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The Celebrating Saint

SPCH Class of '61 Honored Along With 2011 Graduates



Two classes processed for the 2011 baccalaureate service and the graduation exercises. One class graduated 50 years ago. One class was to receive diplomas that afternoon.

As a reminder of the days of the beanie, Willard Meyer brought his to the reunion. It just so happened that six more beanies were located, so each of the seven could recall 50 years ago. Wearing beanies are (left to right), Willard Meyer, Richard Boernke, John Schauer, Cletus Pfeiffer, Arthur Simmons, Richard Kurth, and Gerald Fuhrmann.

Members of the SPLHS Class of 2011 welcomed the SPCH Class of 1961 to their graduation. Thus, the tradition continued as the fifty-year graduates were invited and welcomed back for a class reunion.

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From the SPAA President...



Greetings Alumni!

I have two questions for you...

- 1) Does our Alumni Association have an Alumni Coordinator?
- 2) Do you know what an Alumni Coordinator does?

Let me take this opportunity to give you the answers.

Answer: 1) YES! We have Walter Loeber serving as our Alumni Coordinator.

Answer: 2) WDWD? (What Does Walter Do?)

- Alumni Newsletter
- Selects subjects to cover
- Contact for writing articles
- Writes/Edits articles
- Plans layout
- Proofreading
- Alumni Mailings (To let you know when the newest newsletter will be on the website)
- Contributions
- Receives and records contributions to the Alumni Association
- Sends "Thank you" Letters
- Makes bank deposits

- Class Reunions
- Works with Class Representative
- Provides Class Lists
- Locates missing classmates
- Works on registration forms, dates, activities, meals, etc.
- Notifies campus on reunion needs
- Can be present for reunions and lead campus tours
- Ongoing Work
- Searches for current addresses
- Updates mailing information
- Provides requested information
- Attends and reports to the Alumni Board at meetings

So, now that you know this valuable resource is available — USE IT!

Plan a class reunion, reconnect with classmates, visit Campus...we hope to hear from or see you soon!

In HIS Service,

Sara N. (Rotermund) Larsen (SPLHS '94)

Can You Identify?

Can you identify the eight students in this photo, the year it was taken and the event? The first alum to provide the answers by emailing the alumni office at splhsalumni@yahoo.com will win an afghan which pictures the campus with all the buildings around the quad.



The first person to correctly identify the photo in the Spring 2011 issue was Tricia Vogt Wisbrock (SPLHS '92) who named Jeremy Blue, David Thompson, Mike Langford, Curt Nierman, Amy Mueller, Amy Berman, Jennifer Martin, and Amy Kuecker, the 1991 court warming candidates. (see page 14; Tricia is wearing her Saints sweatshirt.)

From the Executive Director... Be an Example



The banner at the entrance of Saint Paul Lutheran High School says that we have been designated as an “Exemplary School” by NLSA (National Lutheran School Accreditation). What this means is that during our most recent re-accreditation process we passed

every “success” indicator by 90% or better and then we were nominated by our visitation team to be designated an Exemplary School. As such we are to be an example to other Lutheran schools in the sharing of ideas and best practices so that other schools can improve as well.



The banner at the entrance announces that SPLHS is “An Exemplary School.” Along with the entire faculty, Val Krause and John Bobzin were responsible for gathering the required data, conducting the surveys, organizing, and the documentation for presentation to the NLSA Team, as well as determining where SPLHS was exemplary. The NLSA Team was impressed with the thoroughness of the presentation, especially the exactness and superior alignment of materials by Mrs. Krause.

One of the unique characteristics of Saint Paul is that, because we are a boarding school, we have had the opportunity over the past twenty years to cultivate an environment for the international community to thrive on our campus. With the tremendous increase in Asian students wanting to come to the United States in the high school years, it is a challenge to help them succeed academically, integrate them into our school culture, and winsomely introduce them to Christianity. Because there are financial benefits to sponsoring international

students, this option is becoming more interesting to many of our Lutheran schools.



So, we will certainly share our experience with those who are interested. However, could we do more? The conversation amongst our faculty has often been directed towards a more uniform Lutheran curriculum. It started with our religion department as we struggled to integrate non-Lutherans and non-Christians (especially from the international student population) into our 4-year religion sequence. As we partnered with Concordia University Nebraska with over two dozen college credit hours offered, the scope began to look more like the old “system” and we began to wonder if other schools would like to follow suit? Who is out there that would want to promote such a thing?

If not us, who? Our vision is to produce students who are more than ready for the next level — so much so that the next level (LCMS colleges) will want to recognize that the SPLHS graduate is serious about preparing for a useful vocation in the kingdom of God. Do we want to be the only school that is doing this? NO. *Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!* (Numbers 11:29) However, we don’t mind being the example.

Rev. Paul Mehl (SPCH ’78, SPC ’80)

Alumni Jottings

To share information about yourself in the next newsletter (mid-October), please use the lower half of the page recently sent to you announcing the newsletter posted on the Web. Mail to Alumni Coordinator, P.O. Box 719, Concordia MO 64020, along with your financial support.

SPCH '40, SPC '42, Harlan Wendler, Springfield, Ill., is the author of an electronic book, "God's Desert Sheik," published by Concordia Publishing House. It's a story about the Patriarch Abraham from a biblical, historical, and archeological perspective along with the writer's own reflections. Harlan and his wife led a tour to the Holy Land in 1978. They visited the excavated Abraham's tomb at Hebron and Abraham's Oak at Mamre. "God's Desert Sheik" can be downloaded at www.concordiawriterscooperative.com.

SPCH '42, SPC '44, Howard Kramer, Norman, Okla., writes, "We've moved again. Now we're in Norman, Okla., where our youngest son, Michael, is Chair of the Department of Communication at Oklahoma University. We fear that we may become infected with the Sooner football bug. We'll try to resist as long as possible."

SPCH '47, SPC '49, Kenneth Kaden, St Paul, Minn., writes, "Retired from Concordia University in St. Paul in 1993, after 38 years. Still serve the University on several committees including Alumni Council, Athletic Hall of Fame, and other temporary ones. Chaplain for MNS Sages (Saints Alive Growing Ever Serving) in my tenth year term. Teach Bible class for seniors at King of Kings Lutheran Church in Roseville (a 40-year charter member of the congregation)."

SPCH '54, SPC '56, Floyd Gogolin, Burnett, Wis., writes, "Daughter Jean and her husband John Thur of Oshkosh, Wis., one year ago adopted Daniel from Ukraine. He joins his previously adopted brothers Nickolai and Dennis. When Daniel arrived our grandchildren numbered six. The other three are Benjamin, Katherine, and Caleb Engebrecht. Their parents are Brian and Christine of Milan, Ill., members of St. John Lutheran Church in East Moline, Ill. Christine is a graduate of Concordia University Chicago. Linda and I continue to be active at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Burnett. Alfred Rehwinkel lived here when his father was pastor of Immanuel, 1887-1895. Alfred was five years old when his father passed away in 1895. Harlan Becker, SPCH Class of 1950, lives in nearby Horicon. He is membership chairman of our Dodge County Community Concert Association."

SPCH '54, '56, Darrel Wernsing, Mt. Pulaski, Ill., writes, "Enjoying my retirement as a substitute teacher at our local high school and am also the golf coach."

SPCH '56, SPC '58, Lee Schlukebier, Seward, Neb., is the project director for developing a new Lutheran University in Papua New Guinea.

SPCH '59, SPC '61, Ralph Guetersloh, Galena, writes, "My wife Susie and I have moved from Omaha, Neb., to a home in the Branson, Mo., area. We are enjoying the retirement status."

SPCH '63, SPC '65, Gary Galen, Troy, Ill., is retired. The Galens have five grandchildren and two more on the way. They daily praise God for better health in the past five years. Gary volunteers to help alcoholics, and also at the Good Shepherd Lutheran School in Collinsville.

SPC '65, Cecil Roth, Geneseo, Ill., is enjoying retirement and connecting with classmates on Facebook.

SPCH '70, William "Skip" Pope, San Antonio, Texas, recently was awarded the Korean Defense Service Medal by the Army for serving two tours of duty in South Korea (1972-73 and 1988-89). William is pursuing a Master of Arts in Adult Learning and Teaching at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

SPCH '71, Tom Kasten, Centralia, Ill., writes, "My wife Ruth and I have lived in Centralia 32 years. We took over the family business, Dairy Queen, in 1985. It has been in the family for 50 years this year. We are in the middle of remodeling the store inside and out. Also, our youngest, Joel, is getting married this summer. He is a prison guard at the Centralia Center."

SPCH '77, Mark and Sandy Kaiser Hannemann, Omaha, Neb., writes, "Mark is serving as senior pastor of Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church. Sandy is vice president, Chief Title Officer at Nebraska Title Company. We are enjoying two grandchildren with a third on the way. We have many blessings to count."

Continued on page 5.

Alumni Jottings

(continued)

SPCH '77, SPC '79, Tom Hudspeth, Girard, Kan., writes, "Cheryl started back to work part-time for a company that works with schools and legos. It had been five years since she was able to work due primarily because of taking care of me. (For the story about Tom, refer to the Fall 2010 Alumni Newsletter.)"

SPCH '80, Judy Brack Ray, Winfield, Kan., became a grandma on April 5, 2010. Her son Jacob and his wife Crystal had a little girl.



SPCH '78, David Rogner, Oak Park, Ill., professor of English at Concordia University Chicago, presented "Jesus I Will Ponder Now: The Passion of our Lord in Poetry and Painting" to the students and faculty of Wisconsin Lutheran College in Milwaukee, Wis., April 6. He made a similar presentation at Grace Lutheran Church in Northbrook, Ill., March 27.

SPLHS '94, Karla Thanepohn Leidecker, Eastpointe, Mich., writes, "I still live in Michigan with my husband Rory, daughters Anna (6) and Greta (4), and son Owen (nine months, born 11/19/10). I work part-time as the assistant director of St. Peter's Lutheran Early Childhood Center in Eastpointe."

SPLHS '98, Ross Wienberg, Creighton (formerly of Concordia), was united in marriage to Cymantha Renee DelRosario of Sweet Springs on June 18. Ross graduated from Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and computer science and a master's degree in education. He is a math teacher at Sherwood High School in Creighton.



SPLHS '00, Brandt Klawitter, married Anna Waage June 4, 2011, in Bekkjarvik, Norway. They will be living near Stuttgart, Germany, where Brandt serves as a chaplain in the U.S. Army. Pictured are, left: Maren Espedal Mille (SPLHS

'01), Aaron Miille (SPLHS '00), Anna, Brandt, Ottar Skjervheim (SPLHS '01), Pablo Valverde (SPLHS '00), and Ingrid Mellingen (SPLHS '00).

SPLHS '01, Joanna Heins Coe, St. Louis, and her husband David will be moving to Fremont, Neb., where David will serve as associate pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church.

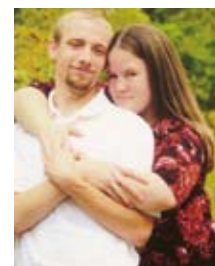
SPLHS '03, Levi Jaster, Emporia, Kan., has started his second semester of research with the Missouri Department of Conservation in an effort to better understand the Henslow's Sparrow, a small, brown and black, cloistered bird that weighs less than an ounce. Levi has one year remaining before finishing a master's degree in environmental biology with an emphasis in wildlife ecology. When he has completed his master's, Levi would like to enter a doctoral program and ultimately teach and train others about wildlife and the environment.

SPLHS '05, Christopher Hovde, Ft. Carson, Colo., successfully completed Army Individual Infantry Training on March 18 from Ft. Benning, Ga. He is stationed at Ft. Carson, Colo., with the Fourth Infantry Division. His mailing address is PFC Hovde Christopher, UPS Store Box PMB 742, 1510 Chile Ave. Ste. 7, Ft. Carson CO 80913.



SPLHS '05, Silas and SPLHS '05, Megan Krause Mehl, St. Louis, will spend the next year on vicarage at St. Mark Lutheran Church, Elberta, Alabama.

SPLHS '06, Sammy Williams, Kansas City, and Geoffrey Hughes were married March 5, 2011. Her bridesmaids were Karinann Benson (Class of 2006), Tana Dehning ('05) and Crystal Kirchhoff ('06). In May 2010, Sammy earned a B.A. degree in psychology/criminology from Drury University in Springfield.



SPLHS '06, Crystal Kirchhoff, Concordia, married Ryan Cooper, June 4, 2011 at Saint Paul's Lutheran Church in Concordia..

SPLHS '07, Elizabeth Inman, Concordia, was united in marriage to Michael Pettit of Carpinteria, Cal., on June 25. Elizabeth graduated in May from Concordia University Nebraska with a degree in elementary education. Michael is a 2010 graduate of Concordia University and is attending Concordia Seminary in St. Louis.

Alumni Jottings (continued)

SPLHS '07, Luke Jaster, Rolla (formerly of Concordia), won the hammer throw at the Williams/ Laptad Invitational at Missouri Southern State University on April 29. Luke will enter his final year at Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla. He is majoring in metallurgical engineering.

SPLHS '07, Isaac Dahlke and SPLHS '07, Katrina Mehl were united in marriage June 30 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Concordia. The wedding reception was held at the southeast quarter of the quad, across from the Krueger dining hall.

In Memoriam

SPCH '37, Milton P. Holtzen, Deshler, Neb., died Sept. 20, 2010. From 1944-1976 he taught in Lutheran schools in Farrar; York and Waco, Neb.; Redding, Cal.; and Decatur, Ill.

SPCH '45, SPC '47, Walter H. Niermann, Napoleon, Ohio, died Feb. 2008.

SPCH '57, Richard L. Pagel, Port Townsend, Wash., died August 17, 2006. In 1957 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served as an aviation storekeeper. His tours of duty included Cuba during the missile crisis, and Vietnam, where he served for one year on the USS Coral Sea, before being transferred to Whidbey Island. He was serving at the Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island, when he retired in 1976. He received a master's degree in business administration in 1980, and a certified quality auditor degree in 2002.

SPCH '58, David Bodenstab, Lee's Summit, died. No further information is available at this time.

SPC '58, Paul E. Wolters, Kansas City, died Nov. 21, 2010. After four years in the U.S. Navy, Paul attended SPC, and after graduating from Concordia Teachers College, Seward, he began his teaching career at Zion Lutheran School in Ferguson in 1961. From 1965-1974 he served as principal and 7th and 8th grade teacher at Our Savior Lutheran School in Kansas City. Paul taught math and social studies at the middle school level and served as vice principal in the Kansas City Missouri School District until his retirement in 2005.

SPCH '59, SPC '60, Edmund Fritz, Greensboro, N.C. died July 17, 2010.

SPC '60, Carl Wolters, Independence, died Oct. 30, 2010. Carl graduated from Concordia Teachers College, Seward, in 1962. He taught in Lutheran schools for five years in Minnesota before moving to the Kansas City area where he was a teacher in the Hickman Mills School District for 28 years. He taught 4th through 6th grades at Westridge and C.A. Burke before retiring in 1995.

SPCH '64, SPC '66, Rolf H. Miller, Minot, N.D., died May 8, 2010. He taught high school history for three years before going to work for the U.S. Navy in the Chicago area. He had a long and storied career with the federal government working in the Forest Service in Park Falls, Wis., the Black Hills in Custer, S.D., the Agricultural Research Service in Peoria, Ill., and the Army Recruiting Command also in Peoria. He sold insurance for AAL (now Thrivent Financial for Lutherans) for eight years before returning to the federal government with the Navy in the Chicago area. He worked for the Indian Health Service (IHS) in Window Rock, Ariz., for 15 years with an 18-month jaunt to National Park Service in Bryce Canyon, Utah, in 2001. He returned to IHS in 2002 and retired in 2008. In retirement, he traveled and did substitute teaching in Gallup N.M.



SPCH '81, Arthur W. Dauer, Gainesville, Fla., died March 16, 2011. In 1985 he graduated from the University of Florida with a B.S. in Zoology. He worked for several local businesses including University Shell, T.I.S., College Bookstore, Xerographic Copy Center, and for the last eight years at Orange and Blue Textbooks as the Prepress Manager.

Bruce Hartung Receives 'Christus in Mundo' Honor



The Lutheran church's highest honor for service in ministries of chaplaincy, pastoral counseling, and clinical education was awarded to Bruce Hartung, SPC '61, Oct. 22, 2010, in Atlanta.

He received the "Christus in Mundo" (Christ in the World) Award after being nominated by his professional peers and

selected by the Inter-Lutheran Coordinating Committee (ILCC), a cooperative organization of the LCMS and the ELCA.

The award recognizes specialized pastoral ministries as a reflection of the care Jesus gave to people with lives in turmoil.

Hartung serves as dean of Ministerial Formation and associate professor of Practical Theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He is also a diplomate in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors and the association's past president.

He was nominated as "a major contributor and advocate seeking to strengthen and improve ministry service and education in pastoral care and counseling among Lutherans and ecumenically."

Rev. John Fale, who serves on the ILCC and is interim executive director of LCMS World Relief and Human Care, noted ... "the positive influence Bruce has had on countless students throughout the years as he modeled the value and joy of caring for the souls of those who are living through very painful and vulnerable moments in life. Bruce has faithfully served the Gospel through institutional chaplaincy, pastoral counseling and clinical pastoral supervision."

SPC, a Place to Heal, and Learn, and Grow

(July 16, 1999, Bruce Hartung, SPC 1961, delivered the banquet address at the All School Reunion on campus. Requests have been received for this address to be printed. Below is that address.)

It was after 10:00 PM. The Trailways (or was it Greyhound) bus doors flew open. "Concordia," the bus driver shouted. I grabbed my bags, descended down the stairs of the bus, and plopped my feet on the dirt parking lot of Shady Rest, "Shady's" as we would come to call it.



Shady Rest, across from the alley, and close to the present Conoco Station.

Photo furnished by Gary Beissenherz

Thankfully, the lights were still on at Shady's and so I went in. (Where else would I go being deposited in what seemed like the middle of nowhere after over 20 hours on the train from Washington, D.C., to Saint Louis, a 4-hour wait in the bus station, and an over 4-hour bus ride to Concordia?)

The year was 1959; I was 17 years old, and had never been west of the Poconos.



Bruce is front row, right.

"Hi," I tentatively said to someone in back of the counter. "Can I help you?" the reply came back. "I'm a new student at St. Paul's College. Can you tell me how to get there?"

"Just go right out the front door where you came in, and go up the alley. The brick building on the left is the college dorm."

The person behind the counter couldn't have known why all the color left my face and the blood drained to heaven knows where. One doesn't tell a kid from Washington, D.C., ever to walk down an alley at 10:30 at night, unaccompanied, in the dark.

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SPC, a Place to Heal, and Learn, and Grow

(Continued from page 7)

But the woman behind the counter somehow knew something wasn't right. In a lowered voice she said, "The president of the college is having coffee and a piece of pie (pies in the two years that I was at SPC that I would later make sure I got almost as soon as they left the oven) at the end of the counter. Maybe if you talked to him..."

Which was the most terror — walking up the alley or introducing myself to such an important personage? It was really no contest. I took a deep breath and walked over to the distinguished president, Lambert Mehl.



In words that I will remember ever, President Mehl said, "Give me a couple of minutes to finish my coffee, and I will drive you around Concordia and take you to the college dorm" (which I later found out was named Brust Hall).

He said he was proud to give me my first glimpse of Concordia, even though it was too dark to see much. He figured Concordia would seem small after growing up around Washington. I barely had time to slow down my rapid breathing and to have my pulse return to something like normal when he pulled up to the dorm and announced, "Here we are."

Out I got, and my two-year time at St. Paul's College had more or less officially begun.



Never mind that my trunk full of clothes and my newly purchased stereo arrived two weeks later, having been sent to Concordia, Kansas, by mistake. Never mind that I woke up one morning to see five women dressed in white walking around a large kettle, which itself was hanging over a fire.

Was this really Concordia's version of the witches of Endor? (Later I learned that they were making ketchup.) Never mind that I had avoided being a three-year student (I had three high school years of Latin, but none of German. So I took the equivalent of two high school years of German over the summer and, desperately, lubricated my German professor with a case of Lowenbrau following my final examination.) with a very shaky command of German. Never mind that I still had not gotten even to the geographical center of the United States. Never mind that I would start running cross-country track and got such an allergic reaction that I stayed up many nights wheezing. Never mind all that — my college career had begun at St. Paul's College, Concordia, Missouri, a career that I would not have dreamed possible six months earlier.

It was, as I said, the late summer of 1959.

In December of the previous year my mother died. My father, an alcoholic, could not maintain our house. Eventually, I was the equivalent of homeless for a couple of days, and finally moved in with my godparents. I managed to finish high school, work the summer during the days, took German at night, and finally, terrified, got on the train for Saint Louis.

But, as you might expect, much damage was already done. I arrived at St. Paul's physically intact, but emotionally and spiritually broken.

Life was good, mostly. St. Paul's College and St. Paul's High School were both vibrant and alive and, most of all, seemed populated with people who had a basic air of friendliness laced with a spirited headiness that would sometimes lead us down a more dangerous path.

I learned of daily room inspections, with once-a-week white gloves. Demerits were possible; I forget what the punishments were. In my secunda year, I was the Dorm Proctor and participated in these interesting inspection kinds of things. Some folks were quite rebellious.

The property committee gave demerits for walking on the grass. The chair of that committee is now a very prominent pastor in a district not too far from here.

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SPC, a Place to Heal, and Learn, and Grow

(Continued from page 8)



**Must be careful!
Does her gown count
towards the 18 inches?**

And who can forget the 18 inch ruler, which would, in the hand of a very assertive professor, all of a sudden come up behind you to measure whether or not there were 18 inches between you and the woman you

were walking with. There were other regulations, such as a door to a public room could not be closed if there were a girl and a boy inside; and preferably there were to be several minutes of time elapsed before a boy could sit in a chair once inhabited by a girl. As I take it, coeducation had only recently come to campus. Others and I participated in this culture, for at the time, it appeared, more or less, to be the right and godly thing to do.

I include these remembrances tonight because it is, I think, important to note that St. Paul's College and St. Paul's High School never was, nor will it ever be, Utopia, a sinless heaven on earth. Mistakes are made by administrators, by faculty, and by students. We are bound, sometimes in odd ways, by particular pieces of our culture or by miniscule ethical twists.

But even so, the SPC and SPCH that I entered in 1959, and stayed in until 1961, had a style and a grace, a sense of compassion and of integrity, that was much of its core and center.

In the course of the two years at SPC I will have learned to hitchhike (it was, after all, 1959 and Richard Nixon, appearing in Kansas City, Kansas, and John Kennedy, appearing in Kansas City, Missouri, and introduced by Harry Truman, were both popular draws; and even if you had a car the administration kept the battery, I think; and KC, Kansas had legal and available, although most certainly weaker, beer); I will have seen my first tornado (at a distance); I will have first learned that some people hunt and eat squirrels; I will live next door to two men who will go on, one to be president of Valparaiso University and another to be the long-time chair of the Religion Department at Indiana

University; I will see people struggle at the school, some leave the school, and some become more resolved and tested for professional ministry either as a teacher or as a pastor.



And I will learn to pray and think and conjugate Greek verbs and play ping pong – three games a night, running score of games won, for the prize at the end of the year (prize never actually given, however, even to this day).

I will learn to prize friendships, and look for help, and have good fun, and discern my vocation. I will learn the power of relationships and experience the touch of persons who cared for me.

The classrooms were populated at that time, as likely they still are to this day, with persons of great commitment and teaching skill but, most of all, with persons of considerable heart and soul for the Gospel and for the growth of God's people.



Consider the names – Fuhrmann, Domsch, Gienapp, Voigt, Korinko, Grothaus, Rosin, Baacke, Schwab, among others. And all this presided over by a president that I first met at Shady Rest on that hot night at the end of the first day of my ever being in Missouri.

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SPC, a Place to Heal, and Learn, and Grow

(Continued from page 9)

As you might have guessed by now, this was a beginning place of healing for me. This was likely not true for all, but for me, the long and slow process of putting the broken pieces back together again really began in earnest here, in this place, within walls such as these, surrounded by this community, accompanied by the sinners and saints who walked these grounds.

It is now 40 years this fall since I set foot down on the dirt parking lot of Shady's; God's healing continues, as it can and does for us all, but I know in my heart and my soul that St. Paul's College and High School saved my life, in the name of the Christ who saved my soul and my whole being.

So what was the key, and what meaning might it have for Saint Paul High School of today?



A sense of building community occurred in the college choir. Bruce, top row, fourth from right, found comfort and peace in singing of his Savior.

We had not a 1990's sense of psychology or sociology in 1959, '60, and '61. But there was an honest sense of building community amongst people who were themselves brought together by the person and work of our Savior Jesus Christ. There was also a clear, albeit imperfect, understanding that the central core of our lives was the person and work of Jesus the Christ, around whom all things ultimately and finally revolved.

Thus, the core was the saving work of Christ into which we had been baptized; the context was the community of believers who came together at this time and this place to live, work, pray, learn, and grow; the leadership were flawed, forgiven, saintly people who were competent in their fields, and determined that their students might grow; the power was Sacrament and Word which fed us and filled us with the love of God; the vision was a healing community of

people who would grow in the knowledge of God and of God's wonderful creation.

Current research from a number of points of view directs us to these themes, which so naturally unfolded in this place for my life. People who are regular church-goers tend, overall, to be more fulfilled in life and live healthier and more satisfied lives; people who have warm and caring relationships tend to have stronger immune systems than people who are involved in chronic and destructive relationships; people who see themselves learning and growing in life tend to have much less burnout and depression than people who see life as only a chore.



This is a place where you can speak and listen, build relationships, heal and grow, and continue the process on becoming the person the Lord would have you be.

This is, I think, (or at least it can be) a central theme for Saint Paul's High School. It can be a healthy and healing place where relationships in the midst of community are prized in the name of the Christ who brought us together in this place. It can be a learning and growing place where the knowledge of God and of God's creation is increased in the



hearts and minds of students, in the name of the Christ who brought us together in this place. It can be an imperfect place of sin and grace, where everyone knows they are fallen creatures (sinners) and where everyone knows they are glorious children of God (saints), in the name of the Christ who brought us together in this place. It

can be a place where in the year 2039, an incoming student this fall can say, "Here I began to heal, learn, grow," in the name of the Christ who brought us together in this place.

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Anthem Authored by Alumnus Performed by the Singing Saints

Arriving at the Singing Saints concert early enables one to review the music as well as composers. Most of the composers are not personally known to you until you see the name David Rogner. Sure enough, this is the SPCH '78 David Rogner.



David has been a member of the Concordia University Chicago faculty since 1986. Writing hymns and anthems is a joy for David. He has written several hymns for the SPLHS school year, and is the author of "Give Ear, O Lord, and Visit Me" sung by the 2011 Singing Saints.

This is one of the first sacred texts David wrote. It is a paraphrase of Psalm 86, and "I wrote it because I've always liked the psalm." He wrote it in 1994, and "it is the only collaboration I ever did with my brother, James Rogner, who wrote the music to accompany my text. My brother passed away in 1995, so we never had the opportunity to work together again."

Give Ear, O Lord, and Visit Me

Give ear, O Lord, and visit me
Amidst my spiritual poverty;
Preserve my life and hear the plea
Of one who trust in you.
Be gracious unto me; renew
The joy of faithful servants who
Lift up a troubled soul to you
And ever "mercy" cry.

On Your goodness I rely;
Show me your love that I
May know the reply
With which you still my mind.
Help me the upright path to find
Teach me Your ways and gently bind
My fractured heart which was designed
To rightly fear your name.
My fragile life You did reclaim
From death, from depths of fear and shame,
And with great pow'r to me you came
To quicken and restore.
So will I praise you evermore
For marv'lous deeds of love, and for
The gentleness with which you pour
On me your boundless grace.

Now towards Your servant turn your face,
And with a father's warm embrace
Remind me of my certain place
In Your protecting arms.

The anthem is included on the 2011 Singing Saints CD that can be ordered from SPLHS for \$12.

David also wrote a set of eight new paraphrases of psalms that were used in a CPH publication called "Salvation's Joy." "They are choral settings of psalms by Heinrich Schutz, and the music is arranged by my colleague Jonathan Kohrs. I also collaborated with Carl Schalk for the first time in 2009. I wrote a Christmas text called "Welcome, Precious Infant Lord" that was set to music by Carl Schalk. It premiered at Concordia University Service of Lessons and Carols in December 2009."

Former Faculty Member Celebrates 103rd Birthday



Ruth Gienapp, a resident at the Lutheran Good Shepherd Home in Concordia, celebrated her 103rd birthday on April 14. She was born in 1908.

Ruth moved to Concordia in 1944 when her late husband, Norman Gienapp, accepted the call to teach

Latin and Greek at SPC. As a pastor, her husband also preached at area churches.

Ruth was a teacher. She graduated from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., and taught math and science for seven years at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, Minn. (There she met Norman.)

From 1962-64 she taught math and German classes at SPC. In 1964 she began teaching at Concordia High School where she taught math and science until 1972.

“Favorite Instructor” Replies



At the end of 2010, Dr. Earl Fuhrmann had received enough votes to be named a “Favorite Instructor.” Saint Paul alumni, when making a contribution to the Alumni Association, have the opportunity to vote for their favorite instructor.

Dr. Fuhrman sent this reply:

Dear Mr. Loeber,

I received your letter dated January 7 informing me of my selection by the alumni for “a favorite instructor.” I am deeply honored with the award. Over the years of serving the church, specifically SPCH and SPC, I enjoyed educating the many

students I had the pleasure of meeting. I always strived to “do my best” in and out of the classroom to serve students, faculty, and staff. I have fond memories of many students and hope I have played a part in shaping their lives as Christians and members of society.

My thanks to you in this effort on behalf of the alumni and may God bless us all as we serve Him here on earth until we reach our heavenly reward.

Yours in Christ,

Dr. Earl Fuhrmann

Two Alumni Scholarships Awarded

Chelsea Nebel and Rebekah Grass were the recipients of the alumni scholarships presented at the awards banquet May 19. Chelsea is the daughter of Mark (SPCH 1982, SPC 1983) and Cindy Mueller (SPCH 1983) Nebel of Red Bud, Ill. Rebekah is the daughter of Larry (SPC 1972) and Grace Grass of Emma.

The scholarships, applied to fees and tuition for the senior year, were \$600 for Chelsea for top-ranking academic excellence, and \$400 for Rebekah for second-ranking academic excellence. These scholarships are made possible through the financial support of the alumni.

The scholarships are awarded to the two top academic juniors whose parents are alums of SPCH and/or SPC. Chelsea and Rebekah have expressed their thanks to the alumni for making these scholarships available.



Chelsea’s activities in her junior year included social life representative on student government, organizing coronation for homecoming, National Honor Society, stage manager for the fall drama, basketball, track, Singing Saints choir, and student assistant in the girls dorm.

Chelsea plans to continue these activities, except homecoming, in her senior year.

“I want to go to college, but my plans are uncertain at present. My vocation hopes are also uncertain. All I know is I want to enjoy and excel in the career I choose.”

Rebekah’s junior year activities included co-chair president for spiritual life, National Honor Society, Teens for Life, and the royal court committee chairman for prom.

In her senior year, Rebekah’s activities will include National Honor Society, Teens for Life, and drama.



Her plans are to attend Concordia University Nebraska, majoring in elementary education or business. “I would like to be a medical secretary since hospitals have been a big part of my life since my surgery. However, becoming a Lutheran school teacher is also a dream of mine.”

SPCH Class of '61 Honored Along With 2011 Graduates

(Continued from page 1)

Biltz Hall welcomed back its former students whose memories abounded about life within the walls. Though the interior of Biltz Hall has changed, it still holds memories.

On the Saturday tour of the campus, every building brought back memories. Changes were immediately noted. Formerly Kaepfel Hall was the gym, classroom B111 in Baeppler Hall was the chapel, and the computer room was the typing room.



As the campus tour came to the bell tower, a voice remarked, "That's our bell tower." Those attending this reunion had completed their education on campus with two years at SPC. The bell tower

was a gift from the SPC Class of 1963. Posing at the bell tower were, left to right, Willard Meyer, Richard Boernke, Gerald Fuhrmann, and Cletus Pfeiffer; front, Arthur Simmons and John Schauer.

At the Friday evening banquet in Biltz Hall stories and memories abounded. Life, profs, pranks, friendships, and meals were spoken of as if they happened yesterday. Their six-year experience at SPCH and SPC had not been forgotten. (Each of the seven present had continued his education the next two years at SPC.)

Through all the conversations, one could hear the appreciation for the education received, the growing (physical, mental, spiritual and emotional), the challenges, and the molding that took place and is reflected in the lives of these men today.

What brought these men together fifty years ago enabled them to return for a graduation reunion in 2011. As they departed, one of them said, "Let's return again, real soon."

A similar experience awaits the SPCH Class of 1962 the weekend of May 18-19, 2012.

SPC '74 Class Returns to Campus



Attending were front: Dawn Helsley Kahler, Lois Hill Leckband, Betty Mueller Hoyer, Paul Hoyer, Second row:

Cindy Ristow Besse, Lois Halter, Tami Piel Greminger, Nancy Hermann Endicott, Gail Kollmeyer Noland, Gayle Balke, Back row: Ron Meyr, Tom Kurth, Nathan Brandt, Charlotte Bruns Brandt, Danny Magelitz, Kathy Rodewald Oetting, Terry Ehlers, Carol Krueger Adams, Tim Schnare, and Diane Cook Schnare.

It was a weekend to remember as memories of the past flowed. Everyone was interested in how life moved forward. To be in Biltz Hall brought back memories for some, and the tour of the campus was filled with memories.

Once a cheerleader, always a cheerleader. When the tour stopped at the Archives Room in Fine Arts, Lois Hill Leckband, Cindy Ristow Besse, and Paul Hoyer couldn't resist when they saw the pom-poms and the Big Blue megaphone.



"In college we weren't required to attend chapel, but we did." "I wonder if my name is still backstage." "I want to see my room." "Our rooms weren't really that small." "We didn't have vending machines." "This was our snack bar." "Look! The name is still on the wall." "Here is where I sat in Jerry Schwab's choir." "The pool came after we left."

And so the memories abounded.

Alum Assists Community Building in Africa

In 1992, when Nathan Oetting graduated from SPLHS, the thought of traveling to Africa never entered his mind. But since Sept. 2010 he and his family have called Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, home. The plan for Nathan, his wife, Kelly, and their sons, four-year-old Otto and two-year-old Arlo, is to stay in Addis through August 2012.

Mercy Corps, a humanitarian aid, non-governmental, not-for-profit organization, and Nathan's employer, is the reason for their current African home. Nathan has worked for a number of years in the Portland, Oregon, office of Mercy Corps as a Senior Program Officer for West and South Africa. The opportunity to live in the continent he serves came up in 2010, and with Kelly's blessing, he jumped at it.

Kelly's willingness to live in a third world country is really not too surprising. She and Nathan met in 1997, while they were both serving in the Peace Corps in The Gambia, West Africa. They have long had the hope of one day returning to Africa, sharing the experience with their sons, and helping to carry out Mercy Corps' mission statement "...to alleviate suffering, poverty and oppression by helping people build secure, productive and just communities." To learn more about Mercy Corps, visit their web site www.mercycorps.org.

Africa is a huge continent, and Ethiopia itself is two and a half times larger than Texas, so just getting around to the outlying aid stations is a big challenge. Paved roads are nearly non-existent. Much of Nathan's travel is by bush plane followed by 10-15 hour jeep rides. One of his current projects is to arrange convoys of trucks to carry water south, toward the Somali border. The rainy season has not

been strong for two years, and the drought has become critical for both people and their livestock. The wells that do exist are well guarded, and often not available to the general population.

Nathan's parents, Denny and Paulette Oetting of Concordia, visited Addis Ababa in February 2011. While there, they, Nathan, and his family flew to the Northern Ethiopian cities of Gondor, home of the ancient palace of Emperor Fasilada (1636), and Lalibela. They toured the stone churches built by King Lalibela (1185-1225) who was a Christian, as is 65 per cent of Ethiopia. The king was compelled in a dream to glorify God by carving the churches from solid rock. The feat took 23 years to accomplish. The most famous of these 20-plus underground stone churches is named Biet Giyorgis, or St. George. Shaped like a cross, the church still holds worship services today.



Nathan and his family paused for this picture with St. George church in the background. Left: Dennis, Otto held by Kelly, Arlo held by Nathan, and Paulette.



By correctly identifying the court warming candidates, Tricia Wisbrock received a Saints hooded sweatshirt that she proudly wears around the St. Louis area. "Thanks again and I appreciate it," said Tricia.

Newsletter Staff

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Technical advisor and website administrator — Orlyn Heimsoth (SPCH '65, SPC '67)
Faculty advisor — Dr. Kenneth Wesemann (SPC '80)

From Classroom Chair to Podium

Wrong size or wrong color prompt us to the store for an exchange. Something like that happened at Saint Paul Lutheran High.

Rebecca Schelp Nelson, SPHLS '01, exchanged her classroom chair in B111 for the classroom podium. Rebecca has returned to SPLHS as a social studies instructor.

Upon graduation from SPLHS, Rebecca attended Northwest Missouri State in Maryville where she graduated with a Secondary Social Science degree in 2005.

After graduating from Northwest Missouri State, Rebecca was hired to teach high school social science at Sainte Genevieve High School in Sainte Genevieve, Mo. She taught there for three years and then returned to Northwest Missouri State as a full time graduate assistant and student. In May 2010 she graduated with a Masters in Arts degree in history.

In September 2010 Rebecca began teaching world history, American history, and the Norwegian world history class at SPLHS. The 2011-2012 school year will see economics and government added to her classroom schedule.

In addition, Rebecca assisted with drama and was the prom coordinator for the junior class. In the 2011-2012 school year she will continue her work with drama. She and Mrs. Kim Brandt, drama coach, are working on a musical for the fall production. Rebecca will also take on the role of National Honor Society sponsor.



Rebecca feels very much at home in the Baepler Hall classrooms as she received her high school education in these classrooms from the men and women she now calls colleagues.

Rebecca has this to say about teaching at her alma mater, "Teaching at Saint Paul is like coming home again. The students, faculty, and staff are amazing and wonderful individuals. I am truly blessed to have the opportunity to be here."

Rebecca and Steve Nelson were united in marriage on July 31, 2010, and live in the campus house immediately behind Moeller Hall.

Backboards Available



The two original backboards used in Weis gym during the 70's and 80's. Anyone interested? Contact Monte Pitsch at 660-463-2238, ext. 611, or mpitsch@splhs.org.

Saints Golf Classic Coming in August

The eighth annual Saints Golf Classic will be Saturday, August 27 at Tri-City Country Club in Emma. All proceeds from the event will benefit the Saints athletic department.

Entry forms are available on-line at SPLHS.org, at Saint Paul Lutheran High School office, and at Game Day trophy in Concordia. Register early; the tournament is limited to 23 teams.

For more information contact athletic director Monte Pitsch at mpitsch@splhs.org, or call 660-463-2238, ext 611.

The Apostle Paul Award Goes to Alan Harre

A distinguished alumnus who has served his church and society, made an impact and had an influence upon lives of individuals is Alan Harre. He is the recipient of the The Apostle Paul Award for 2011.

The award was originally scheduled to be given at the Day of Reflection in January, but due to weather and the cancellation of the event, the award was presented at the beginning of the live auction on June 26.



Dr. Kenneth Wesemann, left, SPLHS Director of Development, presented The Apostle Paul Award to Alan Harre at the beginning of the live auction.

Alan, SPCH '58, SPC '60, after graduation, went to the Senior College in Ft. Wayne and then the St. Louis Seminary where he graduated in 1967.

His year of vicarage was at St. James Lutheran Church, Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich. Upon graduation from the

seminary, Alan returned to the congregation as an assistant pastor, serving from 1967 to 1973.

Alan served as auctioneer for the first item, a Sun Valley Maple Tree for the campus. His auctioneering skills brought the bid to \$1,250.



In 1973 Alan accepted the call to teach theology at Concordia Teachers College in Seward, and remained at this position until 1984 when he accepted the call to be president of Concordia College in St. Paul, Minn.

After four years Alan accepted the position of president of Valparaiso University. For the next 20 years he guided the affairs of the university.

Throughout his years of ministry, Alan touched lives in a parish setting, classroom situations, and at the college and university levels. He has shown himself to be a pastor, a teacher, a leader, an administrator, and a friend to many.

Within the first weeks of his prima year at SPC, he met a college freshman, Diane Mack, and they started dating. In 1964 Alan and Diane were married. They have been blessed with two sons, one daughter, and nine grandchildren.

Alan and Diane are retired in Staplehurst, Neb. They live on five and a half acres in the middle of corn and bean fields.

SAINT PAUL ... For Those Seeking More Than The Ordinary

Alumni Office E-mail: splhsalumni@yahoo.com

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Three More Classes Return

On the weekend of June 24-26 three classes held reunions on campus and in Concordia. The SPCH Class of 1951, the SPC Class of 1961, and the SPCH Class of 1971 met in separate reunions, but still had opportunity to mix and mingle.

The **SPCH Class of 1951** had only four in attendance, but they enjoyed the time visiting with each other, and also joining in with the SPC Class of 1961.



Enjoying time together were, from left, **Toby Dellamano, Robert Kiefer, Erich Mueller, and Harold Kaden.**

The **SPC Class of 1961** held their reunion in Biltz Hall. Twenty-five came together to renew friendships and learn of events from the past. After Friday dinner, the stories abounded, the laughter grew louder, the enjoyment and excitement of being together again was evident. Spouses learned facts they had never heard before.

A tour of the campus (SPCH Class of 1951 came along) brought back memories as attendees returned to Kaepfel Hall, Brust and Moeller dorms and Baeppler Hall. As they entered their dorm rooms, memories of living in their home away from home were rekindled as well as were classroom memories in Baeppler Hall.

Saturday morning concluded with a tour of Concordia, which had changed significantly since 1961.

“Is Topsy’s still in business?” was asked before the reunion. They saw Topsy’s is still in business, as a breakfast buffet there was enjoyed in the private dining room. In like manner they saw Cree-mee Freeze is still in business.

The class invited their former instructors, and Dr. Wilbert Rosin and Dr. Larry Grothaus accepted the invitation.



Members in attendance, row one, left: **Ellen Scheidt Eich, Wilma Kleinschmidt, Carole Unterreiner Wade, Evelyn Brassie, Diane Mack Harre, Sylvia Schuette Lange, Helen Detjen Nowak, Janet Hanebutt Altevogt, Eileen Knobloch Frerking,**

Wanda Geisler Fischer; row two: Ken Wade, George Gude, Dr. Wilbert Rosin, Judith Ehlers Schuermann, Robert Bohlmann, Judith King Rusch, Lillie Stelling; row three: Eugene Stohs, Ralph Guetersloh, James Rhiver, Luther Herman, Veda Liemer Beckman, Dick Fischer, Helen Lovercamp Fliege; row four: Keith Loesch, Dr. Larry Grothaus, John Frerking, Allen Hellwege, Bruce Hartung.

The **SPCH Class of 1971** held its 40-year reunion on Saturday, June 25, with 14 of the 23 graduates attending. Several enjoyed staying in the Biltz “Hotel” which looked and felt much different on the inside from when they started as freshmen in 1967.

The class had a luncheon in a Biltz conference room, and roasted three teachers: their class sponsor Jesse Kunkel, and Bill Gasau and Larry Laubenstein, whom they initiated into their teaching ministries more than 40 years ago.

It was noted the class had the first freshmen on a football team, was the first class to graduate girls in the high school, and the first class to have an underground newspaper.

Six of the graduates are or have been Lutheran pastors, and five are or have been Lutheran teachers. Many of the class toured the campus, noting the many improvements and the missing sword of St. Paul.

The evening dinner was held at Biffle’s Smokehouse Barbeque in a great spirit of camaraderie. The program included a challenge from God’s Word, and the many school and class songs. Memories were shared long into the night.



Front: **Steve Ewert; row one, left: Jesse Kunkel, Allen Wollenburg, Gayle Ommen Domsch, Kirk Mueller, David Ingwersen, Mike Morton; row two: William Gasau, Larry Laubenstein, Jerry Flakne, Mike Flandermeyer, Mike Tucker, Ron Atkinson, Tom Kesselring; row three: Paul Leckband, John Wohlrabe, and Mark Riese.**

Alumni Reunions Being Planned

The alumni office is aware of the following classes planning a reunion. If you know of a class planning a reunion that is not mentioned below, please email the alumni office at splhsalumni@yahoo.com.

SPCH Class of 1962 — The 50th anniversary reunion will be celebrated in connection with graduation exercises, May 18, 2012.

SPC Class of 1963 — The golden anniversary reunion will be the last weekend of June 2013 on campus.

SPC Class of 1965 — Inquiry has been made about a 50th class reunion in 2015. To express your ideas and thoughts, contact Cecil Roth at 314 N. College Ave., Geneseo IL 61254; 309-944-3791; ceejames@yahoo.com. A booklet of classmates' activities over the past 50 years is planned.

SPCH Class of 1968 — Dennis Meyer is leading plans for a reunion June 22-24, 2012, in Colorado Springs. He can be reached at dmeyer6867@aol.com.

SPCH Class of 1972 — Edwin Doepel is heading plans for a 40th anniversary class reunion September 2011 in Concordia. He can be reached at 630-484-7777, pastored@crossroadsconnect.net, or 34 Winding Creek Road, Yorkville IL 60560.

SPLHS Class of 1991 — September 9-11, 2011, are the dates for the class reunion in Concordia. Amy Kuecker McDonald is in charge and can be contacted at 816-215-7817; amcdonald3@kc.rr.com.

SPLHS Class of 1996 — Christina Strobel has initiated plans for a class reunion in 2011. She can be contacted at 411 West Illinois Ave., Effingham IL 62401.

For updates to these reunions, and the listing of additional reunions, go to www.splhs.org, click on ALUMNI, click the tab ALUMNI UPDATES, scroll to REUNIONS BEING PLANNED.

Class Reunions this Summer

SPCH Class of 1951 — Held June 24-26 on campus.

SPCH Class of 1956 — The reunion was canceled.

SPC Class of 1961 — Held June 24-26 on campus.

SPCH Class of 1961 — Held in conjunction with SPLHS graduation, May 20. (See story on page 1.)

SPCH Class of 1966 — Held July 22-24 in St. Louis.

SPCH Class of 1971 — Held June 24-26 in Concordia.

SPC Class of 1974 — Held on June 17-19 on campus.

Opening of the 2011-2012 Academic School Year

Sunday, August 14 – 2:00 p.m.
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Homecoming/ Parents Weekend

October 20-23

Thursday
Soccer vs Pleasant Hill
Volleyball vs Concordia /Bonfire and rally

Friday
Football vs Knob Noster /World party in annex

Saturday
Homecoming banquet/Talent show

Sunday
Worship at St. Paul's Lutheran Church
8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
Rev. John Mehl (SPCH '77, SPC '79) preaching