



**NORTH PARK
UNIVERSITY**
CHICAGO

North Parker First Word

Greetings members of our North Park University community,

The winter edition of the North Parker magazine will begin arriving on campus and in homes next week. In it, we will educate our broader alumni community about some of the challenges we all face in higher education today, and introduce an exciting opportunity that calls on all of us to pull together as a community and create a bright institutional future together. **[With this e-mail, I am sharing the article with you in advance. See pdf attached.](#)**

A forthcoming strategic and innovative planning process will allow us to take full advantage of our next opportunities, while also helping us to identify some of our current challenges. The process will be broadly inclusive and transparent. It will engage faculty, staff, students and other key stakeholders from across the university. To partner in this process, we will be looking for diverse groups of collaborative and positive participants, who are innovative and solutions-oriented, and whose approach to our work exemplifies North Park's very best.

As we progress, we will communicate openly and often with our community – and provide opportunities for constructive input at key decision points as they occur – so that we can all respect and support the process as intelligent, inclusive and trustworthy – and uphold the outcomes as worthy of full engagement and support.

With God's help and your faithful partnership, North Park University will secure its academic and financial future and emerge as the premier model for Christian higher education in 21st Century America.

The Board of Trustees and the Senior Team join me in thanking you for ALL that you do to lead, serve and support our beloved institution!

Respectfully,
Mary K. Surridge
President, North Park University