

LUTHER COLLEGE
CLASS OF 1968
50th Anniversary Celebration

50
YEAR
REUNION



Homecoming 2018
October 26-28



TO LUTHER

To Luther let us sing
A joyous song of love and cheer,
May our voices loudly ring
In praise of Alma Mater dear.

Thy mem'ry dear we'll cherish
And ever recollect thy care.
That thy fame may never perish
Is the burden of our prayer.

Our hearts are light and free
Whene'er we to Old Luther sing;
May she now and ever be
Faithful to our Heavenly King!

Chorus

May our thoughts to thee oft turn
When we're absent far away
May we then sincerely yearn
To return to thee some day.

Tune: "There's Music in the Air"

"PRI SEC"

Pri-sec-ter-qua
Hoopla! Boomla!
We yell Luther
Zip! Bang! Rah! Rah!

FIELD SONG

Our team goes in to fight and win,
The spirit of old drives them on.
With a "Pri Sec" shout
We all come out
To yell for Luther who wins today.
And Luther's team is strong;
They fight as long
As victory hangs in doubt,
Opponents fall
'Fore Luther's wall,
All hail to our College dear

Rosemary Jeanne (White) Achenbach

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I came to Luther in my junior year after attending Mason City Junior College for two years. I had fallen in love with the French language after having two years of it at MCJC. I decided to major in French and minor in English. Because many of my French classes were conducted in French, I struggled but my dear friend Cheri Gooch helped me get through it. When I graduated from Luther in 1968, I was ready to be a teacher of French or English. I was invited by a friend (Diane Aumann) to visit the Chicago area and I decided I really wanted to go there for a change. I ended up in Palatine, IL, teaching French in elementary school and renting a house with another Luther friend, Julie Glesne. It was great. After three years at this job, my district phased out the French program so I transitioned to 3rd grade. I taught that for eight years until I was really ready for a change. I finally ended up at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library where I was a school/library liaison for the next 27 years until my retirement in 2013. I loved my job because it was different every day. I served grades K-8 and I had 18 schools to visit or host at the library. Now that I am retired, I am happy making jewelry from beads and crystals, reading, working out at a local health club and being with friends and family. My bucket list definitely includes more travel, including a second trip to France and to other foreign locations. I will always treasure my time at Luther and the friends I met there and continue to spend time with. I love coming across other Luther grads who I know immediately by seeing their Luther rings. I consider myself a lucky person for having spent two years at such an amazing place.

Diane (Olofson) Aumann

Spouse: Robert Aumann

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My husband, Bob, and I have been married 47 years and have three sons and a daughter. Since our kids are all now in Nashville, we have recently relocated here. I taught middle school choral music for twenty five years, retired and am looking forward to getting involved in music here in Nashville. We are also enjoying babysitting for our 3-month old granddaughter, Emerson.

Some of my best memories at Luther involve my friends, Carol Ray Nordli, Jeanne Achenbach, Janet Thompson Spitzack, and Bonnie Holt Hewitt, all of whom gather once/year to celebrate our friendship somewhere between Minneapolis and Chicago.

My most memorable times at Luther center around Weston Noble and Nordic Choir. I will never forget Weston's influence, and have used what he taught us in all of my years of teaching and church choir directing. The culmination of all those experiences was the 1967 Nordic Choir European Trip. It was amazing to gather at Luther last year to celebrate our mutual experiences in Norway and Germany. So many laughs and inspirational moments. Truly amazing!

Luther students, celebrate the special place which is Luther College, make lasting friendships, be open to every new experience and learning opportunity!

Laura (Blackmore) Bachman

Spouse: Ronald Bachman (deceased)

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Luther impacted my life! I chose Luther after also visiting Wartburg and St. Olaf. I wanted to attend a Christian college. I loved the beautiful, small-town, rural campus. But, more than all that, I loved the atmosphere of worship and the theme "Soli Deo Gloria" that marked life at Luther. I loved professors like Richard Simon Hanson and his spirit-filled faith and the radiance of the love of God that emanated from the face and the life of Weston Noble. Because I wasn't a singer, it took my roommates three years to convince me that even I could be in the Messiah chorus. What a life-changing, empowering experience.

Luther connected me to a summer volunteering at Holden Village in the Cascade Mountains of Washington state and other awesome times there through the years.

Luther connected me to my husband, Ron Bachman! He was a year behind me and only spent his freshman year at Luther as he had to move back home to help his mom with his dad's terminal, Lou Gehrig's Disease diagnosis. A friend of his from the Twin Cities, from his Luther class, married one of my roommates. We were both in their wedding! During a homecoming weekend we stayed with them in their trailer, we got engaged. Though Ron and I never dated and spent our engagement, he in Minnesota and me in Illinois, we spent 46+ wonderful years of marriage and had two beautiful, God-loving daughters.

Luther impacted my life as one of my brothers, Stephen, was a Luther boy at Hothorpe Hall in England. My sister, Myra, spent time there and met and married Ed Kail another Luther boy. Ron and I would spend his Luther Seminary internship as assistant director and head housekeeper at Hothorpe, too. What a spectacular year with two months, using eurail passes afterward, visiting many of our volunteer staff in their homes, our "Backyard Tour of Europe."

Ron spent more than 40 years as a Lutheran minister. We loved the Church and serving the Lord together. Though I started out as an elementary ed major at Luther, I headed to my advisor, Dr. Bale, after my first elementary ed. class and asked how I could change my course. He recommended a rather new program, an M.A.T.--a Masters of Art in Teaching. Thanks to my knowing Lynn Chase, a Luther student ahead of me, I got an interview where she taught as an English teacher at Maine West High School in Des Plaines, Illinois. I too taught English, and I put Ron through three years of seminary at Garrett Seminary.

Though I felt I was born to teach, after our time at Hothorpe, I never taught full-time again. After years of substitute teaching while our girls were little, I became a freelance writer and photographer. For a time, I was a correspondent for The Lutheran and a regional editor of inserts in that national magazine.

My writing experiences eventually led to becoming a managing editor at Write Source Educational Publishing House, creating handbooks to teach students age kindergarten through college how to write. What an amazing time of seeing my classroom enlarged.

I still work (with both of our daughters) doing editorial work for a company in Florida that prints books for Chick-fil-A's Kids Meal program. We all work from Oshkosh and Burlington, Wisconsin; and from Spring Hill, Tennessee.

I lost Ron to cancer in 2015. He came out of his retirement to serve a small church and preached until a few months before he died. I'm grateful for his love of the Lord that brought him to a Christian college like Luther. I hope and pray that Luther is still drawing students for the same reasons that drew Ron and me--to join in the glorious band that lives to give God alone the glory.

Steve Bakke

Spouse: Lois

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Luther was a great time in my life. Great memories and great friends I still see. I met my wife Lois (Hoeger) our junior year and we were married right after graduation. Then came the Army, grad school (MBA), 12 years as a CPA and then quite a few tension-packed wonderful years in commercial finance lending money to small and growing business. I started retiring in 2004 when I and my partners sold the company.

Lois's story gives information on our sons and their families. Life is full of all kinds of experiences and one that shook our family to its foundation was Lois's ruptured brain aneurysm just over 21 years ago. If you see and talk to her you can see she's just fine, but that wasn't the original expectation.

For years we owned a lake cabin which is now owned by our youngest son. Relaxation at the lake became a big part of our family life which both boys have carried forward with their own families visiting their own lake homes.

While I fished a lot over the years, I've now transitioned to golf which I picked up after a long hiatus at age 58 or so. We purchased a condo in a Fort Myers, Florida golf community and that's where we spend over half the year. We try to go on an annual cruise and I love to ride bicycle - as long as the hills aren't too high. And I have a habit of telling people what I think about things in regular newspaper columns and on my blog/website. At least it keeps me busy.

In closing, I just want to put a good word in for the canine community. If you find yourself frowning a lot or becoming a "curmudgeon" of sorts (which describes me sometimes), get a friendly dog. They are good at making people smile.

Lois (Hoeger) Bakke

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I have fond memories of my time at Luther. I received a great education, made many good friends and a found a wonderful husband.

Steve and I graduated in May 1968, got married in June, and he was drafted into the Army in November. I was in my first year as an elementary teacher and stayed in Bloomington, MN to finish the first year. This is the 50th anniversary for a lot of events. This summer we celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary with a big celebration at the horse racetrack just south of the Twin Cities.

I continued to teach 3rd or 4th grade for five years. I retired to become a “Mother” while doing substitute teaching. Steve and I have two sons, Jeff and Jason, a family doctor and CPA, respectively. When the boys were both in school, I found a part-time job. After a few years, I found a full-time job in business. Many times, I look back and wish I had gone back to teaching because I really enjoyed it.

In 2004, Steve and I “started” retiring. We purchased a condo near Fort Myers, Florida on a golf course. It’s the best investment that we have made (not for the money, but the pleasures of life). Of course, I had to learn how to golf. I am not very good, but I am determined to have a great time doing it. Early in my golfing career, I even had a hole in one (just lucky, definitely not talent). Steve and I stay busy in FL. We play bocce, golf, bike, read and have a great social life.

We are blessed with two sons with wonderful wives, and five grandkids from age 17 on down. They are doing well and both families have Christian Faith to guide them in their lives.

Life has been good. I am blessed.

Jean (Aaker) Berg

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Happy Anniversary! It's a pleasure to reflect on the last 50 years and take time to be grateful for my four years at Luther. They were wonderful years during a very turbulent time that put me on a career path in teaching, introduced me to Decorah and my husband and grounded me in my Christian faith.

I loved being a teacher. I taught 2nd graders for over 35 years and retired from the Madison, WI school district in 2010. Each year special needs children were in my classroom and it was a privilege to team with a special education teacher and wonderful educational assistants. At the end of my career I was able to mentor new teachers to the district and help them navigate their first year of teaching. It was a challenge and privilege to touch the lives of so many students and their families.

I married Bill Berg (Class of '66) in August of 1968. He served congregations and special ministries in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and in Madison. Unfortunately, he died of cancer in 2004. I have two children: Mari and Nick. Mari graduated from Luther in 1995 and has a career in health and fitness in Madison. Nick lives in Milwaukee and works for Apple and enjoys the music scene there.

My passions are volunteering for nonprofits, music and travel. I have worked with a refugee resettlement group connected with Lutheran Social Services for the last 6 years. We have placed over 300 people from Bhutan, Iraq and Afghanistan. Unfortunately, our numbers are low at this time but I hope more new friends will be coming our way. A neighborhood for low income housing named Bayview also gives me great joy as I work on their board and neighborhood center. My music fix comes from years in the Unkalung Choir connected with the Bethel Series and with our church choir. It has been a pleasure to travel a lot with friends and my companion, Blaise, who has introduced me to wonderful travel sites.

Life is Good. Soli Deo Gloria.

Thomas (Tom) Bergerud

Spouse: Ardith (Ardi)- Class of 71

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I met my wife, Ardi, at Luther when I was a senior and she was a freshman. We were able to maintain our relationship after I graduated, and until she did in 1971, at which time we married. I began working for a non-profit organization that served children and adults challenged with various disabilities, and stayed in that career until I retired in 2012 after 44 years, the last 40 as executive director of two similar organizations. Ardi and I have three adult children and five grandchildren. We spend summers at our cottage and winters traveling, reading and playing lots of pickle ball!

Many great memories from Luther, not all of which could or should be repeated! My first roommate Chip, and then others Jeff, Tom, Dan and Bill... all great guys to know and share life with! Had many good friends as a member of Kappa Phi Tau. First- dorm life taught me survival skills, and then off-campus housing the finer points of time management (or not!). I remember Dr. Farwell saying something like this on our first day- "Other schools may teach you how to earn a living, but Luther will teach you how to create a values-based life worth living!" It turned out to be a profound reflection. Luther provided me a chance to grow and mature and discover my true self, as well as my future wife! Who can ask for anything more!?

Donna (Svendsen) Bestmann

Spouse: Gary Allen Bestmann (Mankato State)

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I am retired and live in western Minnesota. I taught high school English and French for roughly 35 years. Upon my graduation from Luther in 1968, I came directly to Redwood Falls, MN and began my teaching career. I have lived here ever since.

My husband and I both have been lifetime educators. We have two children who both attended Augustana College in Sioux Falls. Our son worked at a music Conservatory in NYC, while our daughter is Executive Director of Financial Aid at Columbia University. My husband and I have three granddaughters. Three Svendsen siblings attended Luther College.

Tom Beyer

Spouse: Susie Beyer

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After graduation I was drafted into the Marines and because of my Luther degree I ended up in Kansas City instead of Viet Nam. Then and early out for grad school at Mankato State. Then the workforce. First Dun & Bradstreet, then 20 years at CNA insurance specializing in professional liability claims. I left to join Kemper Insurance as a Senior Vice President in a start up operation. After 911, our division headquarters were in the World Trade Center, the world changed and I retired for the first time to do something more worthwhile. I returned to school and earned a Masters in Special Education, taught for 10 years and retired again. After that retirement, I worked just about every day as a long term sub teaching math. This year I was fortunate to be offered a full time position teaching high school math. I am a terrible failure at retirement. I've been blessed with good health and I really enjoy encouraging kids.

I also have been blessed with a wonderful wife of 37 years, Susie and 5 incredible daughters as well as 5 wonderful grandkids. I have also been blessed to have maintained valuable relationships with my PiSig brothers. God is good.

Dorothy (Engelien) Borge

Spouse: Michael Borge

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After graduating from Luther I went full-time to grad school at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis receiving a Masters in Zoology. Mike Borge and I got married in 1969 and I started teaching in the New Brighton, MN school system. During Mike's intern year I worked at the Glendive, MT high school, then returned to the same school in New Brighton during Mike's senior year at seminary. Then on to Montana, where we have been ever since: started in Plains (7 yrs), then Conrad (20 years, where we raised our kids), then to Butte, America (11 years). I have continued to be involved in education until retirement. We have been retired for 8 years and live in Missoula, MT. We have had mountains everywhere we've lived, so have enjoyed all that has brought: hiking, cross country skiing, Glacier Park, etc.

We have two children. Karl and his wife Robyn are both Family Medicine doctors at Gundersen Health System in La Crosse, Wisconsin. They have two children: Kolter (14) and Kaitlyn (9). Karl and Kolter are great fishermen and take advantage of living close to the Mississippi. Our daughter Sarah is also a Family Medicine doctor here in Missoula. She has her own practice now. Her husband is from Chile (yes, he's a citizen!!) so we have taken trips down there. They have two children: Emilia (5) and Matias (2). We have been blessed to live by them and help with babysitting.

Like many of you, I have been/and still am involved in numerous volunteer activities...Stephen Ministry, Habitat for Humanity, Bread for the World, Family Promise, Lutheran World Relief quilting, etc.

Luther has had a huge impact on my life! I can't say enough about my biology profs: Reitan, Rulon, Roslien, Knutson. I worked in the department 3 years; they became my mentors, nurturers, friends. And, oh my, Knut Gunderson and Norwegian...we even sang for the King of Norway! So many memories come flooding back: greased pig contest, ice sculptures, Audubon and WIMI movies, biology trip to the Everglades with 40 other bio majors, Omega Phi Beta, Tri Omega guys, chapel, racing to get to the union to eat after late labs, campaigning for John Rollefson for student body president, working 2 years for Upward Bound, studying in "the stacks", football games, tremendous friends who had such a valuable impact on my life. Fifty of them showed up for our wedding in Ettrick, Wisconsin! I am thankful for Luther and that both of our children could go there too!

Soli Deo Gloria!

Michael Borge

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My life at Luther was enhanced by many friendships.

My studies were helped when my adviser suggested I take the second year economic class because of my major in math. Though I didn't really know what economics was all about, this led to a second major.

The presence of Luther Congregation allowed me to go to Hothorpe Hall in England for one year. This gave me the opportunity to serve, read as I chose, enjoy world class theater, and meet students from countries throughout Europe. I was also able to travel (including hitch hiking) throughout Europe. This included traveling to East Berlin during the Cold War. Due to this year off studies, I graduated with a different class, which included my future wife, Dorothy. What a blessing--I married up!

After these 38 years, we have retired to Missoula, MT. I do supply preaching, continue to fish and hunt as able, and find joy in my grandchildren. To read about our family, refer to Dorothy Engelién Borge's bio.

P.S. Our children are both 5th generation Borge Luther grads. We are thankful and proud!

Judy L Brammer

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Upon graduation I got married and started my professional life as an elementary education teacher starting out first in Elgin, IL then moving on to Davenport, Iowa. In 1972 we started our family and I became a "stay at home mom" for 10 years. During that time I went back to school to work on a MA in special education. Our family is made up of 4 kids and 8½ grandkids. Jennifer, our first born (46), lives in Lexington, SC., is married and has three children, two daughters who they adopted from China, and a son who is a sophomore at Virginia Tech. Jen teaches special education. Jonathan followed (44) and lives with his wife and two-year-old son in Silver Spring, MD. They are waiting for my 9th grandchild to arrive around Christmas. Jon also teaches - High School English and Literature. Kate (42) lives in York Town, VA with her husband and two teenage daughters. She is also a special education teacher. Elizabeth (40) is also a Luther grad with a teaching degree, however she went back to school to become an occupational therapist. She lives nearby in Roanoke with her husband and two lively boys (10 and 5) .

Our family has always enjoyed the outdoors and camping which is what lead us to the mountains of VA. Paul and I would have been married 50 years in 2017. Cancer put an end to our journey together 8 years ago. but it was a journey full of love and too many blessings to count.

After 30 years of teaching I stay busy trying to keep up with my grandkids. I also stay pretty busy with my church which includes a mission project which led to 4 trips to Malawi, Africa. I am trying to stay (young?) with water classes at the YMCA. Last fall I became the handler for a wonderful lab named Bella who is a trained therapy dog. We visit local hospitals, work with hospice patients, and visit an assisted living facility for residents who have Alzheimers or sever dementia.

I feel like every day of my attendance at Luther has affected some aspect of my life as it is today. I was not part of the music programs (except to sing in Messiah) but today I have a great appreciation for all kinds of music due to my exposure at Luther. Building relationships with roommates, being comfortable seeking out professors with questions, and just enjoying the beauty of the Luther campus have given me many wonderful memories to be thankful for. It has not been easy for me to travel back to Luther, but I know I will always seek ways to make the connection again and again.

Karen (Erickson) Brandt

Spouse: Edward Brandt

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After graduation. I went into teaching and retired in 2003 from the Minneapolis Public Schools. I taught Developmental/Adapted Physical Education to special education students K-21 years old. Besides teaching, I also coached Special Olympics in a variety of sports and did after school recreational programing for special needs students.

Since retirement, I have continued to enjoy athletic activities, watching our son play baseball through high school, college and then when he was coaching. We continue to go to MN Twins baseball games, MN Wild hockey games and MN Gopher sporting events. Always have time to travel to Florida each winter, Las Vegas, and making other short trips throughout the year since selling our cabin in northern Wisconsin. And now we are enjoying our one-year-old granddaughter.

It is hard to believe that it was 100+ years ago when the students who were celebrating their 50th reunion started at Luther and we were freshmen at Luther. I remember walking around on campus that first homecoming freshman year and seeing the 50th year blue ribbons on their name tags and wondering if I would ever make it, what would we look like, would we come back, what would our life be like... and here we are, we made it. (And I sure hope we have those blue ribbons that have 50th on them so this year's freshman class can look at us and wonder!). And to this year's incoming class, remember to call your parents often, it helps them.

Leonard (Len) Bruce

Spouse: Joan Bauer Bruce '68

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Joan and I began our teaching careers in Waukon, Iowa. Joan was teaching Spanish and English and I taught English, Speech, and Drama. We lived in Waukon for thirteen years and adopted two children while we were there. In 1980, I received a Masters Degree in Secondary Ed. Administration and began a twenty-three year career as a high school principal. I retired in 2004 from Camanche High School in Iowa and Joan was teaching at Pleasant Valley High School in Bettendorf. Joan retired from Pleasant Valley in 2010. 2011 was the first year we ventured to Arizona to join the flock of snowbirds. We have enjoyed eight years there, getting away from the Midwest winters and enjoying an active and healthy life together.

2018 also marks our 50th Wedding Anniversary and we are reminded each day that we are very fortunate to have each other. We are happily looking forward to the next 50 years together. We can now laugh about how much college life has changed since we were students at Luther and we cherish the opportunities that our Luther education granted us.

We hope that Luther students of the future will take every opportunity to be involved in campus life, make as many friends as possible, never forget the love and support of your families, study hard but try new activities, and always keep your days at Luther as a centering focus in your lives.

Thomas Carlisle

Spouse: Barbara Carlisle

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I am an attorney, currently serving as an administrative law judge for an Illinois state agency. My prior position was as General Counsel to the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. Have been active in the Illinois State Bar Association for 39 years (was the prior "chair" of the Law Related Education for the Public Committee). Private practice focused on Bankruptcy law.

Currently reside in New Berlin, Illinois (15 miles west of Springfield). During the past half century I have lived in New York City, and three locations in Illinois: Wheaton, Springfield, and Newton.

Married to a great wife, Barbara, R.N. Have three daughters and a son (Anna, Bea, Iona, and Wes - started a bit "late" as Anna is 12).

The experiences at Luther College taught me to adapt to many of life's challenges, as I was evolving from adolescence into adulthood (process continues). Met a number of exceptional people during those four years, and remain in contact with these friends to this day. They are all "quality" people.

Many memories, but a few "stand out":

- studying for exams from Dr. Cole and Dr. Leland ("Rome" - start writing).
- going solo on KWLC and taking requests for the Saturday Night show.
- solving world problems during various discussions in the dorm, adinfinitum.
- dealing with the Dean concerning a disabled vehicle on ball field.
- playing "Senator Bobby" in a skit held during a Fraternity/Sorority competition (with 101 degree handicap during the performance).

Unsolicited Advice:

Don't be afraid of change, it will happen anyway. Change is what life is all about.

Sometimes you do not realize that you are living "great days" until long afterward. My four years at Luther College is an example of this phenomenon.

TJC - September 3, 2018

Walter J. Chossek

Spouse: Aleta (Reckling, 69)

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Arthur Andersen & Co. '67 to '72

US Army, 1st Air Cavalry Div, Republic of Vietnam '69 to '70 (Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal for Valor, Air Medal and Combat Infantry Badge)

Northwestern Mutual Life '72 to '07

CPA '79

We have lived in the Milwaukee area since '72 raising Derek (Luther '93) and Kristen (NYU '96) in Shorewood. We have four grandchildren. We have been active participants/leaders in our church and the community. I serve as treasurer of the Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA from '92 to 2000.

Since 1998, I have been an Officer and Director of the Mt. Meru Coffee Project, Inc. supporting small coffee farmers with above fair trade prices in the Arusha/Meru region of Northern Tanzania. I been to Tanzania nine times for the Project and the Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA's companion, the Diocese of Meru, ELCT. In September of 2014, I successfully summited Mt. Kilimanjaro. I am currently serving as Interim President of the Project.

Aleta and I enjoy traveling primarily to visit Aleta's family in Norway, to hike in Northern Italy, ski in Colorado and generally enjoy a variety of places and experiences. Our most recent trip included Iceland and Norway (August and Sept. 2018)

To Luther Students I would say, "Enjoy the excitement, challenges and opportunities your education will present to you as you experience life."

PS I love to talk about coffee!

Kathleen (Goebel) Copper

Spouse: Craig Copper

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A month after graduation from Luther, I married Craig Copper, my high school sweetheart. We are still married after 50 years. We spent two years apart while he was in the Army in the US and Vietnam and I was living in Rockford, IL teaching German and English. He returned safely at the end of 1970, and we had two sons, Andrew and Paul. I was fortunate to be able to stay home with them while they were little.

I returned to school and earned my elementary certification and taught elementary school for a number of years. My last 15 years of teaching were spent teaching applied reading and math at a vocational high school in Bourbonnais, IL. We moved to Batavia, IL in 2007, and I spent the next years caring for my mother and mother-in-law, until they passed away in 2016 and 2018.

My most indelible memories of my time at Luther are of playing in the Concert Band under Mr. Weston Noble for four years and especially of our annual tours. Although I am no longer a musician, the discipline and experiences must have shaped my life in some way. Our older son is a professional French horn player who lives and performs in NYC. Our 11-year-old grandson, who lives in Texas, will begin playing the trombone this fall. The legacy lives on!

My husband and I hope to travel to see family and friends when he retires next year, especially our sons and grandchildren in New York and Texas. The longer I live, the more I realize how fortunate I am to have gone to Luther College. Besides the rigorous educational standards, the moral and ethical standards for which the college stands have had a lasting impact on the way I live my life. (Well, the 10:00 lights out for girls only our freshman year may have been a little extreme, but...).

I am very grateful and blessed.

Bonnie (Koenig) Daleness

Spouse: Tom Daleness

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After graduating from Luther I moved to Milwaukee and taught junior and high school for two years. I married and we have four children and nine grandchildren. They all live near us so we are fortunate. After retiring from teaching to raise my children I went back to work first at a mortgage servicing company and then in software development. Although I retired several years ago I still work part time from home as a contractor for the same company. It keeps my brain active! I remember my time at Luther fondly and look forward to seeing old friends at this reunion.

Carol (Morgan) Dalton

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Madison, Wisconsin has been my home for most of my adult life with a long career in human resources at St. Mary's Hospital.

My husband, Doug, and I enjoy traveling in Europe and the US and learning about other cultures and their history.

Our daughter, Liana, is passionate about labor rights, human rights, and horses. Her labor rights work is centered in the US and Asia.

Retirement finds me actively restoring a 9-acre oak savanna, volunteering with hospice and Madison's Sister City in Arcatao, El Salvador. I have been politically active in supporting candidates and voter registration drives and encouraging people to be more politically involved.

Book club and card club are fun activities that I have been active in.

The excellence and integrity I found at Luther led me to the excellence and integrity of St. Mary's Hospital, Bethel Lutheran Church, and life-long friendships.

Still learning everyday about life - thought I'd have it figured out by now!

I love getting older, but detest getting old!

Betty Ann (Johnson) Danielson

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Luther College had made one of the biggest impacts on my life. Weston Noble and Richard Simon Hanson were the most positive influential teachers. Their words and actions continue to show the love of Jesus.

My career path was music at Luther with electives in elementary education. Within weeks after graduation and experiencing what life would be like after Luther, I was fortunate to complete an elementary teaching degree, and within a half year I was in the classroom in Rochester, MN public schools, a lighthouse district. It was meant to be! I loved it, and all the variety, challenge, and emotional rewards, and retired after 35 years.

Meanwhile, music was a joyous side light through church and an independent piano teaching business, and I just retired from that a few weeks ago. It enriched my life in so many ways.

I have been blessed with a 50-year partner, Larry, '67, who is exceptionally supportive of all my crazy passions: decorating, travel, social, family, gardens, politics, reading, kids, music, volunteering, etc. We have raised three kids; my brother, who was born when I was 18, plus the two born to us; Jill '96, and Adam, an Augsburg 2000 grad. They each have two kids, a spouse, and a job. The sun rises and sets with those adorable grandkids.

We have traveled to Hawaii, Alaska, Scotland, Greece, Norway, Germany, England, and France. It's fun for us to travel with friends or family.

Advice to Luther students? Accept the data that 96% change their minds about their major. Second, cherish the wonderful core friendships from your days at Luther. That common bond can supersede others, and that root system is a blessing for a lifetime.

Don Davidson

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My story is a simple one of a Wisconsin farm boy from a small dairy farm. I followed my older brother, Phil, to Luther after deciding not to accept a Navy ROTC scholarship to the University of Minnesota - a decision that certainly proved to fortuitous.

My days at Luther were memorable and enjoyable. All four years had their unique attributes and were full of change and excitement. After initially starting out my freshman year in physics and calculus, I again followed in my brothers footpath and changed my emphasis in my sophomore year to economics and accounting. That emphasis turned out to change my career path. With every intent to continue on to grad school as my mentor Professor Darryl Lewis had done, it all changed once he left for the U of Minnesota. The Vietnam War also had its influence, resulting in my decision to concentrate on the lucrative career in public accounting until the draft would hit me. As it turned out, I did not get drafted and ended up working for the CPA firm of Arthur Andersen & Co in Chicago.

My career with Arthur Andersen lasted three years. And, after obtaining my CPA certificate, I left the firm and joined the international pharmaceutical company - G D Searle & CO as a senior corporate accountant. My career at Searle would last over eight years and offer me many opportunities to travel the world in various financial capacities - from internal auditor to international financial director of reporting; covering the globe from Australia to Europe and South America.

It was in during my first year in Chicago that I returned to my hometown for my 5 year high school class reunion. At that class reunion, I met a classmate, Joanne Sears, and after one year we were married. She joined me in Chicago where she taught elementary school for four years until our son, Jeff, was born. In total, we spent almost 10 years in Chicago.

In 1979, we moved back near our home and family, joining my father-in-law in his auto dealership in Minnetonka, MN. This was a complete change in career - going from a CPA to a "used car" salesman. Well, I am still in the same business after almost 40 years. Now, I am the Dealer Principal for Sears Imported Autos, a position that I have held for almost 25 years. The dealership has grown and evolved over the years from selling less than 200 new cars a year (Mercedes, BMW, Rolls Royce and Peugeot) and 600 used cars a "year" to now over 200 new and used cars per "month". We now sell only Mercedes-Benz and Sprinter and Metris Vans. However, for the second year in a row, we are leading the Midwest Region in pre-owned Mercedes-Benz sales. This is an enormous accomplishment considering the relatively small metropolitan area

of the Twin Cities, especially as compared to the major cities - Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, St Louis, Kansas Ctiy, Denver.

In addition to the car business, I have recently become involved in the development and marketing of a new medical device - VeinoPlus. It is currently marketed in Europe and Asia by the parent company which my partners and I hope to merge into our US operating company - DynaPulse Medical. The device is used for the treatment of DVT, leg ulcers, edema as well as the overall improvement of blood flow through the heart. We are in the final stages of raising initial capital for the launching of the US operations.

My wife and I have two adult children and three grandchildren who all live in close proximity to our home. This make is very convenient for all, especially "babysitting" duties for "Nanna".

Our family continues to be involved in our church, community and charitable activities; carrying on with values reinforced in my years at Luther.

Kenneth Domke

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Hello to all!

My years at Luther College were a huge treasure chest full of experiences... but, what stands out for me personally was Dr. Richard Ylvisaker encouraging me to think independently, and Dr. Robert Jenson helping me to see the relations between theology, philosophy and science.

After Luther College, I studied at Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul, MN, and received an MDiv in 1972. My internship was in Brooklyn, NY at Bethany Lutheran Church and Lutheran Medical Center. There, I met and married my wife, Remy Tobias, RN. We have three boys... Mark (Tarah), Christopher (Carrie) and Justin. And, three grandchildren Jaden, Leila and Raiden. Two year old Raiden was born with biliary atresia and received a liver transplant at Stanford this past March.

After Seminary, I served as Youth Director at St. Olaf Lutheran Church in Austin, MN for two years. In 1974, we moved to San Francisco, CA. I studied Biology and Clinical Science at the University of San Francisco and received a BS in Biology in 1977. After training at Mt. Zion Clinical Lab, I worked briefly in Los Gatos, CA and then went to work at St. Mary's Medical Center in San Francisco. After 32 years in Clinical Science, I retired in 2011. For most of these years, my wife Remy worked as a neonatal intensive care nurse at St. Luke's Hospital in San Francisco. She is also retired and we are living in Vallejo, CA where we bought a home in 1989.

We now enjoy our family, gardening, remodeling, going to the gym and traveling. We have been fortunate to see a good deal of the earth over these many years.

Favorite saying: "life is an adventure... enjoy the ride!" Ken

Paul Dormody

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After graduating in 1968, I was drafted into the US Army in Sept. I subsequently spent 2 years in the Army, the 2nd year as a section chief in the 101st Airborne Artillery in the northern part of S. Vietnam. A few years after returning from Vietnam and leaving the Army, I became an insurance agent for American Family Insurance and worked there for 20 years. In August 1981, I married my wife, Marge. We have 2 children, Natalie and Shawn. After leaving American Family Insurance, Marge and I started our own insurance agency -- Minnesota Insurance Service Agency. Our office is in Woodbury, MN and we live near Hudson, WI.

Mark Ellingson

Spouse: Patricia (PJ) Jensen Ellingson

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Mark worked for Denver Public Schools for 33+ years, teaching and counseling, retiring in 2000. He met PJ in Panama in 2002 and discovered they had both been at Luther for a short time together. They were married in 2006. They enjoy their mountain home, and their adventure travels to distant lands. Mark has one son and two grandsons.

Terry D. Ellison

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Attending and graduating from Luther College has certainly been one of the highlights of my life. While at Luther I made many life long friends, including one professor, Dr. David Roslien, who still lives in Decorah. While I enjoyed all of my professors, Dr. Roslien changed my life forever. He was much more than a teacher. He was my mentor, supporter, and helped to set me on the pathway to a very successful career. While both retired now, we are still very close friends and I look forward to seeing him and his wife, Joy, at this year's homecoming. My experience is not that unusual. Many of my classmates also had similar experiences with one or more of their professors. I believe this level of interest and devotion, of Luther's teaching staff to their students, is one of the many things that make Luther College so special.

Summarizing life after Luther. Spent two years in Vietnam with the medivac unit of the 1st Air Cav Division. Married the love of my life, Kay, August 1971. One son, Eric, born 1976 and one daughter-in-law, Megan, more like a daughter. Spent 26 years in Alaska, where I had a wonderful career with the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. I worked as a fishery biologist, hatchery manager, senior fish culturist, and regional hatchery manager. I was one of six co-authors of the Alaska Sockeye Salmon Culture Manual, still used today, as the guide to anyone involved in the rearing of sockeye salmon. My wife, son, and I lived in many remote sites, running salmon hatcheries, where there was no communications except for a two way VHF marine radio. We received mail and groceries twice a month by barge. We have had enough flying, boating, bear and fish experiences to fill a book. Including a black bear inside the house! We feel very blessed to have had all of these unique experiences and are still here to talk about them. From Alaska we went to Hannibal, MO. to take care of family (I Timothy 5:8). While there I was ordained, led the administration and music at our church. Helped them sell the 100+ year old church, buy 10 acres and build a new multi-million dollar church. Kay was finally able to use her masters degree and worked as an audiologist. The ministries Kay and I have been part of in Ak., Mo., and now Wa. have been a tremendous blessing in our lives. We have many "God thing" stories we enjoy sharing with people. We currently live in Sequim, Wa. on the Olympic Peninsula, just West of Seattle. But unlike the 48 inches of rain per year that Seattle gets, Sequim only gets 16 inches! More blessings.

Mark Engebretson

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As a high school student growing up in the western Minnesota prairie, I had the opportunity to see some beautiful auroral displays (northern lights) on wintry evenings. Little did I know then that a substantial part of my professional life would be spent studying Earth's near-space environment, the region where they were generated!

I entered college planning to major in history, but after my first year I decided to major in physics and mathematics under the challenging tutelage of Professors David Nelson, Dennis Barnaal, and Herbert Rebassoo. I enjoyed a very wide variety of courses and teachers, sang in the Chapel Choir under Bartlett Butler, participated on the intercollegiate Debate Team under Harold Svanoe, and was a member of the Kapps.

After graduation from Luther I studied at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, and paid my bills by working part time as a physics researcher at the nearby University of Minnesota and as a youth worker at a church in suburban Minneapolis. In 1972 I took a call to be an Assistant Pastor at that church, and began part-time graduate study in physics at the University. As I was completing my Ph.D. in the winter of 1976, I applied for a faculty position in Physics, if any was available, at every Lutheran college in the U.S. That fall I joined the faculty at Augsburg College, and began teaching mostly Physics, but I was also officially called by the Lutheran Church to teach courses in Science and Religion and became increasingly involved in space research, including deploying instruments in Antarctica and the Arctic and analyzing data from many research satellites. I spent the spring of 1997 doing research as a Fulbright Scholar in Germany. I retired from teaching in 2014, but I continue to participate in research, sing in choirs, and travel.

My wife, Lynette, and I were married in 1974; we have three children and four (soon to be five) grandchildren. The two of us spent the past four winters in Florida, but we've been there and done that, and now we're back in the Twin Cities.

Lorraine (Brunsell) Erickson

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My husband, Mark and I have been married 49 years. It is incredible how fast the years have passed. We have two sons, Jeremy and Justin, They live locally so we are lucky to have frequent gatherings with them and our four grandkids; Cole-13, Reid-11, Drew-6, and Lauren-3.

After 31 years teaching 4th grade full time, I was able to retire in 1999. For the next 12 years I taught elementary art part time. It was a joy! I have also volunteered in my grandsons' elementary classrooms.

Mark and I have been active members of Lord of Life Lutheran in Maple Grove, MN for 37 years. My greatest pleasure is spending time with family and friends. It is also a blessing to have my morning cup of coffee in my PJ's, reading, knitting, cooking, entertaining, and walking in the woods by the lake.

Kenneth (Ken) Faust

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For 50 years I have been privileged to be the beneficiary of a pre-postmodern liberal arts education at Luther College, administered from 1964 to 1968. It has given me the ability to accurately evaluate my environments and make appropriate and timely decisions.

Prior to my education at Luther College I lived in the Iowa County where my great-grandfather chose to live in about 140 years ago.

After graduating from Luther, curiosity took me to Los Angeles, California, where I took a job in the display advertising department of a daily newspaper and made plans to enroll in the University of Southern California School of Cinematic Arts. My plans were abruptly interrupted when I received my draft notice and became a soldier in the U.S. Army, five months after graduation.

I spent two years at Fort Riley, Kansas as a member of the U.S. Army Military Police Corps, and managed to work as an armorer, marksmanship instructor, and competitive pistol marksman.

After completing my military obligation, I returned to Los Angeles to resume my job with the newspaper. After a year I quit and enrolled in school with G.I. benefits to pursue a Mass Communications degree. Before completing my second semester as a graduate student I was offered a job as a member of a magazine editorial staff.

I worked for three magazines, became managing editor of the Ortho Garden Books, worked for two Fortune 50 aerospace companies writing and editing technical specifications, manuals, and proposals for spacecraft projects.

During my tenure in the Aerospace industry I earned an MBA degree from Loyola-Marymount University of Los Angeles in 1984.

After a financial downturn in the aerospace industry I made the transition from full-time employee to free lance writer-editor. In this capacity I wrote and edited software and computer manuals on the subjects of encryption and decryption systems for vendor CD-ROMs, wrote a manual for a voice recognition system used by the U.S. Post Office for sorting mail, wrote indexes for three New York book publishing companies' scientific and business books, wrote policy and procedure manuals for a Japanese automobile manufacturer, wrote engineering management job descriptions for the human resources department of a consumer

electronics manufacturing company, was copy editor for a refereed medical journal, and became “mister mom” to my two-year old adopted daughter.

When my daughter started high school I got a fun job that did not involve deadlines: working for Disneyland as a conductor on the steam train, which runs on a track around the park, and driving various photogenic vehicles back and forth between City hall and Sleeping Beauty’s Castle (eight years... waiting for my wife to retire).

My military experience sparked an interest in law enforcement and police work and I was engaged as a duly compensated (\$1 per year) reserve peace officer with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, working primarily in the field of police technology. After 37 years, I retired with the rank of Reserve Lieutenant. The only time I wore a uniform and a gun was annually working at the Tournament of Roses parade on New Year’s Day.

More recently I decided to really retire. My wife Flavia and I now live near Ukiah, California, county seat of Mendocino County (105 miles north of San Francisco’s Golden Gate Bridge). I live next door to a 1,000 acre vineyard in the Ukiah Valley near the source of the Russian River, with 50 miles of Redwood and Oak covered mountains between my home and the Pacific Ocean, and 100 miles from the San Andreas Fault, which at this latitude is 50 miles offshore at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean. Unlike Los Angeles, we have real seasons, hot dry summers and cold enough winters so that nothing grows (not even weeds), but water pipes rarely freeze, and I’ve only witnessed snow once in the past eight years.

Sage Advice:

- 1) Write your plans and goals with a pencil and keep an eraser handy. Don’t be so focused on goals that you lose your peripheral vision. Sometimes an opportune tangent can take you much further than any plan that you have pondered.
- 2) Autopsy failures, don’t mourn them. If you learn something from a failure it’s not really a failure. And, if you examine a failure carefully, from alternate perspectives, you may actually discover that it is an opportunity in disguise.

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Wow in 50 words or less? Retired from sales manager for a building products manufacturing firm. Now working part time as a beekeeper caring for 90 hives. My wife, Kathy, and I enjoy traveling and visting our 3 kids. Recently celebrating our 50th Wedding anniversary in Germany.

George B. Gilbertson

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My years at Luther dramatically shaped my life. I will be forever grateful for the Christian values that permeated the campus atmosphere. It was the beginning of a very meaningful spiritual journey for me.

It was exciting to be the class that first occupied Ylvisaker Hall and the Tower Dorms. I loved singing in choir, the annual *Messiah* Concert, and sharing conversations with friends over a Mabe's Pizza.

I attended Luther Seminary after Luther and was ordained in 1972. I had three calls. The first was a three-point congregation on the White Earth Indian Reservation. The second was a farm community in Elbow Lake, MN, and the third was a call to start a new congregation in Grand Rapids, MN. I was there for 28 years. Ten of those years, while still in the parish, I served as a Hospice Chaplain for the county. In that position, I began a support group for AIDS patients and their families. I also served as an internship supervisor for students from Luther Seminary for many years.

My wife of 45 years, Lou Ellen, retired from a career as a dental hygienist. We had two daughters, Kirsten and Rachel. Kirsten, a graduate of St. Olaf, is an occupational therapist and supervisor in the Fairview Health System. Her husband, Christen, is a chemistry teacher and coach at Blake High School. They have three children and live in Eagan, MN. Rachel (Luther 2003) has a Master's Degree in Special Ed. Presently, she is a personal trainer and counselor. Her husband, Mark, is an ordained ELCA pastor and clinical psychologist. He has his own counseling practice in White Bear Lake, MN. They have four children.

The first trip we took after retirement was a cruise to Norway. Last fall we took a river cruise to Germany, celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

After 40 years of ministry, I retired and continued to serve as Chairman of the Hospice Foundation Board. I have also done extensive private consultations and counseling. We live on a lake and have horses and ponies for our seven grandchildren. One of our horses is a haflinger draft horse. He pulls a wagon and sleigh. Lots of fun for all of us!

To Luther students: work hard and take time to enjoy the unique community of Decorah. Cherish your friendships and celebrate some of the very best years of your life!

Vergene Simenson Gillman

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My liberal arts education has served me very well. I taught elementary students in Minneapolis and in Neenah, WI.

My sons must have listened to me because they attended Luther - Jed graduated in 1998 and John attended for two years. While my sons were young, I had the luxury of staying home until I needed to return to the classroom after 20+ years, when my husband became ill. During my time at home, I was very involved with my church, taught Aerobic Dancing at the YMCA, taught at a local Montessori school, cheered my sons at their sports events, and volunteered with the local Young Life for 21 years.

My regret is that I did not sing more at Luther. I sang with Nordic my senior year and that was all. BUT I was fortunate to sing with Weston Noble and the Alumni Choir during three summers before Weston's death. We sang in Europe one of those years.

After my husband's death (Bruce Miller) in 2008, an old "flame" from high school found me, and we rekindled our love for each other and golf. Tom Gillman and I were married in 2012 on the 9th green at Silvercrest Golf Club in Decorah. Now Tom and I live in two paradises - Wisconsin in summer and the California desert in the winter. I am able to continue singing weekly with the Hope Lutheran Church adult choir. We have found a great community of friends through that church - many of them "snowbirds" from the Midwest. Love it!

Tom and I are lucky to have a family apartment in Decorah available to us when we visit during the summers. I was a "townie" while at Luther, my father being the county sheriff during my years at Luther. Did anyone "run into" him?

Decorah is a "sweet" community. I encourage students to get off campus and explore the hills and woods, downtown businesses, biking trails, and the interesting people who have chosen to make Decorah their home.

Julianne (Dybdal) Glesne

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How has Luther impacted my life? With MUSIC of course! My goal was to to teach music and continue studying organ. My years at Luther allowed me to do both. My fondest memories are friends, dorm life, singing with Chapel and Nordic Choirs ...and even practicing evenings on small pipe organ in that little house (Norby?) on campus. Then there is Palisades Park, Dunning's Spring and fun at small Pub downtown after turning 21, of course. I am retired from teaching music elementary and junior high for 32 years! I've been church organist /music director in several churches over the years. I love to play organ and substitute organ when I can. I still enjoy singing and belong the Chicago Master Singers. I have been fortunate to travel with this choir over the years, singing in the beautiful Cathedrals of Europe.

I am married 48 years to Bruce Glesne, my freshman college sweetheart. Our 3 children and 4 grandchildren live in Los Angeles, Denver and Chicago. Bruce and I have been fortunate to travel Europe and South America. Norway, a couple years ago was our favorite! I am looking forward to my 50th Reunion and hope to connect with many from our class of 1968!

David A. Hagemeyer

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Family: We have a son, Jason (Luther 2011) and daughter, Jessica. Both are single, Jason lives in St. Paul and Jessica in Sioux Falls.

Most of my working life has been in healthcare finance beginning in 1970 at the Waverly, Iowa hospital and concluding with retirement at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, SD with over 28 years of service there. In between I was with the American, Iowa, and Wisconsin Hospital Associations in Chicago, Des Moines, and Madison, respectively. I found working for not-for-profits both fulfilling and contributing to the public good. Not a bad deal in retrospect.

Since my high school days were in Decorah, my college experiences are difficult to divorce from my daily downtown job at Cobie's Office Supply and taking classes at Luther, but I do want to share with you a later experience I had.

It was about 370 days after commencement and I had found myself, alone, on the way to Vietnam. The US Army routine in 1969 was to send its soldiers off to war individually, rather than in groups or companies. My stateside army orders were for Special Troops and the only special I knew was Green Beret related so there was much trepidation about the future of this personnel clerk. When I got to Bien Hoa for processing to my unit I was stewing and waiting for my call up while trucks of troops were loaded up and hit the road to who knows where. Eventually, I get the call and there is a jeep with driver for me. I could live with this and then a few miles later I am in Long Binh at very normal appearing army post except for guard towers, sand bags and bunkers. I processed into the company and spent the night wondering what the next day would bring. The next morning brought me to my desk and typewriter and I started to settle in. On the way back from lunch, in front of the company orderly room, I met this guy dressed like everyone else but who caught my attention. I said something to the effect that "Hey I know you" and I did because it was Don Wogen. Don Wogen was in my accounting classes at Luther. Someone from home. Things were going to be okay. A few days later David Droste, a Wartburg graduate, joined the company and other guys from liberal arts backgrounds showed up. Over the years I have often wondered what or who caused, with 500,000 troops coming from and going to Vietnam, us all to be together at Long Binh. How fortunate we were.

I would say Don and I had our 1st reunion back in 1969 and now on to the 50th. How lucky I have been in life!

David G. Hanford

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I was a member of the Photo Bureau and became chief photographer in '67. My major was History. Spent one season on the Cross Country team -- the others were stronger long-range runners. I did support work in the campus theatre, mostly lighting.

Upon graduation I challenged myself to find a job in photography. I started in Boston and spent the summer in NYC. Did not land a job so I used my acceptance to the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, PA, to be trained for parish ministry. While engaged in these studies I marched in several Anti-War protests in DC, met my wife-to-be, and was the director of the Hanover Area Hotline -- an information and referral community service.

Seminary graduation led to my first call to serve as Pastor of Youth and Education in Salem, OH. This was the first of the several congregations I served during 30 years in Ohio including stops in Bucyrus, New Waterford, New Lebanon, and Springfield.

During these years I became the father of 3 sons who have married and warmed this Grampa's heart with 5 grandsons and 1 granddaughter. Their mother and I dissolved our marriage.

I took CPE Residency in the late 1990s and was hired as the Weekend Trauma Chaplain at Miami Valley Hospital, Dayton, OH. My ten-year tenure was the toughest job I ever loved. I retired in 2012.

I have been active in Volunteer Fire Departments in New Waterford and Yellow Springs. My training includes motor-pump operator, Emergency Medical Basic, safety officer and chaplain.

As my retirement from Miami Valley Hospital approached, I began training in the Appreciative Way to assist people with Post Traumatic Stress Injuries. I was certified as a Life Coach and Church Consultation by Clergy Leadership Institute. I retired to Columbia, South Carolina in 2012.

I have married Anne, and am the IT department as she works on her Doctor of Nursing Practice online.

My Life Coaching continues to bring me joy. Other interests include the Community Emergency Response Team of Lexington County; Handicap Ramp Building Team for people who need them but can't afford them; Interim Pastoral Leadership; Synod Evangelism Team; and the occasional Sunday Supply preaching.

Dixie (Lee) Hanson

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After I graduated from Luther, I flew to Luxembourg to meet Paul who was returning from a Fulbright year in India. Paul had bought a car in Germany and we drove to Oslo, Norway where we were married with Paul's mother and grandmother, two Luther professors and a Norwegian family (relatives of my mother) present. We then spent 2 months traveling around Europe including Norway, Sweden, Austria, and Italy before returning to Chicago, where Paul enrolled in a PhD program at the University of Chicago. I was hired as a elementary teacher in the Chicago school system a few days before school started. I was assigned to a middle class African American school on the south side of Chicago. My first assignment was a fifth grade class with all the problem kids put in one class. Most did not know how to read. As an English major, I had no idea how to teach reading. Needless to say I lasted one week in the class and was then assigned to library and gym for grades 1-3. When they needed a substitute, I was put in the classroom so gradually learned what elementary teaching was about. After two years, I was given a 3rd grade class and then 4th year a fifth grade class and the last year teaching English to 7th and 8th graders. Thus my introduction to teaching, where I lived from vacation to vacation, hoping to get through the year. Paul in the meantime was doing alternative service at the Salvation Army Settlement House in Mayor Daley's neighborhood.

In 1972 Paul applied for a visa to India to do research for his dissertation on the Mughals in India. It took us a year and a half before the visa came through so we went to London to live where he could do research at the British Museum while we waited for a visa. We went to India in August of 1974 and stayed until April of 1975 when we returned to London until August and then returned to Chicago where Paul completed his course work for his PhD. I worked at the University of Chicago medical facility as a office worker while pregnant with our son who was born in Chicago in 1976.

In August of 1976 we moved to Northfield, MN where Paul taught at St. Olaf and I was a stay-at-home mom. Two years later we moved to California where Paul got a tenure job teaching history at California Lutheran University. I got a job at an early childhood private school run by the Methodist Church and became an early childhood teacher. I eventually got a California elementary credential by taking classes each year at Cal Lutheran. Our daughter was born in California and lives close to us where we can continue to enjoy being in the lives of our grandson and granddaughter. Our son lives in Evanston, IL with his family including our two granddaughters. I worked at the Preschool and Kindergarten School for 35 years, developing and teaching a kindergarten program the last 15 or those years. I retired from teaching in 2013. My current volunteer job is coordinating a volunteer tutoring program for 1st graders in the Thousand Oaks Outreach program of the Conejo School system. Most of our tutored students know English as a second language. Paul retired from California Lutheran University this year after 40 years of teaching. We enjoy traveling during our retirement. Luther certainly opened us to the world of both other places and other ideas, different from what we had grown up with. I became liberated in college from the ideas that women are limited in what they can do. The

limitations Luther imposed on us through hours and no intervisitation made me work for getting rid of both. Although we didn't succeed in getting rid of the rules while we were there, I think we were instrumental in those rules being abandoned in the next years. My mother said she was glad I graduated before I was kicked out of Luther because of my rebellion.

Even though I did not end up teaching English, my major, I constantly used the skills of writing and thinking in my teaching of early childhood. I credit Dr. Mary Lou Mohr with giving me the writing and thinking skills to become successful in my profession and I still enjoy reading for pleasure with real books. I so value the fact that I was able to be at Luther for the 4 years and could benefit from the opportunities of developing friendships and enjoying the many activities outside of class as well as the education offered in the classes.

My advice to Luther students: enjoy the life at Luther in all its facets including the meals; it is the last time you will have meals served to you. After that you are on you own!

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The choice to attend Luther was a no-brainer for me. There were so many connections..... My parents attended Luther and fell in love with each other there. I fell in love with it after visiting relatives in Decorah.....Brandt Hall was named for my great aunt, and on and on. But it was my choice and it was a good one. Far away from my childhood years in New York, I found my people, my music, my art (and the father of my kids) at Luther.... and I flourished there. Now I find myself, having lived and worked back in New York for most of my life, with a special place to go for memories, renewal and inspiration. I love coming back. My advice for Luther students: "Make the most of it!"

Luther helped to provide the foundation on which I built my dream career. After getting an additional design degree and lots of work experience, I spent 20 years specializing in retail store design at Gensler, one of the (if not THE) top architectural firms in the world. In 2016 I left Gensler to pursue painting, traveling and trying to say YES to everything instead of "No, I can't. I have to work."

Frank Barth (Class of '69) and I have two grown sons, Aaron, 45 and Jason, 48, and three wonderful granddaughters, Lauren, 19, Kirsten, 21 and Ashleigh, 24. We share that joy with our present spouses.

My extraordinary husband, Sherwin, a former graphic designer and art director, and I have a condo in Zihuatanejo, Mexico (think "Shawshank Redemption") where we live from January to June to escape the New York winters, enjoying the perfect blend of an unhurried lifestyle, visual stimulation, sensuous culture and an inspiring community of artists.

I am grateful.

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What...go to some church college out in Iowa!!! Are you serious? My initial reaction to the suggestion from my youth pastor and, with a good friend who was an outstanding lineman that was twice my size who was being recruited by the Edsel Schweizer, off we go for a weekend visit. I never looked anywhere else. Luther was for me. (Buddy got a full ride at a Division I university and became the head football coach at Barrington HS in Barrington IL.) I spent my final 3 weeks at Luther in J-term making pots out of clay. Good thing the course was pass/fail because Dale Raddatz was the instructor who felt sorry for my feeble attempts to be an artist. I had earned enough credits from summers at Loyola University. Taught Biology in Mt Prospect for 7 years and left to go into sales in this new up-and-coming industry called computers. Everyone thought I was crazy, these machines will never catch on, only the government could justify such an expense and no business owner was going to spend the money when he had books with accounting information right at his finger tips and not some machine that plugged into the wall!

40 years later, I retired from the industry and now have a cell phone with more capacity and speed than what I originally supported. Began in sales, partnered up what my boss to start our own computer supply company (major vendor for the college as they grew their technology), sold the company and worked for several national tech companies as VP of sales and retired in 2014 from OfficeMax technology print division.

Married for 47 years, my wife and I still live in a suburb of Chicago (Palatine), have raised 3 great kids (all teased me about going to Luther but ended up at major universities: Arizona State, Indiana University and Miami of Ohio) and have 6 grandchildren. We spend our days volunteering at the local medical center (Northwest Community Hospital in Arlington Heights), traveling (we love Viking River cruises) and following all the grandkids activities.

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For as long as I can remember, I had wanted to become a teacher. Luther College helped me realize that dream. After graduation I taught second grade in Wayzata, MN, preschool in New Hope; and finished up back at my first school as a teaching assistant in first grade helping struggling learners in reading and math.

I got married during my first year of teaching and my husband, Bob, left for Viet Nam for 13 months just 14 days after our wedding! We raised two sons~ Adam who lives in CO and Ryan (Jen) who live in Minneapolis with my two granddaughters. Iris (11) and Nora (9) are such a joy to me. Sadly, my husband passed away in 2016 so now I'm starting a new chapter in my life.

I enjoy working in my big flower garden, playing in a bridge club, making greeting cards (at home and in a ministry at church), crocheting prayer shawls, traveling, and spending lots of time with my friends and family. I see several Luther friends either weekly, monthly or yearly depending on how nearby they are. I love keeping in touch.

I'm so looking forward to our 50th reunion~it just doesn't seem possible. Walking onto campus is exciting and energizing for me! It brings back so many great memories.

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My Luther experience began long before I matriculated in the fall of 1964. The Hjelle family has been connected to Luther since 1874 when my Norwegian immigrant paternal grandfather, John Hjelle, attended what was then known as the Luther Prep School. Several of his children, including my father, Albert Hjelle (1924), graduated from Luther. Many uncles, cousins and all three of my siblings also graduated from Luther. When my family of origin moved to Decorah in 1958, the college became a focal point of my interests, and there was never any question about where I would attend college.

The influence that Luther has had on me--as a child of an alumnus, as a student, and as a graduate--is immeasurable. The memories are too many to include in a a writing so brief. But I will say this--as a shy person back in the '60s, belonging to the WIMI brotherhood had a significant impact on my life. Being a part of an organization of equals meant a great deal.

My career path took several turns before I finally landed in Coon Rapids, Iowa where I taught secondary social studies for over thirty years and coached a number of sports. I did not marry until 1998, having met my spouse Susan in a small town grocery store in 1997! The wait was worth it. We have six grandchildren who all live within forty five minutes of our home in Guthrie Center, Iowa. Sweet!

We are both now retired from our careers, but are active in many local activities. I write sports stories for the local high school website, work part time for the Guthrie County Attorney, and together Susan and I teach a jitterbug dance class at the high school. Susan works part time at the local public library, and seems to keep our local church going by herself!

I don't know for sure if this qualifies as "living the dream," but it has to be pretty close!

Go Norse!

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My wife, Carol (Wakild) and I just celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in August. Our daughter, Kimberly Berg, and her husband, Rob, live in the Twin Cities and have three children. Our son, Mark and wife, Melissa, also live in the Twin Cities and have three children. Our son, Erik, lives in De Pere, Wisconsin. We feel very fortunate to have our three children and six grandchildren within a short driving distance from our home in Altoona, Wisconsin as this allows us to get together often.

I have been retired from pastoral ministry for ten years. After graduating from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, I served three congregations between 1972 and 2008, all of them in Wisconsin. Since retiring, I have done several interim ministries, serving mostly rural congregations in the Altoona/Eau Claire area. I continue to be available for pulpit supply.

My wife, Carol, attended Luther College in 1966-1967. She later returned to school while I was doing ministry in Plover/Stevens Point, Wisconsin and received her B.S. degree in Communication Disorders from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. After we moved to Eau Claire, Wisconsin, she continued her education at UW-Eau Claire where she received her Master's Degree. Upon graduation she began her career as a Speech/Language Pathologist.

Luther College will always hold a special place in my heart. It is the place where I met my wife and enjoyed many friendships. Luther College prepared me for my years at Luther Seminary where I continued my education and prepared for my life's calling as a Lutheran pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. This was a calling I felt deeply in my soul already as a young child. Next to the joys I receive from being a husband, father, and grandfather, being a pastor has also brought me much joy and satisfaction.

I will forever be grateful for my education at both Luther College and Luther Seminary. Because of the encouragement and support I received from professors and fellow students at these institutions, where Christian faith is at the heart and center of everything that happens, I was able to reach my goals and enjoy a long and deeply satisfying career as a pastor of our church.

Mary (Nelson) Hovick

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On December 22, 1967, three days after my last final at Luther College, Art and I were married! This December we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary! The plan was for our two daughters and their families to meet us in Flagstaff, AZ for a week of skiing. Who could imagine no snow in Flagstaff for Christmas? But that is exactly what happened! Nevertheless, we had a wonderful week of celebrating with our family. (If you are ever in that area, I would strongly recommend taking a drive to Antelope Canyon. Amazing!)

Our first home was in Waterloo, IA where we lived for a year and a half while Art finished his business degree at UNI and I taught kindergarten in Cedar Falls. We then moved to Gowrie, IA where Art taught business classes in the high school and I taught second grade. Both daughters were born while living there. Joy Heather was born in 1971 and Jana Christine was born two years later. (Jana was actually born on the day we were planning to move to Muscatine, IA. We called the movers and told them we would have to postpone the move for a few days. We brought the baby home from the hospital on a Tuesday and the movers came on Thursday. Thinking back on this, I think we must have been nuts!)

Muscatine has now been home for forty-five years. I taught kindergarten until I retired in 2001. When Art retired eight years later, he was vice president of retirement benefits for Kent Feeds.

Both of our daughters attended Luther where they played tennis for the Norse. We were able to attend most of their tennis meets. Spring breaks on Hilton Head Island were fun, fun times! Joy graduated with a biology degree. She then went to the University of Indiana School of Optometry where she met her future husband, Kevin Kissel. Both received their doctorates of optometry in 1996. Jana and here future husband, Doug Grimm, both graduated from Luther in 1995 with accounting degrees.

We have four lovely granddaughters. Erika Kissel, 19, is a sophomore at Georgetown University. Megan Grimm, 17, is a freshman at Luther this year. Kara Kissel, 17, is a senior in high school and Amanda Grimm, 15, is a sophomore in high school. In July we went on a western Mediterranean cruise with our daughters and families. What an amazing week! And to experience this with the granddaughters made the whole experience extra special!

Since retiring, Art and I both agree that spending time with family and friends is just the best! January and February finds us in Surprise, AZ (Art says it's a great year if he never has to fire up the snow blower!) In my "spare" time, I enjoy playing tennis and golf, quilting, reading a good book, working in my flower gardens, and ending the day with a good glass of wine!

Ken Hrodey

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I took a teaching job in a small town in rural Illinois south of Kankakee. I taught Jr. High Science and Physical Education. Met my wife in the second year, married in the third year. Coached Jr. High Track Basketball and Baseball. During my 33 years at this school I also taught High School Health and General Science and coached Golf. We have two sons, the oldest is the Ath. trainer for the ice hockey team at the the University of Wisconsin. The younger boy works at the headquarters of General Motors in Warren, Michigan. Luther helped me in being a Liberal Arts school with my teaching career because a small school needs teachers that can do many things. As far as many other things I became a volunteer Firefighter in 1985 and am now a trustee for the department. For the last 8 years I have been a trustee for our local cemetery. With 5 grandchildren, we bought a camper and they keep us busy with babysitting and watching their athletic events. I also continued my track career running 5K, 10K, and half marathons and having success in my age group. It has greatly helped my health as I have aged.

Mark Gerhard Huggenvik

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After 4 years at Luther Seminary, I served as senior pastor in churches for over 20 years in Pasadena, Newbury Park and San Clemente, California. When our daughters were in high school we spent 5 years back in Apple Valley, MN and then headed to Sun City, AZ where I was the senior pastor of American Lutheran Church in Sun City. It was a pleasure having so many transplanted Luther College graduates as members of my congregation. After retiring in 2007, Barbie and I spent 3 months in Vail, CO and ended up staying for the next 10 years as the resident live-in caretakers of the beautiful Beaver Creek Chapel. I also came out of retirement and became the assistant rector of the Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration in Vail, CO and the affiliate pastor of the Beaver Creek Chapel. In 2016, I retired once again and now we are spending time between Vail, CO, our lake cabin in Minnesota (Bay Lake) and our home in Phoenix, AZ. Barbie and I have 3 married daughters, 9 grandchildren (ages 4 months to 13) and enjoy traveling, cruises, snow skiing, golf, reading, visiting our daughters and their families and our new found sport, pickle ball .

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I am challenged to consider the last 50 years since graduating from Luther College. My journey has been fulfilling and exciting as well as frustrating and difficult. I am pleased to say that I have been fulfilled in so many of the exciting things that I have done and how I have continued my educational process throughout my life and career. I have been successful at several things and have failed at some. Ultimately, I am pleased with who I am and how my life has transpired.

One of the most significant achievements is my career as a marriage and family therapist. I moved through my very short teaching career, a little longer ministry and ended up where I believe is fundamentally best for me and my fulfillment. As a marriage and family therapist I have walked with so many people in their lives as they struggled with their process in life. I have enjoyed this journey because this process certainly allowed me the privilege of considering life in all its glory and all its difficulty. I have had the privilege of watching people as they decided to become different people with their lives and their choices. At the same time, I have also witnessed people whom decided to remain where they were at and decided that's good enough.

My satisfaction with my career has allowed me one of the most exciting parts of my life and that is the extensive travel that I have been allowed to enjoy. Now I have been to 5 of the 7 continents and my bucket list allows for me to enjoy all 7 at some point. I would suggest that I have learned so much about our world and how diverse the peoples of the world are. I would suggest that the greatest trip has been my travels to Africa and viewing the vastness of the Serengeti plain and the amazing animals that are a part of the plain.

I would suggest that the greatest contribution that Luther shared with me is that I learned to think for myself. Then I did not accept minimalist thinking that would have shrunk the opportunities in life. Rather I could consider the many options that were available to me. In learning to think I learned to break out of the shell in which I was trapped and began a life that has been fulfilling. In this way I was able to meet my partner of over 30 years and was empowered to truly respect and honor myself. I thank Luther for that gift.

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Since Decorah was my dad's hometown, going to Luther was in a sense like going home. I spent many happy days in Decorah attending family reunions as dad was one of 11 Ellingson siblings. My grandfather Halverson and aunts and uncles also attended Luther. After graduating I taught 1st and 2nd grades in Mpls., Dallas and Chicago for 10 years. We adopted Rachel and Billy, now 39 and 40, and soon moved to a ranch in Washington State. When they were in grade school, I went back to teaching preschool for 24 years at both churches I attended over the years. I am now retired and my husband, Ed Goldsmith, and I love traveling the country, especially going back to NE each fall to visit his family there. We see my brother, Dave Ellingson '69 and family often as they live nearby. Ed's son and a granddaughter are also closeby. My son Billy is a police detective in Tenn. Dr. Helen Strand left a big impact on my life and teaching career. My advice to current students is make the most of small classes, the influence of a Christian college environment and enjoying Decorah for the lovely town it is!

Mark Johnson

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Upon graduation, I worked in the summer for the US Forest Service, Livingston, Montana. In the fall, I entered graduate school, Dept of History, U of Nebraska. My fields were ancient and medieval history. I was drafted in the summer of 1969, basic at Ft Lewis, AIT at Fort Sill (artillery fire direction control). 1970 I was in Viet Nam on a fire base near Chu Lai. 1971 I returned to graduate school, became a PhD candidate in 1975, and began working on my dissertation. The job market was impossible. I left, went to work for Boys Town in Omaha Nebraska. Became a certified Teaching Parent, in a group home for 10 boys. Vermont Dept of Mental Health and SRS recruited me and my partner, we moved to Vermont in 1979. I directed a small non-profit, the VT Teaching Family Training Center till 1985, when we merged with Easterseals NH. I am still with Easterseals, as VP in charge of our Vermont services. We have 110 employees, and work closely with the Vermont Dept of Children and Families. We have been instrumental in reforming child welfare practices, with Family Time Coaching and other family engagement strategies. Our employees are co-located with DCF, and we work with families who are involved with child welfare. We also provide services to families joined by adoption, foster youths who are transitioning to adults, safe babies court, treatment court, and we have a veterans program. Auguste and I live on a small lake north of Montpelier, in Woodbury. My three sons are all in Boulder or Denver CO. One grandson, two granddaughters. Auguste's son is in Rochester, NY. I built our house, outdoor sauna, and we just opened a Little Library. We do stand up paddleboard, swimming, bicycle, cross country skiing, gardening, and I still practice piano. Auguste is a psychologist, has presented nationally, and is at Zero to Three in Denver this year.

Nancy Carol (Johnson) Justus

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My husband and I were married before my senior year. He worked in some of the campus construction. We returned to Racine after I graduated. I taught German and English for 2½ years, we bought a house, and had our daughter, Anna and son, Andrew. I had a daycare center for 11 years. After beginning art classes at University Wisconsin-Parkside, I also began what became 25 years of substitute teaching in Racine high schools, all subjects. At the same time, I became a fiber artist. For over 50 years, I played piano and organ for church and sang in the choir.

My education at Luther made possible all aspects of my career and avocations. The professors at Luther impacted my life in many ways all of these decades.

For the last five years, I have been substitute teaching at Prairie School in Racine. I do everything except Phy. Ed., including math, science, art, music, English, French, history, and Chinese.

We have traveled to France and to many locations in the U.S. We have hosted family and friends many times for meals and overnight stays. We joke that we need five minutes' notice before any arrival. The longest was six months when friends sold their home much sooner than they thought possible and the new condo was not built yet!

We have four grandchildren out of town and family and friends in all four time zones. There is always a potential for company. Every five years we return for Homecoming. Luther was great and continues that way.

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After graduating from Luther I taught Physical education in Minnesota until David finished seminary. While on internship we had our first daughter.

Our move to Millersburg, PA for what we thought would be 3 years, ended up being for 20 years. There we had two sons and made lifelong friends, while keeping other wonderful friends from Luther who moved that way. I got into running a soccer league which turned into a job as program director, then Executive Director at our local YMCA. So when David switched jobs to Milwaukee, WI, I went along reluctantly. We have remained here in the Milwaukee area for 25 years.

I worked eight years for my dad and brother's company in Chicago selling custom wire products and teaching swimming lessons. I then took a job at a hospital-based fitness center in Pewaukee where I worked for 17 years in various capacities including personal training. I retired end of last year and have continued traveling, golfing, skiing, playing bridge and Mah Jongg, reading, walking, exercising, church activities and enjoying my family including 12 grandchildren. Life is good!

John M. Klotz

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I worked as a certified nursing assistant and drove a taxi in Minneapolis summer of '68 to October of 1976 when I moved to Kansas City as a VISTA volunteer at an alternative school tutoring high school leavers for their GED. I volunteered for Missouri Probation and Parole (as same) from 1977 to 2001 and attended annual renewal workshops at Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg from 1981 to 2001.

I earned my M.A. in adult and continuing education from U. Missouri, Kansas City in 1988 and a second B.A. in secondary social studies education from UMKC in 1990. I continue to sub teach in middle and high school in Dubuque (started in 2005 on regional exchange Missouri and Kansas secondary social studies certification).

After 18 months as a nursing assistant "service for conscientious objectors" at U. of Minnesota Hospitals in Minneapolis I became an absolute non-cooperator with the military draft and was convicted in Minneapolis in 1972. Completed U.S. probation and a committed fine in 1974. I continue to conscientiously refuse to file my U.S. or Iowa income tax (since 1986) on behalf of the abolition of unconstitutional military conscription (and registration) and abolition of the death penalty.

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Nancy ('71) and I are now living in LaCrosse after we both retired from a Gundersen Lutheran family practice clinic in Tomah in 2012. (Nancy is a PA and I'm a family doc. We practiced together..more like parallel play..., and even delivered babies together...a real joy) I kept doing part-time ER work until 2015. We've loved living in LaCrosse this last 4 years, where I've been able to sing in some great choirs and play fiddle with different bands and groups and Nancy has found plenty of opportunities to explore watercolor, singing and playwriting. We have two grandkids, Celia (2 1/2) and Peter (7), who live in Bloomington, Indiana with Mom (Laura Knudson) and Dad (Jason Tennesen). Laura is a family doc and Jason is a molecular biologist, so they like it when we make sure to get there every 4-6 weeks to help out, etc. Our son, Nick, is a fine artist making a go of it in LA; not an easy task these days...(we're impressed!) Visits to him there always open up fresh ideas and places...and even more fascinating friends.

Our time in retirement is full and rich. It almost feels like being in grade school again, with new friends and experiences and ideas filling each day. We're grateful for the broad scope of interests and values which we were able to explore at Luther, and which have kept life so fascinating for us ever since. Our careers varied quite a lot over time: Nancy started in Speech/Theatre, then moved to a Counseling Masters and worked at Luther for several years doing counseling. While there, she took Russ Rulon's biology (among other science courses); and was inspired to go get a PA degree at Iowa! I started a Psychiatry residency, then moved to ER work at Detroit General in the 70s (amazing stories), and then to Decorah, where I did family practice and also covered Luther's Health Service for several years. Next was Iowa City, where I was faculty at the Dept. of Family Medicine. While there, I was medical director of the alcohol/drug treatment unit and also helped establish and staff the University's HIV/AIDS clinic for several years. Then Nancy and I worked together in a family practice clinic in Coralville until 2003. Great fun until corporate management killed the clinic...and we took off for a year of travel: motorcycle camping to Utah and in between, then backpacking through southern Europe and a bit of Africa, and then some time in Australia, Indonesia, Thailand and Japan before coming back to start work in Tomah in 2004.

So many friendships, interests and new directions have started at Luther and Decorah for us, that we're delighted to be close by. Like most retired people, we're deliciously busy, and we have to plan ahead for those quick trips to Decorah for special times there. It's a nice problem to have.

Ed Kramer

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Luther means a lot to me-and my wife: Karen Oyloe Kramer (Class of 1969). Many good memories include playing in the Concert Band with Weston Noble, learning MUCH about music-and all the liberal arts from outstanding professors, Sigma Chi Theta, and falling in love with the beautiful Decorah-area scenery. Worked both in business and music many years. Still playing organ at a Lutheran church and directing 2 choirs: my church choir and the Bjornson Male Chorus-a group of Norwegian-American men. Bjornson recently participated in a Sangerfest (with 9 other Norwegian choruses) which was held at Luther. Our 2nd home is a working farm 6 miles from Decorah-where my wife grew up. To LUTHER let us sing!

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My love affair with Luther began in early May 1964 when I first set foot on campus. It so happened that day was the annual student-faculty baseball game which was then played on the upper campus ball field near where the library is today. Remember? At the spring athletic banquet that evening, the dessert was apple pie with yellow cheese on top. What? Yellow cheese? No vanilla ice cream!?! You Norwegians...

Our alma mater has been kind to me in many ways beyond the challenging liberal arts learning which is the foundation of Luther's educational program. I met and married the mother of my two children at LC (Kristi Buckneberg Kuh, LC '69). My brother, Warren, and son, Kristian, are Luther grads as is Kris' significant other. Immediately following graduation, I began my four years as a Luther admissions officer which jump-started my decades-long career in higher education. And the College again blessed me with the opportunity to serve a dozen years on the Board of Regents, a most rewarding honor and privilege. Last but not least, among my longest, dearest friends are men who were my best pals at Luther.

Surprising my family, friends and almost all of my Luther professors and classmates, I was for 34 years a university faculty member — one year at the University of Iowa after I earned a PhD there and then 33 years in the School of Education at Indiana University Bloomington. During my professorial career, I taught 17 different courses, created a couple of research centers, led several national projects, and wrote a bunch of papers and books. Flunking retirement, I continue to work half-time remotely for an institute housed at the University of Illinois. Lucky me, my profession has taken me to every continent but Antarctica.

All but five years of my life have been spent in three "I" states — born and raised on the southside of Chicago Illinois, then to Iowa for Luther and doctoral study, and then Indiana. Squished in there were a couple of years in the Twin Cities area while working for LC during which time I obtained a master's degree from St. Cloud State. Three years ago, I became a Floridian, remodeling (don't ask) a house in Bonita Springs which is on a bay connected to the Gulf. Suzanne and I have two jet skis and a couple of guest suites. Come and visit! Two night minimum stay, three night maximum.

Soli Dei Gloria!

Michael Kumpf

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After graduating from Luther I was drafted into the Army and sent to the NATO military headquarters in Belgium. There I met Sigrid, a native of Germany, whom I married in 1971. From 1971-1974 I pursued a Ph.D. program in Classical Languages at The Ohio State University. After receiving my degree I came to Valparaiso University in Indiana where I taught Classics for 37 years. In the mid-80s I also taught four years at the University of Reutlingen in Germany. In 2014 Sigrid and I moved to Coralville, Iowa where we now enjoy the cultural activities and athletic events (especially wrestling) of the University of Iowa. Fortunately, we have been able to vacation annually in Europe. We have two daughters who both graduated from Luther College. Kirsten, the elder, is married and a professor of German at the University of Iowa. She and her husband, who is from Belgium, have a daughter, Frieda, a true joy to her grandparents. Heike, our younger daughter, worked for 8 years in Vancouver, Canada as an architect but has recently returned to the States and is now working at an architectural firm in Iowa City. How happy Sigrid and I are to have both our daughters so close. I have many fond memories of my Luther days, chief of which are wrestling for 3 years, being a student of Pip Qualley (to whom I dedicated my book on Homer), WIMI life, of course, and having as a roommate Vic Olson, a great baseball player, a great friend, a great guy. Regarding advice to Luther students I would say, have fun; we, the Class of 68, certainly did.

Louis H. Lambert

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The Luther years provided the context for how to make and fulfill commitment that we must sign up for for the rest of our lives. Being responsible for your actions and decisions is the hardest thing to accept as we transition to adulthood. We are not victims, but agents of our own success or failures. A Luther education provides a positive and strong world view that translated into my next 50 years of success.

After Luther I moved to East Lansing Michigan to attend Grad school at Michigan State University in Urban and Regional Planning. I worked in the Transportation Planning area for the next 40 some years, primarily at the Michigan Department of Transportation I was Deputy Director for Transportation Planning for the state when I retired with activities centered in transportation project and program development, public hearings, Economic Development, Environmental project quality control and Long Range Planning coordination with local municipal and rural planning agencies. The focus on Public service is wonderful way to direct your life work and direct result of the Luther experience.

Terri and I are retired in Northern Michigan.

Kris Lemke

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I taught second grade in the Spring Valley, WI school district for 35 years. Since retiring in 2003, I have been a substitute teacher in the School District of the Menomonie Area at the elementary level.

In 1991 I traveled to Guatemala to adopt a 6-year-old boy. When Andy graduated in 2004, we traveled back to Guatemala to visit his birth family and explore the country. I have also traveled to Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. I have been in contact with Luther friends for 50 years.

Janice (Brankin) Leonhardt

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My years at Luther College were magical and prepared me for a life that was constantly changing and evolving. I guess that is what life is all about, but when I graduated from Luther I truly had no idea what was in store for me. I studied to become a biology teacher and little did I know how my professional life would zig and zag! I taught biology for about 4 years out of my 38 year teaching career. After graduation, I started out in Rolling Meadows, Il, then moved to St. Paul, Minnesota for a year, then to Ketchikan, Alaska for two years, back to Minnesota where I sort of settled in Fairbault and Northfield, Minn. for many years. During those years, my husband (Dan Waarvik) and I built one-of-kind energy efficient homes until the interest soared to 18% and all building stopped. I then returned to teaching in a Catholic High School in Faribault where I taught chemistry, home ec, biology, algebra and after much distress.....physics! This move into physics changed my life forever! I was also the Jr. Class advisor, and yearbook advisor as well as running the entire hot lunch program, and drove the school bus! Good thing I was young at the time. I was forced into teaching physics, but I applied to every program during one summer that had me criss-crossing the country and the end result is that I became well-trained in physics. I loved physics and spent a great deal of time teaching other teachers how to teach the subject well. One highlight in my life was that I was awarded the Presidential Award of Excellence in Teaching in Minnesota. What a ride is was after that! I moved back to my home state of Illinois (after a divorce) and was a mover and shaker in changing science curriculum which eventually led me to teaching at New Trier High School in Winnetka. I have been so very blessed by the opportunity to work there, and richly collaborate with other educators. The students were phenomenal! Being a Head Science Olympiad coach for 26 years has been a major joy in my life. I started Science Olympiad teams at Bethlehem Academy in Faribault, started up teams and regional competitions in Illinois, and was a coach for New Trier's team for 18 years. They won the State Meet 11 years in a row and advanced to Nationals where they scored in the top 10 every year. Now, I am semi-retired. I teach one day a week at Lake Forest College in Illinois, and tutor many students in Physics. I also have my own entrepreneur side business to keep me out of trouble!

I love to travel, and now I am free to do a lot more of it. I have been to Europe, Greece, Iceland, Mexico, Hawaii, and nearly every state in America. I am planning a trip next summer to Italy, Scotland, and France.

My advice to Luther students is to know that even though you think you know what you are training for, life may very well take you to an entirely different place. Luther prepares you to take on challenges. Be confident and empowered as you venture into the world. One word of caution I give is that you need to find a balance in your life between your professional and personal life. I struggled with that my entire life. Enjoy the ride, and know that God is with you every step of the way.

Warren Luckner

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Luther Memories:

- Math professors Rebasso, Pilgrim, Jacobsen, who prepared me well for Graduate study in “Pure Math” at the University of Maryland
- Intramurals, especially football and softball
- Rake sandwiches that helped me make it through studying
- Kaps, especially being, along with Wayne Oberschelp, a multiple “Schmuck of the Week” Award winner
- Lifelong friendships

Career:

- Served two years in the Teacher Corps Program in Louisville, Kentucky
- Switched to the dark side of “Impure Math” and actually applied math in a career as an actuary, starting as a pricing actuary at Aid Association for Lutherans (now Thrivent)
- Served on the Actuarial Science Program faculty at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln for 20 years, including 17 years as Director
- Served 14 years on the staff of the Society of Actuaries in various education, research and professionalism capacities
- Served on the ELCA Board of Pensions (now Portico), and the Board of the Society of Actuaries, and served as a Trustee of the Actuarial Foundation
- Retired in the spring of 2014, and in June 2016 moved from the “Good Life” state of Nebraska to the state of mosquitos, snow, ice, and cold (aka Minnesota), to take on the challenge of keeping up with three active grandchildren, their parents and two dogs
- Continue to serve as a Facilitator for both of the Society of Actuaries Professionalism Courses, the Associateship Professionalism Course, and the Fellowship Admissions Course

Family:

- Met wife Mary, now a retired Children’s Librarian, while at the University of Maryland; married in 1971
- Children Andy, Luther, ’95; Amy; and Abbie
- Four grandchildren: three in Lake Elmo, Minnesota; one in Union, Missouri

Retirement goal:

- In 2016 accomplished main retirement goal by helping the Chicago Cubs win the World Series for the first time since 1908; thought work was finally done, and life complete.
- BUT in 2017 helped the Minnesota Twins surprisingly reach the baseball playoffs, and helped the Minnesota Vikings almost reach the Super Bowl. So still more work to do.

Roger Madson

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Driving a 30-ton gravel truck for a local road construction company near my hometown of Britt, Iowa was not part of my planned employment after graduation from Luther College. Neither was my induction into the U.S. Army later that summer which included basic combat training at Fort Polk, Louisiana, followed by field artillery training at Fort Sill, Ok.

It wasn't until further deployment to Landstuhl, Germany in March, 1969 and following an extensive interview that my B.A. degree in biology now became a major asset. I was assigned to the clinical laboratory at the 2nd General Hospital, now known as the Landstuhl Army Medical Center in Landstuhl Germany. I continued working at the Medical Center until discharged from active duty in August 1970. After 4 months of back packing/travel through Europe, I returned home to start classes at the University of Iowa Hospital School of Medical Technology graduating as a Certified Registered Medical Technologist, (ASCP).

In September, 1972, I accepted a position as a Medical Technologist at Lutheran Deaconess Hospital in Minneapolis, Mn., which later became part of the Fairview Health System

I met my wife, Beth, while she was a lab student at the same hospital. She was hired in January 1975 and apparently things worked out well for us as we married in August 1979 and recently celebrated our 39th wedding anniversary. We do not have any children but we have had several cats over the years.

I retired in October, 2014 after 42 years of employment with the Fairview Corporation, the last 33 years at Fairview Ridges Hospital in Burnsville, Mn. Beth is planning her retirement in a couple of years, also from Ridges.

We still live in the same house we purchased 39 years ago on Prior Lake, Mn. Summertime finds us on the lake boating, fishing, jet-skiing, sailing, etc. We are popular with our nieces and nephews for fun in the sun. Winter activities include down hill skiing and travel to warm climates, usually Arizona and California.

Although I was at Luther College only 2 years, (having transferred from Waldorf College in my junior year), they were 2 years filled with memories of hard work (especially organic chemistry), long lasting friendships and an appreciation of the excellent professors, especially Drs. Rulon, Roslien and Reitan.

We love the town of Decorah and enjoy our annual trek to Nordicfest in July.

Kenneth Mattison

Spouse: Catherine

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I spent the majority of my working life with Crum & Forster and with Travelers Insurance. It was common for companies to transfer employees to other offices in order to accept promotions. I started my career in my hometown of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. After about three years, I accepted a position in Minneapolis, MN. After three years in Minneapolis, I transferred to Freeport, Illinois. Six years later, I transferred to C&F's home office in Morristown, New Jersey. Six years later, I transferred to Pittsburgh, Pa.

I have lived in Pittsburgh for over 25 years. After my kids were in school, I promised myself that I would not move them again. After all, the Steelers and Penguins are here. Pittsburgh is a great city and has everything you would want (except mostly sunny days). My wife, Cathi, and I live here in a northern suburb called Wexford.

My oldest is a son, Bryan. He is a sales manager for a plastics distributor in Virginia Beach, Virginia. He has a wife and a daughter, Avery. Virginia Beach is a wonderful place to visit and we take advantage of taking long weekends at the beach. Cathi has other relatives in Virginia Beach also.

I also have a daughter, Kristen, who lives in Mechanicsburg, Pa with her husband and a daughter, Charlie. Both Kristen and her husband are special education teachers. Kristen's husband has Penn State football season tickets and I make it a point to join them when the Iowa Hawkeyes are in State College.

I retired in 2009. I love the little things, like never setting my alarm clock, or only shaving when I want to. To date I have enjoyed excellent health except for a little arthritis which forced me to give up golf. I wasn't very good at golf anyway. I try to go to the gym about three days a week. The house we have is really too large for us, and the yard is high maintenance. We have two dogs and two cats (they like it here). We have lived in several great places, thanks largely to my great start at Luther College. Now, the question is where to we go from here. I will be interested in hearing what my classmates think about where they currently live.

Stephen E. Mau

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Luther was my first real exposure to any religious education. I did not grow up in a church and was not confirmed until after I graduated from Luther and married a good Lutheran woman, who I am still married to today for over 49 years.

I had many great experiences at Luther and generally enjoyed all my classes. Dr. Harlan Nelson always teases me about a time in freshmen core when I piped up in the middle of an English class "I knew that" after someone else had responded to a question that I was afraid to answer. Dr. Richard Simon Hanson was also a very meaningful professor to me and I will never forget something he said at chapel my freshmen year. It was the height of the Viet Nam War and he stated that "God may be on the side of the Viet Cong." That really got me to thinking about the world and what was happening.

Edsel was my football coach and I will always remember the inaugural game at Carlson Stadium against Mankato State and our winning 21-14. I will also remember Dr. Farwell traveling to every game and leading us in the Lord's Prayer before taking the field. It was an honor for me to play here and be a part of Edsel's legacy, when we won his 100th game.

After graduation, I taught and coached in Caledonia, MN; Rock Island, IL; Tipton, IA; and, La Crescent, MN, where I still live. Along the way I married my wife, Margeen "Bolson" Mau and we had two children, Michelle and Erik.

After teaching and coaching for 17 years, I move to a new profession in financial services with the Principal Financial Group for 30 years and retired at the age of 70.

My children have given us 7 grandchildren of which two were adopted from the country of Liberia. They have all been a blessing to me and I am very proud of them.

Now retired, we have done some traveling and we have sold our home and now live in an assisted living facility in La Crescent. We live in the independent wing but we are preparing for a time when one or both of us may not be able to care of ourselves.

My advice to the current Luther students is to appreciate the opportunities that you have and pass them on to others when you leave this institution. You do this by not only getting a good job and raising a family, but by being involved in church and community. Focus on helping and giving to others and you will be rewarded in many ways through out your life. I have been blessed with various recognitions and I am still focused on

being involved and supportive of my community. My wife and I have given several thousands of dollars to graduating students at La Crescent High School and in the letter I have given to them, I have said that they should give this back in the future, plus interest, to someone that is deserving.

Someday you will celebrate your 50th reunion and I want you to look back, as I can look back, and say that I have lived a good life, I have served my family, my community and country, my college and my God to the best of my ability. If you can do that, you will be truly happy.

Steve Mau

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This is a pretty tricky exercise to sum up our lives in a few words.

Growing up, I always figured I would be a Lutheran missionary somewhere out in the world (did you hear those sermons about kids starving in Ethiopia?). In June, after I had graduated from high school, our music director (who had been first chair trumpet at Luther) stepped in and paved the way for me to go to Luther. (Mr. Schulz's ministry) My life was wildly changed.

Being a vocal music major in 1964 meant heading for the basement of the heating plant for classes. Once in a while that door was snowed shut, but Noble usually got it open. As many of you know, early on Noble called us by our town name, hence, I was Grand Meadow (MN). I worked on campus in the admissions office calculating predicted grade point average for incoming freshman, giving tours, and convincing kids that this was the most marvelous place to go to school. (That was certainly A Ministry) The beauty of that campus is awe-inspiring.

Because I was a late admission, I lived on first floor West Brandt with 12 freshmen and the rest sophomores. Having a whole hallway of girls plopped on the floor for devotion had quite an impact on me. We had to take turns leading it, and I was impressed with this diverse group sharing their faith. (Ministry)

I remember hanging out at the county jail (my roomie's dad was the county sheriff), playing intramural basketball, running track for sorority, working on bringing in musical acts with UAC, getting the ok to be an RA, riding in a convertible to student teach in Mabel MN, Eddie's, Mabe's, all the usual haunts, choir, and spending long weekends doing Mission Teams. Our three guys with guitars and three girls headed around the MN, IA, and WI area singing good old 60s spiritual music and giving sermons. Ministry

The staff: the inimitable Weston Noble, Dr. Cole (History), Drs. Hansen and Syrdahl (religion), Dr. Bjerkness, (bugging me to be a French major) and Dr. Strand variously inspired, saved, and changed my life. Dr. Strand and I still saw each other until she was 104. If you haven't read her life story, it is amazing.

Terry and I were together during Luther (I went home on weekends a lot) and have been married 49 years. After Viet Nam he finished his sociology degree, and I started teaching in Osseo, MN with a group of Luther grads. We had Matthew in 1975 and Jessica in 1978. We then entered a whirlwind of coaching and cheering for kids' dancing, hockey, baseball, softball, football, soccer, track, singing groups, and church youth events. I also sang and danced in Swingin' Eds, sang in a nine person Jubilation! group at church, and sent out a daily devotional e-mail with people's prayer requests to 250 people for twenty years.

My teaching career spanned 32 years of fourth graders. That was a Ministry of setting up a family of 30 or so in a classroom with lots of singing, dancing, and occasionally some academics.

Our Luther gang of girls still gets together once a month, and we all have other Luther groups with whom we keep in touch. Those people are my nearest and dearest friends forever (Ministering to me) . All my friends at Luther were such a gift.

We have two red-haired grandboys (like me and their mom). We are firmly ensconced in their lives and we pray for them to be in a world where many Ministries still exist and do work for good. Go Norse!

Marcia (Olson) Milbrandt

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I'm a retired elementary teacher and have lived in Le Center, Elmore, and Blue Earth, MN since graduation. My travels have included five trips to Europe and most continental US states, Hawaii and Alaska. I have three children, eight grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

My present activities include president of our church council and last year's overall planning and leading five events for our 125th church anniversary.

I enjoy sales and do many vendor shows and fundraisers for a local group.

My most memorable events include living on the top floor of East Brandt, driving to Postville for student teaching, and the many friends that I met and kept in touch with today.

I've always been very proud of the fact that I graduated from Luther and the basis for my teaching that has helped me in all my endeavors.

Maryjean (Chafee) Miller

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After graduating from Luther, I taught 3rd grade in Owatonna, MN for 2 years before marrying Dick Miller ('69). We lived in the Minneapolis area for 4 years before moving to our hobby farm in southern MN, near Winnebago - my home town - where I taught school for 28 years and Dick worked in Accounting. Recently, the Winnebago public school was closed and a Classical Christian Academy - Genesis - opened beginning with 30 students. After 17 years of enjoyable retirement (and volunteer work in schools) now I am back to teaching first grade at the Academy which has grown to include preschool thru 7th grade with now 75 students.

This is my 40th year as church organist in the church I was baptized, confirmed and married in. For about as many years I have been a Sunday School teacher there.

Our family includes our 3 adopted daughters. They have blessed us with 9 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

Two of my college roommates, Laura Blackmore Bachman and June Wickboldt, and I have been getting together for an annual reunion vacation for many years....starting with tent camping. Last year Laura's town flooded during our rendezvous but since her house was on high ground, with police permission, she and June were able to leave town to where Dick and I were stranded with relatives 10 miles away and the visit happened anyway!

Dick and I have enjoyed camping in the Pulpit Rock Campground during Homecoming for almost all of our 50 years! For us the highlight of the weekend is the music on Sunday.

Connie (Natvig) Minnes

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I started my career, teaching and coaching, and saw much of Europe the first 10 years following graduation. Married in 1978 to fellow teacher/coach. We have been married 40 years. We have two sons, daughters-in-law and four grandchildren, of which the oldest is six.

I received my MS at the University of Illinois. I taught physical education, health education and remedial reading for 37 years in the Urbana, Illinois school district. I coached volleyball and track & field at Urbana High I substitute taught for 11 years. Then I really retired. I enjoy quilting, golf, water aerobics, reading, traveling, family and grandchildren (not necessarily in that order).

We have downsized to two condos so staying away for six months is easier and less worry for us about the "other" house. Come visit!

Duane Monick

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I grew up mostly in Sparta, WI with 2 years in high school in Jefferson, WI. At Luther, I met the love of my life, Kirsten Monson. We've enjoyed 49 years of marriage thus far.

Following Luther, I went to the University of Iowa School of Medicine graduating in 1972. I did a year of straight medicine internship at St. Joseph Hospital in Phoenix and then returned to Iowa City for 1 year of internal medicine residency and then 2 years of cardiology fellowship. Our oldest son Erik was born in Iowa City in May 1974. Following training, we moved to Yakima, WA in 1976 where I practiced cardiology for 40 years. Most of this career I focused on interventional cardiology doing angiography and coronary intervention. I did the first angioplasty in Yakima in 1982.

I now consider myself retired although I still do some computer work and financial work for Yakima Heart Center. I'm trying to get really retired and am making some progress.

In retirement, I have volunteered with United Way of Central Washington and have served on that board for 6 years and was board chair 2 years ago. I am also involved with Rotary locally and district wide. Kirsten and I have attended Central Lutheran Church in Yakima since 1976 and we have served on many committees and in leadership roles up to the present time.

Kirsten has enumerated many of our travels. We are very fortunate to remain in good health and continue to travel moderately with plans to go to Scotland and Croatia in 2019.

I feel blessed to have attended Luther and benefited from the education and world cultural and social service ideas I learned there. My life has certainly been shaped positively and significantly by the mentors and friends I was exposed to at Luther. In retrospect, I feel like my Luther education launched me like a projectile on a life course that has been very nice and for which I am grateful.

Kirsten Ingrid (Monson) Monick

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After graduating for Luther, I went to U. of Iowa and got my teaching credentials and subsequently taught German for 3 years while Duane was in medical school at Iowa. We moved to Yakima, WA and have resided here since 1976. We raised three sons (Erik, Evan and Nathan). My live has been as a community volunteer in various areas. I was on an all-female speaker series (Town Hall) board for 18 years. We brought in 4 big names speakers per year. My current philanthropic effort is leading a team of women who make hygiene kits (Days for Girls International) to be distributed to third world countries around the world. I enjoy tennis several times a week, downhill skiing and keep active in the out-of-doors and helping with 2 local grandchildren. Duane and I have traveled extensively including China, Peru, Ecuador and Galapagos Is, So. Africa along with Zimbabwe and Botswana, Russia, Danube Viking river cruise to the Black Sea, and just recently went with the Luther group to Vietnam and Cambodia. I also went to El Salvador with a Habitat group. We have also enjoyed many trips to the many western European countries. I love taking photos and have enjoyed sharing my photos with others. I feel my liberal arts educational experience at Luther has served me well. We were able to have classes and be in groups to enable us to become productive and interested persons in many circumstances that we have encountered since 1968!

Paula (Bedford) Moucka

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I taught 38 years in Elementary Education in Cedar Rapids! I have an MA and National Board status. I taught at the University of Iowa. Both of my kids attended L.C. participating in choir and majoring in business. Get involved and enjoy the many activities offered at LC!!!

Carol (Ray) Nordli

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I grew up in Clear Lake, Iowa. I was fortunate to have had outstanding Junior High and High School band and choral directors - mostly Luther graduates. I had the opportunity to attend Dorian Band and Choir Festivals. These experiences made attending Luther an easy choice.

In Nordic Choir, my freshman year, David Nordli and I became interested in each other and now have been lovingly married for 50 years. (Interesting fact - 4 freshman women made Nordic that fall - 3 of us married Nordic Choir men and remain happily married. Actually the other woman also married a classmate and they are still together.) It doesn't get any better than that. Shared values work.

I was a little concerned about my religion classes because I was raised Congregational, not Lutheran. My anxiety was alleviated in the first week of class when Professor Bunge said, "If you don't learn to question here, you're in trouble." Ah-h! I'll be OK and that's what I feel Luther has given to me - the ability to think for myself, to question, to analyze, and yet have faith be my cornerstone. Also, most of my go to Bible references come from the powerful music and explanations taught by the inspiring Weston Noble. He is the most significant teacher I've ever had. God bless his soul.

David and I were married after Luther, moved to Minneapolis, where I taught elementary music on and off for 40 years. David taught elementary band and high school choir in Hopkins. We have 3 great kids: Erik, 44 who was born with the rare Rubinstein Taybi syndrome. He moved into a group home with he was 21, which we helped start. Kari, 41, went to Luther, met her husband Greg Douma in Nordic and together they went on to teach high school choir at Eastview High School in Apple Valley, MN. Kyle, 38, lives in Jackson WY where he works in the restaurant business. He is an avid snowboarder, mountain biker, hiker, camper, and fisherman.

Music has shaped our entire lives. For that I am so grateful. We even sang with a family choir for many years allowing our children to grow up with this rich choral tradition. Erik also got to be in it. Who am I? A music person who reads voraciously, loves to travel, still has great Luther friends who get together regularly -Jeannie White Achenbach, Diane Olafson Auman, Bonnie Holt Hewitt, and Jan Thompson Spitzak.

Soli Deo Gloria.

Wayne Oberschelp

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I wasn't able to visit Luther College before freshman year. My visit was scheduled for the day after President Kennedy was killed. I called to confirm that my visit was still on – the answer was “no.” I made my decision sight unseen. There were 19 students in my high school. Luther and Decorah were gigantic and very different to me. President Farwell told the parents that students should not go home on any weekends. End result – I was SO homesick.

The key to my adjustment was Denny Rathjen, who was one of two upper classmen assigned to our corridor in Ylvisaker Hall. He noticed my pain. Empathy and insight were his forte. He talked with me on several walks around campus. The Sunday walk to church on Sunday where boys and girls lined up and were paired together going to church helped – Denny made me go. A lot of things happened the first couple of months, Denny guided me through – Thank you Denny!

Fast forward 54 years: two of my best friends are classmates from Luther. My view of society and the world is the result of that first jolt and following years at Luther.

I've lived in the Chicago area most of my life. My professional background is in computer systems development and business strategy. I earned an MBA from the University of Chicago and worked in banking, manufacturing, financial and human resource systems.

My wife, Debbie, and I are now retired; we sold our house and moved to an apartment on the north side by Lake Michigan. We have one son, John who lives in Boston. We enjoy travel; much of that is with an organization which helps folks travel to other people's homes to take care of their pets.

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Selecting Luther as my college was easy, it was very friendly to the shy girl I was back then, and - since then - it clearly lived up to my expectations and more! All my professors and teachers at Luther were top notch. Their words come back to me often! The students, the staff, the administrators were all wonderful people. I appreciated each and every one of them. I graduated a semester early with a B.A. in Art Education, and also had been pretty much off campus all 1st semester of my senior year because of student teaching Art and English in Minnesota. I had a job waiting for me as a graphic artist making and printing up sheet music in Des Plaines, IL. When fall came however, I began my job teaching K-12 Art at M-F-L in Monona, in N.E. IA. Within three years I married the music teacher there and stayed home with what was eventually to come... our kids. I started writing, and eventually over 20 of my poems and stories were published. I gave private acoustic guitar lessons. By then I wished I had stayed on that last semester at Luther to get my minor in English Education. Luther advised me to contact the University of Northern Iowa, which is where, through the mail, I achieved that goal. These next years I substitute taught in area schools in art and English, taught Pre-school art, and taught Adult Ed. Art though Area I. Next I went back to being a graphic artist at Keystone AEA in Elkader, IA. After 3 plus years there, the classroom called me back again as an art teacher . . . now for Mar-Mac schools. After several years, M-F-L and Mar Mac combined. In 1997 my husband could retire with full benefits, and my parents needed help in FL, as my dad had Alzheimer's, so we moved here. We decided early on that we still needed to work, so my husband began teaching music again, and I decided to do clerical work for our school system as a sub. Soon I was hired full time as the secretary of our county school's Florida Bright Futures and Scholarship department. After over a decade there, I retired "for good." My husband and I enjoy seeing operas and traveling. We have driven across Canada, visited my relatives in Sweden 3 times, toured The British Isles, cruised to the Bahamas and Mexico twice, as well as visited most parts of the US. We have three grown children: Tom, Jon and Caroline. We have four grandsons: Ben, Drew, Elijah and Alex. Tom's family is in IA, and Jon's is in FL. Our daughter and her husband are in VA, close to DC. All of them have followed us with their music and art! Currently my husband is a church musician, director, accompanist. I build and maintain web sites and Facebook groups and pages for people and organizations. Every day I'm on Ancestry.com. My recommendation for future students is to enjoy life to the fullest, worries will be gone eventually, love life and the precious people in it, and treasure all the amazing places. Love our planet and stick to your faith in our Creator and in our Savior. Pray often.

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Pam (Lokken) Oman

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Bob and I were married one month after graduating from Luther. We both earned our Master's degrees from SIU in Carbondale, IL in 1972, and Bob earned his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Minnesota in 1976.

We spent 35 of our 45 married years in Barron, WI where Bob was a partner in the Barron Veterinary Clinic and where we raised our three sons. Those sons are now all married and each couple has two daughters. Bob was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2007, marking the end of his cancer. Trained as an English teacher, I taught for four years early on, then later worked at a variety of jobs, retiring in 2009 from my thirteen year career as a bookkeeper in a Barron bank.

We were able to travel to Europe several times partly because one or two of our sons worked for their Northwest Airlines. We visited two cousins in Italy several times, and Norway twice, seeing the places our ancestors left for America. Bob died October 23, 2013, and by July 2014, I moved to Hudson, WI to be closer to my sons' families.

I'm active in Bethel Lutheran, am a volunteer with Adoray Hospice, and keep an open schedule to be available for some grandchildren care. Last year I realized a long held dream by self publishing my memoir titled *Chapter Three*, my name for this phase of my life. Our Luther years gave us the experience and learning, which have been the foundation of a richly blessed life.

Steven L. Overholt, MD

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I went to Montgomery Blair High School in Silver Spring, Maryland. While there, the Luther College Band was on tour and I went to the concert and I was blown away by their performance and Weston Noble. My cousin Janet Amundson asked if I had considered attending Luther? She was first chair flute in the band and she said why not? I was thinking of several other colleges on the East Coast so I added Luther! I was premed but the idea of playing in a great band and premed was a perfect fit for me! So started my 4 wonderful years at Luther. I remember coming to Ylvisaker Hall in 1964; it had just opened. The next day, I met my advisor Dr. Rulon and in 5 minutes he set up my course selection for premed for a Biology Chemistry major. How lucky I was. He was my teacher, advisor and friend. I was his lab assistant for physiology for 3 years, which made that course quite easy in medical school. He was an incredible teacher whose love of physiology was inspiring. For many years whenever I was back on campus, I would visit Russ and his wife Joan. The other influential teacher was Dr. Reitan for comparative embryology and anatomy my sophomore year. We, as students, are lucky to have professors whose first love is teaching!

After graduating I attended U of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. I served my internship at Gunderson Clinic and residency at Washington University Barnes Hospital in Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery, graduating in 1978. From there I spent one year at Fort Leonard Wood and my second year at Fitzsimons Army Hospital in Denver as Assistant Chief running their residency in Otolaryngology. I finished my military obligation and joined the ENT Dept at Gunderson Clinic in 1980. I practiced there until my retirement in 2012.

I married Connie in 1971, after she graduated from Luther. We have three children who all attended Luther Lesley (97), Russell (2001), and Ryan (2004). We have six grandchildren. I was privileged to serve on Board Of Regents for 12 years. It was an incredible experience to attend meetings with so many dedicated and skilled regents from all walks of life whose love of Luther was evident.

In retirement I have more time to travel, read, play golf and see my children and grandchildren!

Trudy (Prel) Pankow

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Retired - traveling when possible (Florida to see my sister); Missouri - to see my son's family and watch my grandchildren play baseball and softball (on city and traveling teams). I have three (all married) children (Scott, Curt, and Jeff) and four grandchildren. Widowed since 2011. Moved from Stevens Point, WI to Waupaca, WI in 2008 - we replaced our small cottage (on the Chain-of-Lakes) with a larger home on the lake.

Kristi (Foss) Pasek

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I am thankful for the friendships that began on the Luther campus and have continued for over 50 years !

My job experiences were never "work" because I enjoyed every day. I spent 16 years employed at a Veterinary Hospital in Minneapolis. When the commute was no longer fun, I quit. I drove special ed/headstart bus routes for about 20 years, ending with a few years taking a young lady with autism to her day program.

My interests include antiques, classic cars, cats, and visiting with friends of all ages. We have two children and two grandsons.

Luther Peterson

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My student advisor, the right Reverend Richard Simon Hanson, helped me become acceptable to Luther Theological Seminary by saying, and I quote: "If you can keep from becoming a pastor, do so."

While at seminary I worked with the American Lutheran Church Office Department of Education on project youth consultation to create confirmation curriculum.

During the summer of 1969, enjoyed a scholarship to the University of Oslo, Norway International Summer School.

Seminary internship was a street ministry through Lutheran Social Service on So. Side Minneapolis among Native Americans.

Post graduate clinical pastoral education was a pilot project with the Wilder Foundation of Ramsey Co. St. Paul. I worked staff at St. Paul on the Hill, an Anglo Catholic Episcopal church, Summit Ave.

Was ordained at my home church in Cashton, WI.

Calls served:

- Rural Roseau, MN. Ross Lutheran Parish, Concordia, Pinecreek, and Roslund
- Holstein, IA. St. Paul Lutheran Church, Co-Pastor with my brother, Rev. Roger Peterson
- Waseca, MN. St. John Lutheran Church, 16 years
- Jamestown, N.D. St. John and Trinity
- Rural Thief River Falls, MN. Viking Lutheran Parish, Zion and Oak Ridge
- Northfield, MN. Lands Lutheran, Zumbrota
- Webster, MN. Solor Lutheran
- Bricelyn, Bricelyn and Blue Earth congregations
- Retired after 40 years of parish work.

Family:

Wife: Bonnie Gail Anderson / Lake Bronson, MN. / Lutheran Deaconess / Grad University of Minnesota, CRNA

Son: Andrew / Hamline University / Augsburg, MBA / Army National Guard captain / Intelligence, FBI

Daughter: Elise / Denver University / International Business / St. Mary , Master's Degree, Counseling

Travel: Germany (led my confirmation class through Luther's life), Austria, Switzerland, France, Hungary, Israel, Sweden, UK, Italy and Spain

William J. Pettit, D.O., M.A.

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Following graduation from Luther College I attended the University of Northern Colorado; got my Master's in Special Education, Counseling the Handicapped. Worked as a vocational rehabilitation counselor in Iowa for 5 years working in both secondary school systems and last in an inpatient heroin addict treatment center. I was accepted into the Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine and graduated with a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine in 1977. I was commissioned as an officer in the United States Army in 1974 and I completed a military family medicine residency at Fort Bragg, North Carolina in 1980 and became board certified in family medicine then as well. I resigned my military commission in July 1983 and went into private practice in Lawton, Oklahoma until 2002 when I moved to the Tulsa, Oklahoma area to work at the Oklahoma State University (OSU) Center for Health Sciences (CHS), College of Osteopathic Medicine; beginning as the Medical Director of OSU Physicians 2002-2005; then became the Associate Dean for Rural Health and continue in that role; but also, became the Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in 2012 and subsequently in 2013 also moved into the role of Provost over the OSU CHS graduate school programs as well. I currently hold a rank of Professor with tenure in family medicine. In July of this year I will become the Dean of our OSU CHS Cherokee Nation additional site campus of 200 medical students.

I married my high school sweetheart, Marlene Smith (Marnie), in January 1974 and we were blessed with twin daughters in 1979 while in my residency. Both daughters have had two children; three boys and one sweet little girl. Marnie and I have a second home on Grand Lake at Monkey Island, Oklahoma and enjoy our time boating and playing golf at the Shangri La Golf Resort. We have traveled in the United States for my work extensively and have made personal excursions on 6 cruises to the Bahamas, Gulf of Mexico, Mexican coast, South Pacific, Mediterranean and Scandinavian countries. We currently attend the First United Methodist Church in downtown Tulsa.

Luther College represents the "foundation" of education that has allowed me the privilege of being a physician and now as an administrator teaching and mentoring the physicians of the future; THANK YOU LUTHER. For me, the memory of my experiences with the ZPT's, the parades, floats, and "keggers" remains as yesterday - great education, great memories. Great canoeing down the Upper Iowa River as well!

I have truly been blessed.

Karen (Heter) Porter

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I was blessed to have a teaching career while raising daughters, Michelle and Holly. Throughout their childhood I had a similar schedule and could attend functions for church, school, and other interests. Mid-career I had an opportunity for a new career path. I managed the retail side of various Ohio Cracker Barrel Stores.

In 2002, I took early retirement to await the birth of my first grand-daughter, Elizabeth. Since then Maggie (age 11) and Luke (age 7) have arrived. Besides being active in their lives, I enjoy a blended family with husband, Dick. Together we have nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

My hobbies include quilting, knitting, and reading. I especially love creating lap quilts for vets, nursing homes, and hospice, as well as knitting hats for neo-natal babies at Children's Hospital.

Dr. Running in the art department was my favorite prof.

John Mark Reisetter

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Albert Hjelle called the WIMI house from the college placement office in late spring of 1968, and when I answered he said I was just who he wanted to talk with. Could I do him a personal favor by throwing on a suit and coming over to his office in about ten minutes? There was a Superintendent of Schools from a small town in Southeast Minnesota, and not many people had signed up to be interviewed. Besides, it would be good practice for me!

I was later invited by this Superintendent to visit the brand new high school in Lewiston, MN, along with two of my Luther classmates Becky Bell and Retha Swanson. Retha had a car, so Becky and I rode with her. After a tour of the building, we were back in the Superintendent's office when he asked if one of us could type. Retha raised her hand first, and the Superintendent had her type out three teacher contracts which were promptly signed by the three of us.

After teaching English to eighth graders and high school Juniors that first year of 1968-1969, I was drafted into the Army by the Blackhawk (Iowa) County draft board. I took training at Fort Polk, LA, and Fort Benning, GA, before heading to Vietnam in January of 1970. I was assigned to an Infantry Company in the 101st Airborne Division which was operating in Thua Thien Province in northern South Vietnam. The first part of my year in the "land of the two-way rifle range" was in the jungle and once in awhile on a firebase. I later became mail clerk and then company clerk in the rear at the division's Camp Eagle which was located south of Hue. I was able to spend Christmas of 1970 back home with family in Iowa, as I received an early out. I came home with the rank of Sergeant, and was happy with my (honorable) discharge from the Army.

I enrolled in the Spring Semester in graduate school in Cedar Falls using the G.I. Bill, and then flew to Europe on the Iowa Regents trip that next summer, travelling in ten countries. My backpacking buddy in Europe that summer was Gary Crawford, a friend from Luther who happened to be teaching in Cedar Falls.

That fall, I returned to my position in Lewiston, and ended up teaching there for thirty more years. I had started chasing the trout hatchery trucks as they were stocking the trout streams around Decorah, and I soon realized that the Southeast corner of Minnesota, also part of the Driftless Area, is a very special place. With summers off from school, I immersed myself into trout fishing. I think the trout streams were my psychiatrist, something I needed after my year in a war zone.

Early in my teaching career, I coached freshman basketball and became the high school play director. I had been heavily involved with theater in high school under a fantastic director in a great facility. One of my

regrets at Luther was that I never auditioned or showed interest in the theater department. When I arrived to see they were performing in the basement of the science building, I guess I was put off by that. Directing theater became a real passion for me, and it remains important to me. Numerous students that I worked with went on to pursue theater degrees in college. Others continue to act in community theaters. One of my former actors has a BFA from The Theatre School at DePaul University and is also a successful playwright. Two of his plays have won Chicago's Jefferson Award for "Best New Work!" When I retired in 2001, I was humbled to learn that Gary Lee Mills had established and fully funds each year an annual theater scholarship in my name. Another former actor went on to get his BFA in Acting from the U of MN/Guthrie Theater Actor Training Program in 2006 and his MFA from NYU in 2012. My biggest "dramatic" thrill was to be invited backstage at the Broadhurst Theatre by Andrew Hovelson following a "Lucky Guy" performance and walking into a make-up room to be introduced to a couple of Andrew's castmates, namely Courtney B. Vance and Tom Hanks! Andrew will be seen at New York's Public Theater through December 2, 2018, playing the son of Glenn Close who portrays Joan of Arc's mother in "Mother of the Maid."

I was 32 years old when I married Jean, and we recently celebrated our 40th Anniversary. Our oldest son, Jed, is married to Amblyn, and they have two daughters, Neko and Elliot. Jed is a special education teacher at Winona Senior High School where he is also the Cross Country and Track and Field coach. Jonathan helped build golf courses around the world for twelve years, mostly with Tom Doak and Renaissance Golf Design. Currently, he is at the Humphrey School (U of MN) finishing up a Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning. Miriam Hewitt (Reid) is a social worker at a high school in Roseville, MN.

I retired last spring from my second career, having operated Lewiston Area Trout Guides for nineteen years. I had the pleasure of taking folks fly fishing for trout on our area streams. I had the nicest people drive up to our door, from seven different countries and most of the 50 states. We are blessed with over 50 trout streams within 20 miles of our back door. I remain very active with Trout Unlimited at the local and state levels. It is an exciting time to be part of TU in Minnesota. In 2008, the citizens of our state voted to increase the sales tax by 3/8 of one percent for the Arts and the Environment. TU has received \$2 million again this year for trout stream restoration. Since we live close to many of the projects, I take a lot of photos of the work and post them regularly on the MNTU Facebook page.

We worship at Rushford Lutheran Church each week and get to see Luther friends Richard and Louann Bjorlo.

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From Luther to Davenport, Iowa, working as a social worker in a children's home. From there to Colorado State University's master degree program and then to Estes Park, Colorado for 40-plus years working as a school psychologist, high school counselor, middle school counselor, pupil services director and basketball coach. From there to Phoenix, and retirement golfing with my brother, Timm. Have volunteered extensively, was elected to the school board, and am currently a Stephen Minister and church council member at All Saints Lutheran church. Luther's amazing gift to me was Barbara Stolfa, my first wife. I met her at Luther and am a much better man for having the opportunity to share her life for 15 years. I wish I had started my college years at Luther rather than the University of Wisconsin. Smaller school was better for me. My advice: Love God, Give of Yourself to Others, and Appreciate What You Have, Especially Your Family and Friends!
PS: Hi to my great dormitory, off campus housing, and fraternity friends!

Linda Aaker Ritland

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Luther has been in the Aaker DNA for generations. So it's hard for me to express all of the influences it has had on my life. But I can safely say its greatest impact certainly has to be finding my best friend and life partner of 50 years, Curt Ritland ('67). All thanks to the WIMI Steak Fry first date.

Luther holds many magical memories for me. Events like homecomings, cheerleading, winter carnivals, *Messiah*, dorm counselor, women's dorm hours, sledding on cafeteria trays and my charter member Omega Phi Beta sisters. What a blast from the past to remember our beautiful campus and surrounding areas of Decorah where we spent so much of our time. I think of living in Larsen Hall and Brandt Hall, listening to the beautiful carillon bells playing, going to classes in Main, studying in the stacks of the Koren Library, dancing at Dante's, watching sports and entertainers at the fieldhouse. And who can ever forget ordering Mabe's Pizza, buying Rake sandwiches, or treating ourselves to Ronnie's Rolls. Then there were all the very scenic sights of Decorah. Remembrances of walking to Dunning's Spring, going to Phelps Park, or canoeing down the Upper Iowa River.

But mostly I cherish the Luther memories of the very special people I encountered at Luther. Many who remain my close lifelong friends. I also look back and so appreciate the many outstanding professors who challenged me to think outside of the box, especially those religion courses!

It was during these crazy years of 1964-1968 that we experienced extraordinary historical events taking place in our world. There was the Vietnam War, the draft, the assassinations, the Civil Rights Movement, the women's movement, the campus protests. Yet throughout all this tumultuous time, I was thankful that Luther provided us a safe haven to live, laugh, and learn together peacefully.

Since leaving Luther, I have taught in my major of Physical Education, teaching four years in Rantoul, Illinois while Curt served as a weather instructor in the Air Force. From there we returned to Des Moines, Iowa in 1972 where Curt went to Drake Law School and practiced law while I taught, and coached at the middle and high school level. I also became a National Trainer in Conflict Management, traveling across the country training all grade level students how to settle their conflicts peacefully. My partner and I were recognized by Attorney General Janet Reno, profiled on NBC, and honored by Iowa's Governor for piloting and successfully implementing educational peace programs across the country.

We lived for 25 years in Des Moines where we raised our three children. Kelly, who is presently an educational consultant living in Tempe, Christine, a lawyer clerking for a Federal Judge in Phoenix, and Thomas, who is a coder for the Dakota County Justice Department and living in Minneapolis. All of them are married and have given us five precious grandchildren. In 1997 we moved to Tempe, Arizona. Here I

have received specialized training in the Great Books shared inquiry method, which gave me the skills and opportunity to teach and discuss pieces of literature with high school students at a charter school. Today I enjoy semi-retirement.

Our lives are delightfully full enjoying travel, and loving being with our children and grandchildren who all, until recently, lived near us in the Tempe/Phoenix area. I sing in our church choir and participate in numerous local community organizations. I strongly support and advocate for institutions that stand for social justice and who honor human dignity. Since I missed out in the 60's on all the marches, I have definitely caught up in the past two years. I have proudly marched for public education, for women's rights, for sensible gun control, for Dreamers (DACA), for stopping the separation of families at our borders, and for Planned Parenthood.

My hope to students and to all the Luther family is to be kinder and more respectful to one another. Try to listen, include, learn, and take care of one another. Look for what unites us rather than divides us. These are the beliefs Luther instilled in me:

Birthplace: Earth

Race: Human

Politics: Freedom

Religion: Love

Suzanne (Halling) Roe

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One of the great things about going to Luther is the life long friends I've made. I loved my art class with Professor Dean Schwarz. I just recently saw a book he published. Dr. Strand worked with me and helped me out a great deal. I had lunch with her when she was about to be 100, and I also went to a birthday party at her church. Jackie (Berg) and I read a poem for her that we wrote. Singing in the chorus of the *Messiah*, performing on the pompon squad and being a member of Alpha Beta Psi give me wonderful memories.

After I graduated, I headed to the Twins Cities to start my teaching career in the Osseo School District. I taught second grade for 35 years. I am also a graduate of the U of M where I got my Masters Degree. In August of 1969, I married Steve Roe who was a Park and Rec. Director. We had three wonderful children, (Stacy, Derek and Anne Marie). Life was busy, but full of many great moments. They are all doing very well and have super jobs and lovely families. We have five granddaughters, (Lauren, Maria, Brynn, Haven and Noelle) who are bundles of joy. They all live close so we have many nice family gatherings.

After I retired in 2003, I worked for the Christian Recovery Center putting on fund-raising events. Very different than being with 8 year olds all day. Steve is also retired. We have gone on many European and Scandinavian trips with fun friends. This summer we are going on a cruise to Alaska with two other couples.

Life has been very good. We feel very blessed.

Students, work hard but enjoy your time at this wonderful college. Keep in touch with the friends you've made. My Luther friends have been a very special part of my life. I'm a grandma now. Today I watched little Noelle. We had a great day, but I'm very tired and it's time to close this down. I wish you all the things I have experienced in my life.

John Rollefson

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Since I recently published a three-volume commentary on the Revised Common Lectionary, the ecumenical set of readings we hear each Sunday and other special days of the church year, I'll begin by quoting a few words I included in the "Preface."

A final word of explanation regarding where and from whom these postils are coming.

I am an ecumenically-minded Lutheran of the ELCA variety, raised in a low-church Norwegian-American farming community in the upper Midwest. I attended Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, as an undergraduate where I majored in history and classics. While there I was active in drama, student government and intramural athletics as well as becoming increasingly grateful to find my God-given faith mature amid a challenging and supportive setting that claimed the identity of being at once a "community of faith and learning." This propelled me into an adventure of life-long learning that sent me, in time, from New Haven to Edinburgh, from London to Berkeley, and in later years from Collegeville to Cambridge, Mass. Continuing education has nourished a lasting intellectual curiosity that has served me well as a preacher in both urban and campus communities, in small and large congregations, from San Francisco to Milwaukee to Ann Arbor to Los Angeles, with post-retirement interims in Solvang and London.

I think my reference here to Luther as at once "a community of faith and learning" will resonate with many of you classmates since it was the air we breathed in the mid-60s and, to my mind, well described the intellectual, social and spiritual climate of that day. It's one of the reasons that I've been an advocate within our reunion planning committee to try and come up with some imaginative way for us all to have conversation around our memories of that particularly apocalyptic year of 1968 into which we commenced in the wake of LBJ's decision not to run again in the face of the growing anti-war movement followed so quickly by ML King Jr.'s assassination in Memphis and Bobby Kennedy's in LA and then the riotous Democratic convention held in Chicago that summer which I remember watching on TV with Dewey, Scrib and Keith at the apartment we rented together in Minneapolis where we were working moving furniture before going our separate ways in late August. We all know we're in a "jam" again just now in our country (as I heard the jazz singer Kurt Elling put it at a concert in SF not long ago) and I can't help but think that we could do worse than expect our 50th reunion to help us get some perspective on our present plight.

Accompanying me for nearly all this intervening half-century has been my wife, Ruth Gordon Rollefson, Class of 1969, who is a retired vocal music teacher and sometime church musician. (By the time of our actual

Homecoming in October we will have just completed a couple week residency at Holden Village where Ruth served as the guest musician!) Our two grown sons, Griff and Jake, have been our fellow travelers in our peregrinations, Griff, a musicologist, himself just published his first book entitled Flip the Script: European Hip Hop and the Politics of Postcoloniality. He is a professor at University College, Cork, Ireland where he lives with his composer-wife Mary and two kids. Jake, our younger son, was just married a year ago and works for Pandora music in Chicago and lives with his wife Julianne in Milwaukee.

Ruth and I are happily retired in San Luis Obispo on California's Central Coast where we're involved in our local congregation and community while enjoying tennis, golf, hiking, concerts, reading, writing and wine-tasting. We look forward to reuniting with as many of you as possible at our gatherings during Homecoming 2018 and 2019.

John Rollefson

Carl Rowe

Spouse: Tracy Rowe

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I went right from Luther into teaching high school English. After two years, I didn't want to do that anymore, so I went to the Goodman School of Drama in Chicago to be an actor. After one year I didn't want to be an actor, although I moved to Berkeley, CA and did some acting in San Francisco for a year and a half. Then I didn't do anything productive. It was Berkeley! However, at 27 I wandered into a dance studio thinking it was something else. They conned me into teaching a tumbling class in exchange for improv dance classes. I got hooked. Some friends suggested that I take some technique classes and learn how to control myself. That led me to UC Santa Cruz and New York City for three years of getting myself under control. That led to a full-time dancing job in Portland, OR and a 40 year professional career in dance. That included dancing until I was 55, choreographing 110 dances, and directing a contemporary dance company for 25 years. I retired from dance in 2014.

In 1990 I began to draw the landscape of Idaho, where I live. Just for fun. Then I began to use some color. One day a gallery owner saw one of these things and asked if she could put it on her wall. I didn't really know what she was talking about, but I said, "yes." That led to a 28-year professional career in painting that continues today.

I'm also presently trying to write a book about beliefs. I'm greatly enjoying wrestling all the ideas I've had about the topic into one place.

I've been fortunate to travel widely in the U.S. and some abroad. I love Europe, often feeling it suits me more than here. I've scrounged around the desert slot canyons of Utah, run the rivers of Idaho several times (I've never flipped a boat!) and hiked among the mountains to stare at stars at 10,000 feet. The highlight was rowing the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon on a three week trip. Nothing can compare.....

Luther feels like a long time ago. I barely remember much about it. It has less presence than my high school days, for some reason. The music at Luther was the best. Track was fun, hurling a javelin at a football field. I felt that I got a good education there, but I can't remember much that I learned. The most useful class was Dr. Ylvisaker's philosophy survey. It taught me how to think. Oddly, nothing I've done professionally has its origins at Luther. It's almost as if I became a different person once I left.

Luther is obviously a church school. I no longer participate in churches, so the whole orientation of the college is foreign to me. Yes, it happens. Even a Luther grad can go off the rails. Don't worry about me though, I'm fine.

Advice for Luther students? Well, my life has been unplanned and almost entirely accidental. I'm not qualified to give any career counseling. I suppose I would suggest that doing anything other than something you love to do will not give you a very satisfying life. I'd add that doing something you love may require twice the effort since rarely do such things prove easy. I would also caution that you should not believe everything you think. We know so little about ourselves and the world is full of ideas.

Mike Ruzek

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Born and raised in Austin, Minnesota (the home of Spam), I did not know about Luther College until a high school teacher invited me to visit the campus during the fall of my senior year. My parents, who did not have the opportunity to further their education, wanted their three sons to have a college education, and they accomplished that.

With my parents' support, a good high school counselor, and the encouragement of friends and coaches, I enrolled at Luther. There were Saturdays in the fall when walking to the Fieldhouse that I thought about how grateful I was to be at Luther. The college's outstanding leadership and staff provided me a quality education, many opportunities to grow, and enduring friendships. They all made a lasting impact on my life. Oh, and I got to play football for Luther on beautiful Saturday afternoons!

After Luther, I struggled to find my calling in life, but it all turned out well eventually as I became a financial planner with Lutheran Brotherhood in Austin. Years later, I started the Austin Health Insurance Agency and continued that business until retiring in 2015. The flexibility with my work schedule provided me with opportunities for community service, which has been a very rewarding part of my life. I have been involved in organizations, such as the Austin Area Foundation; The Hormel Foundation; The McGregor Lakes Area Foundation; Spruce Up Austin; Mower County Veterans Memorial; Austin High School Alumni and Friends Association; and Austin Area Chamber of Commerce. In retirement, I continue to be involved in many of these organizations.

I met my wife, Barb, in Rochester, Minnesota, when she was a nursing student. Barb had a 27-year career with Mayo Clinic. We have two children. Our daughter, Krista, is an elementary school teacher and married with one child. Our son, Tony, is a commercial real estate appraiser and married with two children. Both live in the Twin Cities so Barb and I are able to see them often. In 2013, we purchased a lake home in northern Minnesota next to my brother, Dave, and his wife, Sue. It is a very enjoyable place for family and friends. There also has been good fishing trips with friends to Canada. Barb and I plan to remain in Austin and, when not at the lake, do some traveling.

One of my favorite stories from Luther was when the L Club got Carroll Dale, a Green Bay Packers wide receiver, as a speaker for our banquet during my senior year through the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. It was a successful event. Dr. Farwell called me to diplomatically inquire about getting Mr. Dale back to Rochester, Minnesota, while knowing a student budget probably would limit the vehicle options. Given that, Dr. Farwell offered his Toronado for me and my friend, Don Miller, to drive Mr. Dale, who was impressed. For the time of that ride, Don and I experienced a lifestyle that otherwise was quite foreign to us.

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Robert B. Sathe, CLU, ChFC® is Chairman of MCF Advisors, LLC. Prior to founding MCF, Bob was the Regional Chief Executive Officer for CIGNA Financial Advisors. He was with CIGNA for 30 years before retiring in the year 2000.

Bob has served on many boards in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky including Playhouse in the Park, Carnegie Arts Center, Thomas More College, Thomas More College Foundation, Cincinnati Ballet, Fine Arts Institute, Fine Arts Annual Fund, Metropolitan Club, Coldstream Country Club, Cancer Family Care, Boy Scouts, Red Cross, Bethesda Hospitals, MMC, INC., CPX Family of Companies, Executive Committee for the Institute for Religious Liberty and was a Founder of The Bank of Kentucky.

In 1992, he received his Honorary Doctorate from Thomas More College for his work while on the board. He has also been recognized with the Dorothy Wood Community Service Award by Redwood School, Barbara Roe Lang Special Service Award by Cancer Family Care, the Bishop Hughes Award for his contribution to Catholic higher education in Kentucky and the Distinguished Service Award by his alma mater Luther College.

Bob has chaired many fund raising efforts in Northern Kentucky and Cincinnati.

Bob and his wife, Dell Ann, have four children, Andy, Jennifer, Elizabeth and Matthew.

They also have eight grandchildren.

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Bob and I were married in 1967. We lived in the Minneapolis area for about 10 years. I taught kindergarten in St Paul and Bob was with CIGNA. In 1977 we moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, where we raised our four children and still reside. Three of our four children, and our eight grandchildren, also live in Cincinnati. One of our daughters lives in Charleston, SC.

My post "stay at home mom" life includes volunteer work with our church and Cancer Support Community.

Bob and I have traveled extensively in the US and the world. In 2001, we built a second home in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, where we spend some of the winter and most of the summer.

Russell Savre

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After graduating from Luther, with a major in business, I went to work for a large CPA firm in Chicago. This ended up being a very fortunate career move which has paid dividends throughout my work life. After serving two years in the US Army, I returned to the same Chicago CPA firm for the next five years. Staying in the Chicago area I spent the next 10 years working for a large health care conglomerate in the area of finance and accounting.

In 1985 I moved to Durham, North Carolina to work for a major pharmaceutical company where I worked for the next 10 years in the finance area. Since then I have worked in venture capital and business consulting. I continue to do part time consulting work for a small family office.

Living in North Carolina has been a terrific experience. I have always had terrific jobs and good friends. And it is a blessing to live in an area that is economically robust with great weather.

Over the years my major focus has been career, friends, church and goofing off. Now the goofing off part is taking the majority of my time. I am also treasurer of a local not for profit organization.

Luther gave me a great foundation to get a good job right out of college and to instill the need for life long learning. However, most of my memories of Luther are not academic. The big take away for me was great peers, roommates and fiends. To this day some of the most significant friendships are from Luther.

Donald J. Schreiber

Spouse: Linda S. Nelson-Schreiber

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Attended medical school at University of Iowa College of Medicine, graduated 1973

Internship and residency at University of Colorado, Denver CO

Fellowship in pathology at University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Married to Linda S. Nelson in 1976

Have three children and two grandchildren

Practiced as a pathologist at the Marshfield Clinic in Marshfield WI (1978-2015)

Retired in 2015

Favorite Professors: Dr. Phillip Reitan and Dr. Russell Rulon (biology), Dr. Richard Hanson (English), Dr. Robert Jenson (religion)

Advice to Luther students: take full advantage of the broad-based liberal education available to you at Luther. It stimulates and develops the "life of the mind," which you will find invaluable in terms of understanding the world around you and in the simple enjoyment of life itself.

Greta (Loven) Schreiber

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I received an outstanding education that prepared me for a teaching career. Besides the wonderful professors, I especially remember being a counselor in Larsen Hall. Mrs. Finanger was so supportive and made us wonderful treats. I also remember helping to form Omega Phi Beta and all the memorable experiences and fun we had working together.

I taught elementary school for forty years. After I retired, I also owned a Curves for Women.

I have been married to Brian for over forty years, who is retired for the University of Minnesota Extension Service. We have two daughters and five grandchildren.

I recently traveled to Norway with my two daughters and granddaughter. We were able to visit the farm site where my grandfather was born and the church where he was baptized.

The four years at Luther go so fast, enjoy and appreciate every minute!

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Life since Luther: US Army 1969-71; Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (35 yrs); remarried 2010. Family: 4 daughters, 8 grandchildren; Greatest Discovery: God's unconditional love. Hobbies: Reading, plinking, talking, pondering and watching the grass grow. LC's Impact: Confirmed my interest in biological sciences and the incredible orderliness of nature, delayed draft 4 yrs, and provided a group of encouraging lifelong friendships that keep getting more meaningful each year that passes. The meaning of it all: God is good ... all the time.

Stephen C. Sheie

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After graduating Luther College, I attended Luther Theological Seminary, St. Paul, MN, receiving an M.Div in 1972. This experience was enriched by an internship year in Huron, S.D. and summers, together with my wife Myrna, in church camping, particularly Amnicon, a ministry of Central Lutheran, Minneapolis, and Wilderness Canoe Base, Grand Marais, MN, then operated by Plymouth Christian Youth Center, Minneapolis.

Deciding against parish ministry, I worked in carpentry for roughly ten years in new home construction, primarily in the west suburbs of Minneapolis and, for a few years, in the Black Hills. Out of this experience, I have had the satisfaction of designing and building two of the homes in which we have lived. Building and remodeling has been a continuing interest of mine for 45 years.

In 1981 I returned to school at the University of Minnesota, graduating in 1984 with a Bachelors of Science in Nursing. I worked as an RN at University of Minnesota Hospitals, focused on bone marrow transplant, through 1998. This was followed by hospice nursing, primarily in the Chicago area, until retirement in 2010.

After roughly 30 years in the Twin Cities area, I became a trailing spouse in 1999 as my wife Myrna accepted a call to Chicago as executive assistant to the ELCA Presiding Bishop, first H. George Anderson and then Mark Hanson. In 2011, we retired to Portland, Oregon to be closer to our sons, who had settled in the Northwest. We have been enjoying our twin grandsons and family since that time, not to mention discovering a whole new part of the country.

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Jean and I were married in 1967, spending our first year of married life at Luther. We have four children: Alex, Nate, Katherine, and Rebecca. Three graduated from Luther. Katherine graduated from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. After graduation, we returned to our home town where Jean began her nursing career at Naeve Hospital in Albert Lea and I began my teaching and coaching career at Albert Lea High School. Jean retired in 2012. I retired from teaching (English and mathematics) in 2014. We graduated from ALHS in 1964 and I graduated again fifty years later. I continue to be involved with the school district as a volunteer wrestling coach and a member of the School Board. During these years we have lived on my family farm and I am now a full time farmer.

It has been my great fortune to have enjoyed a continued exposure to the world of Luther College--both as a student at Luther and a parent of students at Luther. During my years as a student I was mostly associated with the athletic community at Luther. This continued when my two sons entered that world at Luther. We were all involved as members of the wrestling team. My experience broadened when daughter Rebecca entered the music world at Luther. Words cannot express how wonderful those worlds were and are. I hesitate to name individuals for fear of ranking them but suffice it to say that Luther faculty and students have provided me with much of the core of who I am today. My advice to current students at Luther is this: Appreciate the opportunities you have at Luther and take advantage of them. The students and staff are second to none. Absorb as much as you can and when you leave take it with you.

Margaret North Smith

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I fell in love with Luther College during my sophomore year of high school after reading the catalog my older sister brought home. I visited campus as a junior. Luther was my only choice for college and I was awarded a scholarship and campus work. I cleaned at the campus health center, graded papers for the French department, ran the language lab evenings, and worked in the library. My starting pay was 25 cents an hour.

I remember the excitement we felt as our Larsen girls' floor walked to church with our partner Ylvisaker boys' floor that first Sunday. I remember wearing beanies, the greased pole climb and Saturday morning classes. I also remember walking to classes with snow piled high on the sides of the walkway.

Chapels, church services, and altar guild with Pastor Smedsrud, and classes with Dr. Richard Hanson expanded my faith journey. Living in the French House with Monique Burnier and studying under Mr. Bjerkness and Miss Broberg prepared me for an exciting five week Paris, France cultural interim. I not only could make myself understood in my second language, but I visited all the places we had seen in our books and films.

The biggest impact for my future teaching career was Dr. Roger Anderson's advice to include a teaching minor that I would enjoy since I probably couldn't find many full time French teacher positions. Adding a minor in Spanish, which I later increased to a major equivalent, was what helped me get most of my teaching jobs.

I met my husband, Jack Smith '69, at Luther College at the German house. Neither of us wanted to attend a "hootenanny" that night but each of our roommates were going and had cajoled us into coming. What a fateful meeting! We married the next summer, August 26, 1967, just a week before school started. Then a few weeks later I left my new husband for student teaching in Rochester, MN, coming home just on weekends.

After my graduation I worked a year in the Luther Registrar's office under the guidance of Miss Mostrom and Miss Torgerson. My husband finished his senior year while working evenings as a dispatcher for the Decorah police department. Once Jack graduated we moved to the Kansas City area. I taught junior high French and Spanish in Overland Park while Jack completed seminary at St. Paul's School of Theology.

When Jack was ordained we moved to Minnesota where he served as an itinerant United Methodist pastor for 34 years. I spent a total of 11 years at home raising two daughters and one son. I taught high school French and Spanish my last 23 years of full time teaching. Being the wife of an itinerant pastor meant I

changed schools frequently. The farthest I had to drive for work was 35 miles and luckily all Minnesota schools share one pension plan.

We thought we would retire in June, 2007, bought a home in Branson, MO, the "live entertainment capital of the US", and moved in. By September, 2007, we needed to "get out of the house" so I have spent the last 11 years as a hostess at the fine dining restaurant at the Chateau on the Lake resort and spa. Jack worked for Silver Dollar City attractions a while and is now starting his 8th year as a part time "interim" pastor of a little country church.

Our family has expanded with two sons-in law, one daughter-in-law, and seven grand children ranging from 2 years to 16 years old. All three kids live in either Iowa or Minnesota so we travel the north/south roads a lot. We used our time share condos with our children, have traveled coast to coast, and now we are planning to repeat some trips with them as parents with children of their own. We dream of a time when Jack and I can spend summers up north with our kids and winters further south, with Branson being our spring and fall home.

On August 26, 2017 we gathered all our kids, expanded family and friends for a renewal of our marriage vows. Our son-in-law Jason, a United Methodist pastor presided. Jack's brother was his escort in, my sister was mine. All my daughters and grand daughters stood up with me and all our sons and grandsons stood by Jack. What a moving celebration.

My advice for Luther students is that life is what you make it. It doesn't matter what life throws at you, it is how you react that matters. Both good and bad things will always happen and the only thing you can change is your own attitude. Pray for a good attitude!

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After graduation, I taught elementary band in the Oconomowoc, WI school system until 1979 when I moved to New York to do graduate work in early music (Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque). I received my MFA in Early Music Performance from Sarah Lawrence College in 1981. In 1983 I moved to Basel, Switzerland to do graduate work at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis and moved back to New York the following year. Since then I've worked in the business world and was director of operations of a small market research company for over 20 years before retiring last year. At the same time, I've also worked as a conductor, coach and performer in the greater New York area. I retired from my position as church choir director last year. I'm still an active teacher for the American Recorder Society chapters in this area.

One of the things that influenced me a great deal during my time at Luther, was being a Swedish-American in a Norwegian American environment! All of the Norwegian activities at Luther made me much more aware of my own background and eventually I became heavily involved in the Vasa Order of America, a Swedish-American fraternal organization. I have served as a Local Lodge Chairman for 12 years, District Master for the state of New York, Delegate to the Grand Lodge Convention for the NY District, and I just completed a 4-year term as the Grand Lodge Cultural Director for the United States and Canada. I'm currently serving on the Board of Directors of the Vasa Order of America's National Archives.

I enjoy doing historical research in libraries and on the internet and have compiled a book of cultural programs to be used throughout the year at our monthly Vasa lodge meetings. I love traveling in Europe; I have been to Sweden ten times and many times to Switzerland, Finland, Germany, Italy, and Norway. I'm also very active in my local Lutheran Church (worship committee, choir, and providing instrumental music for many services throughout the year). I love reading, knitting/crafts, and cooking/baking.

Jennifer Ayers Spielman

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Luther was a great place to go to college! It quickly became our home away from home and still brings back great memories and warm feelings every time I return to campus. As a non-chorus student, many of my most cherished memories are in the student chorus of *Messiah*. Weston Noble put in the extra effort to provide a place for all levels of ability to participate at the highest level. I'll never forget the awe of watching him "live" the pieces as he directed us. In the 50 years since we graduated, my husband and I have missed only a couple of years of *Messiah*, and now Juletide. They are wonderful, BUT I wish the non-chorus students could have the opportunity Mr. Noble gave us!

Following graduation, Ron and I married, honeymooned at the end of the famous Door County "winding road", reported for Army training in Indianapolis, and then moved to Colorado Springs, CO where he was stationed at Fort Carson. In the fall of 1970 with the army behind us, we moved to Monroe, WI where Ron had a law office waiting for him and I started teaching third grade. We've enjoyed traveling throughout the United States, as well as Europe. We are now finding Road Scholar programs are perfect for us.

We're still in Monroe and we still go to Door County several times a year. In between raising a son, Ryan and a daughter, Catherine, I worked as a third grade teacher, Kindergarten Aide, Learning Disabilities Aide, and fifth grade teacher. Both of our children are married and in my retirement we can enjoy five grandchildren ranging in age from 24 to 10 months!

Janet Thompson Spitzack

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My experiences at Luther certainly had a huge impact on my life. Being a music major, many of my fondest memories revolve around band and choir trips. The Nordic European tour in 1967 was something I would never have thought possible. And the lifelong friendship that developed at Luther have been so important to me.

Some of the other memories that come to mind are the new Field House, *Messiah*, cold north winds, Norby Court, slippery walks across campus, dorm rules, beanies, New Christy Minstrels, Peter, Paul and Mary, goodie boxes from home, work study, and so much more.

After graduating from Luther I taught music education in Owatonna, MN for four years. I met my husband there and after getting married we moved to Winnebago, MN where my husband was a school administrator. We raised our 3 children there. I resumed teaching in 1981 in Winnebago, later for Blue Earth Area after the schools consolidated.

I continued with many other music activities, church organ and choirs, piano lessons, community choirs and concerts, area musical theatre and had the opportunity to sing in the Al Zinter Chorale in Fairmont and most recently an 8 voice ensemble, Nova Catabile.

I retired from teaching in 2002 and after my husband retired as a commodities broker, we moved to Apple Valley in 2009. We are so blessed to be 2 miles from our children and 5 grandchildren, ages 6-11. It is such a joy to watch them and be a big part of their lives.

Bruce Sundet

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Favorite Luther memories:

To many people when one thinks "Luther," the scenic location and beautiful campus would be mentioned immediately. But, my memories all have to do with the people I came in contact with during my four years there. First, I must mention that I met the love of my life at Luther, and we have had more than 49 years making memories. Our favorite weekends away still are to head to Decorah! The biology department with Russ Rulon. He was so smart and a great teacher and I appreciate him for that. The January Interim Hawaii trip with Dave Roslien is a special memory. Mike Ruzek and I had a good time doing a project while in Hawaii, and probably could still share a few laughs. Athletics played a special part and once again it was the people who influenced me and give me good memories. Rich Halvorson was my cross country coach and I credit him with my All-American success, as well as having had the opportunity to run two years with Gene Takle, one of the best Division III runners at that time. (special note: Gene showed up one day at our front door in Algona to talk to our son about why Luther was where he should go!) Kent Finanger was my track coach for two years, and even stopped with his football team at the Iowa Conference CC meet in Waverly to cheer the Luther squad on. He has always been an inspiration because of his enthusiasm, and I count him a great friend even today. He coached our middle son to two All-American CC awards, and gave the homily at his wedding! Naslund was my track coach my senior year and I will never forget driving to the national meet in San Francisco with him, John Ferden and Hank Avery. Three days in a car is a lot of time to spend with one another and then turn around and drive straight back in one day! And then I have to mention Paul Olson who was a senior track co-captain when I was a freshman. Paul is the kind of guy you feel lucky to know. He is inspirational, positive, and just fun to talk to. We still keep in contact. He was always happy to see us at events that Mark and Stacy were competing at. Even though he was the Augustana coach, he would be cheering our sons on!

Career path and family:

After graduating from Luther I, spent 8 years teaching junior high life science, and coaching three seasons each year at Howard Winneshiek School District. During this time, I was fortunate to get a National Science Foundation grant at Drake University and spent four summers there getting my MA in biology. While in Cresco, besides teaching, I was involved with being president of the teachers' union, was president of the church council, started a Kiwanis Club and was president of that. In June of 1976, we moved back to Algona, IA and I bought into my father's insurance agency and I became an independent insurance agent working with my brother-in-law, Howard Omdahl (also a Luther grad). In 2008, we sold our agency and I have continued working for the purchasing company because I still enjoy working with and helping my longtime clients. In Algona, I have been president of the Chamber. I started an Ambassadors Group, and was one of four guys who raised the initial funds to begin a local family recreation center that became a YMCA, and I have continued to be involved there. I also have been active with church committees, and am currently a

member of an advisory board for the Kossuth, Palo Alto Economic Development corporation. I feel fortunate to live in a progressive smaller community and that I am able to support local endeavors whenever possible, like the hospital foundation and the Algona Community School Foundation. I also had the opportunity to coach the girls' and boys' cross country programs at Algona Schools for 15 years, during which time I was able to coach all three sons, which leads me into my FAMILY!

Marcia and I were married in August of 1969, and three sons followed: Scott in 1973 (graduated from Central College and is a financial planner for Mass Mutual), Mark in 1975 (graduated from Luther and is an anesthesiologist in Des Moines), and Stacy in 1979 (graduated from Luther, Masters from UW/Lacrosse, and a vice-president /risk analyst at US Bank in Mpls). We have 7 special grandchildren. The first granddaughter was born on my 60th birthday, and five more granddaughters followed before the only grandson. We feel very lucky to be involved in their busy lives. Traveled: We've done kind of the usual, like three trips to Disney World with families, winter vacations to Arizona, Florida, Grand Cayman, and Bahamas, and trips around the US. But, our most special memories have been following our sons in their athletic seasons which continued through college, one playing golf at Central and two running at Luther. Now we travel for grandkids' events whenever possible! What I keep busy with: Besides work, I enjoy golfing, fishing, and relaxing at home with my wife or traveling to the kids' activities. I feel very fortunate to have been able to attend Luther College, and the fact that I am able to be thinking about my 50th class reunion!

Sue Svanoe (aka Marilyn Sue Svanoe)

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The best memory for me was Nordic Choir and Weston Noble. I started out as a teacher. Went back to school in 1988 and graduated with an MDiv from The Iliff School of Theology in 1992. Spent 1991-92 school year at Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary. Was ordained into the Lutheran (ELCA) ministry August 2, 1992. The theme of my ordination came from Nordic's signature song when I was in ... "I will sing to the Lord as long as I live. I will praise my God while I have my being." ... a theme which sustains me to this day! Served churches in Boulder, Denver, Evergreen, Arvada, Idaho Spring and Aurora, Colorado. Retired from the ELCA in November, 2009. In 2005 I began doing worship services in three retirement centers (including one where my parents lived). I continue that ministry today at two of the three. They say that you are always more busy in retirement than before!!! Well, that's the case!!!!

I was blessed with two wonderful sons. Joshua Svanoe Thompson (Heather) of Centennial, CO., and Jacob Svanoe Thompson, Boise, ID. Joshua has three children... my dear grandchildren Zachary who is 20 and in the Army Reserve (He will be deployed to Syria in December 2018)... William (Will) who is 7 and Hannah who is almost 5. So you see what else keeps me busy. Since they live close by I have been blessed with a very special role as their Nana. Jacob is not married.

John and I have also been fortunate to travel to Norway, England, Scotland, Ireland, Italy, France, Mexico, Canada and the Caribbean. But our favorite trips have been in the good old US of A... Our bucket list includes many National Parks for the future.

So that's my life in a nutshell. May God bless all of you in the class of '68!

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One of my favorite memories of Luther was meeting new people from all over the United States. I am still friends with some of those people. Homecoming was always special...seeing people from previous years and just having fun with everyone. The years we had the January interim were fun...getting to choose classes the we wouldn't ordinarily take during the regular terms. It also gave us a chance to relax and spend some quality time with friends.

I had a long, successful career as a teacher. I taught 37 years in the same building...teaching 3rd grade for 25 years, 5th grade for 2 years, and a 4/5 multiage class for 10 years. That was my favorite - really getting to know the kids and their families. I am retired now and enjoy my chance to do as I choose and spend time with family and friends. I did some substitute teaching after retiring, and worked at a local pumpkin farm in the cafeteria for 9 fall seasons ...no lesson plans!!!

I have traveled some and have visited 13 states, as well as Canada and Mexico. I particularly enjoyed a family trip on a Disney Cruise and a wonderful land/sea cruise to Alaska with some friends. What a beautiful place!

For Luther students...enjoy your time there...it goes so fast. take every opportunity that you can to learn as much as you can.

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After earning a degree in biology, I worked in various microbiology positions for 6 years. Deciding I would like a skill where I could go most anywhere, I returned to school at the U. of MN to get a dental hygiene degree. The years I worked in that were short lived as I heard a new zoo was being built in Apple Valley, MN. I applied, was offered a job, and only intended to keep it long enough to get zookeeping out of my blood. My first love had always been animals, and I ended up working at the MN Zoo for 32 years as a mammal keeper until retirement. Shortly after I began my career there, I met another zookeeper and married him the same year. All intentions of going back to the dental hygiene field dissipated.

My husband was stricken with Parkinson's Disease and Lewy Body Dementia after he retired, and passed away in Nov., 2017. We'd been able to travel several times to Hawaii and Norway, as well as Aruba and trips around the U.S. We have one son, Evan, born in 1984.

Having a degree from Luther is something I've always taken pride in. Living in the Twin Cities, it seems easy to run into a number of people who have gone to Luther. I love it when I see a Luther ring on someone, so much so that I've started wearing mine again. My best memories are from making it through the biology classes, although any career development was lacking.

Shirley (Rauschke) Titman

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Treasure each day God gives you. Experiences and relationships are far more important than things.

Mark Wardell

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After leaving Luther in 1968, I earned my master's degree in sociology at the University of Iowa and then earned my PhD in sociology at the University of Missouri. In 1977, I became an assistant professor of sociology at VA Tech. In 1993, I became a professor of sociology and head of the department of Industrial Relations and Human Resources at Penn State University. After 10 years as department head, I moved to the Penn State Graduate School as the associate dean. After six more years, I traveled to Michigan and subsequently Texas where I was respectively the dean of the Graduate School at Wayne State University and the University of North Texas. I retired August 1, 2016. Following a brief stay in Oregon, I moved to Sarasota, FL April 2018.

Throughout my career, the passion for sociology kindled in me at Luther College enabled me to follow a path of inspired scholarship, dedicated instruction, and responsible administrative service. Thank you Luther College!!!

I have one son and two grandchildren all living in Austria. My son is the director of art at a private high school in Graz, Austria. My grandchildren are pursuing undergraduate degrees at the University of Vienna and the University of Graz.

Karen (Nordstrom) Weedman

Spouse: John Weedman

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After John served in Vietnam, we settled in Colorado. John and I both worked for the state of Colorado for 30 years. John was a probation officer. I taught elementary ed.

Upon retiring, we moved to Rockford, IL. to be near our two adult daughters and four granddaughters who are now in high school. Our two daughters graduated from Luther and granddaughters are considering attending there also. Our family has a long history with Luther College. Our great uncle attended there when Luther was only a boys' school. Many cousins have attended Luther over the years.

John keeps busy being involved with granddaughters' sports. I golf, play bridge, and volunteer with hospice.

Luther was a very special place for us and we are hoping our granddaughters will carry on the tradition by attending Luther College.

June Wickboldt

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My majors, English and German, were important in my teaching career. I taught secondary English and German in Minnesota. Then after six months at Holden Village, Chelan, WA, I was contacted by the Director of Hothorpe Hall, Theddingworth near Rugby, England, who offered me the position of Secretary at Hothorpe. There I worked with volunteers and guests from many countries. With other employees I hitchhiked throughout the UK, Ireland and Europe on vacations. When Hothorpe hosted a group of missionaries receiving three months of intensive language training in Tonga for work in Zambia, I became acquainted with the Gossner Mission, West-Berlin, which was sponsoring them. The mission offered me a 3/4 time position as bilingual secretary. I stayed there two years enjoying the work, the culture and living with young Germans in a Wohngemeinschaft (commune) in the Mission House. Then I returned to the US, and earned an MA in Applied Linguistics (English as a Second/Foreign Language) from the U of MN. My next job was a summer stint at the University of Besancon, France before beginning six years of the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium. While there I went to Poland each summer to teach English in a residential program in southern Poland for students and faculty of the Catholic University of Lublin. Then, a former U of MN professor wrote and asked if I was interested in teaching English in the People's Republic of China at Nankai University, Tianjin. I accepted, and learned on the train from Beijing to Tianjin that I would actually be the director of a master's degree program in Applied Linguistics! So went two years in China: never knowing what would be happening the next day. I also taught in a summer workshop in Beijing sponsored by the U of MN for Chinese teachers of English. After China, I applied for a Fulbright Lectureship in Yugoslavia, and was awarded a position at the University of Zagreb for two years. Upon returning to the US, I was admitted to a Ph.D program in Linguistics at Indiana University and was awarded the degree in 1998. I've taught at IU and at Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis. Currently I work in the finance unit of the Auxiliary Services Administration at Indiana University, Bloomington.

My life has truly been blessed with opportunities and the journey began with contacts made at Luther.

Sandra (Anderson) Willman

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After graduation I was employed as a 5-9 Band Director in the Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock, Iowa, Community School District. This was supposed to be a three year stint, but Rockford became my home for these past 50 years. The job descriptions changed over the years. In 1991, I became the 5-12 director, retiring in 2006. I was fortunate to encourage many students to enjoy the musical experience; and to this day, I accompany the high school choir and solo/ensemble events.

Sam Willman and I were married in 1971, and God blessed us with 3 children and 7 grandchildren, ages 2-20. (I have a granddaughter attending Wartburg at this time, and it is OK!!) Sam passed away in 2003, after a heroic effort to beat Renal Cell Carcinoma. Life marches on with blessings and memories of great family times together.

Vacations revolve around a cabin on Round Lake, Bigfork, MN. We actually have renovated the boat house into a bunkhouse for at least 7 people plus housing in the main cabin for at least 6 more. Facebook has been a great way to reconnect with Luther friends. I am looking forward to celebrating 50 years of memories with my Luther classmates. We will probably be the talkative ones at the big table in the back of the room!!

Jim Winberg

Spouse: Lee Winberg

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Shortly after graduating from Luther I entered the U.S. Navy and served 4 years in the Navy as an officer. My Navy service included tour in Washington, D.C. as a communications watch officer and in Rota, Spain in the Naval Security group. I met my wife in Rota since she was teaching elementary school on the Naval base there. After I left the Navy we were married in her church on Staten Island, NY. I then started what would be a 34-year career as a life insurance underwriter with the Minnesota Mutual Life Insurance Company in Saint Paul. We have two children; Ross, a high school physics teacher in St. Paul and Whitney, an informationist at the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor. We also have four granddaughters; Dagny(13) and Luna(2) in St. Paul, Linnea(8) and Petra(5) in Ann Arbor. As far as travel goes, Lee and I have been to Norway twice to visit her ten first cousins there, to China three times for short-term missions trips with our church, to Ireland, Mexico, The Netherlands and the U.S. Virgin Islands. My fondest memories of LC tend to be centered around my fellow Pi Sigs and my basketball teammates. Some of those memories are probably better left unshared publicly. We are currently both retired and have been for over 10 years. We frequently spend a month or two in Florida during the winter and try to spend as much time with our children and grandchildren as possible.

Don Wogen

Spouse: Sally (Anderson) Wogen

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After graduating from Luther in 1968, I went to work for Price Waterhouse in Chicago. In August of 1968 I was drafted and spent the next 2 years in the Army which included a tour of duty in Vietnam. After returning from Vietnam, I went to Mankato State and in 1971 I returned to Price Waterhouse in Chicago. Two years later I returned to Iowa to be the accounting manager for a local grain, chemical, fertilizer and feed business. It was then that I met Sally Anderson, and we were married in 1973. Sally was a school teacher. We had our first child in 1975 and a second in 1978. Both boys are working in Pella, Iowa for Pella Corp. (the window company). Darin is the Sales Director for National Accounts and Brian is the corporate Treasurer. I was the Accounting Manager at the farm supply company for 10 years and then was promoted to the General Manager, which I was for 28 more years, (total of 38 years) retiring June 30, 2010. Sally taught for 32 years and retired after reaching the rule of 55 which gave her full pension and benefits. During our working years, the boys both got married to girls they met at the University of Northern Iowa. Both girls have teaching degrees. Also we were blessed with 4 grandchildren---one boy Andrew who just turned 16 in 2018 and three girls--two of them 13--Alyssa and Elizabeth and one 10--Emerson. While working at our professional jobs we continued to operate the family farm. We retired from farming in 2017. In 2011, we built a home in Mesa, Arizona where we reside from Oct-April each year. After retiring from the farming operation, we leased out the farms, rented the farm house and built a new home in Pella, Iowa where we reside the rest of each year.

After deciding to spend the winters in Arizona at the 55-plus community of Sunland Springs Village, we also made the commitment to step up our traveling experiences to see as much of the world as possible. We have traveled in every state in the United States and in all the provinces of Canada. We have been on 8 cruises outside of the United States and one land tour through the Bavarian Alps. We love to travel and so far God has granted us the health to be able see a lot of the world treasures that He created.

In Arizona during the winter months, we spend most of our time playing tennis, pickleball, and golf. We both play competitive tennis and enjoy it very much. We have also been involved in making stained glass projects and in various card groups. I am currently the tennis club treasurer and on the investment advisory board for our golf club. As long as we can, we will rotate between Iowa and Arizona and throw in a few more travel experiences. We have been very blessed throughout the years and the education I received at Luther and the education Sally received at the University of Iowa have helped us to achieve many of the goals we have for our lives together and we are so thankful for all the college friends and professors that helped and guided us along the way.

We are now enjoying being near our boys and their families here in Pella and love attending all the activities the grandchildren are in. Pella is a GREAT community and we are enjoying the people and all the activities they have here.

Susan Yeager

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Having pursued my M.S. and P.E.D. degrees, I taught in colleges/universities for 43 years, and topped that off with another 3 years helping to write the accreditation report for my last place of employment. I am a Professor Emerita from Colorado Mesa University. Now I teach Sunday school in my local church and do workshops within the church conference.

My Luther education has been my solid foundation throughout my life and my career. I feel blessed to be a Luther grad! One of my favorite students had to be the daughter of a fellow Luther classmate!

I always have enjoyed seeing Betty Hoff throughout these years, and Kent Finanger at conventions. When I saw the Dead Sea scrolls recently, I remembered that Richard Simon Hansen studied them as a hobby! And Russ Rulon was a very helpful physiology teacher; he gave us the turtle he had already prepped for our lab exercise! Luther faculty are great people!

Karolyn (Kraling) Zbornik

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My most memorable times at Luther was the privilege that I had to sing in the Nordic Choir (1965-1968). More recently I've had the joy of singing with the Weston Noble Alumni Choir (2006-2015). I have always said that Western Noble is the most Holy Spirit-filled person I've ever known!! I am so thankful that our classmate, Myron Heaton, had the vision to start the Alumni Choir. This "season" of life ended with being able to attend and sing with the Alumni Choir for Mr. Noble's Celebration of Life Service in May of 2017.

I have always said that the most important man in my life has been my son, Jason. And now since 2015, I've been blessed to gain a "daughter". My 2nd son, Zachary, is at "home" in heaven (1978/SIDS).

At the age of 16 I sensed a "call" to missions. That came to be "home" missions, working 33 years for the State of Iowa, first as a Social Worker and then as a Juvenile Court Officer. A 2nd "call" was the Prison Ministries, where I served our Lord from 1996 - 2006. After completing required courses I was Commissioned as a Licensed Special Worker in Prison Ministries for the Wesleyan Church. While I volunteered in several ministry areas at my church, I became a "non-traditional" student and was Ordained in the Ministry of The Wesleyan Church in July, 2010. I currently serve with and as Coordinator of my church's Congregational Care Team.

I continue to live in my own home doing my own house and yard work. I love doing anything outside!!

I have been blessed with serving our Lord since our graduating as well as having many dear friends.