I will tell what God has done for me.

Psalm 66:16b
+ COMMENCEMENT +

160th Academic Year of the
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

May 17, 2020
CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF
+ MASTER OF ARTS +

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DePaul University, Chicago, Ill., M.S., 2006
Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, Ala., B.S., 1983

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University of Iringa, Iringa, Tanzania, M.Div., 2014

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Myanmar Institute of Theology, Inn Sein, Yangon, M.Div., 2013
Lisu Theological Seminary of Myanmar, Pyin Oo Lwin, B.Th., 2008

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+ MASTER OF ARTS IN MINISTRY +

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Concordia University, Seward, Neb., B.A., 2017

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University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Ill., B.S., 1980
University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Ill., B.Ed., 1977

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Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill., B.A., 1993

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Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill., B.A., 1977

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Bethel University, Saint Paul, Minn., B.A., 2015

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Carthage College, Kenosha, Wis., B.A., 1980

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Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, B.A., 2016

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Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, Ill., M.A., 2001
Chicago State University, Chicago, Ill., B.A., 1997

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Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, B.A., 2009

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Roanoke College, Salem, Va., B.A., 2015

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Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, Ill., B.A., 2014

MAIJA KAROLIINA MIKKELENS
Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio, B.A., 2014

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Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, Ill., B.A., 2006

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Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wis., B.S., 1982

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Santa Maria University, Caracas, Venezuela, J.D., 1990

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Cornerstone University, Grand Rapids, Mich., B.S., 2014

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University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, M.A., 2011
University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, B.A., 2008

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Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio, B.B.A., 2016

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University of Maryland, College Park, Md., B.A., 2014

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Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio, M.Div., 2007
University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio, B.A., 2003

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Jubilee Memorial Bible College, Chennai, India, M.Div., 2008

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+ DOCTOR OF MINISTRY IN PREACHING +

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Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest, Austin, Texas, M.Div., 2010
Concordia University, Austin, Texas, B.A., 1996
Professional paper: Using Preaching in an Online Forum

GISELA MAGDALENA SJÖHOLM
University of Uppsala, Uppsala, Sweden, M.Div., 1991
Professional paper: All the Trees of the Field Shall Clap their Hands: Uncovering Subversive Prophetic Preaching to Address Faith and Action in a World of Climate Crisis
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+ DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY +

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Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago, Ill., Th.M., 2011
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago, Ill., M.A., 2007
Selcuk University, Konya, Turkey, B.S., 2003
Dissertation: A Contemporary Way of Practicing
Islamic Spirituality: The Hizmet Movement. A Qualitative Research Project

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Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago, Ill., Th.M., 2013
McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, Ill., M.T.S., 2011
Presbyterian University and Theological Seminary, Seoul, South Korea, M.Div., 2009
Konkuk University, Seoul, South Korea, B.A., 2006
Dissertation: The Combat Myth Motif in Psalm 89: Redaction Historical and Environmental Analyses

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Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago, Ill., Th.M., 2016
School of Mission and Theology, Stavanger, Norway, M.Th., 2007
Institut Luthérien de Théologie de Meiganga, Cameroun, B.Th., 2004
University of Yaoundé II–Soa, Cameroun, B.A., 1996
Dissertation: A Historical Appraisal of the Du and Au Controversy in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cameroon

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Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago, Ill., Th.M., 2016
Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, Minn., M.Th., 2012
Uludag University, Bursa, Turkey, B.A., 1999
Dissertation: Islamic Spirituality, Cognitions and Coping: A Case Study of Risale–I Nur Collection

THOMAS R. GAULKE
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago, Ill., Th.M., 2017
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago, Ill., M.Div., 2008
Carroll College, Waukesha, Wis., B.A., 2003
Dissertation: An Unpromising Hope: Finding Hope Outside of Promise for an Agnostic Church and for Those of Us Who Find It Hard to Believe

LYDIA HERNÁNDEZ–MARCIAL
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago, Ill., Th.M., 2015
Union Theological Seminary, New York City, N.Y., S.T.M., 2012
Seminario Evangélico de Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico, M.Div., 2000
Universidad de Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico, B.S., 1988
Dissertation: Life Under the Sun: Contradictions and Resistance in Ecclesiastes from a Puerto Rican Perspective.

SI KHAW
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago, Ill., Th.M., 2015
Gurukul Lutheran Theological College, Chennai, India, M.Th., 2007
Gurukul Lutheran Theological College, Chennai, India, B.D., 2002
Magway University, Magway, Myanmar, B.S., 1996
Dissertation: Toward a Ludu Theological Proposal to End Armed Violence in Myanmar

YOSEOB SONG
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago, Ill., Th.M., 2014
Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, Minn., M.Th., 2012
Hanshin Graduate School of Theology, Seoul, South Korea, M.Div., 2006
Sogang University, Seoul, South Korea, B.A., 2002
Dissertation: The Ninth Century Apologetic Commentary From the Church of the East: On the Letter to the Hebrews in the Sinai Arabic MS 151

A Completed requirements for African Descent Emphasis
B Completed requirements for Biblical Studies Emphasis
E Completed requirements for Environmental Ministry Emphasis
I Completed requirements for Interfaith Emphasis
N Completed requirements for American Indian/Alaska Native Emphasis
The Rev. Dr. Stephanie Jaeger (2006, MDiv) is a leader for a public church. The LSTC faculty conferred the award for Jaeger’s Christian witness addressing issues of homelessness, housing shortage, and hunger in North Hollywood, Calif., and the wider community.

Jaeger is pastor of St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church in North Hollywood, known for its longstanding commitment to LGBTQ rights, Deaf culture, the arts and community engagement, especially around homelessness and immigration. With her congregation, she founded and leads NoHo Home Alliance (NHHA), a community organizing non-profit that mobilizes residents to meet the needs of the homeless through pop-up drop-in centers at several locations. The highly effective centers offer showers, clothing, haircuts, toiletries, two hot meals, a bag lunch, case management and a mailing address. With other partners they offer medical and mental health care and access to medically assisted drug treatment, HIV/AIDS testing and vaccines. Its programs are relational, community-based, volunteer run, small scale and replicable.

By building trust within her community, she was able to lead the neighborhood to approve a 40-unit building of permanent supportive housing for persons experiencing homelessness.

Jaeger also serves as the vice president and faith representative to the NoHo Neighborhood Council. She is a faith representative to the Steering Committee of the San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valley’s Homeless Coalition, board chair of the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry, and part of the Mayor’s Interfaith Collective among other community involvements.

She has served as senior pastor at Augustana Lutheran Church of Hyde Park in Chicago, and pastor of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church and Preschool in Santa Monica, Calif. She holds a PhD in German and has taught at universities in Germany, Canada, and the U.S. She recently completed an MFA in Creative Writing and is writing her first novel about refugee and immigrant experiences in the wake of WWII and today.

The Confessor of Christ Award originated at Christ Seminary-Seminex, a predecessor school of LSTC. When the Seminex faculty joined LSTC, the award transferred to this seminary. The Confessor of Christ Award is given to “a Christian individual whose commitment to Christ Jesus and the Gospel manifests itself through extraordinary personal sacrifice for the sake of Jesus Christ and the Gospel or exemplary witness to Christ Jesus and the Gospel by selfless service to others.”
This year marks the Rev. Dr. Kathleen D. “Kadi” Billman’s retirement as the John H. Tietjen Professor of Pastoral Ministry: Pastoral Theology, Director of the Master of Divinity and Master of Arts Programs, and Coordinator for Candidacy. Billman has been a member of the faculty of LSTC since 1992.

Billman is an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church. She served as pastor of the Greenwood Avenue United Methodist Church in Trenton, New Jersey (1977–85). While earning her doctorate, she also served on the pastoral staff of St. Paul United Methodist Church in Trenton (1987–91).

Billman served as LSTC’s dean and vice president of academic affairs—the first woman to serve in that position—from 1999 through 2009, when she returned to full-time teaching. She began serving as Director of the Master of Divinity Program in 2012, took on the directorship of the Master of Arts Programs in 2017, and began serving as the Coordinator for Candidacy in fall 2018.

Billman’s teaching and writing commitments in the field of pastoral theology and pastoral care have centered on the complexities of ministerial leadership in situations of unequal social and institutional power (the focus of her dissertation and at the heart of several courses she developed), especially on ministry with people facing devastating personal and social circumstances and the realities of death, dying, and grief.

Billman co-authored two books: Rachel’s Cry: Prayer of Lament and Rebirth (with Daniel L. Migliore) and co-edited C(H)AOS Theory: Reflections of Chief Academic Officers in Theological Education (with Bruce C. Birch). In addition, she has authored numerous chapters in books, articles, essays, lectionary commentaries, Bible studies, and book reviews. She has served as the co-editor in chief of the journal Currents in Theology and Mission since 2009.

Dr. Billman earned the Bachelor of Arts degree from Muskingum College and the Master of Divinity, Master of Theology, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary.

When asked to sum up her years at LSTC, Billman replied: “LSTC invited me into a world where I have been continually called to keep learning—a world in which I have experienced deep challenge and deep care. I thank God for the students and colleagues whose lives and ministries have inspired and challenged me, and to which I hope I have contributed. I have loved being here.”
This year marks Ms. Patricia A. Bartley’s retirement as Director of Enrollment Management/Registrar. She has been registrar at LSTC since 1985.

Bartley has been a tireless advocate for students as well as a meticulous record keeper. Her contributions to the LSTC community go far beyond her role as director of enrollment management/Registrar. She is founder of the LSTC Gospel Choir and was manager of the choir for its first 26 years. The LSTC Gospel Choir’s benefit concerts have raised tens of thousands of dollars in scholarships for students of color. Her anti-racism training with Crossroads was instrumental in bringing those trainings to campus for the LSTC community.

Prior to coming to LSTC, Bartley was assistant registrar for Keller Graduate School of Management and worked at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Ms. Bartley earned a bachelor of arts from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Asked about her time at LSTC, Bartley said, “For 35 years LSTC has been like a second home—its faculty, staff and students, like an extension of my family and friends. I could truly say that I have absolutely loved my work and have loved where I worked. It has mattered! My favorite part of my job has ‘hands down’ been serving our student body. As a result, I have ‘family and friends’ from around the world. What a blessing it has been for me to be part of this community!”
+ FACULTY +

Klaus-Peter Adam  
*Associate Professor of Old Testament*

Javier "Jay" Alanis  
*Director of the Lutheran Seminary Program of the Southwest*

Kathleen D. Billman  
*John H. Tietjen Endowed Chair in Pastoral Ministry: Pastoral Theology, Professor of Pastoral Theology*

Eric Kyle  
*Associate Professor, Director of Contextual Education*

Eunyung Lim  
*Assistant Professor of New Testament*

Esther M. Menn  
*Ralph W. and Marilyn R. Klein Professor of Old Testament*

José David Rodríguez  
*Augustana Heritage Professor of Global Mission and World Christianity*

Barbara R. Rossing  
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*Gordon A. Braatz Associate Professor of Worship*

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*Harold S. Vogelaar Professor of Christian-Muslim Studies and Interfaith Relations*

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*Axel Jacob and Gerda Maria (Swanson) Carlson Chair in Homiletics, Assistant Professor of Homiletics*

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*Assistant Professor of Church and Society and Ethics*

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*Director of Field Education*

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*John H. Tietjen Professor of Pastoral Ministry: Worship and Church Music*

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*Professor of Systematic Theology*

Philip Hefner  
*Professor of Systematic Theology and Senior Fellow, ZCRS*

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*Bernard, Fisher, Westberg Distinguished Ministry Professor of Reformation History*

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*Christ Seminary-Seminex Professor of Old Testament*

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*Christ Seminary-Seminex Professor of New Testament*

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*Professor of World Mission and World Religions*

Wilhelm C. Linss  
*Professor of New Testament*

Richard J. Perry Jr.  
*Professor of Church and Society and Urban Ministry*

David M. Rhoads  
*Professor of New Testament*

James A. Scherer  
*Professor of Missions and Church History*

Michael Shelley  
*Director of A Center for Christian-Muslim Engagement for Peace and Justice*
Harold S. Vogelaar  
Professor of World Religions

Christine Wenderoth  
Director, JKM Library; Associate Professor Emerita of Ministry

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Affiliate Professor

Antje Jackelén  
Affiliate Professor of Systematic Theology/Religion and Science

Carol Schersten LaHurd  
Affiliate Professor

Craig A. Satterlee  
Affiliate Professor of Homiletics

Audrey West  
Affiliate Associate Professor of New Testament

Gayle E. Woloschak  
Affiliate Professor of Religion and Science Studies

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(KVALIFICERAD FORTBILDNING PREDIKAN, SIGTUNA SWEDEN)

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Caroline Edlund  
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Carina Sundberg  
Johan Svedberg

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Iskander Bcheiry  
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Dirk Ficca  
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Mayuko Yasuda

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*Director of Enrollment Management/Registrar*

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*Director of M.Div. and M.A. Programs, Coordinator of Candidacy*

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*Pastor to the Community and Director of Worship*

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*Interim Director, Zygon Center for Religion and Science*

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*Director of Advancement Operations*

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*Interim Director of JKM Library*

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*Access Services Manager, JKM Library*

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*Operations Assistant*

Timothy Brown  
*Major Gift Officer*

Sarah Burdick  
*Philanthropic Engagement Coordinator*

John Cacciato  
*Refectory Catering Attendance – Cashier*

Brenda Cantu  
*Digital Instruction Librarian*

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*Front Desk Receptionist*

Renee Fisher  
*Refectory Line Cook*

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*Donor Relations Manager*

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*Safety and Security Manager*

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*Housing Renovation*

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Cantor to the Seminary Community

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Staff Accountant

Akeem Haywood
Refectory Sous Chef

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Assistant to the Dean of Academic Affairs

Jessica Houston
Advancement Programs and Events Manager

Rocky Hunter
Watchperson

Judith Jean–Michel
Executive Administrative Assistant for Advancement

Burmaa Kaylin
Tech Services Assistant, JKM Library

Simfo “Rose” Kazembe
Refectory Utility Worker

Curtis Keys
Watchperson

Ralph Klein
Curator of the LSTC Rare Books Collection

Tim Knutson
Renovation Technician

Bianca Leoni
Student Services Assistant

Jason McGovern
Web Manager

Christina Montgomery
Life Together Coordinator

Richard Moore
Refectory Utility Worker

Anna Moorhead
Mission Ambassador for Advancement and Major Gift Officer

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Frank Perez
Refectory Chef Manager

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Editor, Zygon Journal of Religion and Science

Emilie Pulver
Special Projects Librarian, JKM Library

Langston Roberson
Gift Processing and Data Services Manager

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Martha Stocker
Interim Director of Information Technology

Jennifer Thomas
Alumni and Church Engagement Manager

Arice Vance
Refectory Line Cook

Deb Van Der Molen
Assistant Editor, Zygon Journal of Religion and Science

Gloria Vicente
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Devan Wasz
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Gayle Woloschak
Associate Director, Zygon Center for Religion and Science