

**THE VOCATION OF A  
LUTHERAN COLLEGE**

**A Calling to Embrace Civility:  
Lutheran Higher Education  
in the Public Arena**

The Seventeenth Annual Conference  
Convened by Congregational and Synodical Mission,  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Augsburg College, Minneapolis, Minnesota  
August 1 – 3, 2011



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

## Monday, August 1, 2011

**3:00p.m.**      **PRE-CONFERENCE**  
Registration/Lodging Assignments/Refreshments  
(Anderson Residence Hall Lobby)

**5:00p.m.**      **OPENING DINNER**  
(East Commons, Christensen Center)

### WELCOME

Dr. Tom Morgan, Executive Director, Center for Faith and Learning, Augsburg College  
Dr. Paul Pribbenow, President, Augsburg College

### MUSIC

Spencer Miller, Augsburg Student (2013)

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## SESSION I

*Now our neighbor is any human being, especially one who needs our help, as Christ interprets it in Luke 10:30-37. Even one who has done me some sort of injury or harm has not shed his humanity on that account or stopped being flesh and blood, a creature of God very much like me; in other words, he does not stop being my neighbor.*

—Martin Luther, *Luther Works*, 27:58

**7:00p.m.**      **WE GATHER**  
(Hoversten Chapel, Foss Center)  
Session Chair: Rev. Dr. Mark Wilhelm, Congregational and Synodical Mission, ELCA

### A READING

### **Luke 10:25-37**

<sup>25</sup>Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>26</sup>He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" <sup>27</sup>He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." <sup>28</sup>And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." <sup>29</sup>But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" <sup>30</sup>Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup>Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup>So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup>But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. <sup>34</sup>He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. <sup>35</sup>The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." <sup>36</sup>Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" <sup>37</sup>He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

ADDRESS **CRITICAL ENGAGEMENT IN PUBLIC LIFE:  
LISTENING TO LUTHER'S TROUBLING QUESTIONS**

Featured Speaker: Dr. Samuel Torvend, Professor of Religion, Pacific Lutheran University

In this presentation, Torvend will invite participants to consider the sources which shape the public and political commitments within Lutheran higher education. Given the political polarization of the nation, the current drive to diminish environmental protection, and the growing disparity between the wealthy few and the many poor, the faculty and staff of Lutheran colleges rightly raise troubling questions about the public good, the welfare of all citizens, and care for the land in which they dwell. Together these various sources cultivate a profound sense of world engagement and reveal an essential relationship between higher learning and commitment to "life, health, and wholeness" — commitments to be promoted in every Lutheran college and university.

DISCUSSION IN PLENARY

**8:30p.m.** EVENING PRAYER AND REFLECTION  
Kent Goodroad, Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Alyssa Schwitzer, Redeemer Lutheran Church

**9:00p.m.** REFRESHMENTS  
(Concourse, Foss Center)

**Tuesday, August 2, 2011**

**7:30a.m.** BREAKFAST  
(East Commons, Christensen Center)

VOCATION OF A LUTHERAN COLLEGE 101—Table Talk  
(Riverside Room, Christensen Center)

**8:30a.m.** WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION (Hoversten Chapel, Foss Center)  
Rev. Jane Buckley-Farlee, Trinity Lutheran Congregation  
Don Samuels, Minneapolis City Council  
Mikyong Park, Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Boyd Koehler, Augsburg College

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**SESSION II**

*What we have most in common is not religion but humanity. I learned this from my religion, which also teaches me that encountering another human being is as close to God as I may every get – in the eye-to-eye thing, the person-to-person thing – which is where God's Beloved has promised to show up.*  
—Barbara Brown Taylor, *An Altar in the World*

**9:15a.m.** WE GATHER  
(Hoversten Chapel, Foss Center)

Session Chair: Dr. Jacqueline Bussie, Director of Forum on Faith and Life,  
Concordia College

## A READING **For the Common Good**

We each are gifted, given spiritual gifts  
The parts for the body, the hands, the feet, the ears,  
The parts of the whole, all critical, all needed,  
In the service of the community,  
The making the way smooth,  
The toiling in the vineyards, in the fields,  
To bring the good news to the world,  
To be Christ for those we meet,  
All are needed, all are called,  
For the common good.

—Raymond A. Foss

## ADDRESS **RESPONSIBILITY, IDENTITY, AND DIALOGUE: COMMUNITY OF MORAL DELIBERATION AND LUTHERAN HIGHER EDUCATION**

Featured Speaker: Dr. Per Anderson, Professor and Associate Dean, Concordia College

This session addresses the meaning and significance of ELCA social teaching on community of moral deliberation for Lutheran higher education in the United States. Anderson's talk explores this teaching in relation to contemporary contexts and challenges and an ethic of responsibility, considers implications for religious and moral identity, and proposes a constructive agenda for Lutheran higher education.

## DISCUSSION IN PLENARY

*I am not altogether sure that there is an absolutely clear, moral way to respond to many of the issues of our time. But I am absolutely clear that there is a massive damnation existing in our time that if the church does not think and act on it, we will call down rightful judgment on ourselves. For the first time in mortal history we have the opportunity to annihilate God's earthly creation*

—Joseph Sittler, *Gravity and Grace*

### **10:45a.m. BREAK**

(Concourse, Foss Center)

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## **SMALL GROUP DIALOGUE**

*I belong to a greater whole so I am diminished when others are diminished by oppression or treated as though they were less than who they are. It is not I think, therefore I am. It is I am human because I belong. I participate; I share because I am made for community.*

—James A. Joseph, former Ambassador, Testimony: "What AmeriCorp Can Teach America", 2003

### **11:00a.m. SMALL GROUP DIALOGUE – THE PRACTICE OF CIVILITY ON OUR CAMPUSES**

(Foss Hoversten Chapel; Oren Gateway Center 112, 114, 200, 201, and 202, as assigned)

### **12:00p.m. LUNCH**

(East Commons, Christensen Center)

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## SESSION III

*One of the greatest evils of the day among those outside of prison is their sense of futility. Young people say, What is the sense of our small effort? They cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time, take one step at a time; we can be responsible only for the one action of the present moment.*

—Dorothy Day

**1:00p.m.**

### WE GATHER

(Hoversten Chapel, Foss Center)

Session Chair: Dr. Darrell Jodock, Burnhardson Distinguished Professor,  
Gustavus Adolphus College

### A READING      **A Splendid Torch**

This is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one; the being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy.

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community, and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can.

I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work the more I live. I rejoice in life for its own sake. Life is no "brief candle" for me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for the moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.

—George Bernard Shaw

### ADDRESS      **PRACTICAL APPROACHES TO ENGAGING THE LARGER COMMUNITY**

Featured Speakers: Rev. Ann Svennungsen, Residential Scholar, Collegeville Institute  
for Ecumenical and Cultural Research

Dr. Kathi Tunheim, Assistant Professor, Gustavus Adolphus College

How can engaging the larger community teach students the value of civility and give them practice in civilly engaging others who are quite different from them? In this session, Tunheim and Svennungsen, using Gustavus and Texas Lutheran as examples, will explore how Lutheran colleges incorporate civic engagement and service into the liberal education of students, thereby enhancing their understanding of civil interactions in the context of civic responsibility.

### DISCUSSION IN PLENARY

*In Christian faith, conscience does not mean a private, unilateral, morally superior opinion held by an individual disconnected from the community, but it bespeaks the freedom to transcend self, to expend life, to share in suffering, to risk death for the sake of others and on behalf of the world which is integral to becoming a member of the corpus of the church. Conscience, for Christians, rather than being solitary or eccentric, bespeaks the church's witness of advocacy*

—William Stringfellow, *Conscience and Obedience*

**2:30p.m.**

### BREAK

(Concourse, Foss Center)

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## COMMUNITY EXPERIENCES

*Community, I am beginning to understand, is made through a skill I have never learned or valued: the ability to pass time with people you do not and will not know well, talking about nothing in particular, with no end in mind, just to build trust, just to be sure of each other, just to be neighborly. A community is not something that you have, like a camcorder or a breakfast nook. No, it is something you do. And you have to do it all the time.*

—Wendell Berry, posted at The Beanery at 25th Avenue & Hilyard

### **3:00p.m.** INTRODUCTION

(Hoversten Chapel, Foss Center)

Mary Laurel True, Director of Service Learning, Augsburg College

Steve Peacock, Director of Community Relations, Augsburg College

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

A) Campus Kitchens/Community Gardens/Farmer's Market (Oren 111)

B) Darul Quba Mosque (Foss Atrium)

C) Somali Justice Advocacy Center (Oren 100)

D) Urban Scrubs Camp (Oren 114)

E) Trinity-Augsburg Partnership (Oren 113)

**5:30p.m.** RECEPTION (lower level Trinity Lutheran Office, 2001 Riverside Avenue)

**6:30p.m.** DINNER on your own in Minneapolis

## **Wednesday, August 3, 2011**

### **7:30a.m.** BREAKFAST

(East Commons, Christensen Center)

### VOCATION OF A LUTHERAN COLLEGE 101—Table Talk

(Riverside Room, Christensen Center)

### **8:30a.m.** DWELLING IN THE WORD

(Hoversten Chapel, Foss Center)

Rev. Kelly Chatman, Pastor, Redeemer Lutheran Church

### TEXT **Matthew 5: 1-16**

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: <sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. <sup>5</sup>Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. <sup>6</sup>Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. <sup>7</sup>Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. <sup>8</sup>Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. <sup>9</sup>Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. <sup>10</sup>Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup>Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. <sup>13</sup>You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. <sup>14</sup>You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to

all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

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## SMALL GROUP DIALOGUE

*Don't wait for something big to occur. Start where you are, with what you have, and that will always lead you into something greater.*

—Mary Manin Morrissey

**9:00a.m.**      **SMALL GROUP DIALOGUE LIVING OUT OUR INSTITUTIONAL VOCATIONS**  
(Hoversten Chapel, Foss Center)

Reader: Dr. Lori Peterson, Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies, Augsburg College

### A READING

The notion of vocation is interesting and rich. It suggests that there is a special form of life that one is called to; to follow this is the way to realize one's destiny. Following one's vocation ensures that what you choose to do finds itself in harmony with your inner nature. It also means that this is the optimum way to unfold and develop whatever gifts one has. A vocation does not clear before you a smooth path through difficulties. Having a sense of one's vocation does not in any way relieve one of the travail and turbulence of being human. Indeed, being true to one's vocation can often require a level of generosity and risk that will cause great suffering, for more often than not there is no surge of light to clarify direction; the light on offer is enough to guide only the next step.

—John O'Donohue *To Bless the Space Between Us*

### DISCUSSION IN SMALL GROUPS

(Oren Gateway Center 112, 114, 200, 201, and 202 as assigned)

**10:30a.m.**      **BREAK**  
(Concourse, Foss Center)

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## SESSION IV

*Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place.*

*It is not to bring men and women over to our side, but to offer freedom not disturbed by dividing lines.*

*It is not to lead our neighbor into a corner where there are no alternatives left, but to open a wide spectrum of options for choice and commitment.*

*It is not an educated intimidation of good books, good stories, and good works, but the liberation of fearful hearts so that the words can find roots and bear ample fruit.*

*It is not a method of making our God and our way into the criteria of happiness, but the opening of an opportunity for others to find their God and their way.*

*The paradox of hospitality is that it wants to create emptiness—not a fearful emptiness, but a friendly emptiness where strangers can enter and discover themselves as created free; free to sing their own songs, speak their own languages, dance their own dances; free also to leave and follow their own vocations.*

—Henri J. M. Nouwen, (*Reaching Out*)

10:45a.m.

## WE GATHER

(Hoversten Chapel, Foss Center)

Session Chair: Dr. Martha Stortz, Christensen Professor of Religion and Vocation,  
Augsburg College

### A READING      **Love Your Neighbor**

You think little of him  
Ignore his pains and weaknesses  
And when his frail freighting frame fast forwards to you  
You curse and spit on him

He is anywhere and everywhere  
At the road corner with a sign  
Underneath the sun or out in the cold of winter  
He is the outcast, the forgotten

It is Christmas but he won't have one  
It is Memorial Day, but he is out in the cold  
It is July 4th, he is under the bridge away from the sun  
It is his life, painful but yet not hopeless

He gathers with peers and celebrates life  
In union they enjoy the company of one another  
They share a sense of hope by looking at each other's life  
Life indeed is not out of sight

He is in search of a new life not suicide  
A past to be forgotten and a future to embrace  
A sense of belonging and not being alienated  
He has answers, he understands his needs

Open up your heart when you see him  
For when the sun rises out of the east  
On this earth will you stand and see the beauty of this life  
People you encounter are the joys of life  
For without them you'd be alone on this earth

Embrace therefore your neighbor  
Bear no grudge against them  
For we walk on this earth but once  
And together we will share in the joy of living

—David Beckham

### ADDRESS      **HOSPITALITY IS NOT ENOUGH: THE CLAIMS OF JUSTICE IN THE WORK OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

Featured Speaker: Dr. Paul Pribbenow, President, Augsburg College

Augsburg's founders chose as its original motto these words from the gospel of John: "And the Word became flesh." (John 1:14) Today the motto is more relevant than ever as it provides a theological framework for the College's deep commitment to access and hospitality, while also challenging the Augsburg community to explore and respond to the ways in which the world is marked by systems and practices that are unfair and unjust. The claim of hospitality demands that we also work for justice. This presentation will explore what this theological claim means for our mission and work as a college.

### DISCUSSION IN PLENARY

*What we would like to do is change the world—make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves as God intended them to do. And, by fighting for better conditions, by crying out unceasingly for the rights of the workers, the poor, of the destitute—the rights of the worthy and the unworthy poor, in other words—we can, to a certain extent, change the world; we can work for the oasis, the little cell of joy and peace in a harried world. We can throw our pebble in the pond and be confident that its ever widening circle will reach around the world. We repeat, there is nothing we can do but love, and, dear God, please enlarge our hearts to love each other, to love our neighbor, to love our enemy as our friend.*

—Dorothy Day

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## CLOSING AND SENDING

*How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.*

—Anne Frank

### 12:15p.m. CLOSING REMARKS

Tom Morgan

### A READING **Do It Anyway**

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered.

Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.

Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies.

Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you.

Be honest and sincere anyway.

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight.

Create anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous.

Be happy anyway.

The good you do today will often be forgotten.

Do good anyway.

Give the best you have, and it will never be enough.

Give your best anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God.

It was never between you and them anyway.

—Mother Teresa, *Meditations from a Simple Path*

### BLESSING

Mark Wilhelm

12:45p.m. LUNCH (Optional box lunches available)  
(Foss Atrium)

1:30p.m. DEPARTURE

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## **PRESENTER BIOS (in order of appearance in program)**

### **Dr. Samuel Torvend**

Samuel Torvend is University Professor of Lutheran Studies and Professor of the History of Christianity at Pacific Lutheran University where he has been teaching since 1998. His publications, teaching, and public lectures focus on the Lutheran reinvention of social welfare in the 16th century; early Lutheran art and architecture; the origins, core convictions, and contemporary significance of Lutheran higher education in a pluralistic society; the symbiosis of Lutheran sacramental and ethical theologies; and contemporary Lutheran responses to local and global hunger. Torvend also serves as Director of Vocational Reflection at PLU's Center for Vocation and Director of the Center for Religion and Culture in the Pacific Northwest. He received the Master of Divinity from Wartburg Seminary, the Master of Theology from Aquinas Institute of Theology, and the Doctor of Philosophy from Saint Louis University. He was ordained in 1986.

### **Dr. Per Anderson**

Per Anderson studied philosophy and theology at St. Olaf College, Harvard University, and the University of Chicago and joined the faculty of Concordia College in 1986. He is Professor of Religion and Associate Dean for Global Learning. Anderson teaches and writes on Christian ethics with a focus on science and technology. He has invested in moral deliberation in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Lutheran World Federation and currently serves as co-chair of a social statement task force on genetics. Anderson co-founded an ELCA working group on faith, science and technology and has served on the Board of the Division for Church in Society. At Concordia, Anderson has chaired the Religion Department and served extensively in faculty governance and leadership. He currently leads global learning offices and programs.

### **Rev. Ann Svennungsen**

Ann Svennungsen, MDiv, is Interim College Pastor at St. Olaf. She served as president of Texas Lutheran University and of the Fund for Theological Education (which hosted the coordination program for Lilly Endowment's PTEV initiative). For 22 years, she served as a Lutheran minister, with several years as senior pastor of a 3,700 member congregation. She founded the Presidents' Pledge Against Global Poverty to strengthen the role of university leaders in alleviating poverty. She is married to Bill Russell and they are parents to Sarah (30), John (27) and Mary (23).

### **Dr. Kathi Tunheim**

Kathi Tunheim, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Management in the Department of Economics and Management at Gustavus Adolphus College. She has served in leadership positions at Republic and Northwest Airlines, Carlson Companies, American Express Financial Advisors and Tunheim Leadership Group. Kathi is married to Bob Tunheim, whom she met as an undergraduate at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN, and they are parents to Rob (20), Amie (17) and Kristie (14). They live in Orono, MN.

### **Dr. Paul Pribbenow**

Paul Pribbenow serves as the 10th president of Augsburg College. Before coming to Augsburg College in 2006, he served as president of Rockford College in Rockford, Ill. He also has served as research fellow for the Center of Inquiry in the Liberal Arts at Wabash College (Indiana); dean for College Advancement and secretary of the Board of Trustees at Wabash College; vice president of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago; and associate dean of the Divinity School of the University of Chicago. Pribbenow holds a BA from Luther College, and an MA and PhD in social ethics from the University of Chicago.

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## **Vocation of a Lutheran College Conference Planning Committee**

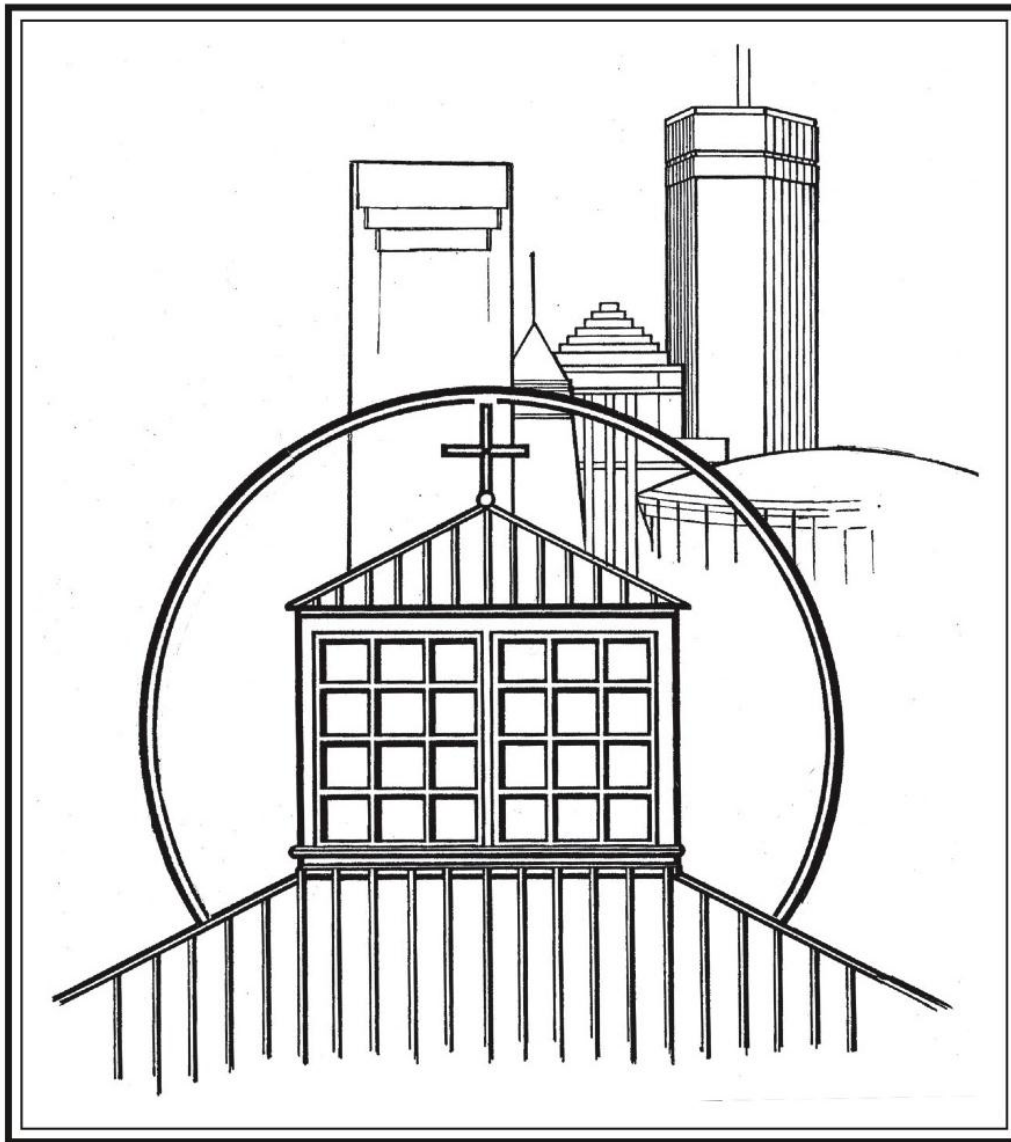
Tom Christianson, Capital University  
Bob Haak, Augustana College (Rock Island)  
Darrell Jodock, Gustavus Adolphus  
Tom Morgan, Augsburg College (Chair)  
Caryn Riswold, Illinois College  
Ernie Simmons, Concordia College  
Mark Wilhelm, Congregational and Synodical Mission, ELCA

## **Augsburg Planning Team**

Lonna Field  
Deborah Hutterer  
Patricia Lull  
Tom Morgan (Chair)  
Sara Schlipp-Riedel  
Mary True

## **Special Thanks to ...**

Kelly Chatman, Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Jane Buckley-Farlee, Trinity Lutheran Church  
Barbara Farley, Augsburg College  
Lonna Field, Augsburg College  
Diane Glorvigen, Augsburg College  
Kent Goodroad, Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Deborah Hutterer, Faith in the City  
Dahir Jabreel, Somali Justice and Advocacy Center  
Boyd Koehler, Augsburg College  
Rabia Mohamed, Darul Quba Mosque  
Brian Noy, Augsburg College  
Mikyoung Park, Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Lori Peterson, Augsburg College  
Steve Peacock, Augsburg College  
Paul Pribbenow, Augsburg College  
Alyssa Schwitzer, Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Bob Stacke, Augsburg College  
Martha Stortz, Augsburg College  
Mary Laurel True, Augsburg College  
Mark Wilhelm, ELCA  
Small group facilitators  
Augsburg Event and Conference Planning



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2211 Riverside Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55454 • 612-330-1101 • [www.augsburg.edu](http://www.augsburg.edu)