



Firmly rooted in its Lutheran heritage, Wittenberg continues to adhere to its mission and values as it challenges students to become responsible global citizens, to discover their callings, and to lead personal, professional, and civic lives of creativity, service, compassion, and integrity.

Students are indeed continuing to live out their callings in service to their neighbors both near and far. This past fall, Wittenberg launched a new study-abroad program in Costa Rica in partnership with Veritas University and Beyond Sports, which includes a service component for scholars and scholar-athletes alike. Students in the program can complete Wittenberg's community service requirement in Costa Rica by volunteering in a local day care, in after-school programs in nearby schools, and possibly with an urban community gardening program.

Additionally, Wittenberg's Peace Corps Preparation program continues to inspire. Only the second liberal arts college in the United States to have such a program when the university first signed an agreement with the Peace Corps back in 2010, Wittenberg now stands among just 64 other institutions in carrying the distinction. With its combination of undergraduate coursework and community service, the program aims to prepare students for service in the Peace Corps or with other international agencies by exposing them to different cultures, as well as the issues involved with international development. It also increases the chances for students to be accepted into the Peace Corps, a result Wittenberg is witnessing firsthand. During this 2016-17 academic year alone, six Wittenberg students have already been accepted, an impressive outcome considering only about 20-25 percent of applicants are admitted to the Peace Corps annually.

As for Wittenberg alumni, they, too, are living out lives of service as they advance the Lutheran mission. The Rev. Louise Johnson '91 currently serves as president of Wartburg Theological Seminary, where she is developing innovative initiatives in the delivery of theological education. The Rev. Jonathan Eilert '93, lead pastor at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Loveland, Ohio, was elected chair of the Wittenberg Board of Directors in May 2016.

Other alumni who are embracing Wittenberg's motto of "Having Light We Pass It On To Others" include: Nancy Winters '73, executive director of the Tanzania Teaching Foundation, which has helped improve English language skills for nearly 300 children, leading to improved success in secondary school, and Lisa Pan '96, professor of psychiatry and clinical and translational science at the University of Pittsburgh, who, along with a team of scientists, recently discovered that symptoms of depression can improve, and, in some cases, even lead to remission.

On the engagement front, Wittenberg welcomed theologian Euan Cameron from Union Seminary for its annual Kenneth H. Sauer Luther Symposium, Oct. 5. Cameron discussed "Martin Luther, the Bible, and the Reformation." The University also welcomed The Rev. Abraham Allende, Bishop of the Northeastern Ohio Synod of the ELCA in 2014, as preacher for the annual Festival Choral Eucharist, Oct. 30. Additionally, the university is proud to be hosting its third annual Leadership Academy this summer. The popular camp for high school students entering grades 11 and 12 explores leadership through every lens while helping participants build the skills needed to make them stand out in the college admission and scholarship process.

As always, Wittenberg continues to encourage Lutheran students to attend by offering scholarship opportunities, including the \$80,000 Martin Luther Scholar Award, the Lutheran Scholarship Partners Program, and the half-tuition Lutheran Pastor/Church Worker-Parent Grant for dependent children of full-time rostered leaders serving a recognized call or of full-time lay church workers in recognized Lutheran ministries.

Wittenberg cordially invites all members of the synod, both clergy and lay persons, to visit campus for worship services, athletic contests, and Wittenberg Series cultural events. This will be a particularly exciting year as Wittenberg welcomes its newly named 15<sup>th</sup> president, Dr. Michael Frandsen, and his family on July 1, 2017.