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#### FAMILY PLEDGES SUPPORT OF PEARSON CHAPEL

LINDSBORG, Kan.—Bethany alumni Scott and Catherine Simmelink, Omaha, Neb., will serve as co-chairs of the fundraising campaign for the college's planned Pearson Chapel and Welcome Center.

In support of the project, the Simmelinks have joined with members of their family to pledge a gift of \$100,000.

"Catherine and Scott have shown their commitment to the Pearson Chapel and Welcome Center by volunteering to provide strong leadership and by pledging generous financial support," said Bethany College President Edward F. Leonard III. "Their family's gift, spanning three generations, is a wonderful example of a tradition of service to Bethany College."

In addition to Scott and Catherine Simmelink, the donation comes from Catherine's father, Dr. C. Herman Mauney, and his late wife, Emily; Scott and Catherine's son, Brandon Simmelink, and his wife, Lisa; and Scott and Catherine's daughters, Sarah and Rachel.

"I can think of no more powerful symbol of Bethany's unique character as a college of the church – firmly rooted in Lutheran traditions and warmly welcoming to students of all faith backgrounds – than this beautiful chapel and welcome center at the heart of the campus. Our family is pleased to be able to pledge our support to the project, and Catherine and I are excited and honored to play a leadership role," said Scott Simmelink.

Bethany College is raising funds to meet a \$1 million challenge grant from the late Gerald "Bud" Pearson, with a deadline of June 2010. The total project cost is \$3.5 million.

The Pearson Chapel and Welcome Center will be a hospitable place for all who worship, visit, learn and work in the Bethany community. It will house a chapel, campus ministry offices and admissions offices.

Scott Simmelink and Catherine (Mauney) Simmelink are 1982 Bethany graduates. Scott is director of financial services at Consolidated Container Company; Catherine is a retired math teacher at Elkhorn High School and a member of the Bethany College Board of Directors.

Brandon Simmelink is a 2001 Bethany graduate. He teaches at Mayberry Middle Magnet School in Wichita, Kan. His wife, Lisa, a 2002 Bethany graduate, teaches music at Abilene Elementary School in Valley Center, Kan.

Dr. C. Herman Mauney is a former member of the board of directors of Bethany College. He is a member of St. Luke Lutheran Church, Albuquerque, New Mexico. His wife, Emily (Fisher) Mauney, passed away in January 2008.

Bethany College, established by Swedish Lutheran immigrants in 1881, is a college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The mission of Bethany College is to educate, develop, and challenge individuals to reach for truth and excellence as they lead lives of faith, learning and service. Bethany College is on the Web at [www.bethanylb.edu](http://www.bethanylb.edu).