



Dear Friends,

Warm greetings on behalf of our faculty, staff, students, Trustees, and alumni! Grand View University engages, equips and empowers learners to explore their vocations, fulfill their potential and serve the world. Informed by our values of excellence, inclusive community, adaptability, faith, global curiosity, agility, and positivity, Grand View aspires to be a leader in innovative education that integrates knowledge, learning, skills, and transformational experiences to ignite curiosity and prepare adaptable, independent, creative and confident people.

Here are some highlights from this past year:

GV Next – In May 2023, Grand View University piloted its GV Next program, wherein GV will waive any remaining tuition for all recipients of both the maximum Pell Grant and the maximum Iowa Tuition Grant. This initiative was successfully piloted with Des Moines Public Schools for Fall 2023, and has been opened up to all qualifying Iowa high school graduates for Fall 2024. This initiative is designed to expand the university’s capacity to serve low-income students by removing affordability barriers.

Faith Life and Campus Ministry – With the departure of Rev. Dr. Russ Lackey, Grand View split the position into a Director of Faith Life and a separate Campus Pastor/Pastor of Luther Memorial Church position. The Director of Faith Life is responsible for leading Christ-centered formation and discipleship opportunities for Grand View students as well as overall campus engagement for Grand View University Campus Ministry programming, which includes people of many faith traditions. The Director of Faith Life also participates in institution-wide strategic planning, decisions regarding the allocation of resources as well as seeking to acquire resources, and leading projects, events, and initiatives involving a broad range of constituencies both on and off campus. The search for a Campus Pastor is ongoing.

Campus Ministry offers robust programming for students, faculty, and staff including weekly chapel, Bible study groups, prayer groups, PEER Ministry, the student leadership team, and evening worship. We partner across the University for service projects and campus wide activities such as Homecoming events, student leadership, first year experience activities, and conferences. In addition, a collaboration with FCA has allowed many of our student athletes to have team chaplains to help them navigate faith and life.

Grant Activity - Grand View has been blessed to receive five Lilly Endowment Inc. grants. We’d love to have pastors from your synod participate. The grants include:

Nexus Institute: NEXUS exists to transform the landscape of the Lutheran Church through innovative and intentional development of young adults who want to be more involved in the nexus of faith, life, and the church. In its seventh year of programming, NEXUS is a life-changing opportunity where young adults engage in theological learning, leadership development, and

vocational discernment through week long summer programming. For more information, see <https://www.grandview.edu/about/community/camps-clinics/nexus>.

The Moses Project: The Moses Project equips rural pastors with a vision of ministry that helps them thrive in congregational leadership and enhance the vitality of their congregation. Through a distinct and exceptional professional development program, pastors receive critical support, develop innovative strategies, and engage in ongoing learning and opportunities for renewal. They build the very network that provides them and those they serve with vitality. The Moses Project is in the middle of Year 5 of programming and has worked with 100 rural pastors from 12 states. We have a 100% completion rate and all pastors who have participated in the program are still serving in ministry (as of March 2023). For more information, see <https://www.mosesproject.org/>.

Faith Forward: Faith Forward is a grant program that aims to empower, equip, and encourage rural and small congregations to more effectively work with parents, grandparents, and faith parents through the normal routines of congregational life to help them hand down their Christian faith and values to the next generation. The program kicks off April 2024, and the first cohort is almost full. For more information, please see <https://www.grandview.edu/faith-forward>.

Compelling Preaching: The Iowa Preachers Project fosters and supports preaching that inspires, encourages and guides people to come to know and love God and to live out their Christian faith more fully. The program will convene cohorts of clergy and lay preachers to sharpen the church's proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Partnering with the University will be 1517 and Mockingbird. The project launches October 2024. Stay tuned for more information.

Thriving Congregations Grant: The Jordan Project will ignite new life and innovation into female-led rural and small-town congregations across the Midwest in the ELCA and other full communion partner denominations. Pastors and leaders from their congregations will explore their congregations' rapidly changing social and cultural contexts, gain clarity about their values and mission, and draw on Lutheran theological practices and traditions to adapt their ministry to the demands of their changing contexts. Partnering with Rev. Sarah Ciavarri and This Whole Hearted Living, the Jordan Project begins August 2024. Additional information coming soon.

Wishing you God's peace and joy,



Dr. Rachelle Keck, Grand View President