

2010 Synod Campus Ministry Committee Report

The Synod Campus Ministry Committee (SCMC) provides assistance to Synod Council, chaplains and local campus ministry councils to provide a Lutheran and a Christian witness at four (soon to be five) post-secondary institutions.

Lutheran Campus Ministry is funded in a large part from Synod benevolence, as follows: LCM - Edmonton \$38,500, LCM - Calgary \$38,500, ECM - Lethbridge \$6,300 and SCMC expenses \$2,300. SCMC's annual September appeal, entitled "Drive for Five", along with local fundraising efforts, encourages congregations and individuals to also donate directly to Campus Ministry, helping to fund the remainder of the local budgets. (In addition ECM – Lethbridge receives funding from the other participating denominations and Augustana Chaplaincy receives funding directly from the U of A as part of the transfer agreement between the ELCIC and the U of A.)

Campus Ministry's selected highlight's include:

LCM – University of Alberta, Edmonton

Worship is offered at Martin Luther House on Sunday evenings, in an intimate house gathering. In addition, the ancient prayer discipline 'lectio divina' or sacred reading, is now a weekly program activity. There are five students who are residents at Martin Luther House.

LSM hosted its welcome BBQ at Martin Luther House, with dinner and games that followed. Students from the Christian Reformed Campus Ministry joined them this year. Later in the fall, the same students joined forces to sell over 1,200 hot dogs and 350 cans of pop. All profits were donated to CLWR to relieve the plight of the millions displaced by flooding in Pakistan.

The chaplain led a leadership retreat for LSM Executive, which included: communication, listening to affirm leadership gifts, a confidentiality exercise, a skit of a council meeting gone wrong (to assist in learning how to run one smoothly), taking inventory of their 'spiritual toolkit', personal sharing of the things that make them feel cared for—all of this leading to the drafting of a covenant signed by the members of the Executive.

LCM – University of Calgary, Calgary

1200 servings were given away during the "Annual Chaplains' Ice-Cream Give Away" on the first day of classes. Other highlights include the ongoing Wednesday noon hour "St. Mac's Worship and Lunch", on the 3rd Sunday of each month, Holden Evening Prayer, and several "Lunch and Learn" sessions.

Due to reduced funding, Campus Ministry has been reduced to a 0.4 position, starting this past July 1st, with the chaplain serving 3 days a week during the school year. Sadly, Faith Lutheran has decided to renovate and redevelop the Student Houses that had been jointly operated by Campus Ministry and Faith Lutheran for the last 7 years. LCM-Calgary give thanks for the 7 years that they were able to create a base of intentional Christian community, offering accommodation to over 35 different students over the years, and providing hospitality to scores of others who came to the houses for dinners, parties, Bible studies, and the occasional "couch-surfing!"

The Rev. Dr. Roy Darcus, the U of C Anglican chaplain, has been working closely with LCM-Calgary for some years now. This fall, both the Anglican Diocesan Executive Committee and the ELCIC SCMC have given approval to strike a committee which will present a plan for the establishment of a joint ministry, hopefully full-time, with the understanding that approval from both denominations would be necessary for ratification. As part of the movement towards a joint Campus Ministry, a joint Fundraiser was held on November 6th at Christ Church Anglican.

ECM – University of Lethbridge and Lethbridge College, Lethbridge

Highlights for ECM were the kick off BBQ and service, theology reading group twice a month and movie nights once a month. Worship is held once a week at the university. ECM is preparing for campus care parcels (food bags) for the university, Christmas treat bags for the college, the annual end of term dinner at the college, and Christmas hampers. ECM is also lining up the annual lecture series to take place in the New Year.

A student chaplain has already helped with New Student Orientation, the kick off BBQ, the kick off service, spoken for Drive for Five at Christ Trinity Lutheran and organized a series of social activities on campus.

Augustana Chaplaincy, University of Alberta, Camrose

A large portion of the Augustana's Chaplaincy events this year revolve around CLC's/Augustana's centennial, including talks such as "If These Walls Could Talk" – a series of talks with former and current faculty and staff sharing Augustana stories, and "Augustana At 100: More Lutheran Than Ever?"

Augustana's student chaplains are responsible for some fixed tasks like serving on worship planning, publicity, sacristan, being a member of the chaplaincy council etc., and organizing small group activities and events. Some of their small group activities thus far have included barnless dances, worship bands, choirs, Bible studies, "If These Walls Could Talk" and prayer groups. The student chaplain program is considered a significant leadership development program.

The Chaplaincy offers three morning worship slots on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:00 - 10:20 a.m. as part the University class schedule. As well during the Advent and Epiphany seasons, Holden Evening Prayer is held on Tuesday evenings prior to the weekly Soup Supper.

ECM - Medicine Hat College, Medicine Hat

This ecumenical chaplaincy is in the planning stages. A board representing the five denominations (including Lutheran) and student representatives was formed in 2009. Plans are going ahead to conduct an education and awareness campaign. Once a proposal and plan have been finalized, it will be presented to the member denominations for their response and approval.

SCMC Meetings

SCMC last met in Camrose on Oct. 30 and will meet in Calgary on April 9 and as part of that meeting hope to address the joint Anglican/Lutheran chaplaincy proposal for U of C. The current SCMC members are:

South West Rep.:	Laverne Rude, Calgary (Chair)	- term 2008 to 2012
East Central Rep.:	Jane Arial, Camrose	- term 2008 to 2012
West Central Rep.:	to be appointed	- term 2010 to 2014
Northern Rep.:	Rev. Mick Macintyre, Spruce Grove	- term 2010 to 2014
Southern Rep.:	Amy Von Heyking, Lethbridge	- term 2010 to 2014
Synod Office Liaison:	Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer	- Assistant to the Bishop
Chaplains:	Rev. Richard Reimer	- LCM U of A Chaplain
	Rev. Klaus Ohlhoff	- LCM U of C Chaplain
	Rev. Erin Phillips	- ECM Lethbridge Chaplain
	Rev. Craig Wentland	- Augustana Chaplaincy Chaplain
	Robyn Simpson Mohr	- Augustana Assistant for Chaplaincy

The Synod Campus Ministry Committee salutes you for your partnership in the gospel. Thanks, in advance, for keeping our campus ministries in the driving lane by your ongoing support via Synod Benevolence, Directed Giving and especially for your support for next year's Campus Ministry "Drive for Five" Sunday, in Sept. 2011.

Yours in Christ,
Laverne Rude, SCMC Chair