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#### BETHANY RECEIVES TOP RANKING FROM US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT

LINDSBORG, Kan.—Earning the second highest spot for a Kansas college in its category, Bethany College has been ranked as 44<sup>th</sup> in the Midwest region of U.S. News and World Report’s 2011 “Best Regional Colleges”. This marks the fourth straight year that Bethany has been classified in the top tier of the Midwest region.

“The annual ranking is one way that visitors can gauge the college,” said Dean of Recruitment and Marketing Tricia Hawk. “Those associated with Bethany College know that we are more than a ranking. The experiences gained from our community outweigh any type of numerical ranking,” she said.

“Bethany’s continued top tier ranking validates our institution as both academically strong and highly respected in the Midwest region. The college rankings system is a way for us to annually review the quality of experiences available at Bethany in comparison to our peers” said Bethany College President Edward F. Leonard III.

Bethany also had high rankings in several key indicators in its category, including:

- 4<sup>th</sup> in “Proportion of Classes Under 20”
- 11<sup>th</sup> in “Campus Ethnic Diversity”
- 10<sup>th</sup> in “Average Amount of Need-Based Aid Awarded”
- 9<sup>th</sup> in “International Students”

Other Lutheran colleges ranked in the Midwest region included Augustana College (fifth) and Carthage College (11<sup>th</sup>). The regional colleges category includes schools that focus on undergraduate education and grant fewer than 50 percent of their degrees in liberal arts disciplines. The baccalaureate colleges are divided into four regions.

The ratings appeared in the “America’s Best Colleges” report by U.S. News and World Report. The magazine annually evaluates accredited four-year schools. For more information, visit [www.usnews.com/colleges](http://www.usnews.com/colleges).

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).