Proclamation

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

- WHEREAS, Rob served as president of Augustana University, one of 26 colleges and universities in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, since 2006; and,
- WHEREAS, during his tenure at Augustana University, a receipt of unprecedented charitable gifts was made to the University for six major campus facility projects including the \$35 million, 125,000 square-foot Froiland Science Complex— and a \$74 million endowment fund for scholarships and financial aid.
- WHEREAS, Rob has served as chair of the *Listen! God is Calling* appeal a campaign that will strengthen the South Dakota Synod by supporting, developing, and nurturing our rostered ministers and congregations which as of March 2017 has \$3.5 million in pledges; and,
- WHEREAS, during his tenure as president, Augustana University collaborated with the South Dakota Synod and Sioux Falls Seminary to continue the work with Luther House of Study to serve ministry professionals in our synod and those who choose to answer the call of serving the church; and,
- WHEREAS, Rob is a faithful and servant leader in our community, not only to the church, but in volunteer leadership positions such as the Avera McKennan Hospital Board of Trustees; Avera Heart Hospital of South Dakota, Forward Sioux Falls, the Sioux Empire Red Cross, the Sioux Empire United Way, Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce, Volunteers of America, Dakotas, and the YMCA; and,
- **WHEREAS,** Rob will continue to serve the church on the Lutherans Outdoors of South Dakota Board of Directors; a role that will impact the faith formation of many young lives in South Dakota; and,
- WHEREAS, after 25 years of service to Augustana University, Rob will retire as President of Augustana University on July 31, 2017; and,
- WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper to honor this outstanding servant to the Lutheran Church on the occasion of his retirement:
- NOW, THEREFORE by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Bishop of the South Dakota Synod, ELCA and all of its members, I, the Reverend David B. Zellmer, Bishop of the South Dakota Synod hereby proclaim Friday, May 12, 2017,



In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed.

Bishop David B. Zellmer

Attest:

JONOD BURNOK

Carla Borchardt, Vice Presiden