



Dear Friends,

Warm greetings on behalf of our faculty, staff, students, and alumni! As Grand View University's first female president, I am honored to serve in a state where I was born, raised, and educated. As a granddaughter of a Lutheran pastor, I treasure my Lutheran heritage that guides me personally as well as the university corporately. Grand View University is dedicated to the holistic education of graduates prepared to lead and serve in our diverse and changing world. Here are some highlights from the past year:

Project: Student Ready - Grand View University received a Federal Department of Education Title III grant entitled, "*Project Student Ready: Transforming Grand View University.*" This five-year grant totaling \$2,242,894 allows Grand View to expand work in several areas which will enhance students' experiences, improve academic achievement, and remove barriers to students' success. The program expands the university's capacity to serve low-income students by providing funds to improve and strengthen academic quality, institutional management, and fiscal stability.

Campus Ministry – The students within Campus Ministry are growing as leaders on campus. There are many ways in which students can engage faith: weekly chapel, Bible study groups, prayer groups, PEER Ministry, and the student leadership team. In addition, a collaboration with FCA has allowed many of our student athletes to have team chaplains to help them navigate faith and life.

The Moses Project— The mission of the project is to give rural pastors a vision of ministry that will help them thrive in congregational leadership. With 20 pastors from seven Midwestern states, the pastors build community in mini-cohorts, receive mentoring, attend three in-person events, and participate in monthly exemplar meetings. In August, pastors traveled to Des Moines for a Kick Off Event, which featured Rev. Dr. Yolanda Pierce, the Dean at Howard Divinity School. Check out our resource page: <https://www.mosesproject.org>.

The NEXUS Institute – Gvu offered its sixth summer of NEXUS, a theological institute that focuses on ministry vocation exploration for high school students. We are currently recruiting for summer 2023, which will take place on campus July 16-22. For more information, to nominate students, or to request brochures, check out our website at www.grandview.edu/NEXUS.

Theology Department – In this past year, Grand View established the Gerhard O. Forde Professorship in Church History and Theology. The Rev. Dr. Ken Jones was appointed the first recipient. Grand View offers a variety of scholarships for ELCA students such as the EPIC Scholarship and the Bishop Hougen Scholarship. In addition, there are scholarships for students interested in ministry: The NEXUS Scholarship and the Muedeking Scholarship. For more information, contact Department Chair: Rev. Dr. Mark Mattes at mmattes@grandview.edu.

In a moment of transition, I am thankful to God who is with us every step of the way.

God's Peace and Joy,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rachelle Keck".

Dr. Rachelle Keck, Grand View President