



Grateful for the Opportunity to Serve in El Salvador

Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

Romans 12:10-11

Sophomore Alyssa Blaha needed to use the restroom—in La Canoa, El Salvador. One of the first things you realize when using a bathroom in a tropical landscape is to check for bugs and snakes. During one of her inspections, Alyssa noticed a snake wrapped around the toilet bottom. “I obviously had to get rid of it in order to take care of business,” Alyssa says. “So I threw some rocks around it trying to make it move. As soon as I could see the tail, I grabbed it and threw it out of the bathroom. That was one of the most eventful bathroom trips I’ve ever had!”

This past January, eight Lutheran High students and two chaperones, including Lutheran High Spanish teacher, Ms. Jen Hoitink, embarked on a mission trip of a lifetime in war-torn and poverty infested El Salvador. The goals of the trip were many: to get to know the people of the region; to practice speaking Spanish; to provide locals with daily essentials and financial needs; and to share the love of Jesus Christ.

The Bajo Lempa mission site provided an opportunity for students to work with the people of the community, particularly children, teachers, and single mothers. Students were able to play and sing songs with the children, attend home visits with family members, prepare breakfasts, share devotions, bring and distribute supplies, leave translated Bibles, listen to the people of El Salvador share their trials and tribulations, and numerous other experiences. The students, who nicknamed themselves *Team Amistad*, concluded each evening with devotions.

Once they arrived in El Salvador, the students immediately noticed they were no longer in Kansas, or southern Wisconsin for that matter. Daytime temperatures were 90 degrees with humidity, yet the evenings and nights could get chilly. “My first thought was about how beautiful the plants were,” remembers Alyssa. There were “palm trees, big flowers, and the sounds of birds were everywhere.” The next day they stayed at a coffee farm. “From our



This is a typical home in La Canoa, Bajo Lempa. Eight people live here with no running water or electricity.

cabana, you could see the volcanoes and all of the hills and mountains. It was so beautiful.”

When *Team Amistad* arrived at the school site in La Canoa, however, they noticed other aspects of their surroundings. “There were dirt roads with huge potholes everywhere,” recalled junior Nicole Holk. She also saw chickens and “extremely skinny cows and sick looking dogs everywhere.” Senior Meghan Falconer, observed how hard people worked just to produce food to feed their family. “No

father, mother, or child would waste a crumb of their food to satisfy a roaming animal, unless the animal was future food for the family,” she says.

Homes in Bajo Lempa were tiny and made out of sticks and tin roofs. “You can see through the houses,” said Ms. Hoitink, “and most of them are the size of a classroom or smaller, and most of these house families of eight or more.” Most homes did not have running water and what few beds were available were shared by many in the family. Raised fire pits served as cooking stoves in many of the homes.

The bugs, spiders, and other critters students encountered in El Salvador were big, numerous, and a little intimidating at first. The first day they arrived at the community center and school site they would be staying for the duration, Alyssa stepped into a huge fire ant hole. “I had fire ants all up my pants and all over me,” she explained. “I still have the bites to remind me.” Junior Carly Mitnacht added: “Yeah, the fire ants were my biggest issue. Every time they bit it was like being splattered by boiling water, it hurt so bad!” One morning, the girls woke up to a gecko (lizard) hanging close by on a wall. Another day, they saw a boa constrictor about 30 feet from their shower. All students were required to sleep under mosquito nets during the trip. “The bugs weren’t too bad,” insisted Ms. Hoitink. “There were a lot, but you never felt them bite you (even though they did...A LOT).”

While bugs provided an everyday challenge, the students enthusiastically forged ahead with their mission goals. For the most part, their daily schedule involved waking up, cooking, eating, and cleaning up after breakfast before the children of the school would arrive for their early morning meal. Then they

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These are sleeping quarters in the children's center.

would help prepare a breakfast for the community students and clean more dishes. Soon they would be teaching school lessons, playing games, singing songs, or making crafts with the kids. Whatever needed to be done in the school, *Team Amistad* volunteered to help. "Whenever there was an opening for dishwasher help, I volunteered," said Nicole Holk. "If they needed help setting the table, I would help out. Whatever needed to be done, we helped."

Many of the local students at Bajo Lempa simply craved attention and affection. "When the children were at school," said Nicole Holk, "I tried to help them when they needed it, and they all loved us. When they were done with school, they had time for recess and they would run up to you and beg you to go down the slide with them or push them on a swing." The children they worked with "were completely different than U.S. kids," said Carly. "They were very clingy and would run up to us and hug us even though they did not know who we were...They were so loving and did not worry about what was going to happen to themselves." Carly's only regret of the trip is that she did not bring more material goods to leave with these kids and their families. "I wish I would have known that anything would help them out, and they could have used so much of the stuff that I take for granted."

Fully intending to be the givers on the trip, all of the Lutheran High students, contend that they ended up being the receivers instead. "The thing that surprised me the most was how happy the people were," noted Alyssa. "They just got done with this horrible war. They really don't have the easiest life,

but the kids were smiling the whole time!" Alyssa was especially impressed with the parents of these children who were "so grateful for what they do have, and they credit it all to God. They don't take any credit for themselves. What they do have, they say it was all what God gave to me." Junior Amber Akright was also surprised that "the people had such a strong and amazing faith in God. They put Him first—it was incredible!" Nicole Holk also found the attitude of people of the Bajo Lempa community inspiring: "They always looked to Christ to help them find the best way to live." If we "could be as grateful and appreciative as they are," said Alyssa, "I think the world would be a better place."

Evening supper time was especially meaningful to the Lutheran High students. They spent a lot of time listening to the women of the community share their personal stories. "Suppers were some of the best times," insisted Alyssa. "Everyone would be making jokes and telling stories. Even though our Spanish wasn't the greatest, we all made efforts to talk. Because we all talked it was more fun." Many of the local women expressed gratitude to the Lutheran High students for coming and taking the time to care. "We talked with the women...and they told us that we give them strength," said Amber. "A few of us made the comment that we felt like we weren't doing a whole lot for



Their "ride" up the mountain to the coffee farm. The coffee farm was started by Anades -- the organization they worked with. The profits pay for operational costs of the three children's centers in Bajo Lempa.



Nicole Beine, Alyssa Blaha, and Cody Fintelmann enjoyed working with the children in La Canoa.

them," Alyssa reflected. "However, when we met with some of the women in the community, they told us how our presence gave them hope, and knowing that is priceless to me."

Of course, there were the amenities and comforts that the students missed while serving thousands of miles away from home in El Salvador. Taking short, cold showers, putting used toilet paper in waste baskets, and sleeping under mosquito nets were experiences not familiar to most. "The showers we took were freezing cold," remembered junior Hannah Zimmermann. "I definitely missed my bathroom at home," said junior Nicole Beine. "I probably missed the cold drinking water the most," said Nicole Holk, because "all the water we had needed to be from the big jugs of purified water. We needed to pour it into pitchers to put in the refrigerator, but by the time we all needed some, it wasn't cold." Junior Cody Fintelmann noted that some of the kids at Bajo Lempa did not have teeth or they had teeth that were rotting. "We have so many hygiene things that we take for granted," he said.

Nicole Holk now looks at everyday staples such as water from a new perspective. "I definitely look at life differently now because we had to conserve so much" in El Salvador. "We waste a lot in America," she said. "We needed to take five minute showers with two other people. We didn't want to waste their water and taking longer than that really isn't needed...Yet they looked at their lives and anything they possess as blessings." Inspired, in part by the people she met in El Salvador, Nicole wants to keep "smiling and

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looking for the things that God blesses me with, because they are everywhere in my life.”

Students, of course, missed and appreciated their family members even more than they had prior to their trip. They knew their parents were proud of them for going, but many of their parents were nervous about the trip, hazardous terrain, being out of phone contact, and the unknown. “My parents were very excited for me to go on this trip,” explained Nicole Holk. “I was going to have to pay for the whole thing myself, but after paying not even half, my parents said they were going to pay for it



Meghan Falconer and some kids having fun during outdoor time.

because it was going to be an amazing experience.” Nicole said her parents “were sad to see me go for a week, but when I got back they were so excited to hear everything. I am the first one in my family to ever go out of the country, and they were very excited that I got a chance like that.” Nicole said she is very thankful “that they let me go and were so supportive on everything we had to do to get to that point.” Amber said “I know this is going to sound dumb, but I missed getting a hug goodnight from my mom the most. It is something so trivial, but in El Salvador, I didn’t have it.”

Meghan appreciated how parents would sacrifice daily for their children. “It was amazing how many mothers would make and sell anything they could,” she noted, “and how many husbands and fathers would cut sugarcane from dawn to dusk to make enough money so they could send their kids to school.” In fact, many mothers told Meghan their biggest worry was not having enough food to feed their children, even though food is scarce. Their biggest worry was inhospitable weather which would prevent their children from attending school. “I saw how much they valued life,” said Meghan.

The trip touched and moved these students in profound ways. “In

America,” asserted Amber, “as long as we have our iPods, or computers, TV, we are happy. Down there, they are happy to have clean drinking water.”

The trip “helped me to put my priorities straight.” Amber went on to explain that one reason she wanted to join the mission experience was to see “what God was calling me to choose as a vocation.” Amber has wanted to be a missionary since the age of five, so her experience in El Salvador has helped to solidify her desire to serve God in the future as a missionary. “The trip helped me mature as a Christian leader in so many ways,” she said. “But one way that I have begun to understand is that to make a difference, you have to start doing something in order for others to follow.”

The trip “changed how I see everything,” Alyssa insisted. “I am lucky to go to the school I do, how I have carpet, how I don’t have to be scared of rain taking my house away, the way I don’t have to think about where my next meal is coming from. I could go on and on. This trip changed how I view a lot.”

Carly said that her experience helped her become a more caring and discerning Christian. “After the trip, I started praying more and listening better in church,” she said. “I also now only take five minute showers instead of 30 minute ones.”

All of the Lutheran High students who went on the trip are grateful for all the time and effort that their Spanish teacher, Ms. Hoitink, put in to make this mission trip a reality. In addition to planning and executing the numerous fundraisers, getting the supplies, translating activities, printing off materials, etc., Ms. Hoitink also planned the entire trip. Unlike tourist trips, where a company does most of the planning work for you, Ms. Hoitink had to create the itinerary, make the contacts, and pull the trip together on

her own. “It was a lot of work,” she said, “but most definitely worth every hour I spent in preparation.” She is, in fact, excited to take another group of willing Lutheran High students to El Salvador again next January. “I continually think of our friends in El Salvador,” she insisted, “and what we can do to help them. I try to think of ways that we can make the next trip even better.” She said that she will never be able to buy a pair of shoes again “without thinking about the children who wear shoes that don’t fit or those who come to school barefoot” in El Salvador.

The fact that the group left the community of Bajo Lempa with \$4,000 to be used to purchase supplies and everyday essentials, as well as a few Bibles in their native language, brings great joy to them all. Carly said seeing the poverty firsthand is really important. “It really opened my eyes.” The group plans to keep on raising money for the Bajo Lempa community in El Salvador for the remainder of the school year.

The mission of Lutheran High School is to *Prepare Christian Leaders—One Student at a Time*. While one does not need to travel to El Salvador to serve as a Christian leader, these Lutheran High students had an experience that gets to the heart of their school’s mission. “The

experience changed me spiritually and emotionally,” explained Cody. “I became closer to Jesus and I drew closer to my friends as well.” Nicole Holk said that small acts of Christian love can go a long way. “The people there showed me how much I should value life, and how I need to be closer with Jesus.”



Teacher Jen Hoitink pictured with several of the children of Bajo Lempa.

“We were able to share God’s love by bringing hope to these people,” said Alyssa. For her, the term “Christian leader” was “just something I saw

on the walls at our school, something that was drilled into us... Now it has taken on a whole new meaning for me. A Christian is someone who is willing to be there for others as God wants us to be. It means being able to teach others about Christ.”

Dinner Auction Will Celebrate Traditions!



Auction April 2

Preview night is April 1 from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Early reservations are \$60 per person, after March 15 reservations are \$75



Traditions! In a nutshell, this year's dinner auction will continue with traditions — some old and some recent. This year's auction will continue in the tradition of offering a multitude of fine and unique items and games on which you can bid. We have the return of the much loved "Wine and Dine" game where the participant buys a gift bag for \$35 and receives a bottle of wine and a restaurant certificate that equals \$35 in value. Another favorite is the "Poor Man's Auction" where the participant can buy a chance to select any participating item off of the live auction before it starts! This opportunity is only \$50 and is sure to bring out the gamer in all of us. We will also offer a few new games with the new star to be a game that will offer \$1000 in tuition for Lutheran High. After a marvelous reception in its inaugural year, the "Pot of Gold" room is returning with a selection of items from *Neat Repeats*, the Lutheran High thrift store. The online auction will be back as well. The online auction will be up and running as of March 1 and will offer items

continually until the commencement of the auction. Check it out frequently to make sure you see new items and items that will close periodically before the auction.

The tradition of fine dining will continue with an exquisite meal prepared for us by Lisa Schmidt, formally of Caffé Kita Restaurant. This year's menu will provide a multitude of choices including Guinness short ribs and Mediterranean chicken. Choose to bid online for the special table which will serve steak and scallops.

A short list of items to tempt you during the live auction include a trip to Hawaii; a cuddly, female White West Highland Terrier puppy; a trip to Colorado; a kayak; a Clay Matthews autographed Super Bowl Helmet; an Aaron Rodgers autographed and framed picture and football; and who can forget the traditional and highly sought-after Pastor's Best Brew; reserved parking spots; reserved graduation seating; and reserved musical seating.



Special Featured Items will be part of the Online Auction

Check out our website at www.lhsauction.com to find the online auction, and more information about this year's event.



Myrna Lastusky Selected as 2011 Lutheran Educator of the Year

Sheboygan Area Lutheran High's Myrna Lastusky was recently selected as the 2011 Secondary Educator of the Year for the South Wisconsin District (SWD). The District Education Executive, Mark L'Heureux, who was a part of the committee that selected Lastusky, said that "Myrna takes a proactive approach to teaching. Not only is she a model for colleagues, but also to the young minds she impresses upon on a daily basis. She exemplifies the classroom teacher through communication, involvement, hard work, and the creating of lasting relationships."

Mrs. Lastusky is in her 18th year of teaching at Lutheran High. She also currently serves as the Academic Guidance Counselor, Soul Train advisor (Christian comedy troupe), and GLOW (God's Light of the World) service group director. Lastusky has also coached volleyball and fastpitch at the school. "If you look up 'master teacher' in the dictionary," says Lutheran High Executive Director, Dr. Jim Pingel, "there's a picture of Myrna there. More importantly, she leads and teaches from the core of her convictions and Christian faith. We are blessed to have her with the Lutheran High family."

Mrs. Lastusky will receive the award at a recognition dinner on Sunday, March 7th at Silver Spring Country Club in Menomonee Falls.



Caring Crusaders: Walter & Susan Scheele

Walter and Susan Scheele are relatively new to the Lutheran High family. Since their grandchildren, Ashley (sophomore) and Ryan (freshman), arrived on campus, however, one cannot help but notice their ubiquitous presence at athletic contests, plays, Bible Breakfasts, and numerous other Lutheran High functions.

Meet Caring Crusaders Walter and Susan Scheele, who this past February celebrated their 40th anniversary of marriage together. Retired from the Kohler Company and nursing profession respectively since 2003, Walter and Susan Scheele, like most grandparents, enjoy spending quality and quantity time with their children and grandchildren.

As they have followed Ashley and Ryan in sports, attended Senior Citizen/Grandparents Days, and spent more time at school functions, something they were not expecting happened: They grew to enjoy and treasure almost all the kids whom they have interacted with and met. "All the kids at Lutheran High feel like our grandkids," said Susan. Indeed, Walter, being a Facebook junkie, relishes nothing more than taking pictures of the students at their events and functions, and posting them online. Known as "Grandpa Scheele" to many of the current students, Walter gets the biggest lift from seeing kids comment on his comments and photos. "The best," he asserted, "is when the kids respond to my comments and use one of my pictures as their profile picture."

Walter and Susan felt right at home in the Lutheran High family the first day they walked through the doors. "There is a feeling in that school building," insisted Susan, "that I think is really different and special." They cherish the memory of their very first Senior Citizen/Grandparents Day, and how they could attend class with their granddaughter. "We were just so blown away when the teacher, first thing, started off class with a prayer request: 'Does anybody have someone they want to lift up in prayer?'" Walter said, "That kind of thought really touched me... The Lord is so precious to us and we just love to see that active at Lutheran High." In addition, they loved Senior Citizen/Grandparents Day "because we learned so much," said Susan. "I would love to go back to school or even just take a Lutheran High theology class for audit!"

Along with Senior Citizens Day, the athletic contests & plays, Walter and Susan appreciate the Senior Citizen Bible Breakfasts hosted at Lutheran High once a month. "We've really enjoyed the people we've gotten to know there all these months," said Susan, "and you can't beat Tom Kind's cooking and the study of God's Word." One of the many blessings they have experienced in Lutheran High is the fact that "we have made so many good friends and contacts with other Christians," Walter explained. "We are the ones that have been blessed."

Walter and Susan are truly amazed and impressed with how involved the students of Lutheran High are in numerous co-curricular and after-school activities. "You stress leadership here at Lutheran High," noted Susan, "and I think these kids, who are so active, are being prepared for the busyness of life. They are learning how to budget, structure, and prioritize their time. Learning how to manage your time—that's life!" In fact, she recalled this past year's Taproot Club event, where students talked about what Lutheran High meant to them. "I just remember Chloe Van Der Weele and Meghan Falconer and the other kids talk about Lutheran High with such pride, passion, and enthusiasm. They are really prepared to deal with life after attending here," she stated.

Susan admires how the students encourage one another to achieve and succeed in the classroom and elsewhere. "We've seen our grandson's classmates motivate him to do better and study harder. We like that!"

The close relationships teachers foster with students is yet another striking feature of the Lutheran High experiences. "You can tell the students go to the teachers for help on anything," explained Susan. "There is definitely a trust factor there."

Of course, the thing they most treasure about Lutheran High is the teaching of God's Word and Jesus Christ. "I know people have said it before, but it's really true," said Susan, "that Lutheran High is the best investment you can make in your child's future." While Walter loves the high academic standards of Lutheran High, he especially values the "Christian values being taught to my grandchildren."

The Scheeles insisted they will continue to support Lutheran High with their time, talent, and treasure long after their grandkids graduate. "This place is worth every penny and every minute you can give it," Susan shared. "Besides, Lutheran High keeps us young!"



Walter and Susan Scheele have been enjoying the Lutheran High experience with their grandchildren, Ashley and Ryan.

Caring Crusaders: Lutheran High's Association Pastors

Lutheran High is blessed to have fourteen Association churches promoting and supporting the school's mission and ministry. The spiritual leaders of these churches are, of course, the pastors that shepherd their congregations. We asked them what they like best about Lutheran High, and why parents should send their children to Lutheran High despite the financial sacrifice. Several pastors shared their comments which are printed in italics on these two pages.



Pastor Robert Steele – Bethany Lutheran Church

*My wife, Julie, and I are both Lutheran High graduates from the Detroit area...The best thing about **Christ** education is that it is "**Christ**" centered. The teachers and staff of Lutheran High live this out every day. It's not part of their day; it's who they are in Christ, inside and outside*

the classroom. Christ lives through these unique "called" individuals.

Sheboygan Lutheran is one thing that binds our local Lutheran churches together. It is our unique mission project. God has blessed us with this ministry. As with any ministry, it needs to be supported by time, talents, and treasures. My question is this: How much is a person's salvation worth? If only one person comes to the knowledge of Jesus Christ, whether it is an inquiring family, a student who walks through the doors, or someone led to Christ by a current student or graduate, it was well worth the mission. At times we don't always see God at work, but He says: "one" plants, "one" waters. He makes it grow.

Paul reminds us in Romans 12 that Christians are to present their bodies as "living" sacrifices. The Lord worked through many living sacrifices to bring Lutheran High School into our midst, a gift from God. Sending your children to Lutheran High is a sacrifice, both of time and treasure. Take time and pray about it. Leave it in God's hands. The finances will work out. Remember to take everything to the Lord in prayer. Every child is a gift from God and, as parents, we are responsible for bringing them up in the eyes of the Lord. Lutheran High is a great blessing in assisting Christian parents to do just that!

Finally, Paul tells us in Philippians: "We are to be in the world but not of the world." The education received at Lutheran High is well-grounded on the solid Rock, Jesus Christ. All three of my children have had to defend their faith in college and have had opportunities to share the Good News of Jesus Christ to those who are skeptical or simply inquisitive about Christianity. In their personal devotional life, they read and reflect on comments and highlighted passages in their Bibles that came from LHS pastors and teachers. Whether your child(ren) will be going on to college, trade school, or into the work force, they will be grounded in Christ and will be able to live in the world but not be of the world.



Pastor Alan Kretschmar - St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sheboygan

Lutheran High to me is the best opportunity to sustain the Christian education begun in the home and continued in our Christian grade/middle schools. We live in difficult times and the more our young people (and

their families) are exposed to nurturing environments that are built upon the Word of God, the more they will be empowered to withstand life's challenges. Church is the starting point for such a nurturing environment. There, God's Word and means of grace enable and sustain the Christian life. Our churches then work to provide other nurturing environments throughout the school year, like Sheboygan's two levels of Monday through Friday Christ centered educational system. Such a system is truly worthy of our support for the blessings a Word of God based education brings to students directly; their parents in terms of a great choice; and the community here and beyond in terms of young people better trained to be Christian leaders.

Sacrifice and servanthood defined our Lord's work on earth to a perfect and high degree. He teaches us that his followers should do as he as done. For our part, our sacrifices are much smaller and imperfect and our servanthood is still weakened by our sins. But to apply those principles, even imperfectly, nonetheless defines a Christ-like life. So the concept of sacrifice is in back of every Christian's stewardship calling and life. It is no different when it comes to the nurturing environments I mentioned before. We are called to freely and willingly sacrifice (set apart for service) some of God's gifts for us to do His work.

Wendy and I happily sacrificed some other things in life to see to our children's mind and spirit nurturing at Lutheran High. At the same time, we didn't think of it as a sacrifice in the sense of something painful to do. We wanted to do it for our children and we pray that other parents will make that same commitment. God helped us as he promises to help everyone whose priorities are guided by His opportunities.

Lutheran High is also a great community to be a part of. The Lutheran-Christian community that begins in our

Caring Crusaders: Lutheran High's Association Pastors

church also extends out to Lutheran's campus. That has meant that our personal list of friends and activities and even service opportunities have been expanded in some rather fulfilling and fun ways. May the Lord continue to bless the work and presence of Lutheran High in our midst!



Pastor Ron Pederson – Grace Lutheran Church, Haven

When we first moved here in 2000, the students at Lutheran High greeted my daughter with the loving arms of Christianity. She was able to assimilate into the Lutheran High community very quickly. That is what I

like most about Lutheran High. The staff and administrators really care about each student. They exhibit the love of Christ to the students each and every day. Both our girls have left Lutheran High with faith that is strong and living. They are sure in their faith and in the forgiveness of Christ Jesus that is taught, shown, demonstrated, active, and central to the purpose of a Lutheran High education. That's what I like best about Lutheran High.

To proclaim and confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior is the pinnacle of the mission of Lutheran High. If it is not

the most important, then Lutheran High would be just another school. We should view the mission of Lutheran High as an extension of the mission we all have—to confess Jesus Christ to the community, the city, the state and nation.

Despite the perception that sending a child to Lutheran High is too expensive, it is not true, not in the expanse of eternity. At Lutheran High, each student is immersed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They learn to pray. They learn to praise. They learn to forgive and all of this happens as they learn math, science, the liberal arts, and history. The Gospel lessons are for learning how to cope with the adventures of this life and they have their conclusion in the heavenly realms. There cannot be a price on the eternal lessons the students learn which they cannot hear (by law) in a public school. It is well worth the price. How much is x number of dollars divided by eternity?

My youngest daughter, Veronica, is training to be a dental hygienist in western Colorado. Many of her classmates are Mormon. She has told me many times how thankful she is for the lessons in religion class she learned at Lutheran High. As a result of her studies at Lutheran High, she is able to counter the erroneous statements the Mormons make. She has grown to enjoy teaching them the Gospel and that forgiveness and eternal life are free gifts that require no good works to qualify for its reception. I am very thankful to the people at Lutheran High that make such things possible.





Save the Date!
**25th Anniversary
Lutheran High
Golf Tournament**
Saturday June 11
Tee Times Start at 8:00 a.m.
More Information on our Website
www.lutheranhigh.com



Performances April 15-16-17
Senior Citizen Matinee April 14 - Free Will Offering

Tickets Available at the LHS Office
\$11 Adults \$6 Seniors & Students
\$16 Preferred Seating

Eye on Alumni: Class of 1991

Editor's Note: In the Spring and Summer issues we are featuring profiles of the Class of 1991



Carrie feels that Lutheran High “provided an incredible foundation of love, support, faith, and community that I have carried with me through many changes, challenges, and joys in my life. Many seeds were planted back at LHS, and it has been through life experiences that they continue to grow.”

Carrie Cline Green

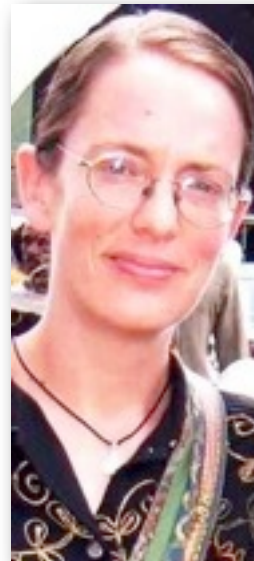
After graduating from UW-Madison, I moved to Boston and received a Master’s Degree in Social Work from Boston College. I practiced as a clinical social worker and psychotherapist for a number of years before my husband Charlie (1991 graduate of North High) returned to school to pursue a medical degree. We had our first daughter Madeline just before Charlie started medical school. We were incredibly blessed to have a second daughter, Sylvia, two years later.

Just a year after Sylvia was born I was diagnosed with a grade IV brain tumor and given a bleak prognosis. I immediately turned to my faith, family, friends, and running as a means of finding strength and hope as well as a larger purpose behind the cancer. I was on an oral chemotherapy for four years. During that time I completed two marathons and was able to raise funds and awareness for brain tumor research. It was also during this time that I completed 500 hours of teacher training to become a yoga instructor.

Wellness has always been a part of my life. Through teaching yoga, I have been able to synthesize my passions for working with people, my lifelong love of movement and athletics, my training and work in mental health, my experiences as a parent, cancer patient and survivor and, most of all, my faith. I love working with children as well as adults. For all of us, life is uncertain and we do not know what tomorrow brings.

Looking back at my years at LHS, I could not have realized how many gifts I was given. Along with my parents, it was the energy and passion of my teachers and coaches that instilled confidence and a sense of purpose to move forward. It was the support of friends and their families that helped me to appreciate how powerful a sense of community can be. Most importantly though, it was learning the power of God’s presence in our lives and how our faith in Him can give us strength and grace on life’s journey.

As Charlie finishes his residency in orthopedic surgery, our family will be moving from Michigan to Cleveland, Ohio for one year where Charlie will complete a fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic. We then look forward to finally moving back to Wisconsin to be closer to our families and friends!



Linda Jordan

Don’t take this the wrong way, but I don’t really miss anything about high school. Let me explain. It was a great transition time from childhood to young adulthood, and Lutheran High provided exactly what I needed in order to get through that transition time...The transition is complete and I praise God for the opportunities He has given me in my adult life.

Linda reflected that a lot of her favorite memories at Lutheran High “have to do with the faculty there—such a great group of teachers, who really cared and showed it too.”

The highlights of my life after high school have been studying biology and chemistry at the University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point, teaching high science as a Peace Corps volunteer in Lesotho, and serving in Ethiopia as a member of Wycliffe Bible Translators. Two recent accomplishments that God has blessed me with are finishing a M.A. in language

development in 2009 (including the completion of a thesis, a small miracle for me), and wrapping up the Ethiopia language survey project in 2007 (a linguistic research project aimed at discovering the remaining Bible translation needs in Ethiopia).

Eye on Alumni: Class of 1991

Editor's Note: In the Spring and Summer issues we are featuring profiles of the Class of 1991

Today I am a member of Wycliffe Bible Translators, currently studying Portuguese in Lisbon to prepare for a new assignment to Angola, a former Portuguese colony in southwestern Africa...I hope to do the same thing in Angola as I did in Ethiopia—research the minority language groups to find the remaining Bible translation needs in the country...I have been blessed with many church homes and brothers and sisters in Christ, in the U.S. and overseas. It is both a humbling and a horizon-broadening experience to see the ethnic & linguistic diversity of the body of Christ on earth.

At Lutheran High, I had a chance to take part in a lot of extracurricular activities, sports and otherwise, that I may not have been able to participate in at a larger school. It was a very supportive and encouraging environment, and this allowed me to get involved in things I would have been too shy to try in the more intimidating environment of a large public high school. This taught me a lot, and I think it started to develop my leadership skills, such as they are. In my work I've found myself in leadership roles where I've tried to follow this example—recognizing the gifts and contributions of each individual and encouraging participation at every level.

I have a great memory of Mr. Gieschen in chemistry class, climbing up on a lab table to get better leverage as he pumped the air out of a bell jar to teach us about the effects of pressure change. Learning was fun!



Steve Scheunert



Steve insists that Lutheran High alumni "can give back just by taking what we have learned and applying it to our daily lives. Spreading the Word of God is a great gift."

What I miss most about high school is the friendships that developed throughout the years. One of my favorite memories was float building at Eric Nelson's house. Every year we would go to his house to assemble and build the float for Homecoming. It was truly an awesome experience. Thanks, Nelsons!



Steve camping with his girlfriend at Madeline Island.

I'm currently working in Research & Development for General Mills, Inc. I've been with the company for almost twelve years. I'm in the Pillsbury Division and work with canned dough. So the next time you eat Pillsbury Crescents you are supporting what I do.

I live in the Minneapolis area...with three beautiful children—Chelsea (15), Caden (9), and Ciarra (7). All three of my kids are huge Packer/Badger fans. We wouldn't want it any other way.

Something I know now that I wish I knew in high school is that life is a challenge. I didn't know that in high school, and I'm not sure any of us did. We didn't have a care in the world. It's funny how that changes after high school.

Something my classmates would be surprised to know about me is that working with food has been my passion for life. There is nothing better than being in the kitchen creating and making home-made meals for my kids. If you happen to be in the refrigerated section of your grocery store and come across Recipe Creations, Garlic Crescents, Thin Crust Pizza, Simply Biscuits, or Simply Bread, then you are looking at something that I helped develop.

I think the most important thing in my life is to make sure my kids are brought up in a Christian way. I honestly don't know if that would be happening today if Lutheran High wasn't part of my past.

Lutheran High is a great school where you get an opportunity to grow in your Christian faith. You get the attention you deserve with it being a small school. I believe Lutheran High gives you the tools in order to succeed in the real world.

My daughter Chelsea was recently confirmed and I think her Bible verse (Ephesians 2:8) says it all: "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift from God."



Alumni Engagements

Joanna Beyer - LHS Class of '04 is engaged to be married to David Lehman. David is a 1999 graduate of South High School. Jason and Joanna are both employed by Bemis Manufacturing. Their wedding is planned for June 9, 2012.



Jason Hasenstein - LHS Class of '01 is engaged to be married to Rachael Stedl of Grafton. Jason is a 2006 graduate of UW-Whitewater with a master's degree in accounting and is employed by BDO USA, LLP. Rachael is a 2002 graduate of UW-Whitewater with a bachelor's degree in accounting and is employed by FIS Global. Their

wedding is planned for September 24, 2011 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Sheboygan.

Ericka Hammett - LHS Class of '99 is engaged to be married to Nicholas Piotrowski. Ericka graduated from UW-Madison in 2003 with a bachelor's degree in management and human resources and from UW Law School in 2007 with a juris doctor. She is an attorney with Palmer & Associates, Chicago. Her fiancé is a 2006 graduate of UW-Madison with a bachelors degree in electrical engineering. He is a sales engineer for Associated Research, Inc., Lake Forest, IL. Their wedding is planned for June 2011.



Josh Nimmer - LHS Class of '06 is engaged to Sarah Baldwin from Crystal Lake, IL. Sarah graduated from Concordia-WI in December as an Early Childhood Education Major. Josh will also graduate from CUW in May with a degree in Elementary Education. They met while working at Camp

LuWiSoMo in 2009. Their wedding is planned for July 23, 2011, in Crystal Lake, IL.



Jessica Kuehlmann and Josh Kasinskas - LHS Class of '08 are engaged to be married and are planning their wedding for July 16, 2011 in Green Bay, WI. Josh is studying Business and Accounting at UW- Green Bay and Jessica is studying Human Development and

Psychology at UW- Green Bay. Both are planning to graduate next spring.

Veronica Pederson - LHS Class of '07 is engaged to be married to Isaac Bird on August 6, 2011 at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Vernal, UT.



Rachel Steele - LHS Class of '07 is engaged to Patrick Zafirooulos. Rachel is in her Senior year of Nursing Studies at Valparaiso University. Patrick is from Oily City, Pennsylvania and is a junior Pre-Law and Sports Management major with political science and business minors. . Their wedding is planned for May 26, 2012 in Fraser, MI at St. John's Lutheran Church.



Nick Rindt - LHS Class of '04 is engaged to be married to Tina Cera. Nick and Tina are both graduates of UW-Whitewater, Nick has a bachelor's degree in Finance and Tina has a degree in Communications. Nick is employed by Kohler Co. as a Market Analyst and Tina is employed by a neurologist in the Milwaukee area. Their wedding

will be held on October 14, 2011 at Christ King Parish in Wauwatosa.



Alumni Weddings



Kimberly Christian and Ryan Carpenter - LHS Class of '05, were married on August 7, 2010 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Sheboygan.

Jessica Christian - LHS Class of '11 was Maid of Honor. Bridesmaids were **Rachael Kretschmar** and **Kimberley Burkart - LHS Class of '05** and **Chelsea Carpenter - LHS Class of '07**. Groomsmen were **TJ Weinaug** and **Paul**

Zimmerman - LHS Class of '05 and **Jonathan Christian - LHS Class of '09**. Ushers were **Mike Wright** and **Chris Brost - LHS Class of '05**. Soloist was **Jenny Adams- LHS Class of '05**. Ryan is currently a graduate student in Clinical Psychology at the University of Missouri. The couple lives in Columbia, MO.

Doug Winter - LHS Class of '04 married Katrina Gengler on January 15, 2011 at St. John Lutheran Church, Sherman Center. Doug is employed by Charter Steel and Katrina works at Family Tree Residential. The wedding party included **Tim Winter - LHS Class of '97** and **Dan Roesler - LHS Class of '02**.



Michael Vetter - LHS Class of '99 married Connie Abano on November 27, 2010 at St. John Lutheran Church, Sherman Center. Mike and Connie are both employed at Times Printing Co. The wedding party included **Sheila Vetter Hemker - LHS Class of '94**, **Rachel Vetter Rautmann - LHS Class of '96** and **Christopher Rautmann - LHS Class of '94**. Their organist

was **Marlene Goedde Forshee - LHS Class of '84**.



Kevin Ramminger - LHS Class of '03 married Tabitha Bond on June 5th, 2010. Kevin is a software engineer at Harris Corp and Tabitha is a behavior analyst for foster children in Melbourne, FL.

William Nisporic III - LHS Class of '02, married Jacqueline Virant of Minneapolis on July 9, 2010 at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Sheboygan. **The wedding party included Natosha Nisporic - LHS Class of '06**, **Matt Stein - LHS Class of '04**, and **Peter McCarty - LHS Class of '02**. William has an AAS in information technology from the Minnesota School of Business. He is employed by the Anoka-Hennepin School district in technical support. Jacqueline has a masters degree in education from the University of Minnesota and is a math teacher at New Visions Academy, Minneapolis. The couple lives in Minneapolis.



Alumni News and Notes

Carmen Schallock - LHS Class of '94 - earned the American Health Information Management Association's CCS-P credential in December 2010. The Certified Coding Specialist - Physician based (CCS-P) credential attests to mastery level proficiency in patient record review and assignment of diagnosis and procedure codes for reimbursement. Carmen works in the surgery department at Madison Medical Affiliates in Mequon, WI.



Peter Bolgert - LHS Class of '07 was named to the 2010 *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-America Men's Track & Field and Cross Country Second Team, as chosen by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). Peter is a junior at Marquette University and entered the spring semester with a perfect 4.0 grade point average as a mathematics and physics major.



Alumni Births

Kim Steinke Priaulx - LHS Class of '03 and her husband, Mike, were blessed with the birth of their first child, Bethany Ruth, on November 22, 2010.

Senator Joe Leibham - LHS Class of '87 and his wife, Heather, were blessed with the birth of their daughter, Lucy Marie, on November 22, 2010.

Peter Leibham - LHS Class of '86 and his wife, Sarah, were blessed with the birth of their daughter, Grace Louise, on January 18, 2011.

Scott Morrelle - LHS Class of '92 and his wife, Amy, were blessed with the birth of their son, Alexander, on January 12, 2011.

David Jon Leffin - LHS Class of '94 and his wife, Leighera, were blessed with the birth of their daughter, Karis Noel, on December 31, 2010



Mary (Bartel) Laesch - LHS Class of '88 and her husband, Ted, were blessed with a daughter, Zoe Noelle, born January 20, 2010. Zoe joins big brothers Teddy, Nate, Jake and Zeke.

Jim and Holly Baalke Leibham - LHS Class of '97 were blessed with the birth of their son, Emerson James, on December 20, 2010

Clayton Slotke - LHS Class of '04 and his wife, Lydia, were blessed with the birth of their daughter, Clara Anne, on December 2, 2010.

Heidi Thiel Estes - LHS Class of '98 and her husband, Brian, were blessed with the birth of their son, Warren Vincent, on November 28, 2010.

Please e-mail your news and notes to laska@lutheranhigh.com for future newsletters!

Lutheran High School Association

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P R E P A R I N G C H R I S T I A N L E A D E R S



Faith & Finances: A Gift for Uncertain Times

Charitable giving survives economic downdrafts. That is because people continue to care about the causes they have long supported and donate generously even when they have less to give. They also tend to be more astute in their charitable contributions.

For example, one of the more popular forms of giving these days is a device known as the charitable gift annuity. These are particularly well liked because they provide such a high degree of stability.

The words “charitable gift” suggest that this giving tool is recognized by the IRS as an acceptable way to make a tax-deductible contribution. Because such gifts are irrevocable, they entail several attractive benefits.

The term “annuity” means that the donor (or someone designated by the donor) will receive annual fixed payments for life. This amount is established at the outset and will remain stable no matter what happens to the economy.

A charitable gift annuity is a combination gift: part donation and part annuity. A portion of what you give eventually goes to the charity, and the other portion is returned to you in the form of regular dependable annuity payments.

The amount a gift annuity produces over one’s lifespan, as well as the charitable gift amount, is determined when the charitable gift annuity is established. It depends on several factors, including the age of the person(s) receiving the payments and the amount of the donation.

Charitable gift annuities make sense in these uncertain times because they provide regular, fixed, and partially tax-free payments. They also provide needed financial resources for Lutheran High.

Talk to your attorney or local financial advisor about a charitable gift annuity for Lutheran High and your local church. Setting one up could be one of the best and most meaningful decisions you make today while helping Lutheran High well into the future.

Thank you for helping us *Prepare Christian Leaders—One Student at a Time.*