

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS



THE LUTHERAN GIRLS' CAMP ASSOCIATION, DBA CAMP MA-HE-TU

Ellen Karl, *president*



Our Mission is to empower young women to become the best that they can be. Provide them freedom from the daily pressures of life so they may grow together in a supportive community to develop and embrace their beliefs about God, appreciation of others, and their value as individuals.

OUR MISSION & WORK

THE LUTHERAN GIRLS CAMP ASSOCIATION IS THE GOVERNING BODY OF CAMP MA-HE-TU, a residential summer camp for girls in Harriman Park, New York, which is about 40 miles north of New York City.

In 2018, we welcomed over 300 girls into our camp family. Our program runs for eight weeks, starting with a week of staff training. Our youngest staff members are 16-year-old Counselors-in-Training, with our counselors starting at 17-years-old and generally going up through their 20s. Staff training is followed by seven weeks of serving our campers. Most of our efforts are focused on our three, two-week sessions of traditional Christian camping for girls ages 7 through 15. For five days, during our "Women-in-the Woods" program, our "campers" can be any age from "2 to 82 (and beyond)". Our oldest two campers were Ma-He-Tu campers in the 1930s. So even though our emphasis is on the first third of life, we are serving girls and women in all stages of their faith journey.

In order to make the magic of the summer happen, members of our Board of Directors volunteer their time, year-round, to secure funding, maintain our physical site, recruit campers, hire summer staff, ensure we are meeting the requirements of accrediting, state, and park agencies, and work with insurance and food service companies. All our efforts are centered on our mission and purpose, setting the stage for an unforgettable summer of fun and growth. It has been our pleasure, over these many years, to watch our campers grow mentally, physically, socially, and spiritually.

Our work is unique in three essential

ways. First, we are an all-girls camp. The single gender experience has become rare in almost all walks of life, and particularly in the world of camping. We believe that this kind of experience is empowering to girls and young women. It affords them an opportunity to explore their individuality and their own unique talents, without yielding to strong social pressures.

Second, we are unique because our physical environment is unique. The opportunity to live in a tent or cabin in the woods, where one's first conversation of the day may very likely be with a squirrel, is not at all what most of our girls encounter at home. Our complete lack of access to social media, TV, computers, and other distractions of "normal" life enables our campers to focus on their relationships with the natural surroundings, the camp community, each other, themselves, and with their Creator.

Third, Ma-He-Tu has continuity that is rare in the camping community. Most summers 80 – 95% of our staff were once Ma-He-Tu campers themselves. They are dedicated to making the camping experience as meaningful to their campers as it was to them. So, the potential to have a positive impact on the development of our girls doesn't end when they stop being campers. We are ministering to them through their college years and often beyond. We are helping them to discover how important it is to "pay it forward" and to extend their caring and their love to those who follow. This has helped keep our message and our mission steadfast throughout the years.





FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

Our little congregation in the woods is wonderfully vibrant. It's hard to find a time during a day at camp when you can't hear laughter and singing. When we are gathered in the Chapel or Dining Hall, our enthusiasm can be downright deafening! We are a fun-loving, happy group. We love reaching out to share our love of Ma-He-Tu with all girls who wish to join us. We have been on our site since 1937, and we plan on sharing our joy for many years to come.

Our welcoming and inclusive message is shaped every summer by our staff. They are the people who, as campers, treasured the meaning of that message and how it affected their lives. They will go to all ends to pass it on to their campers, as it was passed on to them when they were younger. This is their home, and they take the responsibility for maintaining its integrity very seriously. They focus on building a community of respect, positivity, and tolerance. We have developed, and do our best to perpetuate, a culture within which character is what matters, not background.

CARE FOR CREATION

We believe that one cares more deeply for those things that one greatly appreciates. Almost all our campers gain a profound appreciation for the beauty of our natural setting. We are gathered in the natural world where, for many, God's presence can be felt most strongly. One does not have to strain to hear God's voice, as spoken through the wind in the trees, the lapping of the lake, the song of the birds, or even the scurrying of a mouse. The experience of living in the woods "twenty-four, seven" for two weeks or more can invoke an intense connection to creation, as well as the Creator. As our campers return year after year, their love for, and knowledge of, all living things strengthens and they become wonderful stewards of our earth and caretakers of our environment.

Our purpose is to provide a safe and fun outdoor camping experience in a supportive environment that fosters spiritual, mental, physical, and social growth.

GET INVOLVED!

Please help us bring as many girls as possible into the Ma-He-Tu family. We would greatly appreciate an invitation to talk to your congregation and/or Sunday Schools about our program. We would be grateful if you would direct your families to our website, www.mahetu.org.

We will be hosting Open Houses on May 26, 2019, from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Come take a tour and see what we're all about.

We have an extensive piece of property to care for. If you have any groups looking for a service project, we can always use some help!

If you are looking for a wonderful place for a spring or fall retreat, please contact us!

LUTHERAN COUNSELING CENTER

Molly W. Blancke, *ceo & executive director*



The Lutheran Counseling Center is a healing ministry of the Church, offering health, hope and wholeness by serving individuals, families, congregations, and our community.

In order to fulfill its mission, the Lutheran Counseling Center:

- Provides pastoral counseling, in the spirit of the healing Christ, by individuals who are credentialed in both theology and psychotherapy, and who integrate faith-based commitments into the counseling services.
- Equips clergy, professional church workers, community organizations, and others to address mental health issues through educational seminars and workshops.
- Offers consultation services to individuals, families, congregations, and community organizations.
- Serves all people regardless of religious affiliation, personal conviction, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender, age or ability to pay.



OUR MISSION & WORK
LUTHERAN COUNSELING CENTER (LCC) PROVIDED APPROXIMATELY 5,000 counseling sessions during 2018 at our nine site locations over the metropolitan NY area {sites

are in Manhattan, Brooklyn (Bay Ridge), Queens, Long Island (Suffolk & Nassau Counties), and Westchester}. These sessions included ones for children (ages 4+), teens, adults, couples, and families. In addition, LCC provided many interventions, seminars, and onsite grief therapy as needed and requested by Lutheran schools and various congregations.

LCC's goal is to reduce mental health stigmas associated with seeking psychological and emotional healing. In a world wherein violence through mass shootings, terrorist attacks, and suicide rates are continuously increasing, the need for mental health wellness has never been greater. We provide professional, caring counseling for mental health issues, such as depression, anxiety, adjustment to loss, abuse, trauma, PTSD, and relationship issues. Services are provided regardless of religious affiliation, personal conviction, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender, age or ability to fully pay for sessions.

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

LCC provides counseling for many who are unable to afford our sliding scale fees, based on income, through our Silent

Samaritan program funded by donors, as well as through grants, such as the Wider Church Fund grant, and through the donations we receive from churches. We provide non-judgmental, caring and professional counseling. Our faith-based counseling incorporates the faith of the person receiving our help; faith is never forced and we meet the person in need where they are, with unconditional love.

LCC provides hope and healing for several hundred people per year, many of whom are minorities and many who are suffering from the effects of abuse, neglect, rejection from others, or marginalization in some way. We have bilingual (Spanish/English) counselors at our Mineola, Manhattan, Bronxville, Patchogue and Farmingdale sites.

CARE FOR CREATION

Lutheran Counseling Center values abundant life for all people who come for help, by meeting the person in need where they are, helping them to see the truths of their situation, and empowering them to make wise decisions about how to deal with issues of struggle. Our therapists strive to be a guide to those who want to change their lives, giving them the opportunity to exchange harmful behaviors, enslaving habits or attitudes, for healthy, positive ones that result in a new beginning.

GET INVOLVED

Offer ideas for practical steps, resources, or ways for someone to get involved. For example, could a committee member be invited as a speaker? Are there new resources to help the community engage? Other ideas are encouraged and welcome!

•Lutheran Counseling Center has a membership program for churches and schools in the metropolitan New York and surrounding areas; the cost is \$600 a year, which gives the congregation the ability to refer up to six families for counseling at reduced rates for the first four sessions. Membership also includes receiving a helpful monthly mental health article, written by our licensed therapists, for its newsletter or bulletin, as well as free professional consultation by one of our therapists for its pastor, in dealing with congregational mental health issues.

•Mental health seminars, onsite grief counseling, or conflict intervention therapists are available, as needed, for your church or school, at an affordable cost. Some may be of no charge due to grants.

•Churches can invite a speaker from Lutheran Counseling Center to talk to the congregation

•Lutheran Counseling Center welcomes volunteers, prayer partners, and donors through our Silent Samaritan program, who will make a difference in someone's life who cannot afford to fully pay for counseling fees.

LUTHERAN MINISTRIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

*The Rev. Emily Trubey-Weller, board president,
The Rev. Becca Seely, executive director,*



Back to School Barbeque for PRISM Student Ministry in Greenwich Village

Committee Members/Board Members: Rev. Emily Trubey-Weller, Michael Jakob, Michael Hammett, Carolyn Riehl, Rev. Chryll Crews, Rev. John Heidgerd, Rev. Chris Shelton, Michelle Goff, Tiffany Chao

OUR MISSION & WORK

WE CONNECT COLLEGE STUDENTS WITH ONE ANOTHER, FAITH COMMUNITIES, AND THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST through our network of big-hearted, open-minded campus ministries, within which students experience God's love, and explore, claim, and live the Christian faith.

The 2018-2019 academic year has been an exciting one for Lutheran Ministries in Higher Education. Through our citywide Vine NYC campus ministry network, LMHE serves students from ten colleges and universities across New York City. Our ministry branches at Queens College, in downtown Manhattan, and in Morningside Heights provide weekly and monthly worship, learning, and service opportunities throughout the year. Some highlights included:

LAUNCH OF PRISM: This has been the first full school year for PRISM (Progressive Student Ministry), an ecumenical branch of the Vine in Greenwich Village. This ministry is sponsored by LMHE, Trinity Lower East Side Lutheran Parish, Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, St. John's Lutheran Church and First Presbyterian Church. LMHE was blessed to receive a Sower's Grant this year, to help kick-start this ministry. Currently, PRISM serves students from NYU, the New School, and students studying online, while working.

BORDER TRIP & IMMIGRATION LEARNING: LMHE was privileged to be able to take a group of 17 students and ministry leaders to El Paso/Juarez for a week during January break to participate in a border immersion trip organized by Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey. This was a powerful opportunity to bear witness to the broken realities of our border and bring back new knowledge, stories, and a passion to engage in faith-based justice work for immigrants in New York. Students also walked with immigrant neighbors by visiting asylum seekers in detention in Elizabeth, NJ, through the program coordinated by Seafarers International House.

DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN: LMHE began work this year with fundraising and development consultant, The Vandersall Collective. By working with Vandersall, LMHE will create and implement a development strategy that will bring the organization to full sustainability in the years to come, in order to ensure that campus ministry flourishes in our Synod for the foreseeable future.

RADICALLY WELCOMING

LMHE is unique in that it is a ministry particularly aimed at students and young adults, which is a demographic that is underserved by the Church, in general. It is also unique in that it is ecumenical—although "Lutheran" is in our name, our ministries are partnership ministries with ELCA, LCMS, Presbyterian Church (USA), and United Methodist congregations. Our ecumenical nature enables us to serve and celebrate not only folks who are part of those denominations, but people from other traditions or who are unaffiliated and feel welcome as part of a diverse group. We are also explicitly LGBTQIA+-welcoming and affirming, which sadly, is a rarity among Christian ministries on college campuses in our area.



Students on the Rim Road overlooking El Paso on our Border Immersion Trip.

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

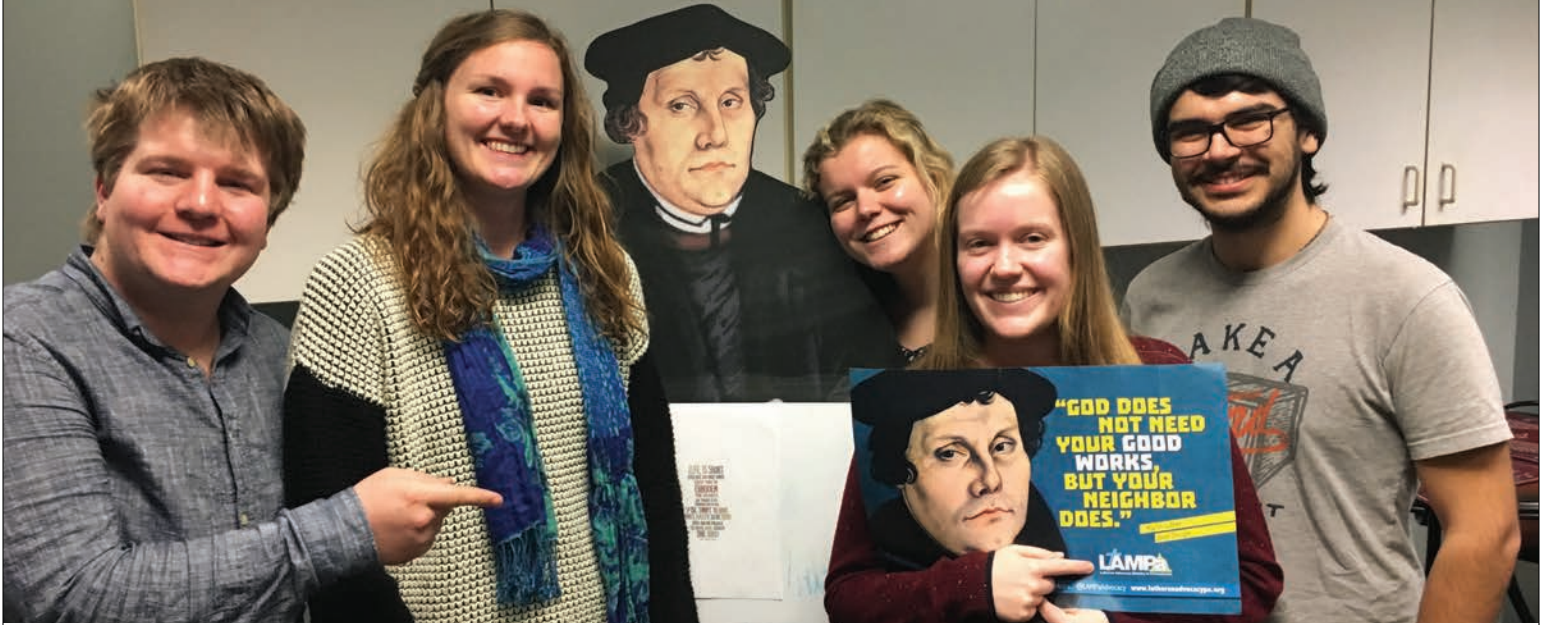
LMHE has already had a justice focus on immigration for two years plans to continue with this initiative. From the Border Immersion Trip to El Paso, to visiting the immigration detention center in Elizabeth, NJ, to currently planning a fundraiser for the New Sanctuary Coalition, LMHE regularly addresses immigration issues and engages with immigrants around the world. As an ecumenical ministry, LMHE is explicitly welcoming to students from a variety of traditions and is always very actively welcoming and celebratory of LGBTQIA+ folks. The ministry seeks to create vibrant congregations by partnering specifically with congregations in our Synod (and ecumenical partner congregations). Through these partnerships, LMHE seeks to both more fully serve the young adults who are already part of congregations and to help connect unaffiliated young adults and students with congregations, in order for them to learn and grow with one another. Finally, LMHE seeks to be an intentionally anti-racist campus ministry and continually brings issues of racism and systemic oppression into ministry conversations.

CARE FOR CREATION LMHE is deeply committed to caring for creation, having held teach-ins regarding climate change and eco theology on multiple occasions. LMHE has ceased using disposable dishes at our Monday night dinners, and will be hosting prominent eco-theologian, Catherine Keller, as a speaker this spring.

The ministry spends time in caring for creation and seeks to honor God through honoring the earth. Learn more by visiting thevinenyc.org



engaging faith. expanding minds. pursuing justice.
creating community.



The Vine NYC

A network of big hearted, open minded campus ministries in NYC. Learn more at thevinenyc.org

GET INVOLVED

There are many ways to engage in the work of LMHE and help support this ministry with students. These include financially supporting the ministry, volunteering, helping LMHE connect to your congregation, and more:

VOLUNTEER: Do you have gifts, resources, energy and passion you'd like to share? We would love to connect with volunteers who would like to make meals for students, work with our Board of Directors, help us connect to a service opportunity, assist with events like our annual Trivia Night Fundraiser, help at one of our outreach events, meet with students interested in learning more about your line of work, speak to our students about your field of expertise or... something else! Email pastor@thevinenyc.org if you would like to become involved in one of the ways listed, or if you have another great idea as to how you might be able to help!

MAKE A FINANCIAL GIFT: This ministry simply isn't possible without the generous partnership of people like you who care about ministry with students. Consider making an individual gift and ask your congregation how it can help support campus ministry on an ongoing basis. For instance, does your congregation have a discretionary fund or a tradition of offering mission support? Do you collect special offerings for non-congregational ministries? Please consider giving and encouraging your congregation to support campus ministry. Gifts can be made online at thevinenyc.org/support.

PLAN A CAMPUS MINISTRY SUNDAY FOR YOUR CONGREGATION:

Invite Pastor Becca Seely to preach and to bring one of our students along, to share the impact campus ministry has made in their life. Pray for students. Collect a special offering in support of LMHE. Write notes of support for members of the congregation who are in college and graduate school. There are lots of possibilities! Email Pastor Becca at pastor@thevinenyc.org to discuss and schedule a Campus Ministry Sunday.

REFER STUDENTS: Are there students in your congregation who attend college or graduate school in New York City? Let them know about LMHE's ministries and send us their contact information, so Pr. Becca can get in touch. Email: pastor@thevinenyc.org.

STAY IN TOUCH: Sign up for our newsletter at thevinenyc.org/newsletter. Like The Vine on Facebook (facebook.com/thevinenewyork), follow us on Instagram (@vinenyc), and share our posts on your own and your congregation's page.

PRAY FOR STUDENTS: Please keep LMHE, its students, and all who study in your prayers and lift them up in the prayer ministries of your congregation.

Thank you for working with us to share the good news of Jesus Christ with students in NYC!

LUTHERAN SERVICES NEW YORK ALLIANCE

LSNYA



Learn more about our
distance learning CPE
program at lsnya.org

CPE

Clinical
Pastoral
Education

LUTHERAN SERVICES NEW YORK ALLIANCE

The Rev. John W. Havrilla, *executive director*

The Rev. Silvia Misina, *cpe educator/supervisor*

LSNYA

**“Working Together to Further the Church’s
Servant Mission”**

OUR MISSION & WORK

NITIATIVES FOR 2018 INCLUDED ENDING A LONG-STANDING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FORMER LUTHERAN MEDICAL CENTER IN BROOKLYN AS PART OF LSNYA’S CPE PROGRAM. With LMC becoming part of the

NYU Langone Hospital system, the new administration decided to establish its own CPE program, covering all its hospitals. Since there was a long tradition in the church with LMC and its successor NYUL, we bid NYUL Godspeed and Farewell in September, with a sense of loss, as well as gratitude for years of church-related service.

Moving forward, LSNYA CPE implemented a new Distance Learning Program. Scholarships are being made available to rostered persons serving in the area of both Lutheran judicatories. Please visit our website for further information. This new program is designed to reduce the stress and cost of travel for the participants, while allowing for the participant to designate a congregation or other nearby service agency as the clinical site. Given the financial challenges that agencies and congregations experience today, this approach to CPE provides a welcome alternative to the normative format. Further, the Alliance continued to financially support our member agencies, with particular concern for pastoral and spiritual care.

Another accomplishment this past year was the successful conclusion of a research project, Spiritual Care-Shared Endeavor, funded by a grant from the Metropolitan New York Synod. The purpose of this study was to assess the spiritual care being provided in our member agencies and to make recommendations for enhancing pastoral care ministries. One significant outcome of this program has resulted in the Synod Council extending a call for a part-time chaplain at Lutheran Social Services of New York, and Eger Lutheran Homes

and Services. The lives of the working poor and the aged are blessed by this ministry. The Alliance members are part of a vast network that services 1 in 50 people in the U.S. To support the work of the Alliance, progress continued to be made in 2018, with a significant increase of donors and donations. Because our member agencies serve people with a wide spectrum of human need, our work touches God’s gift of creation where it often experiences the most pain, both physically and spiritually.

One of the great delights of LSNYA’s CPE program is a remarkable dynamic of diversity, even in light of the diversity of the greater New York area. We have enjoyed student participants from a vast array of backgrounds, orientations, lifestyles, faiths, races, geographic areas and socio-economic settings. Further, our Alliance member agency staff also reflects this diversity. We celebrate this work with the Atlantic District-Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and the Alliance is one of the few remaining inter-Lutheran cooperative programs.



Installation of the Rev. Samuel Silaban, LSSNY and ELH&S Chaplain under Synod Council Call

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

The ELCA's affirmation that our church-related social ministry organizations are "at the heart of this church's mission" is reflected in our Alliance membership. That our agencies and CPE program reflect a diversity of races and inclusivity of life styles not seen in many of our congregations gives witness to racism being confronted by races working together in serving persons with physical and spiritual needs. These efforts are seen in both Lutheran judicatory members, as well as our member agencies: Eger Lutheran Homes and Services, Lutheran Counseling Center, Lutheran Social Services of New York, Seafarers International House, The Healing Center, The Lutheran Care Network, and Wartburg.

Moving forward, a major goal for the Alliance is to continue what has been planned in 2018 and begun in 2019, with the Distance Learning Clinical Pastoral Education Program. Most pointedly, this new endeavor seeks to enhance the life of the pastor in service to congregations that are challenged by the high mobility in population, and the financial stresses caused by aging buildings, aging members and declining membership, which can add to a sense of isolation for both pastor and congregation. As Joseph invited his brothers to "come closer," while engaging in their distressed family relationship, CPE provides a place where participants can face life's challenges, while appreciating more deeply the gifts of participants.

CARE FOR CREATION

The Alliance's mission is "working together to further the church's servant mission." **At the core of our mission is seeking justice for those whose struggles in life have become roadblocks to fulfilling God's intentions for their lives.** The work of our members covers all ages and all conditions of people in need, from the youngest of ages to the old and infirm; from those with secure employment but struggling with emotional challenges to persons who are homeless; from resident to immigrant and/or those seeking asylum. Every pastor and congregation's mission will be enhanced as they come to know the work of our social service agencies closest to their own ministries. In fact, LSNYA ministries are an extension of each congregation's community outreach.

Learn more about the Lutheran Services New York Alliance at lsnya.org



Installation of the Rev. Samuel Silaban, LSSNY and ELH&S Chaplain under Synod Council Call

GET INVOLVED

Invite John Havrilla to come and speak with your congregation or congregational groups: jw.lsnia@gmail.com. Encourage your pastor to take a second, third or fourth quarter of Clinical Pastoral Education. Pastors are welcome to apply for scholarships for this program. Visit one of the above agencies and speak with those serving and being served. If you are not able to visit onsite, visit our website at lsnya.org. Include the Alliance in your congregation's designated giving or make a donation directly through the listed website: lsnya.org. Pray for us and ask us to pray for you and your mission. Last, but not least, come by and visit us at our assembly table.

THE LUTHERAN SUMMER GATHERING AT SILVER BAY

Marie C. Jerge, *dean/director of ministry*

THIS YEARLY GATHERING IS A FUN AND RELAXING WEEKLONG VACATION for spiritual and physical renewal on beautiful Lake George. It is sponsored by the Metropolitan New York and Upstate New York Synods. Our theme for 2019 is **We Love to Share the Story**.

STAY CONNECTED WITH US

Photos and videos from 2018 are available at www.facebook.com/LutheranSummerGathering/. We also have a new Facebook page called Silver Bay Lutheran Summer Gathering Community, to keep you up-to-date on our community and plans for next year. Our website is www.lutherans-silverbay.org. On Twitter and Instagram we are [@SBLutherans](https://twitter.com/SBLutherans).



WALKING WITH JESUS was the theme for the 2018 Lutheran Summer Gathering. Almost 300 Lutherans gathered together from across the country and beyond, to worship morning and evening, to swim and sail, to play tennis, bocce and shuffleboard, to serenely rock on the Inn porch, to read, weave, paint and make jewelry, to pray, and to study God's Holy Word.

Our Chaplain, Pastor Lee Miller II, Holy Trinity, Buffalo, not only led us in dynamic worship, but he also taught a class called **Proclamation Through Privilege**, addressing systemic racism. The class is a result of the Gathering's intention to assist in the anti-racism work being done in both our supporting synods and across the ELCA. Pastor Arden Strasser, St. Luke's, Manhattan, led a **Bible Study** that had to be moved to a larger classroom due to the number of participants (a great problem!). Pastor Gladys Moore, St. John's, Summit, NJ, helped folks in her class to connect with Jesus in daily life. Chris Schaefer, awaiting call in the Delaware-Maryland Synod, served as our Teen Leader, Joe Krupa was our fabulous musician, and Will Platnick faithfully

edited the Punkee (our daily news and e-letter).

Upstate New York Synod Bishop John Macholz joined us for a few days and shared his perspective on the mission and challenges of the ELCA. Kelly Harris, a former Young Adult in Global Mission (YAGM) in Rwanda, and Arden Strasser, former missionary in Zambia, shared their experiences in serving in the Lutheran church in Africa. And, Silver Bay YMCA CEO, Steve Tamm, updated us on Silver Bay plans and challenges for the future.

THE GATHERING RAISED \$2500 FOR ELCA WORLD HUNGER.

We rejoiced in the new air-conditioned Boyd Center, even as we listened to the sound of construction as they worked to complete the new building. We were also pleased to help the Silver Bay staff adjust to serving a large conference for the first time in the new dining hall. As always, people engaged in a variety of fun activities: a campfire with s'mores and camp songs, a carnival complete with a dunk tank, chair volleyball, a talent show, and on the ballfield, the Lutherans were decisively victorious over the Silver Bay EMPs (employees) in the annual softball game.

We were delighted to welcome 42 new people to the gathering in 2018. With 272 participants, we were close to our goal of 300. The Lutheran Summer Gathering is financially operating in the black. In addition to registration fees and regular offerings, we began a "Fund for the Future" to support long-term efforts to recruit faculty, invite wider participation, and to spread the word about this unique and special community.

We give thanks for the Planning Team that works all year to make the program great! The team consists of people from each of the supporting synods, and beyond. We are especially excited to welcome Lynn Bettencourt as our Social Media Specialist and appreciate all she has already done to help us connect to one another in between gatherings, as well as her efforts to publicize and invite newcomers. We also give thanks for the service of Will Platnick. Others on the Planning Team include Patti Garrison, Beth Smayda, Sue Hollar, Chad Volkert, Katie Bang, Karen (Mouse) Hoffman, and Pastors Jim Bresnahan and Marie Jerge.

WE LOVE TO SHARE A STORY

Join us July 13-19, 2019,
for the 87th Lutheran Summer
Gathering
at Silver Bay,
on Lake George.



MISSION INVESTMENT FUND

Gerry Lauro, regional manager



Mission Investment Fund
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

The Mission Investment Fund (MIF) is the lending ministry of the ELCA. MIF makes low-interest loans to ELCA congregations and ELCA-related ministries for building and renovation projects. With MIF loans, congregations and ministries can purchase property, construct new buildings, and expand or renovate existing facilities.

OUR MISSION & WORK

MIF loans expand the capacity for ministry. They help create expanded worship spaces, updated space for education and youth ministry, new kitchens for community meals and soup kitchens, affordable housing units for the community, and much more.

At year-end 2018, MIF had 917 loans outstanding, totaling \$556.6 million. To fund these loans, MIF offers a portfolio of investments for congregations, their members, synods and ELCA-related ministries to purchase. At year-end 2018, MIF investments totaled \$499.1 million.

MIF is a financially strong and stable organization, with a record of steady, controlled growth. With total assets of \$705.4 million and net assets of \$200.8 million at year-end 2018, MIF maintains a capital ratio of 28.5 percent—positioning MIF in the top tier of well-capitalized church extension funds.

For more information, visit mif.elca.org.

MIF LOANS AND INVESTMENTS IN THE METROPOLITAN
NEW YORK SYNOD
(AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2018):

- 16 Mission Investment Fund loans, with a balance of \$4,654,722
- \$5,785,023 in Mission Investment Fund investments



UNITED LUTHERAN SEMINARY GETTYSBURG + PHILADELPHIA

Dr. Richard Green, *interim president*

***“Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace.
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: All are welcome!
All are welcome! All are welcome in this place!”***

Marty Haugen

United Lutheran Seminary

GETTYSBURG + PHILADELPHIA

OUR MISSION & WORK

In our second year of being United Lutheran Seminary, we are pleased to report that we have 167 students seeking to serve in the ministry of Word and Sacrament, and Word and Service, which is a ten percent increase from two years ago.

WITH YOUR SYNODICAL SUPPORT, a secure foundation exists on which to “build a house” that provides for the faculty, staff and facilities, but most importantly provides full tuition to all our ELCA students seeking rostered positions within the church. This year, less than one in four students applied for loans, due in a large part to your Synod’s faithful giving. Our students will be graduating with less debt, which means your congregations in need of a servant leader will have more options for filling a call. We would not be here without your Synod’s amazing grace.

In our second year as United, we lay claim to the lyrics of Marty Haugen—building a house (on two campuses!) where all are named, their songs and visions heard. We seek to love and treasure our students, to teach them and claim them as

words within the Word. Through **Unifying, Learning, and Serving**, we model for our students a vision of the church—not perfect by any means, but striving to live in the grace that frees us all and echoes across the needs of this turbulent time and space. While we have students from over twenty-five denominations and welcome the nuanced discussions that result in our classrooms about theology, culture, and witness, our historical ties to the earliest expressions of Lutheranism in America continue to guide us into a rich and meaningful expression of our denominational heritage and theology of grace.

Our diversity task force, in conjunction with the diversity committee of the Board of Directors, has undertaken a nine-month process within which to craft a Welcome and Equity Statement. We are committed to building a house where restorative justice, equity, and full inclusion at God’s banquet table are afforded to all members of the seminary community. You can read the full statement here:

www.uls.edu/about/welcome-equity/.

United Lutheran Seminary is a community committed to changing the world through the transformative grace of God, inclusive hospitality, and radical welcome. We commit ourselves to making this seminary open, welcoming, accepting, and affirming to all God's children.

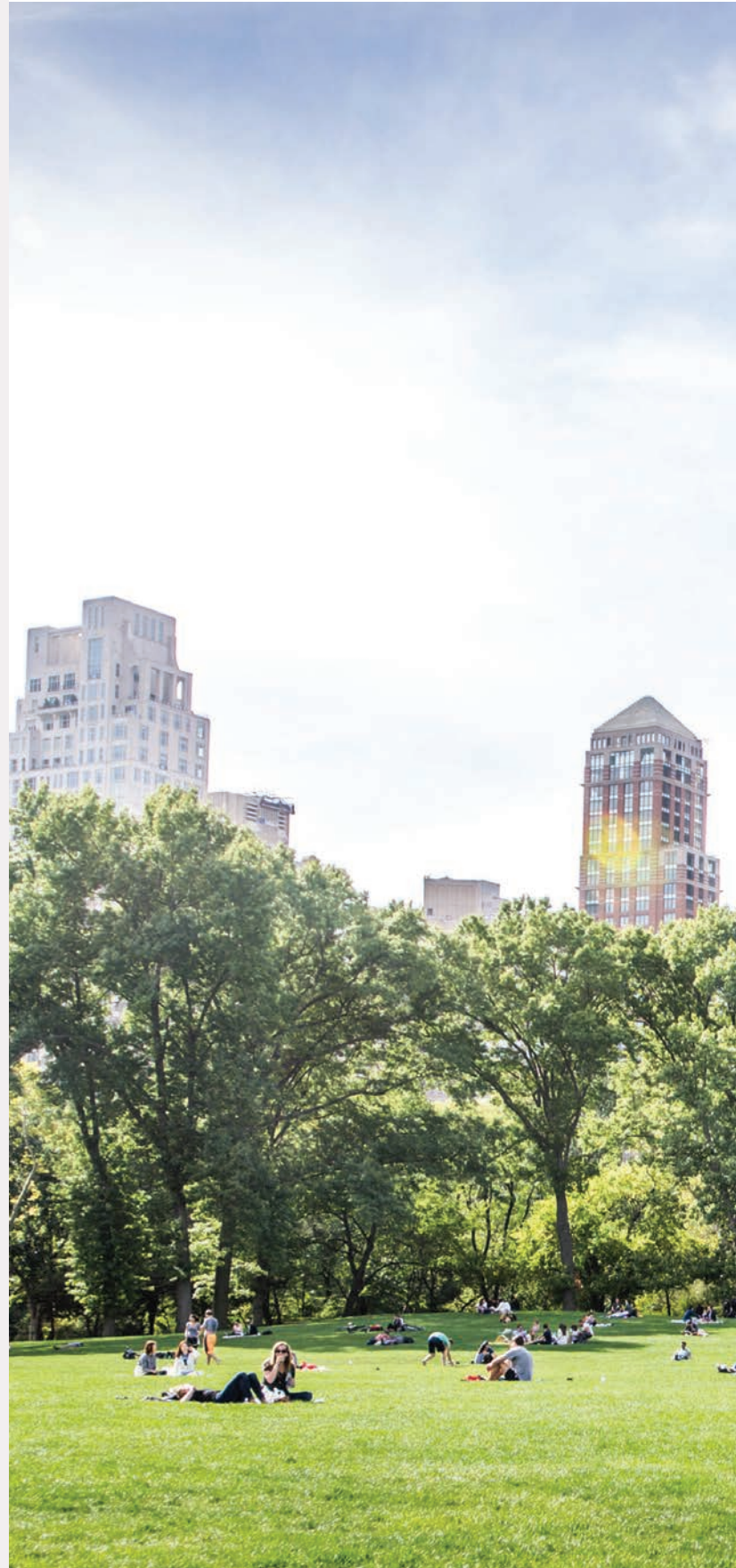
GET INVOLVED

We cannot continue without your support, of course. We ask that you prayerfully consider these ways to help us:

- Recognize those individuals within your synod who have gifts for ministry and encourage them to answer God's call to rostered leadership in the ELCA.
- Make a personal contribution to ULS on a monthly basis. If you are already doing this, consider increasing your monthly gift to the seminary by ten percent (www.uls.edu/giving).

In return, we will strive to raise up new leaders for the congregations within your synod, doing our utmost to prepare them for the challenges of today's church and with the added benefit of little or no graduate school debt. **We are grateful for you, your ministry, and your support, by which we continue to thrive.**

Our goal is to provide full tuition to ELCA students, for the sake of your synodical ministries.



GROWING IN FAITH: THE NEW YORK DIAKONIA PROGRAM

Dcn. Ingrid Compton, *chair/president*,
The Rev. Rebecca Pollicino, *executive director*



OUR MISSION

Diakonia is a call to discipleship. An invitation to live our lives for Christ, commune with other Christians, increase our understanding of the Word, and carry that learning to others in love and service.

OUR WORK

THANKS TO A LEADERSHIP GRANT FROM MNYS AND SOME FUNDING FROM THE ANTI-RACISM COMMITTEE, Diakonia hosted a “Crossroads Anti-Racism Workshop.” Over 50 people attended this all-day workshop. The diverse population of students, deacons, pastors and friends, provided for very rich discussion and sharing. The participants were so excited about this learning that they asked for a follow-up to continue the discussions

Location move: Peconic location moved from Hope Seldon, to Trinity Rocky Point

Changed class day: Peconic location moved classes from Thursday to Tuesday

Location renamed: LI Latino location, meeting at Ascension in Deer Park, is now Western Nassau

New location: This fall, a Northern Nassau location at Abiding Presence in Fort Salonga will begin

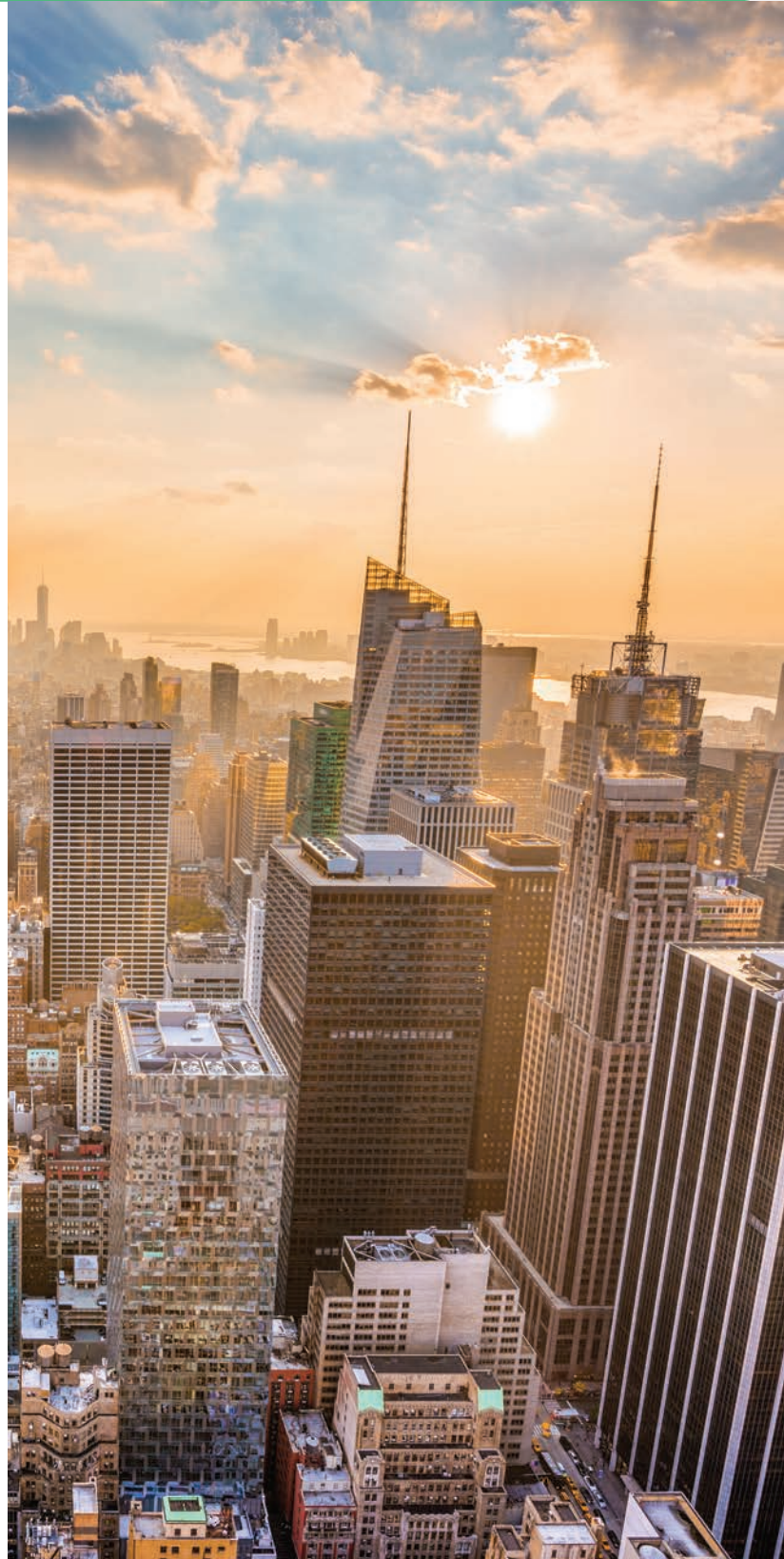
Dedicated Zoom classes: Peconic location began offering online options for all its classes

The program provides educational and spiritual growth through worship, retreats, and a supportive community of fellow students, mentors, and instructors. It includes twelve courses, six per academic year.

Our Zoom online option is catching on and this past year we had students from Florida and the Midwest join classes with our Peconic location.

This new option opens up the program to those in areas not served by Diakonia, and to those who might be excluded from participating due to travel or mobility limitations.

It also enables students across the ELCA to study together and share their stories of faith.





Anti-racism training 2018

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

The Diakonia program equips the saints for ministry, and that involves all areas of the strategic plan. The program is nationally recognized, and has locations in 11 Synods across the ELCA (www.diakoniausa.org). Through education, we assist our students in claiming their faith. With new insight into their faith, they are active in their Congregations (Gathered) and Communities (Sent).

CARE FOR CREATION

We care for God's children by growing their faith, leading disciples who are equipped to be God's hands and feet in our communities, to care for those in need.

Participants want to deepen their life of faith. Many students find that through their coursework, they become more interested in serving the Church in a variety of ways: teaching, administration, liturgical leadership, action for social justice, evangelism, visitation of the sick, community organization, youth work, ministry among the elderly, and the like.

Learn more about the New York Diakonia Program at mnys.org/faith/growing-in-faith/

GET INVOLVED

All MNYS members are invited to participate. Please see our brochure on the Synod website for class locations and times.

Pastors who are interested in sharing their skills and teaching one of our classes are asked to please contact our Chairperson or Executive Director.



Anti-racism training 2018

SEAFARERS INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

The Rev. Marsh Drege, *executive director*



Seafarers International House

OUR MISSION & WORK

In 2018, Seafarers International House cared for fellow human beings by reaching the following:

33,985 immigrants and seafarers directly benefited from SIH services

1,853 seafarers, regardless of faith, received Christmas-at-Sea satchels filled with warm clothing and holiday greetings prepared by Lutheran congregations and volunteers

28 new Americans (asylum seekers) found their first home in the U.S. in our guesthouse, staying a total of 1,182 nights

66 volunteer visitors brought hope to 26 asylum seekers, who were locked up in detention centers

57 survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking and local disasters were accommodated

3 advocacy events were hosted, to draw attention to the plight of asylum seekers

25,183 seafarers were either visited or transported from 1,793 ships along the Eastern Seaboard

432 youth, church and community gatherings accommodated and served about 6,480 people

2 memorial services were hosted by the resident Christ Lutheran Church for Seafarers, who had no immediate kin



Seafarers appreciate the Christmas-at-Sea satchels that volunteers filled with warm clothing, including hand-made scarves and hats, and holiday greetings.

THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU HERE

Seafarers International House often uses the tag line **"Harbor of Hospitality."** This reflects how the organization welcomes everyone: seafarers, who are often lonely; immigrants and asylum seekers, who are in need of lodging; and travelers, people who are truly on the go, all of who find open arms, open ears, a smile, and help through our dedicated staff in the guesthouse in Manhattan or from our Port Chaplains along the Eastern Seaboard.

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

About 66 SIH volunteers visited 26 detained asylum seekers in the Elizabeth, NJ, Detention Center. We were able to offer over 28 asylees, those refugees granted asylum, a first home in the U.S. In fewer than three months, these new Americans became contributing members of their communities, with jobs and permanent homes.

CARE FOR CREATION

SIH's ministry can be based on: "For I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Matthew 25:35

Because God has created us and all God's people in the divine image, we at Seafarers International House participate in the care of God's creation, especially among people who are distressed, displaced, and disadvantaged. We care for people on the margins—whether they be often invisible seafarers or often maligned asylum seekers.

Learn more about the Seafarers International House at sihnyc.org



Pictured above are volunteer knitters and assemblers of the Christmas-at-Sea satchels from St. John's Lutheran Church, Poughkeepsie, NY. These activities can be organized yearlong; some have Christmas in July assembly parties



Members of the Asylee Visitation Program bring hope to detained asylum seekers, who endure prison-like conditions in the Elizabeth Detention Center.

GET INVOLVED

Congregations and individuals can get involved through assembling **"Welcome Packs"** for our asylum seekers. These start-up packs include t-shirts, socks, toiletries, a metro card and a food card.

Congregations and individual can also join the long list of Lutherans who assist with our Christmas-At-Sea holiday initiative. Satchels (bags) are filled with warm clothing, including hand-made scarfs and hats, nuts, along with holiday greetings, and are distributed to seafarers, regardless of faith, so they won't feel so lonely or abandoned at Christmas. **Last year, we distributed 1,853 satchels!**

Another way to get involved is for people to join our Asylee Visitation Program. On certain Saturdays, interested individuals are taken from our guesthouse near Union Square, Manhattan, to the Elizabeth Detention Center, to bring hope to asylum seekers who live there in prison-like conditions. Often, life-changing and lifelong friendships develop.

Anyone interested in participating in Christmas-at-Sea, the asylee Welcome Packs, and/or the detention center visitation program, are invited to get in touch with Pastor Marsh Luther Drege, 212-677-4800 ext. 1203 or drege@SIHNYC.org.

THE LUTHERAN CARE NETWORK

Laraine Felegara, *ceo*



The Lutheran Care Network

The Lutheran Care Network is a community of healing, hospitality, and community through partnerships in caring.

OUR MISSION & WORK

TLCN continually strives to enhance lives through the care provided in our skilled nursing/rehabilitation facilities, adult day health care center, independent retirement village, assisted living and community (low income) housing, and through our senior foster care program.

We have a long, rich history and a trusted relationship with many families. We don't take any of this for granted. We understand that quality care and respect for people are first and foremost, especially today as the paradigm of senior care is changing. With senior citizens living longer, healthier lives, the need for services that meet their new requirements for care will grow.

CARE FOR CREATION

Care, intentionally, is central to our name. The Lutheran Care Network staff is committed to quality care, including respect for an individual's physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. The well-being of people comes first—before any bottom line, insurance reimbursement, ability to pay, or morass of paperwork. We view our work as a ministry to seniors. Because of that, many of our residents are living more capable lives at older ages.

As a ministry of the Lutheran Church, we strive to treat people with the care and concern taught by the Judeo-Christian traditions we uphold. All members of God's creation, particularly those who are vulnerable, deserve the care Jesus so beautifully modeled. Although Lutheran is in our name, people of all faith traditions residing in our residences call us home.

A particular highlight of 2018 was the beautiful, vibrant Service of Thanksgiving and dinner hosted by St. John's Evangelical Lutheran, Poughkeepsie, celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Lutheran Care Center. We are indebted to the leadership of Pastor Deborah Hafner DeWinter and the members of First Evangelical Lutheran, as well as Pastor Jeffrey Koenig and the members of St. John's for helping us honor our founding visionaries, recognize many partner volunteers, and praying for God's continued blessings as we work together to provide excellent care.



Vibrant worship is what spiritual care teams provide throughout our network. Pastors, chaplains and volunteers join together to bring Word and sacrament and music to all in our households.

Learn more about the The Lutheran Care Network at tlcn.org

GET INVOLVED

You can intentionally serve residents in one of our care centers by volunteering to assist with worship, leading a recreational activity, sharing musical/drama talents, actively participating on one of our boards, and especially by keeping our ministry in prayer. The smiles and energy of youth always bring joy to seniors.

Christmas is a popular time to volunteer, but your participation is especially needed throughout the year. Please consider being part of the TLCN team!





PORTICO BENEFITS

The Rev. Jeff Thiemann, *president & ceo*



As an ELCA ministry, Portico offers health, flexible spending, retirement, disability, and survivor plans to help rostered leaders and lay employees strengthen their well-being. By living well as whole people of God, we believe we can better enhance the lives of others.

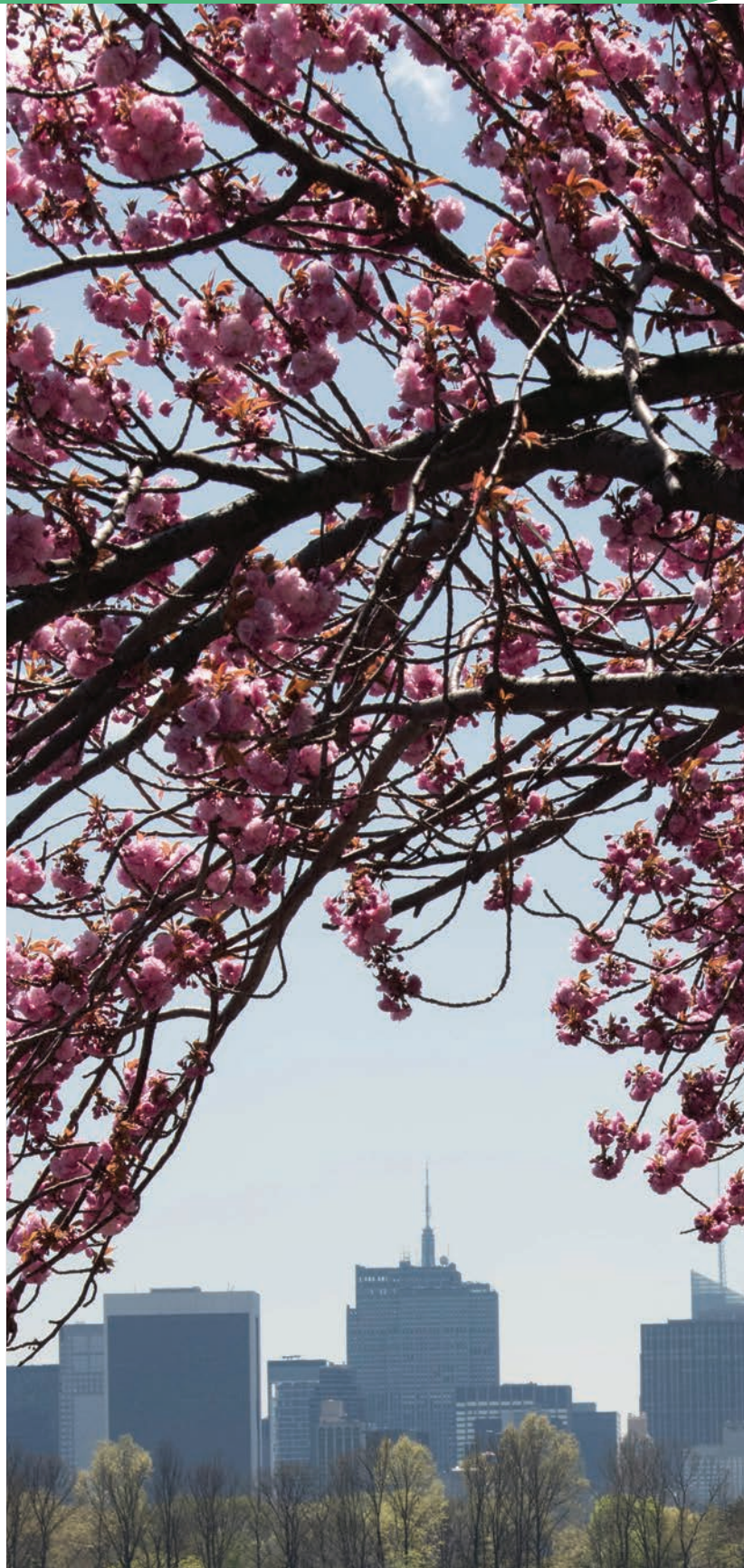
OUR MISSION & WORK

YES, THINGS HAVE CHANGED IN THE CHURCH, especially in the last decade. But like Martin Luther's description of faith—"a living, busy, active, mighty thing"—Portico Benefit Services is constantly evolving, and finding more efficient ways to help clergy and employees steward their gifts for the sake of the world.

As the ELCA's benefit ministry, we are called to live out a 200+ year legacy of service to clergy and employees. Our talented staff leverage Portico's long-term experience, industry partnerships, and innovation-embracing culture to deliver benefits that can help people live well throughout their service and into retirement.

Blessings on your ministry. It's a privilege to serve you.

PORTICO[®]
Benefit Services | A Ministry of the ELCA





BY THE NUMBERS – HELPING PEOPLE LIVE WITH GREATER CONFIDENCE

640

Members Retired

in 2018, and we celebrated with every one!

8,943

Pounds Lost

so far by ELCA-Primary members enrolled in our new OMADA health improvement program.

621

Employees Joined

when four, new Lutheran social ministry organizations decided to offer Portico benefits to their staff last year.

23

Companies Screened

from ELCA social purpose funds for holding reserves of oil shale and tar sands.

\$1M

Debt Paid Off

by plan members working with LSS Financial Counseling, as of year-end 2018.

4.5%

Baseline Rate Increase

for employer health contributions in 2018 – on average, the lowest increase in five years.

\$94

Less Per Month

paid in premiums by most ELCA Medicare-Primary retired members in 2018 thanks to our switch to Humana.

2,500

Worries Released

by ELCA Youth Gathering attendees at Portico's unbinding prayer station.

6,080

Learning Hours

invested by members in Portico's financial education seminars, webinars, and videos last year.

NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

The Rev. Peter Cook, *executive director*



New York State COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, founded in the late 19th century, represents 7,000 congregations across the State of New York. We are comprised of eight partner denominations, including American Baptist Churches, Episcopal Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Presbyterian Church USA, Reformed Church of America, Society of Friends (Quaker), United Church of Christ, and United Methodist Church.

The New York State Council of Churches:

1. Certifies and supports chaplains in Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, Office of Mental Health, and Office for Children and Family Services, as they seek to offer love and hope to so many who feel hopeless and have had little experience of being loved unconditionally. We continue to seek qualified applicants, since we are experiencing a chaplain shortage.

2. Advocates for laws and policies that aid those who are poor and disenfranchised. Examples:

a. With the Fiscal Policy Institute, Strong Economy for All, Metro New York Health, Labor-Religion Coalition, and over 30 other organizations, the Council developed the New Hope, New York Budget Principles, to offer guidance and encouragement to the governor and state legislators as they prepare the state budget in the 2019 legislative session. You can read and endorse the principles at www.nyscoc.org.

b. Advocacy to stop far too many New Yorkers from being needlessly incarcerated pre-trial. This includes reform of the cash bail system, improvement of discovery laws to ensure the accused have access to the prosecutor's evidence in advance of a trial, speedy trial reform, and parole reform.

c. Sponsorship of our Annual Statewide Ecumenical Advocacy Day and statewide budget justice tour, in collaboration with the Fiscal Policy Institute.

3. Building on the work of two conferences on Bridging the Rural-Urban Divide, we are now planning seminars in 2019 and 2020 in rural, suburban and urban regions, to help churches bring disparate groups of people together across the political and economic spectrum, to make their towns more hospitable and welcoming to all people, regardless of income, race, or immigration status. The seminars will also help churches think creatively about how they can further revitalize their mission by using their property to serve their communities, including the building of supportive and affordable housing. The seminars will also discuss how churches can use the services of the Interfaith Affordable Housing Collaborative, which the Council helped to create, to build housing.

4. After a successful trip to New York in 2018, involving over 60 youth, we plan to sponsor a high school trip to Washington, D.C., from February 18 to 21 of 2020. In 2019, we will be profiling the many opportunities for young people, at the state and national level, to grow in faith and discipleship.

For more information go to www.nyscoc.org, 1580 Central Avenue, Albany, New York, 12205 518-436-9319. The Reverend Peter Cook is Executive Director, The Reverend Heather Kirk-Davidoff serves as Director of Community Development Initiatives, and Karen Lapierre is Office Manager.



WARTBURG

David J. Gentner, Ed.D, *president & ceo*



Wartburg's Green Team 2-19

Wartburg provides ministries of healing and hope through comprehensive services that nurture body, mind, and spirit.

OUR MISSION & WORK

Research shows that Americans are now living longer than ever before. This fact has profound implications

for Wartburg and the people we serve. As medical treatments continue to advance, we are similarly working to advance the care and programs we provide—ensuring all members of our aging population have access to fulfilling activities, a welcoming social environment, and the independence and compassion they so richly deserve. It is our goal to continue to be a leader in providing comprehensive services and knowledgeable, innovative, and dependable care to all those who enter our doors.

VALUES

- We believe that everyone at Wartburg is family, including those we serve directly, their families, our staff, benefactors and volunteers.
- We believe that all God's people are worthy of care, compassion, honor, and respect.
- We believe that persons who are in need due to illness, injury or frailty of body, mind, or spirit are especially deserving of care.
- We believe that our Lutheran identity and heritage produce a mandate and calling to provide ministries of healing and hope to all persons entrusted to our care.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND INITIATIVES AT WARTBURG DURING 2018 INCLUDE:

- **U.S. News & World Report** named Wartburg one of the “Best Nursing Homes in New York State” for the eighth consecutive year.
- Wartburg Chapel Camera and Sound Improvements Video & Digital Audio Upgrades – Wartburg installed a new digital camera and broadcast system, which gives the capability to broadcast worship services and events in the Chapel to our Rehabilitation building, Adult Day Services program and Waltemade Nursing facility, with high-definition video and quality sound.

Hearing Aid Induction Loop – With the improvements to the sound system for providing input to the Chapel TV channel, it was a good time to improve the experience of hearing-impaired attendees at worship. Therefore, we installed an Induction Loop in the Chapel floor. This Loop enables those with hearing aids

to directly pick up the sound from the sound system. Those individuals who do not use hearing aids have headsets available for use in the Chapel. Both the Chapel broadcast and Hearing Aid Induction Loop were operational in time for the 2018 Easter Sunday service.

• Wartburg trains volunteers to serve as “Spiritual Care Visitors”

Wartburg's Volunteer Spiritual Care Visitor Program began in September 2017, in response to a need to expand the boundaries of its Spiritual Care Department. In addition, some volunteers were interested in providing Spiritual Care to elderly residents who had little or no family support. Wartburg found an instructor with many years of experience, training volunteers to make visits of a spiritual nature to people in hospitals and nursing homes. Eight weekly sessions were scheduled and the training was publicized in the community. In two years, over 60 people expressed interest, 51 completed the training and nearly 50% of those who were trained now serve as volunteers in Wartburg's Spiritual Care Department, adding valuable hours of personal visits with many residents. All the volunteers complete 20 hours of training to prepare them to be effective and compassionate visitors for the residents in many of Wartburg's programs. The training includes such topics as active listening, faith sharing, discernment, issues of aging and illness, grief and suffering, and death and dying. Most of the trained volunteers are assigned to regularly visit up to four residents in Wartburg's nursing home. Other volunteers are visiting residents in assisted living and independent living, as well as home care patients in the community. Altogether, volunteers are visiting over 50 people served by Wartburg services.



Wartburg's Creative Aging Program provides many opportunities for self-expression.

• **The Institute for Music and Neurologic Function**

The Institute for Music and Neurologic Function (IMNF) is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization, now a member of Wartburg with headquarters on Wartburg's campus. Co-founded in 1995 by Dr. Concetta M. Tomaino and distinguished neurologist Dr. Oliver Sacks, the IMNF is driven by over 35 years of clinical observations on the actual effects of music on individuals who have different types of physical and neurological disorders. Currently directed by renowned music therapist Dr. Concetta M. Tomaino, the IMNF conducts research on the relationship between music and the brain, provides patients with music therapy, and offers our professional peers around the world the latest music therapy education and training information about best practices. Through the scientific exploration of music and



The Institute for Music and Neurologic Function, now at Wartburg, hosts the Music Has Power Awards in NYC, honoring Multiple Grammy winner and Renowned Soprano, Renee Fleming.

the brain, the IMNF seeks to establish new knowledge and to develop more effective music therapy treatments to awaken, stimulate and heal through the extraordinary power of music. Considered a worldwide authority in clinical music therapy research and education, the IMNF offers the following resources to individuals in the New York metro area community:

- Expertise in using music therapy to restore, maintain and improve the physical, emotional, and neurological functioning of individuals who have suffered a stroke or brain trauma, have Alzheimer's Disease or other forms of dementia, Parkinson's Disease, or other diseases and conditions for which music therapy would be beneficial
- Vast clinical experience applying music therapy techniques to diverse client populations
- Internationally and nationally recognized training programs in music therapy

The IMNF actively collaborates with leading organizations across the globe to develop and implement the most effective music therapy treatment programs through the methodical use of music, and advance the understanding of applying the power of music to promote healing and wellness. Wartburg is happy and excited to sponsor the IMNF organization, which now provides music therapy on our campus, as well as educating our staff on the best use of music in our therapeutic recreation programs.

The IMNF Music Has Power Awards - On Monday, November 19th, 2018, at the Times Center in NYC, we celebrated opera great, Renée Fleming, for her advocacy of music therapy, and music and brain research, along with IMNF Board member

and Dean of Touro Law Center, Harry Ballan, for his ongoing support of music and neuroscience and his assistance during IMNF's transition into an independent entity at a new home. The Music Has Power™ Awards is the signature event presented by the Institute for Music and Neurologic Function. The celebration symbolizes the visionary spirit of the Institute and its pioneering mission to combine science and music to promote healing and wellness. Funds raised through this event support the Institute. Specifically, those funds raised through Music Has Power™ Awards support patient care, in addition to clinical and scientific research.



Wartburg's Creative Aging Program provides many opportunities for self-expression.

• **Wartburg becomes the new home of the Westchester End-of-Life Coalition (WELC) and Livewithcare.org**

WELC is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt corporation that for years has worked to improve the end-of-life experience for individuals and their families through perhaps the most sophisticated and practical tools available. WELC has now been legally acquired by Wartburg. Wartburg also works toward having an informed community within which all those with serious illness are able to live with dignity, at peace, pain-free, and in a manner of their choosing. This guides the public (although with limited educational materials and programming) through different stages of health, from diagnosis to living with serious illness in various care settings on our campus and in the community. Thus, Wartburg has acquired the legal transfer of WELC assets and intellectual property, including the following:

1. **www.LiveWithCare.org**: A tool for health care consumers who seek information and resources about preparing for and coping with serious illness and the end of life; it describes care options, how to navigate the healthcare system, and helps families feel in better control. Uniquely designed to serve Westchester residents, it comprises a Guide, Stories, and a Directory of providers. The Guide has sections on "Being Prepared," "Being Diagnosed," "Living with Serious Illness," and "At the End of Life." It offers practical guidance on a variety of topics, including important documents for advance care planning, checklists for doctors' visits, help in selecting a nursing home, and how to support a dying person at home. The true Stories enhance the factual Guide and help residents connect with experiences that resonate with their own. The Directory is an inventory of contact information of Westchester providers serving families living with serious illness or at the end of life, and facilitates access to clinical and community resources.
2. **Live With Care Talks**: Tailored presentations for groups about being prepared for and living with serious illnesses and being prepared for the end of life. Topics are similar to those found in LiveWithCare.org. PowerPoints include "Advance Directives," "How to Pay for Home Care," "Understanding Hospice and Palliative Care," and "How to Select Your Healthcare Agent."
3. **Be Prepared Kit™**: An organizational tool for keeping track of important information in case of incapacity or death. A book-sized box with labeled folders that gathers information in one convenient place for easy access by family members. It includes

folders for personal contacts, location of important legal and financial documents, advance directives for care, wishes for final arrangements, and more.

4. **Everybody Needs a Proxy™:** This is a community-based campaign initiated and organized by WELC to promote the signing of Health Care Proxies in Westchester. WELC has trained volunteers who distribute and assist people in the process of completing a Health Care Proxy form. Information is also given about the difference between a Health Care Proxy and a Living Will, and when other directives such as a DNR (Do Not Resuscitate) or MOLST (Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatments) may be appropriate.

5. **Can We Talk?:** A corollary to **Everybody Needs a Proxy**, it offers individuals, families, and professional care givers and health advocates tools and informational material to help initiate and conduct conversations among family members and with physicians about healthcare wishes, with a focus on values and life goals. A combination of **Can We Talk?** and **Everybody Needs a Proxy** is WELC's primary approach to helping individuals, families and groups with advance care planning.

6. **¿Podemos Hablar?:** Similar to **Can We Talk?**, is adapted to a population with limited education and whose primary language is Spanish.

7. **General Educational Programs:** These include community lectures, panel discussions, study groups, and workshops for professionals and the public, which raise general awareness about matters related to serious illness and the end of life. In addition, these programs provide information about healthcare legislation changes and topical issues featured in the general press and professional publications.

8. **Personal Assistance:** Guidance for individuals and families who seek information, direction, resources, and providers by phone or in person, for their specific situation. WELC does not offer clinical counseling.

This is a significant opportunity for Wartburg to reach out beyond traditional channels, and most certainly beyond the traditional campus connections.

• **Wartburg plans to build additional Independent Senior Housing**

The proposed new building is to be located in the northeast corner of the campus and, at this time, is approximately 261,050 gross square feet with 195 residential units, 184 parking spaces and ±14,000 square feet of amenity space. Initial thoughts on massing of the building is nine stories of residences on a four-story parking podium. The additional units will help to fulfill the need for adequate housing for seniors in Westchester County and the surrounding area.

Wartburg speaks to the assembly theme “Care for Creation.”

Here are some highlights of Wartburg’s Environmental Responsibility Initiative:

- Replaced over 11,000 lights on the campus, with LEDs, saving 736,004 kWh a year, which is the equivalent of 548 metric tons of greenhouse gas, and also equivalent to 599,285 pounds of coal burned and 61,635 gallons of gasoline consumed. The savings also translate monetarily, and the project, assisted by Con Edison rebates and incentives, will pay for itself in decreased energy costs after 18 months.
- Through a grant from Con Edison, Wartburg hired a part-time On-Site Energy Manager to analyze and implement energy saving initiatives throughout the campus.
- Working on certification from Green Business Partnership to become the only eldercare organization in Westchester to achieve its Greening Certification, through work done in six areas:
 - Energy Management
 - Waste & Recycling
 - Green Purchasing
 - Transportation
 - Land Use
 - Water Use
- Wartburg formed a “Green Team” (see attached picture) of staff from across the campus, along with residents, with goals in 2019 to:
 - Reduce paper use by 20%
 - Reduce solid waste by 20% (through expanding our campus recycling program, decreasing our use of disposable products, e-waste recycling, and donations of used medical equipment for use in developing countries)

These initiatives build upon a philosophy of environmental responsibility for many years at the Wartburg, which has already instituted many sustainable practices, including light sensors in offices, water faucet aerators, combined heat and power (CHP) cogeneration, and in 2013, the building of two LEED certified buildings (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) on the Wartburg campus.

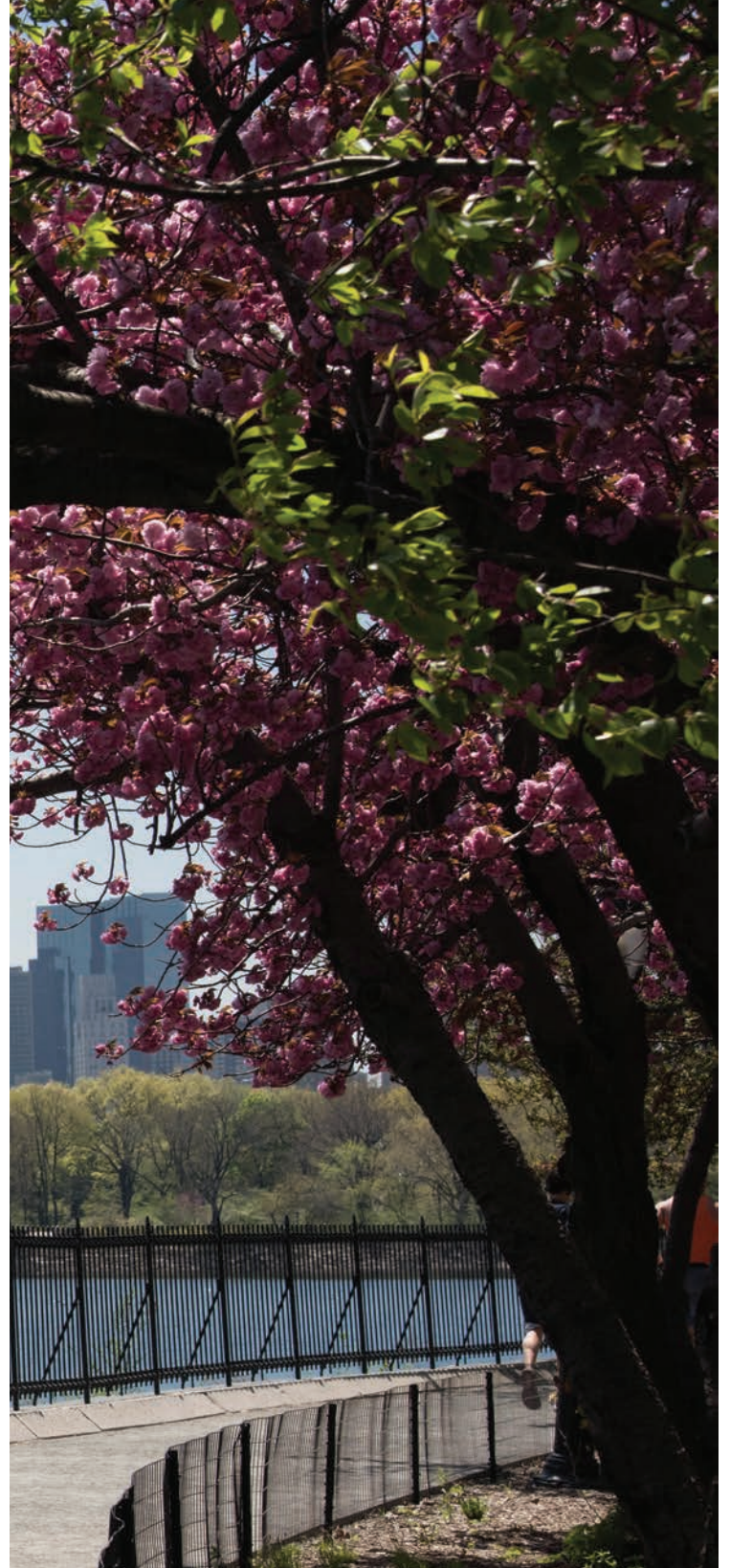
Vision (2011)

Committed to assisting persons to age successfully through spiritual enrichment and wellness programs, Wartburg will become a sustainable, nationally recognized and fully-integrated provider of care and housing to seniors throughout the Greater NY region.

GET INVOLVED

Individuals and congregations can engage in the work of Wartburg in the following ways:

- Visit our website: www.wartburg.org for more information
- Sign up to receive news about Wartburg
- Volunteer by contacting Ann Frey, Director of Volunteers, at afrey@wartburg.org
- Sign up for the next Spiritual Care Visitor training by contacting Pastor Carol Fryer at cfryer@wartburg.org
- Contact Janet Palazzolo, Vice President, Residential Services and Home Care, for more information about Advance Care Planning and End-of-Life issues at jpalazzolo@wartburg.org
- Attend Wartburg's Annual Gala "Jazz in June" on June 13, 2019, at the Surf Club in New Rochelle
- Attend Wartburg's Music Under the Stars on September 20, 2019
- Attend Wartburg's Fall Festival on September 21, 2019
- Become a member of the Passavant Society, a legacy circle for those who have included Wartburg in their estate plans.
- Donate! There are many ways to support Wartburg's programs and services. For more information, please contact Angela Ciminello, Vice President, Development & Marketing, at aciminello@wartburg.org.



THANK YOU!



Metropolitan New York Synod
2019 Synod Assembly | Care for Creation