schools in Roseville, Minn., and Littleton, Colo. She lives in Friendswood, Texas, and enjoyed a late summer trip to Norway this year.

Nicholas C. Gangestad was appointed senior vice president and chief financial officer at 3M this summer. His 27-year career at 3M encompasses financial leadership positions across several businesses in multiple locations, including Canada, Latin America, Asia Pacific, and the United States.

Taunya Tinsley ’90 is a professional counselor and owner of Pittsburgh-based Transitions Counseling Services and Life Skills Program, which specializes in organizational development, multicultural training, spiritual and Christian counseling, sports counseling, and development through sports. She is enrolled at United Theological Seminary in the Doctor of Ministry program and will focus on sports chaplaincy. She was inducted into the Augsburg Athletic Hall of Fame during Homecoming 2014.

Carla (Quanbeck) Walgren and Michael Walgren live in Plymouth, Minn. Carla sings in the church choir and sews banners and liturgical hangings for church. Michael is an active member of the Augsburg Centennial Singers and the Courier Gospel Quartet.

Diane (Kalberg) Watson lives in Happy Valley, Ore., and after a 25-year career in music sales and education, now plays piano, keyboard, and organ in her husband’s gospel quartet.
Ann (Johnson) Wollman and her husband, David, spent their careers in Christian college teaching and administration. She is active in volunteer academic work and co-leads a grief support group at church. They enjoy sailing, gardening, and are very active in church.

Elizabeth (Johnson) Wolsky and her husband, Dennis, enjoy sailing, golfing, and gardening, spending time in Florida in the winter, and attending events for their five grandchildren.

Joyce (Leifgren) Young reports that life is good in Minneapolis. She loves gardening, bike riding, studying Norwegian, travel, volunteering for social justice and her church, and more.

Maria (Hicks) Johnson ’94 has served on the board of the Minneapolis-based nonprofit La Oportunidad for 15 years. A retired, bilingual English/Spanish teacher, Johnson serves as a mentor in Augsburg’s Scholastic Connections program. From the NOW@Augsburg blog. Visit augsburg.edu/alumni/blog to read more.

1965 George Johnson has been teaching at a university in Lahore, Pakistan, for more than three years.

1972 Tom Fischer received recognition and a plaque for 40 years of service to the high schools of Minnesota as a Minnesota State High School League official. He officiated his 40th Minnesota State Track and Field Championships in June.

1973 Cris Gears retired from a life of service to the public. He most recently served as superintendent of Hennepin County’s Three Rivers Park District. During his tenure, he oversaw completion of many projects, including the building of a new park in St. Anthony Village, a new nature center in Dayton, and new cross-country ski trails in the district. He also was integral in helping build cooperative relationships with cities in the district. Gears worked for the public interest in other positions, including as recreation program director for the City of St. Louis Park, city manager for the City of Excelsior, director of facilities for Kitsap County, Wash., and others.

1974 Darlene (Anderson) Anderson is the past president of the Minnesota division of the American Cancer Society. She has retired from her career in medicine.

Carolyn (Stepanek) Beatty retired after 36 years as a medical technologist at Memorial Blood Center. She lives in Minneapolis and is involved in volunteer activities with church and spiritual listening.

Nancy Brown-Koeller recently retired from Kimberly-Clark after 30 years in marketing research. She received a certificate in gerontology in 2014 and has started a training and consulting business, AgingUp. She conducts Imagining Workshops and teaches part time at Lakeland College. She is active with Sierra Club and trails advocacy groups. With husband, John Koeller, she is working to visit as many national parks as possible. Nancy writes that she attends Advent Vespers every year at the 4 p.m. service. Wouldn’t it be great to have a coffee hour with classmates beforehand?

Sharon (Holt) Garland and Richard Garland ’75 have two children and reside in Minnetonka, Minn. She enjoys genealogy and gardening.

Jeff Gorham has a fun fact to share: If you ever eat anything from the Kraft Foods Group, chances are, he worked on the process line that produced it. He was unable to attend the reunion, but looks forward to seeing everyone at the 50th.

Bryan Gustafson lives in Plymouth, Minn., and enjoys travel, photography, genealogy, and volunteering at church.

Janet (Durkee) Hohn is owner and president of Hohn and Hohn, Inc., a tile contractor. She also spends time racing sailboats and gardening.

Donn Johnson lives in Faribault, Minn., and keeps busy with travel, model trains, and his six grandchildren.
Ruth Johnson, married to Associate Professor of Religion Philip Quanbeck II, graduated from Mayo Medical School in 1978. Her professional interests include women’s health, medical education, and spirituality in medicine. She has led groups of students and adults on trips to Greece and Turkey, and to Israel.

Brenda Kay (Roble) Lieske retired as director of community education in Jordan, Minn., and, this fall, ran for city council. She enjoys the freedom that comes with retirement, and stays active with walking, biking, yoga, book club, and Bunco.

Steve Reznicek is a retired K-12 principal and is now an adjunct professor in the music department at Bemidji State University in Bemidji, Minn.

Rebecca (Peterson) Sullivan is a leader in a companion synod relationship between the SWMN Synod of the ELCA and the southeast diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Southern Africa. She lives in Mankato, Minn.

Becky (Runum) Wenz retired after 32 years working as a medical technologist in hospitals, clinics, and research. She lives in Firth, Neb., and appreciates travel, church, crochet, reading, and time with family and friends.

John Yager is retired. He is taking a course in outdoor emergency care, and enjoys the chance to pursue his second act in life.

1975 When Dan Swalm was researching his family history, he first heard about the Expatriation Act of 1907 that required United States-born women who married foreigners to take the nationality of their husband. His grandmother, Elsie Moran, was affected by this law, and Swalm took her case to the office of U.S. Sen. Al Franken. A resolution, which has been sent to the Senate Judiciary Committee, stands a good chance of passing because it enjoys bipartisan support. The resolution says Senate acknowledgment of the injustice would “educate the public and future generations regarding the impact of this law on women and prevent a similar law from being enacted in the future.” He is hopeful that his grandmother’s citizenship will be restored posthumously.

1976 Jeff Mueller has been named director of operations for Norway House after serving 10 years as secretary on its board of directors and as vice president of strategic partnerships. Prior to joining Norway House, Mueller served for more than six years as a business growth advisor and consultant at Enterprise Minnesota, helping Minnesota manufacturers grow their businesses and compete more profitably in today’s marketplace. Mueller also spent more than 20 years in banking and finance with U.S. Bancorp and Wells Fargo & Co.

He has been involved in multiple Norwegian-American organizations, including four years as president of the Norwegian American Chamber of Commerce, secretary of Syttende Mai Minnesota, along with leadership in numerous other groups.

1978 Rick Bonlender has a new job with American Bank in Albert Lea, Minn., as the market president in southern Minnesota.

1985 Kathy Kuross was selected as a finalist for the UNIT4 innovation award. UNIT4 is the owner of Agresso, which runs Augsburg’s HR, finance, and registration software systems. Among the innovations recognized were Kuross’s work converting Augsburg’s course credit system to a semester credit system, combining all programs to a semester calendar, and automating processes within the software.

1987 Caroline (Krapf) Clifford is the director of special events and advancement services at Northampton Community College in Bethlehem, Pa. She is raising two teenage sons.

1989 Kristin Eggerling is passionate about preserving wild places, reading, and exposing kids to the outdoors. She works as a freelance writer, community activist, and parent. She writes about natural resources and serves on her local library board and a number of regional and state boards focused on sustainability and conservation. She has worked in the public health field, coordinated watershed education, taught sociology at the University of Minnesota Crookston, and served as the administrator of the Environment and Agriculture Budget Committee at the Minnesota Senate. She has also served on the Citizen’s Advisory Committee of the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources. In addition to her sociology degree from Augsburg, Eggerling holds a master’s degree in sociology from the University of Manitoba. She recently published “Breath of Wilderness,” the story of Sigurd Olson’s love for wild places and how that love transformed his life. It inspired him to play a key role in the movement to preserve wilderness throughout North America, including the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

1995 Kathy Kuross was selected as a finalist for the UNIT4 innovation award. UNIT4 is the owner of Agresso, which runs Augsburg’s HR, finance, and registration software systems. Among the innovations recognized were Kuross’s work converting Augsburg’s course credit system to a semester credit system, combining all programs to a semester calendar, and automating processes within the software.

Elloisa Echavez ’94, ’98 MAE created Augsburg’s student services program for Latinos in the 1990s and has served as executive director of Minneapolis-based La Oportunidad for the past 15 years. This nonprofit assists low-income Latinos of all ages in achieving educational success, improving financial stability, and maintaining supportive, peaceful families.

Devoney Looser lives in Phoenix, where she is a professor of English at Arizona State University. Among her present interests are Jane Austen, libraries, and roller derby. Find out more at devoney.com.

Mark Muhich was re-elected to the board of directors for the Range Mental Health Center. Muhich, who has served on the board since 2006, studied English and political science at Augsburg. He went on to study law and now practices in Virginia, Minn.
Brian Eayrs, a former Augsburg College quarterback, is director of research and development for the Seattle Seahawks. His father, Mike Eayrs ’72, held the same position with the Vikings and now is with the Packers. Mike was inducted into the 2014 Augsburg Hall of Fame.

Melissa (Wingard) Fossum lives in San Diego, Calif. She is married to a U.S. Marine and has two children, Hunter and Hannah.

Deanne McDonald moved to Chicago three years ago and spends her free time exploring and participating in the vibrant culture of the city. In 2011, she completed her Master of Fine Arts degree in musical theater at Minnesota State University in Mankato, Minn.

2006 Sarah Jane (Elhardt) Perbix, who majored in music and marketing communication, performed on “The Late Show with David Letterman,” where she played keyboards and sang backup with Minnesota’s rising-star, Jeremy Messersmith. Perbix also is a member of the band Cloud Cult.

2007 Maggie McDonald is an executive producer and creative director for the indie film, “What Doesn’t Kill You.” This narrative feature was written by two filmmakers from Boston and filmed there in August. McDonald graduated with a degree in studio art and a focus in graphic design.

2009 Kristin Daniels has moved from Minneapolis to Los Angeles. She began attending California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, Calif., this fall in pursuit of a master of science degree in counseling.

2010 Michael Buller graduated from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, was ordained to ministry, and was called to serve the congregations of Emmanuel and Galchutt Lutheran Churches in North Dakota.

Nick Swanson ’09, ’12 MBA is producer and host of “Claim Your Trophy,” a TV show that provides information about outfitters who can help individuals prepare for once-in-a-lifetime hunting or fishing events. Fox Sports North and Fox Sports Wisconsin have picked up the program.

2003 Christian Shada and a group of Auggie friends from the classes of 2003 and 2004 have been visiting different campgrounds and cabins since graduation. Today there are mini-Auggies, new-Auggies, and a couple of Auggies on the way.

2000 Rev. Sara Quigley Brown is pursuing a Masters of Public Administration degree at the University of Alaska Anchorage. She is a chaplain with the Alaska Police and Fire Chaplains.

2004 Jamie (Simmons) Kaufman is pursuing an MD at University of Minnesota Medical School.

Jessica Spanswick traveled for several weeks in South America to learn Spanish and to teach. She started her travels in Bogotá, Colombia.

Peter Weston Miller completed his studies at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, was ordained to ministry, and began his first call as an ELCA pastor at Atonement Lutheran Church in New Brighton, Minn.

Emily Wiles graduated from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, was ordained to ministry, and began her first call as pastor in the ELCA at Faith Lutheran Church in Avon, Ind.

Taylor (Norman) Davis married Josh Davis in November 2013 at the Historic Concord Exchange in South St. Paul, Minn. Josh, who is an armorer and craftsman, made Taylor’s engagement ring and wedding band set.
2012  Kristin Bunge graduated with a major in psychology and minor in Spanish. She is attending Tennessee State University for her master’s degree in counseling psychology. She is excited to get to know new people, a new school, and a new city, but will miss Minneapolis and the opportunity to be on Augsburg’s campus.

Marisol Campusano, a social work graduate, is studying at the University of Minnesota in pursuit of a master’s degree in social work.

Management and finance major Jeffrey Hoberg is pursuing a master of business administration at Texas A&M in Arlington, Texas.

Adam Langer is pursuing his MD at University of Minnesota Medical School Duluth.

Lindsey Niederhaus, who studied chemistry and Spanish at Augsburg, is pursuing a doctorate in pharmacy at University of Minnesota.

2013  Rosie Benser, a sociology major and McNair Scholar, is pursuing a PhD in sociology at Syracuse University.

Bao Bui majored in international relations at Augsburg and is attending the University of Trier in Germany to pursue a master’s degree in international economics and public policy.

Brittany Kimball, a biology major at Augsburg, is a first-year medical student at Mayo Medical School.

Peter Larsen, a political science, international relations, and religion major, is attending Georgetown University, where he is pursuing a doctorate in government.

Jamila Lee is seeking a master’s degree in international counseling psychology at the University of St. Thomas.

James “Bear” Mahowald, a sociology major, will pursue a doctorate in international studies at the University of Washington Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies.

Will Matchett is pursuing a PhD in biomedical sciences at the Mayo Clinic.

Luke Mueller studied history and mathematics at Augsburg and is now studying at Harvard University for a master’s degree in biostatistics.

The University of California, Berkeley is the choice of economics major Brianna Noland for her master’s degree in statistics.

Kendall Pruitt has been hired by Augsburg exchange partner United International College in Zhuhai, China.

Bao Bui is attending the University of Saskatchewan to pursue a PhD in organic chemistry.

2014  Urton Anderson is studying for a master’s degree in Professional Accounting at the University of Texas at Austin.

Sierra Barger, a psychology alumna, has been accepted at the University of St. Thomas to pursue a master’s degree in counseling psychology.

Casey Bargsten is a freelance filmmaker.

Katelyn Berens attends the College of St. Scholastica and is pursuing a master’s degree in athletic training.

Katherine Berger is enrolled in Augsburg’s Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program.

Kendra Bostick is working as a personal care assistant at Accra Care.

Shannon Brankley is employed at Allina Health Systems as a registered nurse.

Natalya Brown works for United International College in Zhuhai, China.

Ameriprise Financial has employed Weston Burns as a financial adviser.

Samantha Cantrall is employed as an administrative assistant at KRW International.

Kimberly Club is employed as a community organizer at Friendly Streets.

Casey Collins is a development assistant with The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra.

Catherine Colasrud was named commissioner of administration for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. Colasrud holds a degree in business administration.

Aaron Crenshaw is a business analyst with Ameriprise Financial.

Vy Dam is an associate auditor at Baker Tilly Virchow Krause.

Derek Dasrath, is enrolled at the University of Minnesota pursuing a master’s degree in mechanical engineering.
Andrew Dent is studying library and information science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Elena Eveslage is employed as co-coordinator of Augsburg College Campus Kitchen.

Casey Gintner is working in document management services at Night Owl.

Nikolas Giwojna is pursuing a Master of Business Taxation degree at the University of Minnesota’s Carlson School of Management.

Dustina Granlund has been hired as a project administrator at Travelers Insurance Companies.

Katrina Hadler is an event assistant at Peak Entertainment.

Ashley Hartman is a marketing assistant at Wilbur-Ellis.

Alex Hein is a management trainee at Enterprise.

Daniel Heu is employed in nutrition services at Fairview.

Delissa Hernandez is employed as an accountant at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

Luis Hernandez, a physics graduate, is pursuing a doctorate in material engineering at North Carolina State University.

Elizabeth Hilgendorf attends the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, and studies nursing.

Abeni Hill was hired by United International College in Zhuhai, China.

Kelsey Hlavac was hired by Grace Lutheran Church as director of Christian education and youth ministry.

Brett Howe is a business analyst with United Health Group.

Rayka Huq is a treasury accounting intern at Wells Fargo & Co.

Chris Howard is a hotel manager at Marriott.

Danielle Jackson is working as an associate educator at Minneapolis Public Schools.

LaTrice Jones is a business analyst for CSM Corporation.

Quintin Joseph is working in customer service at USA Today.

McKay Karl is employed as a security counselor with Minnesota Sex Offender Program.

Laura Keehn is employed as a cytotechnologist with VAMC.

Khomson Kerati-thamkul, a chemistry and math graduate, is studying at University of Iowa for a doctorate in chemistry.

Jamie Kienitz is working as a registered nurse and is employed by Fairview.

Ravi Kimal serves as store executive team leader at Target.

Meredyth Krug is working as a field organizer for Al Franken for Senate.

Elizabeth Lopez Vazquez is employed by United International College in Zhuhai, China.

Andrew Lund, a chemistry graduate, is attending University of Minnesota Dental School for his Doctor of Dental Surgery.

Zach Malecha is serving as a youth director at All Saints Lutheran Church.

Tiffany Mathews is working as a senior registered sales associate with Piper Jaffray.

Benjamin Mattson, a psychology graduate, is studying at St. Cloud State University for his master’s degree in clinical mental health counseling.

Chiquila McCall is working as a social work administrator at Augsburg Fairview Academy.

Kevin McKenna, a psychology graduate, is pursuing a doctorate in clinical psychology at Palo Alto University.

Brian Moynihan is working as a baseball coach at South High School.

Cody Nehiba, an economics graduate, is pursuing a doctorate in economics at the University of California, Irvine.

Katherine Nelson is working as a business analyst at Target.

Nial Nelson-Hopkins is employed as a video editor in motion graphics for the NFL’s Jacksonville Jaguars.

Natalie Newberry is employed as a behavioral health intake social worker at Northpoint Health and Wellness Center.

Carley Olson is pursuing a graduate degree in clarinet performance at the University of Minnesota School of Music.

Magaly Ortiz Aucapiña works for United International College in Zhuhai, China.

Michael Pawlick is working as a financial advisor with Mutual of Omaha.

Anna K. Peterson is an intern with the Washington County Historical Society.

Anna C. Peterson has been accepted into the Master of Music in Performance program at the University of Iowa.

John Peterson is working as a production supervisor at UTC Aerospace Systems.

Holly Reddy is studying for a master’s degree in divinity at Luther Seminary in St. Paul.

Amir Rose, a physics alumnus and McNair Scholar, is pursuing a doctorate in mechanical engineering at University of California, Riverside.

Emily Rutten works for an adult rehabilitative mental health services program at Metro Psychology Support Services.

Amineh Safi will study public policy at the University of Minnesota Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

Matthew Schirber is pursuing a master’s degree in advocacy and political leadership at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

Samuel Schwartz is employed by United International College in Zhuhai, China.

Megan Sheridan is working as a dialysis technician with Fresnies.

Austin Smith is in the leadership development program at Ameriprise Financial.

Lavasha Smith is employed as a family support worker for The Family Partnership.

Sheri Stevens is working as the medical coding manager at Fairview Medical Group.

Micheale Tesema was hired by United International College in Zhuhai, China.

Catherine Thao is working as a tutor at Minnesota Reading Corps.

Jordan Van Dyk is employed as a promotion specialist with Gander Mountain.

Samantha Vance is employed as a behavior therapist with Minnesota Autism Center.

Ashley Waters, chemistry alumna and McNair Scholar, is pursuing a doctorate in chemistry at the University of Cincinnati.

Anna Weitz is working as thestore manager at Minnesota School of Music.

LaTrice Jones has been hired by United International College in Zhuhai, China.

Catherine Thao is working as a promotion specialist with Gander Mountain.

Samantha Vance is employed as a behavior therapist with Minnesota Autism Center.

Ashley Waters, chemistry alumna and McNair Scholar, is pursuing a doctorate in chemistry at the University of Cincinnati.
Brittney Westgard is employed as a shelter advocate at St. Stephens.

Emma Winegar is employed as a technical services problem solver at Epic.

Vivieng Xiong is working at Travelers Insurance Companies as a senior account manager.

Allison Zank, chemistry alumna and McNair Scholar, is pursuing a doctorate in chemistry at North Carolina State University.

David Zastrow has been hired by the ELCA as a young adult in global mission. He also is working as a marketing intern for the Minnesota Wild.

Katherine (Zelz) MacDonald is studying at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for a master’s degree in library science.

**GRADUATE PROGRAMS**

Jill Watson ’10 MBA is now a senior business analyst at ManageForce.

Amit Ghosh ’12 MBA received the 2013-14 District 6 Toastmaster of the Year award at the Toastmaster Leadership Institute annual meeting. This is one of the highest awards given to an individual for exceptional contribution and dedication to Toastmasters. District 6 has 10 divisions, 60 areas, 290 clubs and more than 5,000 members in Minnesota and Central Ontario, Canada.

Phillip Petersen ’14 MBA is working as a business systems analyst II at Ameriprise Financial Services.

Augsburg College men’s and women’s cross country head coach Meghan Peyton ’14 MAL finished 11th in the women’s 10,000-meter run at the USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships. It was the 18th time Peyton has finished in the top 11 in various USA distance and cross country championships since 2009.

Jennifer Umberger ’11 MBA, director of university marketing at Kutztown University in Kutztown, Penn., was named to Lehigh Valley Business’s Forty Under 40 list. The winners were selected based on their professional accomplishments, leadership, vision, and community service. Umberger was appointed director of university marketing in 2012. She also serves as Midwest territory director for philanthropy for Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

Submit a Class Note by December 31 for the spring 2015 edition of Augsburg Now to be entered into a drawing to win Ethnotek’s Vietnam 5 Wayu Pack. Use this form or go to augsburg.edu/alumni/connect to submit your Class Note.

See story on page 30.

Send us your news and photos

Please 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/connect.
In memoriam

Edor C. Nelson '38, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., age 100, on August 27.

Lois L. (Couture) Kyrklund '38, Eden Prairie, Minn., age 97, on June 18.

Gretha M. (Halvorson) Loken '38, Zumbrota, Minn., age 98, on August 1.

Mabel A. (Nelson) Kingstad '41, Williston, N.Dak., age 95, on June 28.

Elizabeth M. (Pfutzenrenter) Bellinger '43, Lake Forest, Calif., age 92, on July 27.

James H. Hanson '45, Des Moines, Iowa, age 83, on June 30.

Barbara "Bobbie" (Larson) Buescher '47, Midland, Texas, age 88, on June 13.

Donna M. (Quanbeck) Jacobson '48, McVille, N.Dak., age 87, on June 25.

Clarence L. Miller '48, Montgomery, Ala., age 92, on July 22.

Robert "Bob" M. Segerstrom '48, Burleson, Texas, age 86, on June 30.


Verna M. (Sheveland) Anderson '50, Minneapolis, age 85, on August 4.

Carol P. (Mickelson) Anderson '51, Spicer, Minn., age 85, on July 24.

Dorothy L. J. Swanson '51, Minneapolis, age 86, on May 28.

Darlin L. (Christensen) Johnson '52, Kennewick, Wash., age 88, on August 3.

Arden J. Ramlo '52, Eden Prairie, Minn., age 85, on May 11.

Donald A. Norum '54, Bemidji, Minn., age 81, on July 3.

James W. Anderson '55, Bloomington, Minn., age 83, on June 8.


Dorothy M. (Floistad) Benson '56, Minneapolis, age 82, on June 8.

David G. Jansen '56, Crookston, Minn., age 79, on July 6.

Melvin W. Larson '56, Las Vegas, Nev., age 85, on May 17.

Kenneth G. Hagen '58, Lake Mills, Wis., age 77, on May 11.

Donald A. Olsen '60, New Brighton, Minn., age 83, on August 21.

John D. Baxter '61, Savage, Minn., age 88, on August 1.

Barbara J. (Engen) Gilbertson '61, Richardson, Texas, age 74, on January 31.

Severt O. Score '61, St. Cloud, Minn., age 85, on July 26.

Harlin H. Haack '62, Lakeville, Minn., age 86, on June 14.

Myra H. (Arends) Hennes '64, Maple Grove, Minn., age 71, on May 24.

Ordean L. Grant '66, St. Charles, Minn., age 81, on July 21.

Robert "Bob" A. Holthe '71, Red Wing, Minn., age 69, on June 5.

Elwood A. Lepel '74, West Richland, Wash., age 62, on August 8.

Lana M. (Pegors) Smith '81, Eagle Grove, Iowa, age 61, on June 26.

Robert R. Wick '81, St. Louis Park, Minn., age 54, on May 13.

Kathleen K. Dooley '85, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., age 72, on June 1.

Thomas G. Furlong '88, Minneapolis, age 50, on April 28.

Lara J. Elhard '90, Hastings, Minn., age 46, on July 25.

Ann M. (Hennessy) Russett '94, Hanover, Minn., age 44, on May 31.

Hans O. Watson-Moklebust '02, Des Moines, Iowa, age 35, on August 19.

Mary “Molly” E. Malone Chottepanda '09, Hopkins, Minn., age 32, on May 29.

Lora P. Steil '14, Decorah, Iowa, age 51, on May 25.

The “In memoriam” listings in this publication include notifications received before September 15.
If you want to get a glimpse into life at Augsburg, download our campus tour on your iPad or Android tablet by searching for the term “Augsburg Gallery.” View photos of campus and listen to students who live, work, play, and study on campus every day.

New to the Augsburg Gallery App

The above publications also are available on the Augsburg Gallery App.
Falling in love with nature’s canvas

The St. Paul Pioneer Press recognized Augsburg College as one “of the best spots to absorb fall colors in the Twin Cities area.” While Augsburg’s entire Minneapolis campus features vivid shades of maroon, orange, and gold during autumn, it was the row of maple trees along the south side of Lindell Library that garnered the publication’s attention. The location also is a favorite for artists such as Larry Rostad, shown here, who created a watercolor beneath a canopy of spectacular fall foliage.