



**CARTHAGE
COLLEGE**

**CENTER FOR FAITH
AND SPIRITUALITY**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Proverbs 29:18 from Eugene Peterson's *The Message* reads, "If people can't see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves; but when they attend to what God reveals, they are most blessed." People like to have a vision of where God is leading and guiding them. Every congregation needs a clear vision of how God is using its gifts in its particular location to care for the community.

The same is true for Carthage College. On Feb. 20, President John Swallow shared his vision for Carthage in the years to come. He gave us four phrases to help guide our work: Communicate boldly. Educate expansively. Integrate regionally. Excel responsively.

Communicate boldly.

We want people to know about Carthage and what it has to offer. We also want people to know that Carthage is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Our connection with the ELCA roots us in the work of helping every student who comes to Carthage to find their vocation. We also want people to know that, if they come to Carthage, we will help them discover more about who they are, the gifts they have, and how they can make a difference in the world.

Educate expansively.

As we all know, the world is changing rapidly. Technology is pushing all of us to learn new skills not only for our work, but for basic living in the 21st century. Carthage is creating — and will continue to create — new programs that help both traditional undergraduate students and adult students who need to update their skill set.

Integrate regionally.

Carthage wants to be involved in providing the people that this region — and the world — will need to thrive. Working together with businesses, nonprofits, churches, and other local organizations, Carthage students, faculty, and staff can make a difference in the Kenosha/Racine communities and beyond.

Excel responsively.

We want to do all these things well, and it will mean training faculty and staff to help our students achieve their goals. We will keep our eyes on the future and be nimble with our responses to what is needed.

This is an exciting time at Carthage, as we look for new ways to tell the world about the hidden gem in southeastern Wisconsin — a college where students are educated to think deeply about the gifts they have to offer the world and are given the skills to take those first steps out into the lives they are called to lead.

In Christ,

Pastor Kara Baylor – Director of the Center for Faith and Spirituality