In Alaska, we don’t really talk about miles.

Planes, boats and snowmobiles

“A good pastor just needs a four-wheel drive and skiff,” says the Rev. Stanley Wickstrom ’81, bishop of the Alaska Synod of the ELCA.

In fact, reaching all 32 of her congregations requires a bit more than that. When we caught up with Wickstrom by plane, she had just returned to her office in Anchorage—located near the airport—from five days in Shishmaref, a village that overlooks the Bering Strait far to the north and west.

“How far? “In Alaska, we don’t really talk about miles,” she said. “To get to Shishmaref from Anchorage, you take a jet to Nome, then a smaller plane, a nine-seater, to Shishmaref. Then you take a snowmachine to wherever you need to go in the village.”

So how far is that? “That’s two flights away.”

Born in Montana, and raised and educated in recent years and a proving ground for what a congregation and pastor’s true passions are, so that they can lead from that passion.” Wickstrom followed her sister and brother to Alaska after graduating from CLU and called it home for the next 16 years. While attending Wartburg Theological Seminary in Iowa, she returned in summer sessions to process salmon roe and had an internship in Seward, Alaska. Then, her first two calls as a pastor took her to Dillingham and North Pole from 1987 to 1997.

She tells us that the state’s tundra, forests, mountains, icy lakes and rivers occupy “an area that would stretch from Montana to Texas. More precisely, it is 663,300 square miles of mostly wilderness with a population just over 730,000. Being a leader in such an environment, like just getting to work some days, requires a sense of adventure and a willingness to cooperate. Alaska has been the site of a powerful ecumenical conversation in recent years and a proving ground for a multi-denominational effort by Presbyterians, Lutherans, Methodists and Episcopal churches (PLUME) that share pastors and jointly support mission work in remote areas of the state.

In many ways, Wickstrom’s time at Cal Lutheran as a double major in philosophy and religion presaged her work in Alaska.

“When I was at CLU, it was still a young school. We were still figuring out what traditions we wanted to have, creating a baseline for our legacy…,” she said. “It was marvelously refreshing. It gave me a sense that God is always at work, and that tradition is a resource, but not a recipe.”

On retreats and meetings outside of the classroom, Wickstrom remembers professors who had respect for “the wholeness of life.” She says, “I just really appreciated and admired their partnership, that willingness to share their own journey of faith.”

Now she tries to help others along the way, recognizing that faith journeys go to remote places. She observes that Mark Hanson, presiding bishop of the ELCA, “has talked about meeting many people who identify themselves as ‘of no faith’ or ‘anti-church,’ and realizing that he doesn’t know what concerns them. So, we can’t have those conversations unless we’re bold enough to approach people and just talk to them, to know what concerns them.”

“It’s not a bait-and-switch, trying to convince people to come to church,” she said. “It’s about meeting human needs.”
Thankful for humility, openness of campus pastors

I must say that I completely disagree with the criticisms directed toward the campus pastors. Pastor Melissa Maxwell-Dodherty in your last issue (Letters, “We don’t want a generic, secular CLU”). Her presence at the campus, particularly in her role as chaplain, is extremely important. To dismiss such a position as “synagogue” or “church” is to dismiss the role of campus pastors in providing a space for dialogue and inclusion. I welcome their presence and the opportunities they provide for building community.

Prayer rugs and Qurans are signs of welcome

I have matured both academically and spiritually since starting at CLU. This campus has provided me with an open and accepting environment that encourages me to flourish and pursue my own path. I am very proud of my experiences so far, particularly in studying both biochemistry and art, while also an active member of Interfaith Allies at CLU. I envision an inclusive campus, where student and campus faculty engage in interfaith cooperation as a mode to acceptance and understanding. It is important to cultivate your personal identity while also being open to and accepting of others. As a Muslim, I believe accepting everyone for who they are strengthens my faith.

There is a story about Prophet Muhammad’s (pbuh) interaction with the Naxj Nation Christians who were asked if they could lead prayer at the Musha dokład mosque. Despite this, when it came time for the Christians to pray, the Prophet invited them to pray in the mosque. Musha dokład. The Christians were accepting of the Muslims, despite their theological differences, and left Medina as allies.

I cherish and celebrate our differences, whether they are faith-based or not. We all have something to contribute to this community and our diversity is what will make us flourish. I was thrilled when I heard Pastor Melissa Maxwell-Dodherty added prayer rugs and Qurans to the Meditation Room. Prayer is such an important part of my faith. Not only does it give me comfort during difficult times, but it also allows me to show my devotion to God, but it also relaxes me when I'm stressed, left my spirits when I'm feeling down, and brings me closer to God. I feel like I could call CLU my home. I am so grateful to Pastor Melissa for providing this space, along with other Muslims on campus – or anyone belonging to any faith – a safe space to pray.

The Rev. Brian Swin- Webber 77
Oakland, Calif.

A university for my children!

I was very interested to read the article on Pastor Melissa Maxwell-Dodherty, a great help to prayer and meditation, even with car running on by Lynn Rowland: What a great way to share the good News of God’s love and forgiveness.

I strongly support the idea that CLU is a great university that I would like to send my children to. Marka (richter) ‘92 Davis, California

We keep working to make everyone welcome at CLU

I am compelled to respond to the letter from the Rev. Lee B. Rozen ‘66 in the April 2013 issue (“We don’t want a generic, secular CLU”). The Rev. Rozen is certainly entitled to his opinions and perspective that the University should be open and deeply support the on-campus experience of non-Christian to the extent that we are. I am very interested to read his response to the work of Pastor Melissa Maxwell-Dodherty, that she is many of us at CLU who work to make the University a place that honours, respects and provides engaging spaces for those who believe other things than we do.

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Mission of CLU California Lutheran University is a school poised to become a leading educational institution of the Lutheran tradition. CLU is a school poised to become a leading educational institution of the Lutheran tradition. CLU is committed to engaging a global society with respect and inclusivity toward other world religions (“All the Ways of Stopping”). In the letter written in response, another Lutheran pastor expressed his concerns about the mosque, Masjid al-Nabaw. The Christians were accepted by the Muslims, despite their theological differences, and left Medina as allies.

A great way to share the good news of God’s love and forgiveness.

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Penalty kicks decide soccer games and championships at every level, though that doesn’t always seem fair. What can shooters and keepers do to improve their chances at the critical moment? Five exercise science students investigated, using force plates installed in the floor of CLU’s Human Performance Lab, six cameras, reflective markers at varsity players’ joints and a radar gun.

**Conclusions for kicker**
- Pay no attention to the keeper. Pick a corner and go for it.
- If you just have to read the keeper, make sure to involve the hip and the trunk in the shot, even if you change direction. Don’t worry about leg extension – that’s second nature for experienced players.
- Time your movement right before the last foot landing of the kick leg, and don’t make clear which way you’re going. Show you’ll move, but don’t commit to a side.

**Conclusions for goalie**
- In the experiment, penalty shooters had their worst results when they were watching a goalie who never picked a side.
- Trunk and hip – paying attention to the goalie often led to a heavier trunk lean, extra hip rotation, and a weaker shot.
- Leg – surprisingly, players maintained good leg extension even when the goalie got in their heads.
- In the experiment, penalty shooters had their worst results when they were watching a goalie who never picked a side.
- The velocity of kicks decreased significantly when players paid attention to the goalie. (Why? Too much upper body movement.)

**Project:** "Kinematic and Kinetic Analysis of Goalie-independent and Goalie-dependent Penalty Kick Strategies"

**Students:** Michael Soucy, Bryce Truver, Jason Kacena, Kristin Prosser and Morgan McCordell

**Faculty mentor:** Michele LeBlanc
“Look at this guy here. He’s so full of honey – right here, on the edge. He’s just like glowing,” says the biochemistry major to the English professor. With a smoker smoldering away, the bees are loading up on food, in case of fire. They show little interest in two amateur beekeepers, a note-taker and a photographer. Last time freshman Christina Geldert and assistant professor Bryan Rasmussen checked the hive, one of the frames for honeycomb had no comb in it at all. Now the bees have filled it in, a good sign. There is also a lot of brood. However, the beekeepers can’t find much honey in the frames, which they inspect and brush like rare manuscripts pulled from a filing cabinet.

They perform a hygiene test. Mess with the hive’s hexagonal tiles today, and in a couple of weeks the delicate masonry should be fixed, or something is wrong.

Aided by a local beekeeping expert, Geldert, Rasmussen and junior Ryan Glatt, an exercise science major, served as the university’s beekeepers this spring. They’ve been supported by a $2,000 grant to Rasmussen and the SEEd (Sustainable Edible Education) Project Garden from CLU’s Community Leaders in the newest phase of sustainable gardening on campus, students and faculty members are building a Small Creatures Sanctuary, beginning with a home for honeybees.

Association. In addition to the pollinating, honey-producing bees, workers at SEEd intend to bring in worms to compost and ladybugs to control pests in the garden.

Since the garden was established three years ago, the goal has been to build, in miniature, a self-sustaining system for food production and disposal, one that doesn’t rely on compost or seed from others. It’s a model that students can expand on and perhaps carry forward. “I never expected myself to proudly be wearing a bee suit by the end of my first year,” said Geldert, who wants to become a veterinarian specializing in food production animals such as cows and chickens. “I really feel like I am part of a very important message, and I have the rest of my undergraduate career to learn and spread the message.”

As Rasmussen explained at a bee-themed dedication ceremony for the hive in April, “Bees already pollinate our flowers. Worms already cultivate our earth. But it’s hard to remember those connections because those actions are hard to see.”

For an educator, he said, “the question is how to make the processes visible and available.”

Small-scale beekeeping is also important today as a hedge against the alarming dive in bee populations over the last decade. In response to Colony Collapse Disorder – a new, global phenomenon in which workers abandon hives, leading to a crisis for crops such as California almonds – European countries have placed a two-year ban on certain pesticides. U.S. beekeepers and environmental groups are suing the Environmental Protection Agency for similar action.

On north campus, meanwhile, near the clank of bats from the baseball diamond, students will keep learning the basics of the beekeeping trade. Their knowledge comes from books, YouTube videos, regional workshops for like-minded amateurs, and one another.

The pursuit has many rewards, says Geldert, not least of which is “just how great it feels to know exactly where your food comes from.”
Graduation is a turning point in every student’s life, but for some, it’s just one more new beginning, another detour along life’s path.

Vincente Sagisi had been a regional scout for the Cleveland Indians for nine years when he was recruited into CLU’s educational leadership program in Santa Maria. With a new Master of Arts in Education in hand, Sagisi has accepted a position being created for him at a high school in the San Fernando Valley. He also will continue as general manager of the California Warriors, a program he created in 2006 to help Central Coast high school baseball players get noticed by college coaches and professional scouts. Now his ultimate career goal is to become a school athletic director.

After earning her bachelor’s degree in accounting from CLU in 2008, Jessica Blackshear spent three years doing taxes for a large CPA firm and found it wasn’t what she wanted. So she came back for CLU’s Counseling and Guidance-College Student Personnel Program and was hired as graduate resident director. Mental health issues in residence life became the subject of her master’s thesis. A member of the Chickasaw, Blackshear received scholarships from her tribe and was accepted into the Hoitoplichi (Chickasha honors society). She wore a graduation stole representing the society when she was awarded her Master of Science in Education. Blackshear has been hired as a resident director at the University of Washington.

Leah Griffith saved her care 21 courses for first semester senior year, when she planned to study in Peru. Those plans were set aside because her mother was losing a long battle with cancer. Her mother died in August, and Griffith stayed home fall semester taking the core courses online. She graduated on time with a degree in psychology and now plans to become an occupational therapist working with cancer patients. In honor of her mother, Griffith will volunteer for three months this fall in Cusco, Peru, who had wanted Griffith to study abroad despite her illness.

For the weeklong Festival of Scholars, students like Michael Evans ’13 (above, at microscope) and Derek Field emerged from labs and libraries with something to share. Geology professor Linda Ritterbush supervised as this pair assembled evidence that could explain how one arthropod species survived a mass extinction. Baisem Khe-
Joan and Richard Young invest in CLU’s future

Joanie and Richard Young became involved with CLU when, as chair of the Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce, she helped President Mark Mathews organize the first Mathews Leadership Forum. Later, their two granddaughters and one grandson-in-law were students here. Twelve years ago Joanie was recruited to the CLU Board of Regents, and in 2006, the University awarded her an honorary doctor of laws degree.

“As Chair of the Advancement Committee for the past 11 years, I know firsthand the positive impact that bequest gifts have made on California Lutheran University’s success in building programs, scholarships, and the overall University growth. CLU has been an integral part of our community and our family, and it is fitting that CLU be an integral part of our estate plan. We hope our gift will make a difference to future CLU students, as those who have gone before us have made a difference.”

Erwin came out as gay as an adult, eventually committing himself to a life partner whom he met at Yale Divinity School. That’s why formal ordination as a Lutheran pastor was not an option for most of his career, although he took on a series of ministerial roles in addition to teaching.

Now, only four years after the ELCA changed its policy on ordination for gays in committed relationships, Erwin’s new thing is his election on May 31 to lead the Southwest California Synod for six years as bishop. It’s a position of symbolic importance and considerable authority in one of the nation’s most diverse regions. The event made news as a first for gays as well as Native Americans in the ELCA, because Erwin is part Osage Indian.

Not brought up in the Lutheran church, Erwin chose it during his college years. He stuck with it over time in spite of the barrier it put up to his following his vocation.

“I could hear in the sermons of the Lutheran pastor in Cambridge (Mass.) resonances from Luther, without him even saying so. I could tell that this church had in its DNA something remaining of what it was founded on, and that was appealing to me,” he said.

“My own personal goal is to get into the congregations and to teach, and help people understand that every Christian is a theologian,” Erwin continued. “If you think about how your faith affects your life, you’re doing theology already. So let’s put some structure on this and do it in a thoughtful way.”

Veterinary interns get head start on graduate school

By picking CLU for college, Riley Thomas (r) was able to stay close to family, including her three dogs and 22 horses, in the Santa Rosa Valley. Still, although the senior biology major has always thought about becoming a vet, she didn’t expect to begin her education in veterinary medicine in college.

That changed after chemistry professor John Tannaci, who advises the campus chapter of the American Medical Student Association, approached Barry Fisher, M.P.P.A. ’07, about creating medical internship programs for students. Fisher is both president of CLU’s Community Leaders Association and chief deputy director of the Ventura County Health Care Agency, which manages the county animal hospital located near Camarillo Airport.

Now, two CLU students are getting their hours in the veterinary field – required by graduate schools – by working with Dr. Heather Skogerson, who said she was happy to have the extra hands to feed and care for animals or even scrub them for surgery.
Thanks to alumnus-volunteer, KCLU radio reaches Santa Maria and San Luis Obispo

Broadcast engineer Tim Schultz ’77 put KRCL student radio on the air in his last two years in college. Ever since, as an unpaid volunteer, he has been building and maintaining broadcast facilities for his alma mater. With the purchase of a Santa Maria station and Schultz’ full-time effort since October, KCLU National Public Radio can now be heard farther north.

If she’d had to raise money to pay for the engineering, KCLU general manager Mary Olson would have had this to say about expanding to the Santa Maria area in June 2013: nice idea.

The same goes for every CLU broadcast milestone: without the highly skilled, pro bono aid of Tim Schultz ’77, they were all just nice ideas. Student-run cable radio in 1977? A National Public Radio station owned and operated by the campus since 1994? KCLU in Santa Barbara? A new broadcast center in 2011? iCLU student radio on the Internet last year? Nice ideas.

At any rate, CLU accomplished all of this without ever making a significant investment in engineering because of Schultz’ generosity, technical mastery, and willingness to crawl and climb with bundles of cables. “Well, it’s my alma mater. Part of me feels like since I started it, I’ve got to continue it,” he said. “I don’t want to let it go. If they really came to me and said, ‘Tim, your services are no longer welcome. We’ve found somebody else to do it,’ yeah, it would crush me, it would break my heart, but I would understand.”

That is not about to happen. Over the decades, Schultz has worked thousands of hours for free for CLU on jobs that, these days, would pay hundreds of dollars an hour. Since October, he’s had the full-time task of researching the acquisition of 89.7 FM in Santa Maria, tearing apart the transmitter there, at the end of four miles of dirt road, and rebuilding it. “He’s our hero,” said Olson. “He’s the guy who rents the truck. He’s the guy who climbs the tower. When the satellite dish came, Tim is the guy bolting it to the pad. There’s no problem he can’t solve. The guy is brilliant.”

As the vice president of engineering at Spanish-language broadcaster Univision until he stepped down in 2009, Schultz bought and fixed up dozens of television stations, many in small markets, so he’s faced all sorts of challenges. The worst thing for a broadcast engineer, he said, is refining a system while the station is on the air, which he compares to “changing the tires on your car while it’s rolling down the street.”

Mercifully, the transmitter in Santa Maria was turned off for some of May and June, after the station changed hands and the engineer started pulling old equipment off the tower. Schultz – who carried his very own spectrum analyzer to assess matters – had not been impressed with the signal quality. To stay within his budget for improvements, he had to keep some of the existing structure, though bulldozing the whole thing would have been simpler, he said. In June, KCLU signed on in northern Santa Barbara County and southern San Luis Obispo County, and Schultz was still not out of a job.

“It just seems to be a continuously evolving thing, and they keep asking me back, and so I keep coming back,” he said. “It is kind of like, ‘Hey, I built the thing.’ I feel like I’m raising a child. It has certainly blossomed into something a whole lot more than we ever, ever, ever envisioned.”
The realization is beginning to hit that Earth is all there is

When will we listen?
During her talk, Dr. Collins shared some frightening information regarding the current status of the Earth’s environment. But in closing, she expressed hope in the progress that individuals could make in solving today’s pressing environmental issues. —editor’s note from Summer 1991

Our country needs to develop alternative sources of energy, long-lasting and nonpolluting. But there are also things that we as individuals can do. We need to become conscious of fuel use. We need to begin driving less and car pool more. Use solar heat when possible. Use your air conditioner and dishwasher less. Hang the clothes out. Insulate your home. These are all things that each person can do. But above all, we need to educate our youth, because they are the ones who will inherit the Earth.

Yes, there are good things that are going on. More and more people are becoming involved. Recycling is becoming part of the norm, and gradually we are becoming more conscious of our water and our land. The realization is beginning to hit that Earth is all there is. There are no new frontiers to be conquered. Our water and our land. The realization is beginning to hit that Earth is all there is. There are no new frontiers to be conquered.

Maybe the idea of Spaceship Earth is not a bad one. We all need to work together for the future. We need to work for a sustainable world that will be inhabitable for our children and grandchildren. Join an environmental group. Fight for a cause. What we do in the next 10 to 20 years will determine the kind of legacy that we leave behind for our children.

We must begin to steer by the stars rather than by the lights of a passing ship. And remember, as in the words of Margaret Mead, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

Hike in award for disabled students

A scholarship for students with physical disabilities received new funding this spring from the estate of the donor. As a result, awards under the Bette Eaton Scholarship for the Severely Physically Handicapped will rise sharply from $4,850, the amount available this academic year, to roughly double that amount in 2014-2015.

Still, someone has to claim the money. The Eaton Scholarship, which was last awarded in 2009, is intended to make the highest quality education affordable for people with major physical challenges other than hearing or visual impairment. Bette Eaton suffered rheumatic fever and acute juvenile rheumatoid arthritis that put her in a wheelchair shortly after her ninth birthday. With the support of her parents, she received a solid education from tutors and private schools through college. She died in 2002 at the age of 80, leaving the scholarship bequest in her estate plan. Keith Persico ’11, one of three recipients of the scholarship so far, said that paying for his education would have been much more difficult without Eaton’s generosity. A psychology major and member of the Psychology Club at CLU, he now works as a behavioral therapist while pursuing a master’s degree in marriage and family therapy at Pepperdine University.

Persico, who has a physical developmental disability, has taken a broad interest in physical and mental health problems’ effects on adolescents and families. His goal as a therapist will be to discover “how I can help these families function better.”

Give Every Student the Tools to Succeed

Kirby Ai ’13 of Oahu, Hawaii, pursued his passion for music and graduated with a degree in music production.

His younger sister, Kehau, knew CLU was the place for her the first time she visited. A junior majoring in psychology, Kehau Ai is a member of the women’s water polo team and, like her brother, the Kupa’s Hawaii Club.

Both feel strongly that the generous support of others was what gave them the opportunity to experience all that CLU has to offer.

The CLU Annual Fund enhances academic programs, strengthens scholarships and provides resources that improve the quality of life on campus. Your donation allows students to pursue their passions and discover their purpose.

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WWW.CALLUTHERAN.EDU/GIVE OR CALL US AT 805-493-3829
All-Americans in baseball, tennis, track, golf

Victory at the inaugural SCIAC baseball postseason tournament earned the Kingsmen an automatic NCAA Division III playoff berth. The team, which also won the conference title, went 1-2 for the postseason in the toughest bracket in the country. CLU took home nine All-SCIAC honors, with junior Jake Petersen the unanimous pick for both Player and Newcomer of the Year and junior Aaron Roth selected as the Pitcher of the Year. Petersen, Roth and Nick Boggyan ‘13 added American Baseball Coaches Association/ Rawlings All-America accolades.

The men’s tennis and women’s track and field teams placed second at their respective SCIAC Championships and made NCAA appearances. Nicholas Ballou ‘13 was named the SCIAC men’s tennis Player of the Year and All-American in both singles and doubles with his partner Ray Worley. The pair, ranked No. 1 in Division III, won the doubles championship at the Ojai Tournament in April, and Ballou took the singles title there.

Eleven CLU athletes qualified to compete at Wisconsin at the NCAA Division III Track & Field Championships in individual events and the men’s and women’s 4x100m relays. Melissa Skiba finished third in the 5k to become a two-time All-American for 2012-2013; she had won the accolade in cross-country competition in fall. On her first trip to nationals, javelin thrower Allie Hadley finished seventh to earn All-America status.

The men’s golf team qualified to compete at the NCAA Division III Men’s Golf Championships for the second consecutive year. Mikey McGinn was named All-American for the second time in as many years.

Sophomore Jordan Card led the Regals water polo team this spring with 46 goals and 53 drawn ejections as CLU tied for fourth in the SCIAC standings.

Correction: An article and a photo caption on Page 16 of our April 2013 issue stated that Melissa Skiba was the first Regal to achieve All-America recognition in cross-country. In fact, Skiba was the first women’s cross-country All-American since 1991, when CLU began competing in NCAA Division III. Prior to that, Cathy (Fulkerson ’82) Waltrip was an Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AAW) All-American in cross-country in 1979 and, along with her teammate Marian Mallory, in 1980. Waltrip was inducted into the Alumni Association Athletic Hall of Fame two years ago.
Talk about everything from feelings to dreams is the foundation of a strong committed relationship. But talk isn’t always enough to move a relationship along or keep a marriage on the right track. Putting thoughts in writing can go a long way toward igniting and maintaining a spark between two people.

Here’s how opening up on paper—and display screens for emails, texts and the like—deepened the connections of four happily married couples who met and dated at Cal Lutheran.

Delaney (Gallagher ’12) and Michael Rodriguez met within days of moving into the Mount Clef dorm as freshmen. There were no sparks between them. Michael was friendly, but Delaney did not like him. Part of the same group of friends, they saw each other constantly.

A few months into the semester, Delaney realized she was having a change of heart. “I wanted him to know I had feelings for him,” she recalls. She slipped a candid, open-ended half-page letter under his door, leaving it up to him to make a move. “He still has it hidden somewhere!”

For Michael, “there definitely needed to be some catalyst for us to get together. I wasn’t really looking…. I was having a good time making lots of friends. The note surprised me.” In his room when the note arrived, Michael headed straight to Delaney’s room, where they talked, awkwardly. Nothing changed for a while, though there was a new, mild discomfort when they were together in the company of friends. Out on a walk weeks later, Michael suggested, “If you want to be my girlfriend, I’d be cool with it.” Delaney laughed and said, yes.

Apart from each other that first summer, they’d text or chat on Facebook to connect. Talking on the phone wasn’t in Michael’s comfort zone, and Delaney understood. Back at school, they often gave each other cards for no special reason, adding something sweet and personal by hand—a tradition they’ve continued into their newly married life. “I just got a card filled with love quotes from Delaney. I appreciate it a lot—it’s sitting next to my side of the bed.”

Writing poems, personalizing their wedding vows with words of their own, and exchanging loving, thoughtful texts during workdays have all lent depth to the relationship. “For Michael, writing is an easier way for him to communicate,” Delaney says. “For me, writing out my feelings takes things to the next level. Michael hears me end phone calls with family with, ‘I love you.’ When I write the same words to Michael, it makes them more intimate and special.”

Aarika (Lim ’07) and Ryan Riddle ’07 met in a religion course, though it was a group project in oceanography that “sealed the deal,” they say. The first summer after they began dating, Aarika went home to Hawaii, and Ryan stayed in California. The three-hour time difference and their work schedules made it hard to communicate by phone.

“We did a lot of emailing and instant messaging,” remembers Ryan. “It emboldened me to ask questions that might sound boring in person, things I wouldn’t normally ask if I were face-to-face having coffee with Aarika. Being a shy person, I’m much more open on chat and email.”

By Martin Novell, M.S. ’80, and Daina Hulet

Alumni couples whose relationships began during college, each at a different moment in the last three decades, tell how sharing their feelings in writing had noteworthy benefits.
What can writing do for romance?

1. Break the ice (or melt it)

In writing, it’s easier to make yourself vulnerable. You have time to think and choose your words, you have your privacy, and you won’t put the other person under pressure to respond right away. Some people are shy. Some may have been raised not to express certain feelings. Others don’t think or speak well on their feet. In writing, it’s easier to make yourself vulnerable. You have time to think and choose your words, and make cards for each other on special occasions. During our time over their 12-year marriage. They abide by their belief that “the secret to good communication, is to keep communicating”, for them that means keeping in touch by phone, plus writing. “By phone, I know that David’s safe and we pass along information. In writing we have more time to be romantic, personal and emotional,” says Jessica.

When they’re at home together, they text and give each other cards. “And sometimes when there are issues – we’ve talked around and around a subject – I’ll take the writing route to find a resolution,” says Jessica. “It keeps us closer.” Writing is also becoming a part of their family culture. Their children write and make cards for David when he’s away. Recently, their 9-year-old daughter sent them an unexpected letter from camp filled with thoughts and questions. She asked them for a letter in response.

2. Show they’re always on your mind

Particularly when a situation is separated by distance and time, writing moves romance and intimacy forward.Being candid, flirty or transparent can intensify the emotions of the writer as well as the recipient. The act of writing itself encourages reflection and deep thought. It may even lessen the loneliness of long separations. Jenifer Salzwedel calls her husband’s letters, written during his 10 years on the road as a pro athlete, “loving gestures.” “This was in the days before email, and I know that with his practice and travel schedule, it took effort for him to find the time to sit down and write.” “Writing plays a big part of keeping our romance alive, during the week,” says Aarika Riddle. “I love you, I hope you’re having a good day. Love you.” It’s fun to save old emails and texts to stumble upon and read later.

After making friends in a political science class, Jessica (David ‘98) and Dave Lundeen ‘90 met when they were roommates, and eventually in the mail. We found that for us there’s a difference between talking on the phone and writing, between verbally showing our affection and sharing our deeper thoughts,” says Jenifer, who signed her cards and letters to Dave, “Always and forever.”

Today, after 18 years of marriage, most of their written communications are brief texts to keep in touch and on the same page about the day’s events. Dave signs off every message he sends to Jenifer with “LUVYA.”

In their junior year, leaving behind their apprehension about losing the friendship, they began dating. After graduation, Dave moved to San Francisco to play professional soccer, while Jenifer worked in Los Angeles, and the long-distance romance commenced. In the beginning they wrote letters only sporadically, and email was not a real option back then. “We talked by phone, but it was always a nice surprise to get something in the mail. We found that for us there’s a difference between talking on the phone and writing, between verbally showing our affection and sharing our deeper thoughts,” says Jenifer, who signed her cards and letters to Dave, “Always and forever.”

3. Keep you both coming back

Thoughts committed to paper, computer screens and phone screens all can be saved as keepsakes. “We just did some rearranging, and I found the box of communiqués we sent each other the sum- mer I worked at a camp with no cell phone service,” says Ryan Riddle. “We hadn’t seen them in years. We read them together and laughed. These are a significant part of our romance. We’ll prob- ably push them to the back of a closet, they’ll get buried, and one day we’ll discover them all again.”

Partners in long-term relationships who may have lost the emotional spark can benefit from sending their mate an old-fashioned love letter and pouring out the heart. Find writing difficult? Copy a famous love letter or a selection of romantic quotes and send them along with a personal line or two, such as “This is how I feel about you, but Shakespeare said it better.” Carefully pick a card that suits your feelings or reminds you of the one you love. Then personalize it with your own fond or grateful words. It’s the personal touch, whether you write well or not, that makes the difference.
Q&A

What is love, anyway?

If professor of psychology Morris N. Eagle, a foremost commentator on the development of psychoanalysis and the theory of attachment, won’t tell us, who will?

Do you like to observe crowds, to people-watch?
Not crowds, but people. Crowds – you don’t get to see much. But let’s say sitting in a restaurant and observing other people and how they interact. I actually love doing that. (Laughs.) How’d you know?

What’s fun about it?
Partly it’s showing off. If I’m having dinner with my wife – she can get annoyed with this sometimes, come to think of it – I like using my intuition or skills to describe what’s going on, and even predicting the next thing that’s going to happen.

From your book, you seem just as interested in animal behavior.
I have a dog, a beagle, who I’m totally in love with. They are such remarkable animals. Sometimes I think they know just how to get into the right position that would make you say, Oh my god, how adorable. Like they’re purposely putting it on.

The other reason is that a lot of research that can’t be done on humans can be done on animals, and some of it is clearly relevant to humans.

What’s something important we’ve learned from observing animals?
Probably the most well-known experiment in the history of psychology, the [Harry] Harlow study on what he called “the nature of love,” with the monkey’s “mothers” made of terrycloth and of wire, had an amazing impact. It had an enormous impact on [John] Bowlby, the father of attachment theory.

Because what Harlow found, dramatically, was: the monkey doesn’t get attached to the wire mother who provides the milk; it gets attached to the mother who provides what Harlow called “contact comfort.”

What is love?
Boy oh boy, I didn’t expect that.

How about romantic love? (Sorry, you seem like the person to ask.)
Well, romantic love, which has a strong sexual component for most people and often takes the form of sexual passion, generally is most present at the beginning of a relationship. If people are lucky, elements of it remain throughout a long-term relationship.

I think many people have grown up on the Hollywood illusion that the passion is going to remain and sustain the relationship. It’s interesting that the movie usually ends when they walk off into the sunset.

What’s missing from that picture?
If we’re going to get beyond the Hollywood version of love, I would say that a necessary component is the attachment bond, which is a long-term bond.

Now, what do I mean by attachment? Caring for the other person, being able to experience them as an individual with his or her own needs, perspectives, desires; and where all those aspects of the individual become virtually as important as one’s own desires, perspectives and needs. That’s often not the case in sexual passion.

Do you think it happens much?
I think it happens to varying degrees. People are more or less successful in achieving that. But implicit in what I’m saying is that it can’t be taken for granted. It’s a developmental challenge.

What does attachment theory say about long-term relationships?
Some attachment theorists have suggested that the model for a long-term relationship is really the child-mother relationship, rather than the sexual system. The way someone has put it is that the sexual system is the tether that gets people together and the attachment system is what keeps them together, and I think that makes a lot of sense.

Who gets to be the child?
In well-functioning adult relationships, both partners serve as attachment figures for the other, and in good relationships, there’s a flexibility about who’s the attachment figure at any given time. So let’s say one partner is in crisis, then the other steps up and becomes the soothing, comforting, supportive attachment figure, but at other times it shifts.

Tell me, in those restaurants, do you watch couples? Kids?
Both. I must say I glow when I see an interaction between parents and children where everyone’s having a good time and the kids are well behaved, but not inhibited. When parents clearly appreciate their children, I mean, you can almost feel the caring and the love oozing from them, and you can see the impact on the kids, the spontaneity. Really, it’s inspirational – like there’s hope for all of us.
Patrick Cudahy '12 was doing what he loves most: playing sports. As the late afternoon sun illuminated the rugby field, Cudahy joined his Malaysian teammates for practice. As the only orang putih (white guy) on the team, he was a distinct minority.

"I had no idea what I was getting myself into," Cudahy wrote in the newsletter that he produces for family and friends, "or just how important this team would prove to be."

With practice nearly every weekday and games on the weekends, the former CLU rugby player began to learn more about his teammates. To his surprise, he found that most of the team members were Muslim.

"This was a bit shocking for me because I have never really had Muslim friends before or even had an in-depth conversation with any Muslim person," Cudahy wrote.

Last year, Cudahy was selected to serve as a volunteer with Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM), a program of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Following a week of training, he traveled to Malaysia, where he has been teaching English to boys and girls from ages 6 to 18.

Located in Donggongon, a suburb of Kota Kinabalu (the capital of Sabah state on the South China Sea), the school serves undocumented, mostly poor immigrant children who cannot access a public education in Malaysia. Cudahy estimates that three-quarters of the 200 students enrolled are Christian, with the remainder Muslim.

"Parents of Muslim students are told up front that we are a Christian school and that all students are required to attend chapel and participate in Bible studies," Cudahy said. "However, the parents opt to send their kids to our school because we have one of the best reputations amongst the immigrant schools in the area."

Once Cudahy settled into his teaching tasks, he started looking around for a sports team he could join. Through a Google search, he found a rugby team. This was a godsend for the Port Orchard, Wash., native who played four years with the CLU rugby club and was a senior when the team went to the California Cup for Division III.

Rugby, like most sports, builds camaraderie. That was certainly true for Cudahy as he attended practices in Malaysia. It opened doors for new friendships and new understandings.

"I began talking with one of my rugby brothers about our different faiths. After comparing many of our beliefs and values, we realized just how similar our faiths actually are... I had no clue that joining this team would lead to the interreligious dialogue that it has," he wrote in the newsletter.

In Malaysian society, Cudahy continued, Christians and Muslims are generally kept in separate communities, and it is not common for people of different faiths to associate.

"That is when I saw just how important our rugby club is. If the call to prayer occurs during our practice, we all stop for a few minutes to allow a quick prayer."

"And the orang putih prays alongside them."

Having been in Malaysia for nearly a year, Cudahy can now speak Malay quite well. His near fluency has allowed him to get to know his students better.

"At first, my primary objective was to be the best English teacher that I could be and try to improve the speech, reading and writing of the students," he wrote. "But after hearing of the hardships that many students face outside of school, his goal changed from teaching English to making the kids feel loved."

When his volunteer stint ends this summer, Cudahy, who majored in biology, plans to attend medical school. He believes the YAGM program has helped him prepare for the future, in part by changing his mindset.

"Living simply is one of the values that I have learned during this year and is a value that will stick with me forever," he said. "It has made me realize what is important in life and what things we actually really need in order to be happy."

Patrick Cudahy wanted to continue playing sports on his year abroad teaching English to Malaysian children at a Christian school. That gave him a different window on the Muslim-majority country.
Greetings and thank you for writing to me. All of your questions raise extensive issues or fond memories of CLU and Thousand Oaks. Since we cannot discuss at length over coffee or tea, let me address this reply mainly to your questions about my art.

You ask about “Middle Sphere.” In 2011, I was commissioned to make a site-specific work for St. John’s Church (Johanneskirche) in Hanau. The pasteur, Margit Zahn, wished to have an art piece which reflected the time around Erntedankfest, which means “harvest festival of thanks” and is the German Thanksgiving. My solution focused on the idea of transition and how transitions are connected to the past and to what is to come. I decided to suspend a sculpture in midair.

Built from all the parts of numerous old grape vines – roots, stems, branches – and washed in a chalk mixture, the sculpture dangled from the 10-meter ceiling of the church on a long wire. It was easy to sense both the weight and the weightlessness of this great pendulum turning on its axis. Beneath the hanging form was a circular bed of wheat flour that acted as drawing paper for the shadow lines that the form traced as it slowly turned.

My art projects often take the form of installation art and are therefore spatial approaches, allowing the viewer to enter the visual situation. It is important for me to seek a medium and technique to fit the concept at hand.

Even before college, I was convinced of the importance of a broad foundation in both two- and three-dimensional art, and that was the way that undergraduate art studies were designed at CLU. I also valued the educational philosophy that made interdisciplinary liberal arts studies possible. Courses such as cultural anthropology have been useful to me in my international career in art, and they found an interested taker in me.

Most of all, I wanted to study abroad for the sake of broadening my perspective. As it happened, CLU’s Charles Brown arrived in Helsinki, the capital of Finland, to present about the curriculum in 1988, the year that I took my matriculation exams. I added Thousand Oaks to my list of choices and pursued a correspondence until I felt ready to try out CLU for two semesters to start with.

By Christmas of the first semester, I had decided to stay. My late brother, Jukka, visited me during that first fall semester and chose to begin his studies as well the following fall! Toward the end of my undergraduate studies, I also met professor Joel Edwards, to whom I am grateful for his extensive knowledge in ceramics and high dedication as educator. Working as his assistant in ceramics paved the road for my master’s studies at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff.

Charles Brown first raised my curiosity about CLU by noting that students arrived from many nations, and in fact I made many good friends from multiple countries. The time was limited, but what was possible happened. I would be glad to get back in touch with those friends.

After earning the master’s degree in Arizona, I moved to work in Salzburg, Austria. Since 1994, I have lived and worked as an artist in Germany – first in Tubingen, where my husband, Marcel, whom I met in Arizona, was finishing his studies, and since 2000 in Hanau near Frankfurt. Parallel to my work as an exhibiting artist, I have taught sculpture at the University of Tubingen and, currently, in the adult education department at the Staeidel Academy of Frankfurt.

Since 2005, I have been working on one of my most extensive series, named BIOGRAMS, which are visual investigations into rhythms and how rhythms relate to people, to society and to one another. We all deal extremely fluently with an array of rhythms that are integral to every action in and around us, often without taking any notice of this skill. Yet, when it comes to visualizing rhythms, we cannot. We do not know how they look. This synesthetic problem intrigues me, and I approach it with various artistic solutions. My next work will be an outdoor sculpture. I received an invitation to participate in the annual sculpture festival Vogelfrei (“free as a bird”) in Darmstadt. If you are curious about this work – which concerns a particular situation in which human meets nature and what may result from the meeting – I will post images of it on my website in August. Please feel welcome to visit www.herzog-hellsten.de.

Charles Brown first raised my curiosity about CLU by noting that students arrived from many nations, and in fact I made many good friends from multiple countries. The time was limited, but what was possible happened. I would be glad to get back in touch with those friends.

Let us all deal extremely fluently with rhythms in and around us, but we do not know how they look.

By Merja Herzog-Hellsten ’91

With warm regards to everyone at CLU, past and present, Merja

A Finnish artist and alumna who has spent most of her career in Germany checks in with CLU.
Say it with a picture!

Upload photos of your family vacations, alumni reunions, and adventures around the globe at www.callutheran.edu/alumni. We'll run them in the magazine or post them on the alumni website.

And don't forget to Follow the Flag! Request your CLU ALUMNI flag by email at alumni@callutheran.edu.

CLASS NOTES

'64 Class Representatives Linda (Gobrud) Harris lindagobrud@worldnet.att.net Marty (Ronning) Schwalm mgudrunto@verizon.net Carol (Thompson) Pyatt, Grand Junction, Colo., retired from American Lutheran Church in January 2012 and is working on a book about her time as a missionary in Papua New Guinea.

Class Representative Ruth Ann Johnson raj1036@att.net Karen (Reitan ‘65) and Ed ’72 Anderson, Copperopolis, Calif., on a stopover in Costa Rica during a Panama Canal cruise last year.

Larry Hockenberry, Oakdale, Calif., has been retired several years but continues to teach an evening chemistry lab for the pre-nursing program at the local junior college. He and his wife, Bridget, live with their daughter and her family plus a variety of animals and “one of every fruit tree.”

Tyler Lee ’11, Woodland Hills, Calif., and Jacob Clifford ’11, Simi Valley, Calif., at the Royal Holloway University of London where they are pursuing graduate degrees in Holocaust studies and medieval studies, respectively.

Class Representative Judy (Lavenberg) Halweg judybugila@gmail.com

Class Representative Gerry Price doordad@aol.com


Senior Hannah Boelman (l) and junior Kari Slattum carry the label of “legacy” to the extreme. Not only are they second-generation students, but also second-generation roommates.

Unlike their mothers Tami (Ward ’83, M.S. ’87) Boelman and June (Lovlang ’83, T.C. ’87) Slattum, who first met while moving into their dorm room and have been friends ever since, Hannah and Kari met and became friends while working at summer camp.

“We recognized each other from the Christmas cards we got every year,” Hannah said. After talking to their moms and making the connection, the girls began calling themselves “destined friends.”

“It was destiny,” jokes Kari’s father, Kevin Slattum ’81, T.C. ’90. “We live near the school, all my brothers and sisters went there, my dad taught there, I’ve been around this school since I was a little kid.”

“CLU is kind of like a long lost relative,” Kari agrees, “somehow incorporated into every story.”

“So what is it about CLU?” Tami and Scott Boelman ’81 answer at the same time, “We made lifelong friends at CLU.”

“We recognized each other from the Christmas cards we got every year,” Hannah said. After talking to their moms and making the connection, the girls began calling themselves “destined friends.”

“It was destiny,” jokes Kari’s father, Kevin Slattum ’81, T.C. ’90. “We live near the school, all my brothers and sisters went there, my dad taught there, I’ve been around this school since I was a little kid.”

“CLU is kind of like a long lost relative,” Kari agrees, “somehow incorporated into every story.”

“So what is it about CLU?”

“Even though we don’t live near most of the friends we went to college with,” said June, “it seems all our closest friends are CLU grads.”

“I was introduced to CLU when I was in high school,” Tami said, connecting more dots, “at a summer beach camp (the same camp where Hannah and Kari met). Two of the counselors were students at CLU and told me how much they loved it there. Then, moving into the freshman dorm, that first afternoon, after our parents left, I knew that June and I would be great friends. We had so much fun together.”

“I fell in love with the atmosphere when we moved my brother Brad (Boelman ’12) in,” says Hannah. “My parents were the first of eight people to attend and graduate from CLU.”

“Will there be more?” Hannah gets the last word…for now:

“Kari and I both have little brothers!”

Legacy family:
Roommates of Destiny

‘66

‘67

‘68

‘69
BIRTHS
Emma Corinne Colin on Nov. 24, 2012, to Allison (Bowen ’06) and Brian 07 Colin.
Dorran Hagen on April 15, 2013, to Michelle (Brown ’04) and Erik 94, MBA ’12, Hagen.
Axel Warren Jonstad on Feb. 6, 2013, to Emma (Kolen ’09) and Josh Jonstad.
Mark Boulet Neuhau on Feb. 14, 2013, to Anna and Andrew ’02 Neuhau.

MARRIAGES
Rachel Breen ’10 and Jeremiah Newell ’18 on July 31, 2012.
Christina Bunning ’91 and John Alderete on Feb. 19, 2013.
Caitlin Fernandez and Joseph Rower ’08 on July 28, 2012.
Pauelotta (D’oYoung ’76) Golden and Doug Barton on Dec. 27, 2012.
Megan Graves ’06 and Micah Schultz-Akerson ’06 on Sept. 16, 2012.

DEATHS
Garo Aghazarian, Class of 2015, on May 29, 2013.
David Childs ’65, on March 19, 2013.
Barbara Collins, H’08, on April 30, 2013.
Christopher Knorr ’13 on May 22, 2013.
Randal Lynn Wolfe ’82 on April 14, 2013.

Class Representative
Paul Morgan-Martín
twofishvibhuddha@gmail.com
Frank and Linda (Lewis) Nauss, Tucson, Ariz., retired the end of May and returned to Tucson, where they lived before moving to California. Since 2002, Frank was senior pastor at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Thousand Oaks, where he had worshiped as a CLU student. He began his ministry at Bethany Lutheran in Arizona in 1973 and moved to Ventura County 20 years later to become pastor at Mount Cross. Lutheran in Camarillo, Linda was the office administrator for the Educational Leadership Department in the CLU Graduate School of Education since October. She began working at the University in 2002 as administrative assistant to the dean of the School of Education and then served as program coordinator for the doctoral program for several years.

Class Representative
Adela Braso-Trent
eokinoteachers2012@yahoo.com
Mike Riley
mikeyrileymdc@gmail.com

Class Representative
Rebecca (Overton) France
rjfwegian@federickcountymd.com
Alan Virgil
ac_shrew@verizon.net

Class Representative
Becky Hubbard
azbuffalowalley@yltra.com
Tori Nordin
rhnordin@gmail.com
Jack Wilard, T.C. ’86, Camarillo, Calif., was named head coach of the Abubollo Camarillo High School varsity football team in February. After spending nine seasons on the Newbury Park football coaching staff, Jack returned to ACHS’ last fall as a defensive coordinator and helped lead the Scorpions to their fourth straight Pacific View League championship. A 1976 graduate of ACHS, Jack has previously been a head coach for his alma mater’s baseball and girls’ basketball teams and will continue to coach the softball team, which he has guided for the past 11 years.

Class Representative
Victoria (Vasco) Green
grejfcw@gmail.com
Ken Wood
bevstr1967@gmail.com

Class Representative
George Carganilla
greg761@gmail.com

Class Representative
Jon Backstrom
facebook.com/lukejbackstrom

Class Representative
Dottie (Roman) Sterling
dottie.sterling@gmail.com

Class Representative
Ginny Green
ginnygreen69@hotmail.com

Jim Kunau, Anaheim, Calif., was inducted into the Orange County Hall of Fame during the Bakersfield High’s Eighth Annual Alumni Banquet and induction ceremony in May. Jim, who played football four years at CLU, was named Coach of the Decade, CIF Pac 5 Coach of the Year and Orange County Register Coach of the Year while compiling a record of 182-51-3 as head football coach at Orange Lutheran High School from 1993 to 2011. He currently is head football coach at Canyon High School in Anaheim.

Ken ‘81, MBA ’92, and Cathy (Fulkerson ’82) Waltrip
(1) Camarillo, Calif., and Tami (Maurillo) ’82 and Dan ‘71 Staffel, Newhall, Calif., at the Nottoway Plantation in White Castle, La., during a tour of the South, which included New Orleans, Nashville and Memphis.

Curtis Aguire, Pentiction, B.C., has been the pastor at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church since 2009. The church celebrated its 50th anniversary in May.

Susi (Forrondo) Bruno, Sum Valley, Calif., has a chiropractic practice in Simi. She and her husband, Phil, have three children.

John Sutherland, Burien, Wash., recently published a novel titled Don Q, a retelling of the Don Quixote story. The book is available on Amazon.com. John is a writer in the video game industry. His website is: VasCamedory.com.

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Tony White
ajwhite90@gmail.com

Paul Miller, Gig Harbor, Wash., joined Kittap Bank in Port Orchard in January as senior vice president/risk management.

Class Representative
Debbie (Elliot) Sellers
debbieh1606@gmail.com

Douglas Nickles, MBA, Thousand Oaks, Calif., was named to the Thousand Oaks Planning Commission in March. Doug is a fire prevention coordinator for the City of Glendale Fire Department. He was an open space planner for the Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency for three years and has served on the Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Department Advisory Council at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo for 13 years.

Mary Neal Vieson, Lexington Park, Md., a commander in the U.S. Navy, began a 10-month deployment to Africa in February. After 10 years of active duty, Mary transferred to the Navy Reserve in 2008. A board certified clinical psychologist, she then opened a private practice and co-founded the nonprofit organization MISSION:PTSD. CLU awarded her the Outstanding Alumni Award in 2011. (Page 29, CLU Magazine, Summer 2011).

Kristin Bergstrom, M.A., Carpineta, Calif., became the senior minister at Church of the Foothills in Ventura last summer. She had served as a part-time licensed minister in the church for eight years and before that was a public school educator for more than 30 years.

James Greene, Schlangen, Germany, is senior project and program manager with D-Play GmbH in Kaiseraugt, Switzerland. He has led the IT Infrastructure programs for the global chemicals manufacturer since February. He also lectures on project risk management and information security at the International Institute of Management in Technology at the University of Fribourg.

Class Representative
Franc Camara
franc_camara@hotmail.com

Janet Cameron, San Francisco, Calif., teaches first grade at St. Martin’s School in Obispo for 13 years.

Class Representative
George Carganilla II
greg761@gmail.com

Class Representative
Cathryn van Ness ’09
b22hubbard@yahoo.com

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Kelly Taylor-Schaum. Merrill, Wis., was appointed interim senior pastor at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Merrill in February. She has served congregations in Kansas and Wisconsin as an ELCA pastor for 14 years. Kelly’s husband, Maurice Schaum ‘93, is pastor at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church in Merrill.

Marika (Richter) Zuza, Noulakchott, Mauritania, is the management officer at the U.S. Embassy Noulakchott. Marika served from 1993 to 1996 and returned to the U.S. Embassy Nouakchott, as a Peace Corps volunteer in Mauritania.

Katie (Gruenwold) Hertog, Amstelveen, Netherlands, is a freelance writer and editor. Her article “In the Arms of God” was published in the “Give Us This Day” column of the March 2013 issue of Gather, the ELCA women’s magazine.

Richard Stewart, MBA, El Dorado Hills, Calif., was appointed to the Planning Commission by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors in January.

Steve Lepire, M.A., Canoga Park, Calif., became the new high school principal of Chaminade College Preparatory School in West Hills on July 1. He had served as the principal of Redwood Middle School in Thousand Oaks since 2009. In January, he was selected as administrator of the Year for Ventura County by the Association of California School Administrators.

Kevin Daly, Ventura, Calif., is president of Media- tion Resolution Services, a company he founded in 2009 to help individuals resolve disputes out of court. Kevin holds a juris doctorate from Southern California Institute of Law and has taught family and labor and employment law at Santa Barbara Business College.

Monica Beck, M.S., Thousand Oaks, Calif., an English teacher at Colina Middle School, received a 2013 Impact II individual grant from Sage Publications for her classroom-tested curriculum titled Poetic License.

Peter Daland, Thousand Oaks, Calif., teaches social studies at Moorpark High School. He received a 2013 Impact II individual grant from Blosi Construction for his classroom-tested curriculum titled Don’t Forget Our Past—Veteran History Project. Stacey Quiles, M.A., Moorpark, Calif., and a fellow teacher received a 2013 Impact II collaborative grant from the Agmen Foundation for their classroom-tested curriculum titled Project Possible. Stacey teaches grade two at La Mariposa Elementary School in Camarillo.

Molly (Thies) Peterson, Fairview, Texas, is president and director of the Collin County Humane Society, which manages the Rockwall Animal Adoption Center. Molly has a passion for helping animals and has been involved in fostering efforts since she was a student at CLU.

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Holly Halweg ’04, M.Ed. ’07, and Benjamin Batstone were married in Hawaii in December. Pictured left to right at their reception in Thousand Oaks are (back row) Kathy (Dobney ’68) Ferkin, Garrett Halweg; (middle row) Deiva Miligan, Lisa Wagner ’06, Molly Stilliens ’05, Laura Asenas ’04, Lisa Wagner ’06, and Michelle (Brown ’72) Ayers; (front row) Matt Anderson ’04, Dave Ayers ’72, and John Hoefs ’66.

Patrick Chamberlain ’07, Tucson, Ariz., accompanied his wife, Jessica Cox, on a mission to Ethiopia in April. While there, Jessica and Patrick worked with Handicap International, a Nobel Prize-winning NGO, on an inclusive education program for children with disabilities. Jessica’s efforts were filmed as part of the documentary RIGHTFOOTED. Jessica, who was born with no arms, is an international motivational speaker and the first person to fly an airplane without arms. Pictured left to right: Holly Halweg, Chris Kapor, M.P.P.A. ’10, and Benjamin Batstone.

Joseph Rower, Aurora, Colo., earned his Ph.D. in pharmaceutical sciences from the University of Colorado, Denver-Anschutz Medical Campus in March.

Orson ‘08 and Cat (Van Ness ’09) Rheinhardt (c) are pictured at their August wedding with fellow CLU alumni Jared Robbins ’11, Kary Bazerman ’11, Joanna Lennard ’09, Nicole (Hanley ’08) Dutcher Hanna (Dinsmore ’09) and Tyler ‘08 Swanson. Parker ‘08 and Margaret (Nolan ’10) Morales.

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From El Salvador, again
My love of basketball and a wish for my children helped me to learn about both of my countries.

By Ivan Barahona '00

I’d always worked well with kids, so when Coach Rich Rider presented me with an opportunity to coach at Newbury Park High School, I jumped at the chance.

All during my childhood in California, it seemed that my mom didn’t want me to know much about my other country. It was that traumatic for her – first watching her husband leave her, and then leaving me. Before going to El Salvador for basketball reasons, I had only returned once, at 15, to get my papers ready to become a U.S. citizen.

Things changed when I had kids. My wife is also Salvadoran, and we wanted them to know their roots.

About five years ago, a buddy and I started a basketball camp down there, with the idea of coaching the national team. That’s when I fell in love with the country and started learning about its history and why the civil war happened.

But I was also an American. In El Salvador, I kept thinking about how lucky we Americans are not to have some of their problems, and the luxuries that we take for granted.

When I was very small, during the civil war, my dad left for El Salvador, again. He managed to get us over the border. Someone would come get us in the middle of the night, to go somewhere else.

I remember hiding in the bushes. Boxes would come with toys and clothes that my parents sent. I would go out to lunch or dinner with my aunts and uncle and enjoy family time.

A few incidents from the war resonate in my mind. But it’s really hard to talk about it. I told myself, as the head coach of the national basketball team. I didn’t know the words.

Right before my team’s first contest in the Central American Games in March, they played the Salvadoran national anthem. At the last game, we didn’t know that our flag cannot touch the ground.

I was reunited with my parents for the first time in three years, and it was a great feeling. I still remember it.

In San Pedro, near Long Beach, I started playing basketball when I was 7 or 8 and fell in love with the game.

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PARENTS If this magazine is addressed to a daughter or son who has established a new address, please notify us at clumag@callutheran.edu or 805-493-3151. Thank you!