



2004 Report to the Synod Assembly

Greetings to you in the Name of our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Waldorf College continues to serve its students and the Church by staying focused on our mission to educate the whole person in the spirit of Jesus Christ, enabling each individual to experience fulfillment through a life of service.

2003 was a milestone year for Waldorf College. On October 11, the college became 100 years old. Nearly 2000 alumni, parents and friends gathered on campus that weekend to celebrate the centennial in grand fashion. One of the highlights of the weekend was a rededication ceremony in which past presidents, the Board of Regents, and our Association of Congregations rededicated the college to its mission as we launched a second century of service to students.

Fall 2003 also brought a new freshmen class that was recruited for the first time with the intent of staying four years at the college to receive their bachelor degrees. Thanks to a hard-working and dedicated faculty, students now have a choice of 30 majors with more being developed.

It was also a milestone year for Waldorf athletics. Waldorf teams began competition in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Midwest Classic Conference in the fall, marking the first time Waldorf has ever played four-year athletics.

As Waldorf begins a new century of mission, two major gifts received in the fall provided an incredible surge of momentum. In October, we broke ground for a new library and learning center named the Luise V. Hanson Library. A gift of \$4.5 million from the John K. and Luise V. Hanson Foundation will provide for the construction of the building and an endowment fund to operate the building. In November, we announced the largest gift in Waldorf's history--\$5.5 million from Brad and Janet Anderson for the advancement of the college. Brad is an alumnus of Waldorf, is a member of the Board of Regents and is CEO of the Best Buy Company. Waldorf is both humbled and deeply grateful for the generosity these stewards of God's bountiful provision have shown the college!

Consistent through Waldorf's first 100 years is a continued focus on providing a strong community of faith for students and faculty. Daily chapel is provided which gives faculty, staff and students opportunities to share their faith. Learning to live a life of service is a key part of a student's life while at Waldorf and central to our mission as a college.

Waldorf is owned by an association of 211 Lutheran churches located in Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Nebraska. This association keeps us directly linked to the grassroots of our church and our Lutheran heritage. We praise God for the continuing partnership we have with the church in accomplishing the mission of educating and preparing students for fulfilling lives of service.

Thank you for your partnership with Waldorf College in the education of students in the spirit of Jesus Christ for lives of service.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Jolivet
President

