

# Intersections

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## About the Artist

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**Intersections** is a publication by and largely for the academic communities of the twenty-seven institutions that comprise the Network of ELCA Colleges and Universities (NECU). Each issue reflects on the **intersection** of faith, learning, and teaching within Lutheran higher education. It is published by the NECU, and has its home in the Presidential Center for Faith and Learning at Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois, the institutional sponsor of the publication. **Intersections** extends and enhances discussions fostered by the annual Vocation of Lutheran Higher Education Conference, together lifting up the vocation of Lutheran colleges and universities. It aims to raise the level of awareness among faculty, staff, and administration about the Lutheran heritage and church-relatedness of their institutions, especially as these **intersect** with contemporary challenges, opportunities, and initiatives.

## About the Cover and Artists

### ***Be Nourished***

**Mosaic by Patrick and Luisa Hansel, and members of the St. Olaf College community**

The mosaic pictured on the cover hangs on a wall in the Lutheran Center for Faith, Values, and Community at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. It was created at the time of the Center's launch by two Lutheran pastors, Patrick and Luisa Hansel, who served a mostly immigrant church in Minneapolis until their recent retirement. Several dozen members of the St. Olaf community participated in putting pieces of the mosaic together. Deanna Thompson, Director of the Center and Martin E. Marty Regents Chair in Religion and the Academy at St. Olaf, describes the art as "capturing the sense of what it means to be nourished to do the work that matters most in this world. The people in the mosaic come from different religious and cultural backgrounds and gather around a table where they are nourished by food and drink. They are nourished by the rich natural world that surrounds them and by their connections to one another. The mosaic provides a vision of what nourishment for the work ahead might look like" (from her essay in *Intersections*, Fall 2020).