



Commencement

May 9, 2025



Welcome

We welcome you to this ceremony of commencement at Bethany Lutheran College. We are proud of these graduates, confident that they have grown both intellectually and spiritually during their days here. Your presence at this milestone in their lives is another sign of your support and love, which has continued over many years, and which we know they deeply appreciate. It is our prayer that Bethany Lutheran College, and especially the lessons learned here, will remain in the lives of these young men and women on the path the Lord chooses for them.

Please Note

Noisemakers are not allowed during the ceremony. Helium balloons, glitter, and confetti are not allowed in any part of the Civic Center. Thank you for your cooperation.

Photography and Video

Professional photography and video will be taken at today's ceremony. Bethany will be sending one 4"x 6" photograph taken with the president to each graduate. Candid photographs from the ceremony will be available to download and a video link will be available online at **blc.edu/commencement**.

Commencement Ceremony

Pre-Ceremony Music

Hosts of Freedom - Karl King, edited by John Paynter
Jerusalem - C.H.H. Parry, arranged by Andrew Glover
Einherjar - Jeremy Bell
Concert Band, conducted by Benjamin Faugstad
Daryan Rosenthal, student conductor

Processional Music*

Highland Cathedral - Arranged by Jay Dawson
Concert Band, conducted by Benjamin Faugstad

*** Please rise when the procession enters ***

Invocation Devotion

Chaplain Donald Moldstad
Director of Campus Spiritual Life

College Choir

The King of Love
Arranged by Paul Christiansen
Directed by David Paulson

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth;
and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

And so through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

Text: Henry Williams Baker

Welcome

Gene R. Pfeifer
President

Commencement Address

Rev. Jonathan Madson

Conferring of Degrees and Honors

Jason H. Lowrey
Vice President of Academic Affairs

Gene R. Pfeifer

Rev. David C. Thompson
Vice Chairman, Bethany Board of Regents

Closing Remarks

Gene R. Pfeifer

College Choir

On My Heart Imprint Thine Image
Genevan Psalter, 1551; Arr. Alfred Fremder
Directed by David Paulson

At this time you are welcome to join the choir on the lower level in singing this anthem or if you feel that you cannot walk down safely, please feel welcome to sing from your seat.

On my heart imprint Thine image,
Blessed Jesus, King of Grace
That life's riches, cares and pleasures
Have no power Thee to efface.
This the superscription be: "Jesus Crucified for me"
Is my life, my hope's foundation, and my glory and salvation.

T.H. Kingo, 1634-1703

Benediction

Chaplain Donald Moldstad
***Please remain standing for the recessional**

Recessional Music

Military March - Ludwig van Beethoven
Arranged by Benjamin Faugstad
Raiders March - John Williams
Arranged by Jay Bocook
Concert Band, conducted by Benjamin Faugstad

Bachelor's Degree Graduates

Leul Mehari Adane

Debremerkos, Ethiopia
Computer Science

Andrew Adermann

River Falls, Wisconsin
Business Administration

DJ Akpati

Brooklyn Park, Minnesota
Business Administration

Calla Alfred

New Ulm, Minnesota
Elementary Education

Alex Almeda

Barcelona, Spain
Media Arts, Communication

Cauê Alves Ribeiro

Mankato, Minnesota
Business Administration

Naomi Anderson

Belle Plaine, Minnesota
Engineering Sciences

Adrian Andrade Mejia

Minneapolis, Minnesota
Business Administration

Olaitz Azkue Muguruza

Orduña, Bizkaia, Spain
Biochemistry, Health Communication

Theodore Baihao

Saint Michael, Minnesota
Communication

Dominik Bangu

Mankato, Minnesota
Business Administration

Grace Libria Bartel

Burnsville, Minnesota
Health Communication

Jaedan Batdorf

Morgan, Minnesota
Business Administration

Camille Bauer

Gibbon, Minnesota
Communication

Emi Huidi Becker

Rockford, Illinois
Interdisciplinary Studies

Menna T. Bekele

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Engineering Sciences

Sarah Breukelaar

Doetinchem, Netherlands
Psychology, Communication

Sierra Brown

Sioux Falls, South Dakota
Graphic Design

Will Thomas Carlson

Lucan, Minnesota
Business Administration

Ema Cortes Carvalho

Lisbon, Portugal
Elementary Education

Ashley Casper

Petaluma, California
Legal Studies, Criminal Justice

Elizabeth Grace Cizek

Wheaton, Illinois
Nursing

Alexis Cloyd

Garden Center, Minnesota
Biochemistry

Jeanne Lynda Rita Cook

Barrie, Ontario, Canada
Elementary Education

Bachelor's Degree Graduates

Juliana Correa Paez

Bogotá, Colombia

Business Administration

Anastasios Daskalakis

Thessaloniki, Greece

Business Administration

Gabriele de Carvalho Malaquias

Brazilia, Brazil

Psychology

Christine DeGier

Echo, Minnesota

Theatre

Kyle Matthew Deyo

La Crosse, Wisconsin

Legal Studies, Criminal Justice

Maria Esteban Barrio

Madrid, Spain

Computer Science, Engineering Sciences

Aidan Fallon

South Lyon, Michigan

Exercise Science

Matteo Joseph Faraguna

Nelson, British Columbia, Canada

Business Administration,

Health Communication

Alba Luisa Fernández Válero

Valencia, Spain

Exercise Science, Psychology

Eli Marvin Fest

Heron Lake, Minnesota

Biology

Estephannie Flynn

Austin, Minnesota

Business Administration, Spanish

Kylie Jo Franzen

Ames, Iowa

Psychology

Paloma Garcia de Fuentes

Valladolid, Spain

Elementary Education

Merobe Kefyalw Gari

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Nursing

Tinbiet Esayas Getachew

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Health Communication

Alexander Yevgeniy Gittsovich

Victoria, Minnesota

Nursing

Benjamin Christian Haakenson

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Business Administration

Abigail Pearl Haggenmiller

Kasota, Minnesota

Elementary Education

Rylan R. Hedin

Brownton, Minnesota

Computer Science

Raimundo Heredias Jr.

Phoenix, Arizona

Engineering Sciences

Josiah Hoppe

Lewiston, Minnesota

Mathematics, Education Studies

Jackson Dean Huiras

Sleepy Eye, Minnesota

Business Administration

Madelyn Amanda Huschka

Monticello, Minnesota

Business Administration

Colin Mark Jaeger

Watertown, South Dakota

Mathematics, Computer Science

Bachelor's Degree Graduates

Lorin James

Fairmont, Minnesota
Legal Studies

Teddy Jens Jaspersen

New Ulm, Minnesota
Engineering Sciences

Marko Jovanovic

Belgrade, Serbia
Business Administration

Ben Klausen

Kristiansand, Norway
Business Administration, Communication

Winston Knox

Minneapolis, Minnesota
Business Administration

Vianna Marie Kovaciny

Mankato, Minnesota
Media Arts

Lydia Mae Kratz

Birmingham, Alabama
Studio Art

Olivia Krause

Austin, Minnesota
Business Administration

Allison Krech

Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota
Biochemistry, Business Administration

Jade Taylor Krenik

St. Charles, Minnesota
Biology

Trevor A. Landkammer

Farmington, Minnesota
Legal Studies, Criminal Justice

Emma Lau

Derby, Kansas
Exercise Science

Jolyne LeClair

Notre Dame de Lourdes,
Manitoba, Canada
Graphic Design

Anna Lee

New Ulm, Minnesota
Biology

Natnael Endashaw Lema

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Biochemistry

Douglas LeRoy Lindee IV

Deer Park, Wisconsin
Interdisciplinary Studies

Javier López Billón

Las Palmas de Gran Canaria,
Canarias, Spain
Business Administration, Legal Studies

Lorelei Lenore Luetke

O'Fallon, Missouri
Psychology

Nicholas Clay Lundberg

Mankato, Minnesota
Business Administration

Chloe Madson

Vero Beach, Florida
Elementary Education

Jax Madson

Mankato, Minnesota
Business Administration

Evan Mark Matzke

Good Thunder, Minnesota
Computer Science

Divine Mbuyi

Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo
Health Communication, Psychology

Bachelor's Degree Graduates

Kevin Miranda Martinez

Otsego, Minnesota
Graphic Design

Colton Ray Moldan

Sleepy Eye, Minnesota
Business Administration

Callie Noelle Montgomery

Akron, Ohio
Elementary Education

Elissa Moonen

Belle Plaine, Minnesota
Legal Studies, Criminal Justice

Kaija Mork

Brandon, South Dakota
Health Communication

Teien Robert Joseph Fried Murphy

Minnesota Lake, Minnesota
Psychology

Andrew Arnold Muske

Freeland, Michigan
Graphic Design

Griffin Neeb

Mankato, Minnesota
Media Arts, Communication

Elena Osmanllari

Tirana, Albania
Biology

Callie Jo Marie Otto

South St. Paul, Minnesota
Biochemistry

Cyril Chrysostomus Evanson Palm

Morristown, Minnesota
Music

Esther Peeters

Maasbree, Limburg, Netherlands
Psychology, Communication

Alysen Ruth Pettis

North Mankato, Minnesota
Music

Nicholas Andrew Pleiss

Mankato, Minnesota
Theatre, Legal Studies

Kiara Rose Rahman

St Peter, Minnesota
Communication

Heidi Elise Riebau

Eureka, Missouri
Interdisciplinary Studies

Daryan Sumner Rosenthal

Watertown, South Dakota
Music

Laura Valentina Ruiz Rocha

Bogotá, Colombia
Exercise Science

Aidan Russell

Gilbert, Arizona
Communication

John Sadaka

Mankato, Minnesota
Business Administration

Drew Sagedahl

Olivia, Minnesota
Physical and Health Education

Malachi Santiago

Gilbert, Arizona
Business Administration

Mia Sautler

Rosemount, Minnesota
Exercise Science

Madison Sax

Vero Beach, Florida
Biology

Bachelor's Degree Graduates

Nick Schmid

Mankato, Minnesota
Communication

Noah Schmid

Mankato, Minnesota
Communication

Caleb Scott Schulte

Sparta, Wisconsin
Music

Caleb Paul Christopher Schultz

Fairmont, Minnesota
Religion

Grace Caroline Sikkink

Blaine, Minnesota
Elementary Education

Jordon McKenzie Smith

Blue Earth, Minnesota
Elementary Education

Rachel Louise Sovacool

Ladysmith, Wisconsin
Spanish

Ty Sylvan Stepp

Rush City, Minnesota
Business Administration

Haley Stockman

Mankato, Minnesota
Biochemistry

Elizabeth Barbara Strackbein

New Ulm, Minnesota
Studio Art

Shalom Tadesse

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Health Communication

Santiago Tenorio

Miami, Florida
Media Arts

Taylor Annika Theiste

Mankato, Minnesota
English

Teon Thomas

Aurora, Colorado
Exercise Science

Lydia Rose Thompson

Mankato, Minnesota
Biology, Mathematics

Elyse Abigail Vannieuwenhoven

Watertown, Wisconsin
Nursing

Ty Jacob Vollmar

Casper, Wyoming
Biochemistry

Olivia Mae Watson

Rochester, Minnesota
Biology

Garrett Weiss

Villa Park, California
Biology

Joanna Wessel

New Ulm, Minnesota
Graphic Design

Katelyn Wilson

North Mankato, Minnesota
Elementary Education

Grace Wosmek

Nicollet, Minnesota
Studio Art, Interdisciplinary Studies

Angela Christine Zaccaria

Owatonna, Minnesota
Elementary Education

Master's Degree Graduates

Anne Elizabeth Adickes

Crete, Illinois

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Kylie Joy Arstein

Waukesha, Wisconsin

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Ana Patricia Cherney

El Paso, Texas

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

John Richard Gensmer

Doral, Florida

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Cait Henning

Port Washington, Wisconsin

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Savannah May Klockziem

Hortonville, Wisconsin

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Katie Jeanne Koplin

Wendell, Minnesota

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Gregory Curtis Andrew Lyon

Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Noah Caleb Marquardt

Racine, Wisconsin

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Tyler Karen Nelson

Marshall, Minnesota

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Olivia Joy Richtsmeier

Mankato, Minnesota

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Joel A. Russow

Mequon, Wisconsin

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Allen Martin Schleusener

Tomah, Wisconsin

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Carly Christine Schroeder

Hubertus, Wisconsin

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Karlee Elizabeth Thiesse

Welcome, Minnesota

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Nathan David Voss

St. Peter, Minnesota

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Jessica Marie Woller

Watertown, Wisconsin

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Marissa Jenna Wood

Mankato, Minnesota

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Samantha Jane Young

Waukesha, Wisconsin

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Bachelor's Degree Honor Graduates

Honor Graduates wear medallions and red and gold tassels.

Summa Cum Laude (GPA 3.9 – 4.0)

Calla Alfred
Naomi Anderson
Menna T. Bekele
Ashley Casper
Eli Marvin Fest
Merobe Kefyalw Gari
Josiah Hoppe
Jackson Dean Huiras
Colin Mark Jaeger

Lydia Mae Kratz
Callie Jo Marie Otto
Esther Peeters
Nick Schmid
Noah Schmid
Rachel Louise Sovacool
Lydia Rose Thompson
Elyse Abigail Vannieuwenhoven

Magna Cum Laude (GPA 3.67 – 3.89)

Leul Mehari Adane
Alex Almeda
Emi Huidi Becker
Sarah Breukelaar
Sierra Brown
Will Thomas Carlson
Anastasios Daskalakis
Maria Esteban Barrio
Kylie Jo Franzen
Paloma Garcia de Fuentes
Alexander Yevgeniy Gittsovich
Benjamin Christian Haakenson
Abigail Pearl Haggenmiller
Teddy Jens Jasperson
Vianna Marie Kovaciny
Jade Taylor Krenik
Trevor A. Landkammer

Emma Lau
Nicholas Clay Lundberg
Chloe Madson
Callie Noelle Montgomery
Kaija Mork
Teien Robert Joseph Fried Murphy
Elena Osmanllari
Cyril Chrysostomus Evanson Palm
Kiara Rahman
Heidi Elise Riebau
Drew Sagedahl
Caleb Paul Christopher Schultz
Jordon McKenzie Smith
Ty Sylvan Stepp
Olivia Mae Watson
Angela Christine Zaccaria

Cum Laude (GPA 3.33 – 3.66)

Olaitz Azkue Muguruza
Grace Libria Bartel
Jaedan Batdorf
Camille Bauer
Elizabeth Grace Cizek

Tinbiet Esayas Getachew
Rylan R. Hedin
Raimundo Heredias Jr.
Madelyn Amanda Huschka
Lorin James

Cum Laude continued...

Jolyne LeClair
Anna Lee
Lorelei Lenore Luetke
Elissa Moonen
Andrew Arnold Muske
Griffin Neeb
Alysen Ruth Pettis
Nicholas Andrew Pleiss
Daryan Sumner Rosenthal
Laura Valentina Ruiz Rocha

Mia Saulter
Grace Caroline Sikkink
Haley Stockman
Elizabeth Barbara Strackbein
Shalom Tadesse
Santiago Tenorio
Ty Jacob Vollmar
Joanna Wessel
Katelyn Wilson
Grace Wosmek

Graduation honors were calculated based on the previous semester's cumulative GPA.
Publication in today's program is not official documentation of graduation or academic honors.

Scholastic Leadership Society

SLS members wear gold cords.

Leul Mehari Adane
Alex Almeda
Sierra Brown
Maria Esteban Barrio
Vianna Marie Kovaciny
Olivia Mae Watson
Naomi Anderson

Menna T. Bekele
Callie Jo Marie Otto
Esther Peeters
Rachel Louise Sovacool
Callie Noelle Montgomery
Kiara Rose Rahman

Junior Marshals

The junior marshals are chosen to represent their academic divisions based on their high grade point averages and the high regard in which they are held by their divisions and departments.

*Communication
and Visual Arts*
Laura Russow

Fine Arts
Jaksyn Graham

*Health and Human
Performance*
Josh Wenninger

Humanities
Rachel Evans

Mathematics and Science
Rylee Woller

*Nursing and
Allied Health*
Peace Macha

Religious Studies
Lance Steffen

*Social and
Behavioral Sciences*
Ava Hanley

Graduate Studies
Jena Williams

Commencement Speaker

Jonathan Madson was born in Tacoma, Washington, one of nine children born to Juul and Clarice Madson. After attending high school in Mankato, Minnesota, he enrolled at Bethany Lutheran College, graduating in 1976 with an associate in arts degree. He received a bachelor of science degree in health education from Minnesota State University, Mankato in 1978. He taught grades 7-8 at Holy Cross Lutheran School in Madison, Wisconsin, from 1979-1981. In 1981, he returned to Mankato and began studying for the pastoral ministry, receiving his master of divinity from Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary in 1986.



Madson served as an associate pastor at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Madison, Wisconsin, from 1986-1989. In 1989, he accepted a call from the Home Mission Board of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) to do exploratory mission work in Kissimmee, Florida. A congregation was established in Kissimmee and was served by Madson until 2000. He then accepted a call to serve as the pastor at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Okauchee, Wisconsin, a position he held from 2000-2018. He returned to Florida and served as the pastor at New Life Lutheran Church in Sebring from 2018-2024. He retired from the pastoral ministry at the end of July 2024.

Madson served for many years on the ELS Board for Education and Youth and is currently a member of the ELS Board of Trustees. For several years, he served as the circuit visitor for Southeast Wisconsin ELS congregations during his years in Okauchee.

Madson married Sharen (née Larson) in May 1987 in Madison, Wisconsin. The Lord has blessed them with two children, Nathan (BLC 2020) and Chloe (BLC 2025). Sharen and Jonathan and both retired and currently reside in Vero Beach, Florida.

Bethany Lutheran College

In 1911, Bethany Ladies College opened with forty-four students and four faculty members, and a mission to educate young women. In 1927, the Norwegian Synod, later known as the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), purchased the college. The ELS operated the school as a co-educational high school and junior college until 1969, when the high school department was closed. Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary began in 1946 as a department of the college; in 1975 it became a separate institution.

In May 1996, the Board of Regents resolved to start moving Bethany from an associate to a baccalaureate degree-granting institution. In the spring of 2001, Bethany entered a new era in its history by granting its first baccalaureate degrees. Bethany continued with academic program growth by offering its first master of arts program in 2021.

Board of Regents

Rev. Mark F. Bartels, *Chair* – Madison, Wisc.

Rev. David C. Thompson, *Vice Chair* – North Mankato, Minn.

Rev. Alexander K. Ring, *Secretary* – Port St. Lucie, Fla.

Steven A. DePrey – Sun Prairie, Wisc.

Rev. Erwin J. Ekhoﬀ – New Hope, Minn.

Aaron W. Faugstad – Washington, D.C.

Rev. Aaron C. Ferkenstad – Golden Valley, Minn.

Mark D. Madson – Mankato, Minn.

Joshua T. Mears, PsyD – Lakeville, Minn.

Timothy D. Roemhildt – North Mankato, Minn.

John M. Scott – Vero Beach, Fla.

David A. Sparley – Tigard, Ore.

Ex Officio Member:

Rev. Glenn R. Obenberger, President, Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Advisory Members:

Gene R. Pfeifer, PhD, President, Bethany Lutheran College

Rev. Timothy A. Hartwig, President, Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary

Academic Regalia and Ceremony

The academic procession is led by the chair of the faculty assembly carrying the college mace, followed by the college president, the chaplain, the vice president of academic affairs, and a member of the Board of Regents. The faculty marshal leads the rest of the procession. The emeriti lead the faculty, who march in order of seniority, and the graduates follow the faculty. Banners are carried by junior marshals and represent the various academic divisions of the College.

Regalia

Graduates and faculty members wear ceremonial regalia that conform to traditions and practices of the academy. The bachelor's graduates are wearing black gowns with an open pointed sleeve. Ceremony participants with advanced or terminal degrees wear gowns that represent their earned degree. Master's graduates wear a gown with an oblong sleeve, open at the wrist. The oblong shape is square cut in the back, the front section tailored with an arc cut. Those who have earned a doctorate wear a gown distinguished by velvet trim on the front facings and three stripes on the sleeves. This trim may be black or may have color identifying the individual's major field of academic achievement.

Ceremonial regalia also includes academic hoods. The size and cut of the academic hood indicates the level and type of degree an individual holds. The lining of the hood, in Bethany's case red and white, indicates the school colors and the outer velvet trim indicates the bachelor's degree. As with the bachelor's hood, the master's and doctor's hoods have the same color designations in the lining of the school where the degree was earned and velvet trim indicating the field in which the degree is held.

White: Arts, Letters, Humanities

Olive: Business

Light Blue: Education, Counseling

Brown: Fine Arts

Purple: Law

Canary: Library Science

Pink: Music

Dark Blue: Philosophy

Sage Green: Physical Education

Salmon: Public Health

Yellow: Science

Cream: Social Science

Citron: Social Work

Scarlet: Theology

College Mace

The College mace was designed and carved by Eric Ouren. The mace is a symbol of power or authority. Its origins can be traced to early medieval times when it was literally an instrument of power as a war club. It eventually evolved into the ceremonial scepter of monarchs. For colleges and universities it symbolizes the authority to grant degrees given to the faculty by the state or church.



Presidential Medallion

The presidential medallion worn today by President Gene Pfeifer was created in 2001 for the first ceremony at Bethany with bachelor's graduates. The college president wears the medallion at commencement, opening service, and other times when academic apparel is appropriate. The medallion is hand tooled, cast in oxidized bronze and hand polished. The presidential medallion hangs on a bronze chain individually listing the past presidents of the college on a small metal banner. The current president's banner is in the center above the medallion, and is separated from those of past presidents by leaf clusters. The seal of Bethany Lutheran College is engraved on the front side of the medallion.



College Seal

The College seal was made official by a resolution of the Board of Regents in 1932. The idea of the college seal originated with Ruth Seidel, who was an instructor at Bethany, and her artist brother, Wilbur Seidel of Chicago, who furnished the detailed drawing.

The seal is distinctive and most appropriate. The inscription "ΕΝΟΣ ΕΣΤΙΝ ΧΡΕΙΑ" is Greek and means "One Thing Is Needful," the words of Christ spoken to Martha at that first Bethany. The "One Thing Needful" is the Gospel of the crucified Savior, expressed by the cross upon which the inscription is placed. For Bethany Lutheran College we thereby declare that there is no true education, even as there is no salvation, without the Gospel of Christ, Son of God and Savior of the world from sin. That Gospel is, and must remain, the heart and soul of every educational effort at our beloved institution. The cross is encircled by a star with twelve points, upon which are shown rays of light extending from the cross. As the twelve apostles were commissioned to be bearers of the light from the cross, so the goal of our training at Bethany must not be our own advancement, but the spread of the Gospel.



Mission

Bethany Lutheran College provides Christian higher education in a challenging academic environment where personal mentoring guides students to pursue knowledge, truth, and discernment for productive and fulfilling lives.

Purpose

Bethany Lutheran College engages students with the saving knowledge of Christ and assists them in developing their God-given talents and abilities for meaningful lives of service in the family, church, and society. A program of study grounded in the liberal arts and taught through the discerning lens of a Christian worldview equips students with knowledge, understanding, and adaptable skills.

Vision

Bethany Lutheran College aspires to produce compassionate graduates firmly grounded in Christian faith and teaching who REFLECT CHRIST'S LOVE with integrity, character, and unshakable values;

- to be a center for EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP and in all aspects of higher education;
- to place a priority on PERSONAL MENTORING from faculty and staff to students;
- to provide OPPORTUNITIES for students to identify and develop their God-given talents and abilities; and
- to positively impact the lives of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and supporters through a CARING CHRISTIAN ACADEMIC COMMUNITY.

Core Values

COMMITMENT TO THE GOSPEL – Because God’s Son, Jesus Christ, has lived perfectly in our place and paid for all sins, God declares all people to be innocent in His sight, an innocence received by faith. Bethany therefore proclaims this Good News to students that they may believe, and grow in faith and in the knowledge of Jesus as their sure hope for eternal life.

PURSUIT OF THE TRUTH – Grounded in the liberal arts, the curriculum promotes a search for knowledge and wisdom by fostering independent critical thinking through the discerning lens of the Bible as the ultimate source of truth in order to support students’ spiritual development, intellectual and creative growth, self-understanding, responsible citizenship, and lifelong learning.

FOCUS ON THE STUDENT – The College places the spiritual, intellectual, physical, social, and emotional needs of the student first in all decisions, policies, and procedures.

Statement of Faith

Bethany Lutheran College is a Christian liberal arts college. The College and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod are committed to the teachings of the Bible as the inerrant Word of God – the only authority for faith and life. The statements of faith known as the Lutheran Confessions are accepted as the correct understanding of the teachings of the Bible.

This commitment to the Confessions is summarized by the principles of the Lutheran Reformation: Grace Alone, Faith Alone, and Scripture Alone. Specifically, the College confesses that salvation is a free gift from God’s grace alone, not dependent upon our works. We receive forgiveness for our sins through faith in Christ alone, which is produced in the individual’s heart by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God and the Sacraments. Scripture alone is the standard by which all teachings and practices ultimately are evaluated.

Scholarships

A special thank you to the businesses, individuals, and families who have established over 275 scholarships for the benefit of Bethany students. If you would like information on setting up a scholarship, contact Bruce Gratz, Vice President of Institutional Advancement at 507-344-7367, or visit blc.edu/ways-to-give.



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507-344-7000 | blc.edu