

CLASS NOTES

1959

Kenneth L. Peterson (Augustana, M.Div.; 1971, S.T.M.; 1985, D.Min.) has finished his 22nd edition of the *Daily Bible Reading Guide* for the Canadian Bible Society. The 2007 edition is available this fall. He has also been working on establishing an Augustana Scholarship at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Augustana has a long history with the seminary. From World War II until the formation of the Lutheran Church in America in 1962, Canadian candidates were permitted to do their training in Saskatoon rather than the seminary in Rock Island, Ill. A full article on this effort and the history of Augustana and the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Saskatoon appears in the *Augustana Heritage Association Newsletter*. Contact Dr. Peterson at kpeterson2@shaw.ca

1979

John S. Hillmer (Seminex, M.Div.; 1980, S.T.M.) will participate in the 2006 Clergy Renewal Program funded by the Lilly Endowment, Inc. His congregation, Grace Lutheran Church at Carrollwood in Tampa, Fl., received \$31,200 to support Pastor Hillmer in this program. During this time of "intentional reflection and renewal" he will survey ways that thriving congregations meet the needs of people in our changing culture, experience diverse worship styles, participate in leadership training, explore options for church governance, and reflect on his 25 years in the ministry.

1984

Kim Beckmann (M.Div.; 1999, D.Min.), has been appointed the director of candidacy for the ELCA. She began her new position in late August. She may be reached at kim.beckmann@elca.org.

1986

Christopher R. Hale (M.Div.) was recently called by the Central/Southern Illinois Synod Council for Interim Ministry. His newest appointment is as interim pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Carthage, Ill., and Faith Lutheran Church, Augusta, Ill. He began his new call on August 10 and may be reached at revelca@insightbb.com.

1994

D. Jensen Seyenkulo (Th. M.; 1999, Ph.D.) has been appointed assistant director for multicultural leadership development for the ELCA. He began his new position in mid July.

1997

Caryn Riswold (Th.M.; 2000, Ph.D.) published *Coram Deo: Human Life in the Vision of God* with Wipf and Stock Publishers. It is based on her dissertation. Her second book, *Two Reformers: Martin Luther and Mary Daly as Political Theologians* will be published by Wipf and Stock in 2007. Dr. Riswold is assistant professor of religion at Illinois College in Jacksonville, Ill. She may be reached at cdriswold@yahoo.com.

2002

Philip Mathai (Th.M.) was ordained on October 29

at the Northern Illinois Synods' Reformation and Ordination Celebration held at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Rock Falls, Ill. Pastor Mathai is called to serve at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lanark, Ill.

2003

Jim Paulson (M.Div.) was quoted in the July 24, 2006, *TIME* magazine. He officiated at the marriage of two people with Down Syndrome. Pastor Paulson serves at a Presbyterian-Lutheran ministry in Dolgeville, N.Y.

2004

Erica Gibson-Even, pastor of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Glenwood, Ill., since June 2004, is on leave from call. In September 2006, she joined her husband, Adam, on his research project in Switzerland. On October 25, Erica gave birth to Daniel Luther in Meyrin, Switzerland. Daniel was 7 lbs. 9 oz. and 20 inches long.

Margaret Schoewe was ordained May 7 at Kingo Lutheran Church, Shorewood, Wisc. She is serving as a pastor at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Wauwatosa,

Wisc., focusing on pastoral care, spiritual formation, and eco-justice.

2006

Five 2006 graduates, Rhonda Kral, Linda Norman, Margaret (Peg) Mellerup Otte, and Brooke Petersen, were ordained and Eric Price was consecrated on November 12 during a special service held by the Metropolitan Chicago Synod at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. Bishop Paul Landahl (Concordia (Springfield)/Seminex, 1965, M.Div.) Their calls are listed below.

Nathan Allen was ordained June 10 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Kalamazoo, Mich. He serves Joy Lutheran Church in Tulsa, Okla.

Corrine Blissard was ordained September 30 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Canton, Ill. She serves as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Forrest, Ill.

Marlene Daubert was consecrated at the Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly on June 10. She is called to Zion Lutheran Church in Elgin, Ill.

What's happening in your life?

Send the Epistle your updates. Don't forget to include your full name, graduation year, degree, and the seminary from which you graduated. We welcome photos. Please send a print or high-resolution JPEG, identifying everyone in the photo. We want to hear from you!

Email jboden@lstc.edu or write to Epistle, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, 1100 East 55th Street, Chicago, IL 60615.

IN MEMORIAM

Kristian Johnson (M.Div.) and spouse, Anna-Kari, welcomed Emanuel Micah Johnson into the world on Pentecost, June 4, at 7:09 p.m., in Los Angeles, Calif. Emanuel was 7 lbs. 14 oz. and 20½ inches long. Parents and big sister, Hope, are all doing well. Emanuel was baptized on July 23 at First Lutheran Church in Inglewood, Calif.



The Johnson family

Stacey Lyn Jutila was ordained at the Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly on June 10. She is serving at Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, Ill.

Rhonda Kral is called to serve Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Downers Grove, Ill.

Jay McDivitt was ordained July 15 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Denver, Colo. He is serving at King of Glory Lutheran Church in Loveland, Colo.

Kent L.C. Narum was ordained and installed on September 24, 2006. He is associate pastor of Custer Lutheran Fellowship, Custer, S.D.

Linda Norman is called to Bethel Lutheran Church, Chicago, Ill.

Margaret (Peg) Mellerup Otte is called to serve Good

*Jeniffer E. Affeldt
(Faro-Hecksel),
1968–2006*

LSTC Class of 1991

In addition to an M.A. from LSTC, Jeniffer Affeldt held a degree in social work from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., and served as a social worker in the Olympia and Centralia-Chehalis areas of Washington state. She and spouse, Dr. Christian Affeldt lived in Centralia, Wash., with their two children, Emmelyn and Truman. Jeniffer was a full-time mother and active volunteer in community, school, and church. She died climbing Mount Sir Donald in British Columbia on August 20. She is survived by her husband, children, parents, brother, sister, a niece and two nephews. A memorial service was held on August 26 at Katherine Bennett Elementary School auditorium, with a reception at St. John's Lutheran Church, where she was a member.

Shepherd Lutheran Church, Prospect Heights, Ill.

Brooke Petersen is called to serve Irving Park Lutheran Church, Chicago, Ill.

Eric Price is called to serve at the University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital, Chicago, Ill.

Daniel Roschke was called to serve Messiah Lutheran Church, Yorba Linda, Calif. He was ordained July 16 at Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church in Houston, Tex.

*Philip V. Anderson,
1928–2006
Augustana Class of 1953*

Philip Anderson graduated from Augustana College in Rock Island, Ill., Augustana Seminary and did post-graduate study at the University of Chicago. He served parishes in New York and Illinois and as a hospital and hospice chaplain in the Chicago area and northwest Indiana. From 1972–82, Pastor Anderson was instructor of pastoral care at LSTC and instructor of fieldwork at McCormick Theological Seminary.

Pastor Anderson died on October 2. Visitation and his funeral were held at Augustana Lutheran Church, Chicago, on October 6. Memorials may be made to Augustana Lutheran Church. He is survived by his wife, Joan, five children, two grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Lauren Skrundz was consecrated at the Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly on June 10. She is continuing her studies at LSTC while serving at Faith in Place, Chicago, Ill.

Krehl Drew Stringer was ordained August 26 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in St. Charles, Ill. He is serving at Saint Luke Lutheran Church in Stevensville, Mich.

*Anne Briggs
1930–2006
LSTC Guild*

Mrs. Briggs, a long-time member of the LSTC Guild, died on July 25. The funeral service was held at the Augustana Chapel at LSTC on July 31. She was well-known for her compassionate acts and constantly cared for those in need. Mrs. Briggs served on church boards and as a delegate to conferences and assemblies locally and all over the world. She was a passionate healthcare advocate and worked to obtain two sizable grants from the Wheatridge Foundation for Parish Nurse and HIV/AIDS programs. She is survived by her husband, Norman Briggs, two daughters, two sisters, and two grandsons. Mrs. Briggs was a member of Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit in Chicago. Memorials designated for "Health Cabinet" may be sent to Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, 1335 W. 115th St., Chicago, Ill. 60643

Zachary Sturm was called to serve Peace Lutheran Church in Sullivan, Mo. He was ordained July 30 at MacArthur Park Lutheran Church, San Antonio, Tex.

Heidi Torgerson was ordained on February 11, 2006 at St. Martin's Lutheran Church in Casselton, N.D. She serves as a missionary in Mexico City.

TRANSITIONS

Board of Directors

The Rev. Keith Wiens, pastor of First Lutheran Church, Manhattan, Kan., joins the board as the Central States Synod representative.

The Rev. Gregory N. Davis, pastor of St. James Lutheran Church, Johnston, Iowa, is a new board member representing the Southeastern Iowa Synod.

The Rev. Dr. Richard Perry is a new faculty advisor to the board.

Staff



Heather Wallace with student Laura Gross

Heather Wallace named director of Youth in Mission Programs

Heather Wallace is guiding LSTC's Youth in Mission programs, *Serving Christ in the World and Beyond Belief*, as they make the transi-

tion to being self-sustaining. Wallace holds a B.A. in Communication from Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory, N.C. She worked with the Southeastern Synod's summer youth camp, AFFIRM, for four years and assisted with her home church's youth ministry program while she was in college. She loves to travel and has been to Haiti, Germany and all over the U.S.

"Heather brings tremendous gifts to this position, including her deep care for youth, creativity, and great organizational skills. We are blessed!" said Joy McDonald Coltvet, director of Vocation and Recruitment.



Jessica Nipp

Office for Advancement gains Jessica Nipp, bids farewell to Scott Lorenz

Jessica Nipp (2002, M.Div.) joined the

LSTC Advancement staff on October 1 as a director for advancement. Scott Lorenz stepped down as assistant vice president for advancement on October 6 to become the executive director of the non-profit organization, Chicago CARES.

Jessica Nipp is LSTC's major gift officer for LaCrosse Area, Northern Illinois, and Northwest Wisconsin Synods. She will also be responsible for resource development for LSTC's Ph.D. and Youth in Mission programs. She most recently served as managing director of the ELCA Wittenberg Center in Germany. Nipp graduated from LSTC with a biblical emphasis and a 4.0 GPA. She graduated *summa cum laude* from Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa, in 1998. After graduating from LSTC, Nipp earned a faculty diploma in Protestant Theology at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, Germany (July 2004) and was consecrated as an ELCA Diaconal Minister at Wartburg College in January 2005.

Lorenz joined LSTC's advancement staff in 2003 and has improved the seminary's alumni programs, collaborated on behalf of LSTC with the Metropolitan Chicago Synod on stewardship programs, and has established many strong donor relationships. He has been an articulate and energetic representative of LSTC's mission. We wish him Godspeed.



Lynne Huber

New part-time assistant to the registrar

Lynne Huber now works each weekday afternoon in the Office of the Registrar. She replaces Kisha Allen, who now works full-time in the Community Life Office.

Huber has been a teacher, missionary, assistant registrar, librarian, and office administrator. Her husband is

a first year student in LSTC's Ph.D. program.



Christina Heisser

Christina Heisser named Zygon Center executive coordinator

Christina Heisser comes to the Zygon Center with experience as a conference planner, university instructor and human resources assistant. Her spouse, Matthew Keadle, is a junior in LSTC's M.Div. program.



Kara Vehar

Kara Vehar assistant manager of LSTC Book Center
Kara Vehar started as assistant manager for the LSTC Book Center on September 1. Her background is in advertising, marketing, and online

communications. Her responsibilities at LSTC include promoting and fulfilling orders for Tithing Foundation materials now sold through the Book Center. She will also set up online purchasing through the Book Center.

In Memoriam

Sadie Washington, who worked in LSTC's business office in payroll, accounts payable and other accounting work from 1969 until the late 1980s, died in mid-June. She was an active member of Trinity United Church of Christ, where her funeral was held on June 23. We give thanks to God for the faith-filled life of Sadie Washington. Cards may be sent to her daughter, Karen Johnson, 5412 S. Drexel, Chicago, IL 60615