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# The One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Anniversary Commencement

# Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary

3:00 p.m., Sunday, May 29, 1994 Central Lutheran Church Minneapolis, Minnesota

## Participants in the Service

Presiding

David L. Tiede

President, Luther Northwestern

Presiding Minister Gracia Grindal

Professor of Rhetoric

READERS

F. Peter Morlock

Master of divinity degree candidate

**Thomas Oduro** 

Master of arts degree candidate

Speaker

Malcolm L. Minnick, Jr.

Executive Director, Division for Outreach, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



STUDENT RESPONDENT
Karoline Lewis Orvik

Master of divinity degree candidate

**CRUCIFER** 

Lauryl Ivers-Price

Senior master of divinity student

BANNER BEARERS

Amy Minnick

Second year master of arts degree student

Jose Pablo Obregon

Senior master of divinity student

Marshals

Jean Gfall

Middler master of divinity student

Sandra Larson

Middler master of divinity student

**Scott Thompson** 

Middler master of divinity student

Phillip Tobin

Junior master of divinity student

ORGANIST

Mark Sedio

Luther Northwestern Organist

LUTHER BRASS

Robert Brusic, baritone Michael Engh, horn Paul Hjelle, tuba James Limburg, trombone John Norquist, trombone John Omans, trumpet Laura Thelander, trumpet

## The Order of Service

THE PRELUDE

Luther Brass

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN "Built on a Rock" No. 365

The congregation shall rise when the procession enters the sanctuary.

Built on a rock the church shall stand, Even when steeples are falling; Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land, Bells still are chiming and calling — Calling the young and old to rest, Calling the souls of those distressed, Longing for life everlasting.

Not in our temples made with hands God, the Almighty, is dwelling, High in the heav'ns his temple stands, All earthly temples excelling, Yet he who dwells in heav'n above Deigns to abide with us in love, Making our bodies his temple.

We are God's house of living stones, Built for his own habitation; He fills our hearts, his humble thrones, Granting us life and salvation. Were two or three to seek his face, He in their midst would show his grace, Blessings upon them bestowing.

Yet in this house, an earthly frame, Jesus the children is blessing; Hither we come to praise his name, Faith in our Savior confessing. Jesus to us his Spirit sent, Making with us his covenant, Granting his children the kingdom.

Through all the passing years, O Lord, Grant that, when church bells are ringing, Many may come to hear God's Word Where he this promise is bringing: I know my own, my own know me; You, not the world, my face shall see; My peace I leave with you. Amen.

The congregation shall be seated.

WELCOME

L. David Brown

Interim Senior Pastor, Central Lutheran Church

The congregation shall stand.

DIALOGUE

Leader: Show us your mercy, O Lord, Cong.: and grant us your salvation.

Leader: Clothe your ministers with righteousness.

Cong.: Let your people sing with joy.

Leader: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
for only in you can we live in safety.

Leader: Lord, keep this nation under your care,
Cong.: and guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Leader: Let your way be known upon the earth; your saving health among all nations.

Leader: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten, nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God,
Cong.: and sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The congregation shall be seated.

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

No. 549

PSALM 103 Paraphrase

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"
Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore his praises sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favor To our forebears in distress. Praise him, still the same forever, Slow to chide and swift to bless. Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness!

Tenderly he shields and spares us; Well our feeble frame he knows. In his hands he gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes. Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels help us to adore him, Who behold him face to face. Sun and moon bow down before him;

All who dwell in time and space. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of Grace.

THE GOSPEL

John 3:1-17

THE ADDRESS "Leaders for Mission" Romans 12:1-8

THE HYMN "Awaken, O Earth" Gracia Grindal

"Awaken, O Earth" was commissioned especially for the 125th anniversary of Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary.

The congregation shall stand.



Text: Gracia Grindal Tune: Rusty Edwards **LUTHER 125** 

11 10 7 7 11 7 5 4

The congregation shall be seated.

WELCOME

David L. Tiede

#### THE CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Presentation of the Class

Henry F. French Dean of Academic Affairs

Conferring of Degrees

David L. Tiede

Betsy A. Dolmar Vice Chair, Board of Directors

> Diane Doncits Registrar

Frederick J. Gaiser Professor of Old Testament Director of Graduate Studies

Kent L. Johnson Professor of Christian Education Director of Master of Arts Program

> Arland J. Hultgren Professor of New Testament Secretary of the Faculty

Wendell R. Debner Director of Doctor of Ministry Program

#### IN MEMORIAM

Donna Dohrmann

Gordon Weiss, who was a member of the class of 1994, died while serving on internship in Harris, Minn. Gordy first began seminary in September, 1969, and returned to Luther Northwestern 21 years later in response to God's call to ordained ministry. He did this with the support of his wife Pat and his children Chad, Kay Lee, and Brent.

Many members of this class were graced by Gordy's humor, resilience, acceptance, encouragement, generosity, passion for the Gospel and care for God's people. Believing God had blessed him with these gifts, Gordy eagerly shared them. We thank God for him.

#### RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF THE GRADUATES

Karoline Lewis Orvick

#### THE CALL TO MISSION President David L. Tiede The congregation shall stand.

Leader:

There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; there are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in every one.

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, between slave and free; between male and female;

the same Lord is Lord of all

and bestows his riches upon all who call upon him.

People:

We are the church — all kinds and conditions of people, but one body of Christ and individually members of one another.

Graduating students, in the presence of God we have met here

to honor you for your perseverance, faithfulness, and diligence in study

and to present to the Church all of you who aspire to serve the Church of God in a variety of ministries. When he said,

"I have come not to be served, but to serve," Jesus defined the meaning of ministry.

Your school sends you forth into this service with its love and blessing, and prays that you may be

adequate to your task.

Graduates:

With faith in the Triune God, we commit ourselves to this ministry of service.

We pray that all our works, through God's gracious help, may be begun, continued, and ended in Him, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### THE PRAYER

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

#### THE BENEDICTION

#### THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Your Kingdom Come"

No. 376

Your kingdom come! O Father, hear our prayer; Shine through the clouds that threaten ev'rywhere; Light from above, our only life and joy, Show us the hope that nothing can destroy; Show us the hope that nothing can destroy.

Stumbling and blind, we strive to do your will, Trusting the word you surely will fulfill, That all are yours, however far they roam, That love shall triumph, and your kingdom come; That love shall triumph, and your kingdom come.

Come through the faith whereby the Church must live; Come through the Word and Sacraments you give; Come through your teaching and your healing too; Come through the work enlightened hearts can do; Come through the work enlightened hearts can do.

Your kingdom come; come too, God's glorious Son! Oh, may our task for you be nobly done! Faithful let all your servants be, and true, Until they bring all nations home to you; Until they bring all nations home to you.

#### THE POSTLUDE

Graduates, together with their families and friends, are invited to an informal reception following the service. The reception will be either in the Parish Hall or outside in the area in front of the Central Lutheran Education Unit and Sanctuary, depending on the weather.

## The Commencement Speaker

he speaker for the historic 125th anniversary commencement of Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary is noted for a ministry devoted to the development of new congregations. Malcolm L. Minnick, Jr., is executive director of the Division for Outreach of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

His responsibilities for ministries in the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands include the development of new congregations, support for congregations in transition, assistance for urban and rural ministries, and oversight of the ELCA Mission Investment Fund for church building projects, Mission Partners, and Mission Builders.

Minnick served as pastor of congregations in Luray, Norfolk and Roanoke, Va. In each parish, membership increased significantly, and a new building or major expansion was added to the church's facilities while Minnick was pastor.

He was director for church extension and director of the outreach unit for the Division for Mission in North America of the Lutheran Church in America (LCA) before moving to his present position.

More than 600 congregations have been organized in Minnick's years in church development.

He was graduated with honors from Roanoke College, Salem, Va., in 1955, and earned the master of divinity degree from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Columbia, S.C., in 1958.

## **Candidates for Degrees**

## **Master of Arts**

Anessa Anne Jorgensen Arvin St. John's Lutheran Church, Sacramento, Calif.

JoAnn I. Christensen
/Emmaus Lutheran Church, Racine, Wis.

√Bethany Ann Dahlen Kongsringer Lutheran Church, Donnelly, Minn.

David E. Fenrick\*

Park Avenue United Methodist Church,

Minneapolis, Minn.

√Thomas Alan Gustafson Messiah Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

Kelly O'Shea Hanson First Lutheran Church, Audubon, Minn.

Carrie Jo Johnson Chisago lakes Lutheran Church, Center City, Minn.

Gerald V. Knippenberg
Zion Lutheran Church, Woodville, Wis.

Mark W. Kopka
Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Pequot Lakes, Minn.

Sherri K. Larson , St. John's Lutheran Church, Spring Valley, Wis.

√Tricia Carol Lotti First Lutheran Church, Amery, Wis.

√Louise A. Midthun Calvary Lutheran Church, Golden Valley, Minn.

√Thomas Asante Oduro Good News Training Institute, Accra, Ghana

√Andrea Joan Peterson Cross View Lutheran Church, Edina, Minn.

√Julie Anne Putz Resurrection Lutheran Church, Blaine, Minn.

Kathryn Renee Saxe North Beaver Creek Faith Lutheran Church, Ettrick, Wis.

Stephen Norman Schwolert Valley of Peace Lutheran Church, Golden Valley, Minn. Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Flowermound, Texas Kari Lyn Stevens

Incarnation Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn. University Lutheran Church of Hope, Minneapolis, Minn.

Scott Stocking
Calvary Baptist Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

Marit Anne Trelstad\*

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Edina, Minn.

Holly Joy Voelzke Lakeview Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn.

Andrew David Wilkes Hope Presbyterian Church, Richfield, Minn.

## Master of Arts in Religious Education

Ephraim Olani Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, Ethiopia

## Master of Arts in Music in Worship

Trevor Allan Bailey St. Luke Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn

Randall D. Engle\*
Calvary Christian Reformed Church,
Bloomington, Minn.

Thomas K. Hamilton\*
Grace Lutheran Church, Hallock, Minn.

William E. Messerschmidt Hope Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn.

John A. Schlobohm\*

Peace Lutheran Church, Faribault, Minn.



Names of churches are the candidate's home and/or supporting congregation.

\*Requirements to be completed by Sept. 1, 1994.

## Master of Divinity -102

Eugene R. Alms

Christ the King Lutheran Church, New Ulm, Minn.

Jennifer Alene Anderson\*
Central Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

/Karri Lee Anderson <sub>/</sub>Faith Lutheran Church, Coon Rapids, Mınn.

Kathleen Lenore Anderson

Maple Leaf Lutheran Church, Seattle, Wash.

,Xor Kristian Berg Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redmond, Wash.

Nathan John Bjorge First Lutheran Church, Fargo, N.D.

Ruth A. Boettcher

Sheridan Lutheran Church, Lincoln, Neb.

Steven Paul Boman
University Episcopal Center, University of Minnesota,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Keith Jeffry Born

Westwood Lutheran Church, St. Louis Park, Minn.

Timothy Brian Christensen
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church,
San Francisco, Calif.

√Daniel Jay Cosson North Heights Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn.

√Sarah Julia Davis Roseville Lutheran Church, Roseville, Minn.

√Embree John DeWitt
Arlington Hills United Methodist Church,
St. Paul, Minn.

Donna Jéan Dohrmann

Peace Lutheran Church, Dickinson, N.D.

Alice L. Durst

St. John's Lutheran Church, Kasson, Minn.

Marie Margaret Eckberg

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

Marlene Marie Elmstrom Faith Lutheran Church, Forest Lake, Minn. Juan Miguel Espinoza
Trinity Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

Bryce Linden Fellbaum
Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the Midway,
St. Paul. Minn.

Karen Marie Fevold
Woodlake Lutheran Church, Richfield, Minn.

Nancy Durham Amburn Fisher\*
New Hope Lutheran Church, Missouri City, Texas

Kristopher M. Gorden
The Lutheran Church of Christ the King,
Moorhead, Minn.

Maxine Gray St. Ansgar's Lutheran Church, Cannon Falls, Minn.

Jeffrey Richard Gross
"Zion Lutheran Church, Litchfield, Minn.

V Diane Marie Gummeson Lutheran Church of the Reformation, St. Louis Park, Minn.

√Sonja Marie Hagander Price of Peace Lutheran Church, Roseville, Minn.

David Lewis Hall First Lutheran Church, Plano, Ill.

√Bruce Kenneth Hillyer Aldrich Avenue Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

Julie Kay Hogie\*
Zion Lutheran Church, Anoka, Minn.

Andrea Elizabeth Hoslett Trinity Lutheran Church, Owatonna, Minn. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Decorah, Iowa

Wonald D. Hovick Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, Kirkland, Wash. Immanuel Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn. Christ Lutheran Church, Edmonds, Wash.

Todd Duane Hylden
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Park River, N.D.

Barbara Beth Jewell\* North Emanuel Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn. Franklin Xiao-Wen Jiang St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn. √Elisabeth Ann Johnson° First Lutheran Church, Algona, Iowa √Kent David Johnson Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Stillwater, Minn. Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Iowa City, Iowa Virginia E. Johnson\* Faith Lutheran Church, Seattle, Wash. Frank A. Kerkemeyer Morning Star Lutheran Church, Omaha, Neb. √Paul Kratzke St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Wabasso, Minn. √ Gary Steven Larson Elim Lutheran Church, Randall, Iowa **Janice Harrington Larson** Bethesda Lutheran Church, Ames, Iowa Ruth Christine Larson Elim Lutheran Church, Randall, Iowa  $\int$ Jeffry Alan Lervik Trinity Lutheran Church, Jamestown, N.D. Robert James Lewis Maple Leaf Lutheran Church, Seattle, Wash. Norinne Kay Lindberg Gloria Dei Lutheran Čhurch, St. Paul, Minn. Douglas Keith Locken Scandinavia Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, S.D. Karen Lynn Locken+ Scandinavia Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, S.D. Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, S.D. Dean A. Lundgren Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Apple Valley, Minn. Linda J. MacRunnels Roseville Lutheran Church, Roseville, Minn. Sandra M. Marotz St. Peter Lutheran Church, Sheboygan, Wis.

Margo M. Martens Our Savior's Lutheran Church, New Ulm, Minn. √Kevin S. Maxey Grace Lutheran Church, Miami Springs, Fla. Carol Ann McArdell Messiah Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn. √David Glenn Mesaros Nativity Lutheran Church, St. Anthony Village, Minn. Katherine S. Michael Christ Presbyterian Church, Edina, Minn. John R. (Jack) Miller, Jr. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Plainview, Minn. Michelle Lee Miller Zion Lutheran Church, Anoka, Minn. Kurt Roderick Morem Zion Lutheran Church, Anoka, Minn. F. Peter Morlock\* Trinity Lutheran Church, Spring Grove, Minn. √Daniel William Morten North Heights Lutheran Church, Roseville, Minn. Jeffrey Peter Nehrbass\* Trinity Lutheran Church, West Bend, Wis. Todd Alan Nelsen\* Augustana Lutheran Church, West St. Paul, Minn. Eric Peter Nelson Martin Lutero, Pelotas, R.S., Brazil Robin K. Nice Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Moorhead, Minn. Michael John O'Hearn Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Ephrata, Wash. Mark Roger Olson Christ the King Lutheran Church, Moohread, Minn.

<sup>†</sup> A. E. Hanson Prize in Homiletics

§ Roy Harrisville, Sr., Prize in Homiletics

° John Milton Prize in Old Testament

\*G.M. and Minnie Bruce Prize in New Testament Names of churches are the candidate's home and/or supporting congregation.

\*Requirements to be completed by Sept. 1, 1994.

Michele Bliesmer Olson Augustana Lutheran Church, St. James, Minn. √Thomas Philip Olson Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Madison, Wis. √Iohn Omans Immanuel Lutheran Church, Jamestown, N.D. Paul D. L. Oppedahl\* St. John's Lutheran Church, Dubuque, Iowa √Karoline Marie Lewis Orvick\* Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Los Angeles, Calif. Mark Norman Orvick Shiloh Lutheran Church, Elmore, Minn. Mary Elizabeth Peterson\* Edina Community Lutheran, Edina, Minn. Evelyn Margaret Weberg Phillips First Lutheran Church, San Diego, Calif. Chisago Lake Evangelical Lutheran Church, Center City, Minn. St. Paul's-St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Staten Island, N.Y. \/Daniel M. Raaen Christ Lutheran Church, Byron, Minn. √Nancy A. Richmond\* Faith Lutheran Church, Three Lakes, Wis. \Donna Jean Rohrer Calvary Lutheran Church, Grand Forks, N.D. Andrew Romstad\* Woodlake Lutheran Church, Richfield, Minn. √Gary Stephen Rusinko Hosanna! Lutheran Church, Burnsville, Minn. Caroline Louise Satre § Messiah Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind. Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Dana Point, Calif. Ronaele Jane Sayre Normandale Lutheran Church, Edina, Minn. Kate Schlechter Sierra Vista Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sierra Vista, Ariz. Leesa Marie Schmidt All Saints Lutheran Church, Cottage Grove, Minn. √Kendall Lee Stelter + Grace Lutheran Church, Lake Benton, Minn. K.S. Stoutenburg\* All Saints Lutheran Church, Federal Way, Wash. Vohn Louis Streccius Midvale Community Lutheran Church, Madison, Wis. Daniel Thomas Swanson Peace Lutheran Church, Lauderdale, Minn. Jana Kay Swenson Roseville Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn. VJonathan Paul Swenson Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Two Harbors, Minn. /Earnest Eugene Tate St. Peter's A.M.E., Minneapolis, Minn. Timothy Paul Thompson Newport Harbor Lutheran Church, Newport Beach, Calif. √Corinne Ann Thul House of Prayer Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn. Bea N. Vue-Benson\* Trinity Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wis. ∀Philip A. Walen Spanish Trail Lutheran Church, Tucson, Ariz. √Iohn Weisenburger Central Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn. √Hal Chandler Weldin Price of Peace Lutheran Church, Burnsville, Minn Phyllis Bowe Wilcox\* Hamline United Methodist Church, St. Paul, Minn. Mancy Beth Windels Christ Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn. Timothy Jay Wittwer Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minn. Aimee Quirin Wollman

Bethel Lutheran Church, Northfield, Minn. Bethany Lutheran Church, Crystal Lake, Ill.

Midvale Community Lutheran Church, Madison, Wis.

Lutheran Church of the Holy Cross, Sioux Falls, S.D.

Michael James Wollman §

Laurel Alexandra Botes Zaepfel

## **Doctor of Ministry**

Lotera Fabien, Madagascar\*\*
"The Malagasy Lutheran Church and Stewardship"

Harold James Hoekstra, *Dearborn*, *Mich.\*\**"The Gospel of Working in the Work Place:
The Role of the Parish Pastor in Affirming the Vocation of Christians in the World"

Eileen Lang, Cameron, Wis.\*\*

"An Examination of Leadership Styles in the Roman Catholic Church"

Gordon E. Myrah, *Brookings*, *Ore*.

"Biblical Archaeology in Christian Education"

Thomas P. Toohey, Cameron, Wis.

"Adult Faith Development and Evangelization"

## **Master of Theology**

Nolan Boyd Gingrich, Sidney, British Columbia "The Moral Imperative of Supervising Clinical Pastoral Education Students Among Chronically Infirm Elders."

Benjamin Joseph Ngede, *Njombe*, *Tanzania\*\**"Nurturing Faith Through Homes in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania."

## **Doctor of Theology**

James Clifford Bangsund, *Usa River*, *Tanzania* "The Effacement and Consolation of the Firstborn in the Book of Genesis."

Musawenkosi Dalindlela Biyela, Stanger, South Africa "Beyond the Kairos Document: Christology for a Post Apartheid South Africa."

Nancy Koester, *St. Paul, Minn.*"Enlightened Evangelicals:
Benevolence in Jonathan Edwards, Charles Grandison
Finney and Samuel Simon Schmucker."

Mariette Razivelo, Fandriana, Madagascar
"The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit in the Betsileo Context:
Implications of the Betsileo Understanding of 'spirit,'
'human spirit,' and 'spirits' for the Christian
Understanding of the Holy Spirit."

Jonathan D. Sorum, *St. Paul, Minn.*\*\*
"The Concept of the Boundary in
Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Nachfolge.*"

Danu Harrison Wonosikou, *BuKuru State*, *Nigeria* "Transitional Family Systems of Bwatye in Nigeria: A Study of Social Change with Pastoral Implications for Youth and Family Ministry."

Theodore I. Zimmerman, Hong Kong, N.T. "The Weak and the Strong:
A Study in Romans 14:1-15:13."

<sup>\*\*</sup>With Distinction

<sup>\*</sup>Requirements to be completed by Sept. 1, 1994.



## Luther Northwestern Celebrates 125 Years of Faithful Service

he Commencement Service for the Luther Northwestern class of 1994 is one of many events included in the celebration of the seminary's 125th anniversary during the 1993-94 academic year.

Luther Northwestern dates its beginning from the founding of Augsburg Theological Seminary in Marshall, Wis., in 1869. In succeeding years, several mergers tying together a variety of church bodies and theological traditions formed Luther Northwestern as it is today. Much of the broad spectrum of American Lutheranism is represented in those antecedent schools.

A wide range of characteristics from the Norwegian Synod, the Hauge Synod, the Lutheran Free Church, and the United Church were blended together in the body of Norwegian-American Lutheranism as it came to be represented in Luther Theological Seminary on the present campus at the turn of the century.

Still another tradition was represented in Northwestern Lutheran Theological Seminary. Beginning in 1920 when it separated from the Chicago Lutheran Theological Seminary, Northwestern maintained its purpose — to educate English-speaking Lutheran men for ministry.

Though largely German in ethnic background, Northwestern faithfully represented the United Lutheran Church in America's "English Lutheran" emphasis in the upper Midwest. Fargo, North Minneapolis, South Minneapolis, and finally the former Breck School campus in St. Anthony Park (St. Paul) served as the school's sites.

Tentative conversation about possible cooperation between Northwestern and Luther began as early as 1960.

Augsburg Seminary merged with Luther in 1963 as the Lutheran Free Church merged with The American Lutheran Church (formed in 1960). Due in part to the relative similarity of traditions, this merger was simpler to effect than the 1982 merger of Luther and Northwestern.

Several years of institutional coexistence, one city block apart, gradually gave way to cross-registration, combined library collections and joint board and faculty meetings in a period of "functional unification" (1976-1982).

Merger to form Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary took place in 1982, preceding by five years the 1987 merger of supporting church bodies, including the American Lutheran Church and the Lutheran Church in America, which formed the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

All of the antecedents represented in Luther Northwestern today struck a balance between supplying pastors, associates in ministry and other lay leaders to their own congregations and sending missionaries to all corners of the world.

This year, on July 1, the name of Luther Northwestern will be changed to Luther Seminary. Its purpose is the same: to educate leaders for communities called into the mission of the gospel of Jesus Christ in a world of many cultures.