

An ever-evolving complication of relationships was growing in the U.S. Christian Council (USCC) and the LSAA was locked in its tentacles. The significance of LSAA was clouded. The proposals of “ecumaniacs” were even more unpalatable. Canada’s role in USCC was meaningless since it was an American group per se.

The national magazine, *Campus Lutheran*, was naturally directed toward the American students. This led Canadian leaders to question how meaningful and hopeful was Canada’s role in LSAA and if perhaps a more propitious relationship could be arrived at. Here the seed was planted and such names as Rob Langen, Jim Hendrickson, Don Sjoberg, John Lefsrud, Mavis Anderson, and later John Lange, the Mollerups, Roger Nostbakken, Don Johnson, Clara Engeltvedt and others deserve the honour because they recognized the problem and struggled with it.

New events added to the growing problem. In December 1952, the Canadian Lutheran Council (CLC) was formed and subsequently the Division of Student Services (DSS) was established. Pastor Don Voigts was called as chaplain to students and the first Lutheran Student Centre in Canada was opened in Edmonton, November 7, 1956. In September 1957, Pastor John Vedell was called to be chaplain to students in Eastern Canada. Pastor Vedell began work in Toronto. One can’t ignore the profound effects these events were to have on student life. Formerly, the Canadian student was related through the LSAA to the Div. of College and University Work (DCUW) of the National Lutheran Council. Suddenly, an ambiguous relationship raised its head and the Canadian student was confronted with an obvious decision.

Winter of 1956-57, workshop in Regina, Aro Diers, Pres. of LSAA was in attendance. The question: “Can Something be Done?” Unlike earlier discussions, the Canadian voice was more mature. In the spring of 1957, in Saskatoon, the MLR executive ran into the same problem and decided something needed to be done. Meanwhile, the LSAA Council met in August 1957, at St. Paul, Minnesota, and there the MLR

President Don Johnson threw a grenade, which rocked the delegates. In essence, he reported that LSAA will always be binational. It can never be international. It would be impossible and irrational for the larger American element to compromise to such an extent as to satisfy the needs and problems of Canadians; as it is now it can never work. It is right to let you know that a problem exists. We are considering drastic action. The period of impact was followed by overcompensation on behalf of LSAA to accommodate the rebel son. However, the bugle had been sounded.

At the MLR Convention, November 1957, Edmonton, the working group studying the problem formulated a resolution calling for the establishment of a commission to study the “desirability of a change in relationship to the LSAA.” The ECR was invited to take similar steps so that both commissions could meet jointly, in May of 1958, and attempt to piece together their conclusions in an ordered procedure. By this time, the possibility of including Missouri Synod in a possible new structure became a big factor ... perhaps a pan-synodical organization of all Lutheran students in Canada?

ECR met in convention in January 1958 at Waterloo, Ontario. The assembled group was keen. The working group on relationship responded with alacrity at the proposals advanced by MLR. Not only did ECR concur, but boldly declared itself in favour of autonomy and instructed its commission “to investigate ways and means of effecting Canadian separation from LSAA.” Further, it impatiently encouraged the MLR executive to pass an “order in council” to give its commission an enlarged mandate so both commissions could meet on an equal footing in Spring. This procedure was followed by MLR executive.

On May 10, 1958, for the first time in history, students from East and West gathered around a common conference table at the Chalet in Kenora, Ontario, with the intent of investigating ways and means of effecting Canadian separation from LSAA. Those present were, MLR: Amin

Mohr, Marvin Haave, Don Johnson; ECR: Cal Diegel, Edward Bendel, Anne Stevens. The advisors were Pastors Voigts and Vedell.

This laid the groundwork for establishing an “autonomous movement” in Canada. On November 10, 1958, MLR was in favour of autonomy. From that time forth, the relationship with the LSAA was never the same. The National Committee on Autonomy met at Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon, May 24-27, 1960. Representing ECR were, Helen Pearson, Kenora; Ross Klinck, Kitchener; Ivan Saarinen, Sudbury; Arnold Weigel, Neustadt. Representing MLR were, Dorinne Kurtz, Regina; Armin Mohr, Calgary; Ed Schludermann, Winnipeg and Don Storch, Hanna, Alberta. Advisors were Pastor Ab Lorch, Toronto; Pastor Don Johnson, Naicam, Saskatchewan. Consultants were Don Voigts, Regional advisor to MLR, and John Vedell, advisor to ECR. Ross Klinck, NCA chairman, opened sessions. Helen Pearson was Secretary.

Decision was made to call this autonomous group, Lutheran Student Movement in Canada (LSMC).²⁵

The formulations of the National Committee on Autonomy came to fruition in 1961 when the constituting convention of the Lutheran Student Movement in Canada (LSMC) was held on September 8-11 at Waterloo Lutheran University, Waterloo. Don Storch, a student from Edmonton, was the first president. At that time, there were fifteen local chapters of the LSMC, including those at the Alberta and Saskatchewan schools as well as at the Universities of British Columbia, Calgary, Manitoba, McGill, McMaster, Queens, Western Ontario, and Waterloo Lutheran.

The constitution included the following in its statement of purpose:

Within the context of the Lutheran faith and teachings, the purpose and aims of the LSMC shall be on a chapter level to confront students with the person of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, seeking to have them commit their

lives to Him and seeking to make them aware of their responsibility as willing servants of Christ by striving:

- a. to make the student aware of the relevance of the Gospel in the academic community,
- b. to help the student deepen his faith in Jesus Christ through Bible study and other study,
- c. to challenge the student to bear witness to his Christian faith,
- d. to encourage Lutheran Student Fellowship, and
- e. to encourage the regular participation of each student in the program of a local Lutheran congregation of his choice.²⁶

Student Perspectives on Campus Ministry

How does campus ministry change students? Students are ministered to by campus ministry and also learn to minister to others. Campus ministry both feeds and forms, and many students continue in active roles in churches and institutions upon graduation. Some students wrote about their personal experiences with campus ministry.

The following articles appeared in the *Lutheran Campus Ministry – Waterloo Newsletter*, Easter, 2002, edited by Chaplain Jonathan Schmidt and Dr. Harold Remus.

*As a student at WLU, **Heather Patterson** was active in the Lutheran Student Movement and also served as a peer minister.*

Well, I finished my degree in anthropology and French at Wilfrid Laurier University in April 2002, and now the question stands as to what I will do with this degree. I have always wanted to be a teacher, and so I decided to test the waters on the profession by taking a position as an English language assistant in France. So, I am learning a lot about teaching and also improving my French incredibly, all while working in a high school in Loches, France (near the city of Tours). The year off has turned out to be very worthwhile, in that I can see the benefits of it in terms of professional development, but also because I am working only 12 - 15 hours a week, I am also learning the importance of relaxing and using my time for enjoying myself and exploring the area around me.

My degree is serving me well, I think. The French that I learned will obviously be of use for me, a future French

teacher. But the anthropology I studied has taught me a way of looking at the world around me that I really like. I am enjoying taking in the culture around me very much!

I am also learning about God this year, but learning in a different way than I expected. Religion seems to be a rather taboo subject for discussion here, as every effort possible is made to keep state and religion as separate from one another as possible. Apparently, Muslims and Hindus and people whose religions would have them wearing clothing that marks them as belonging to a particular religion are not even allowed to wear that clothing at school. At the same time, I am finding myself more at the mercy of help from strangers here, and I have seen kindness come from some very unlikely places. A friend told me that maybe this is my year to be served, and I think he is right. That way, I can better prepare myself to serve others.

I have been attending services at the only Protestant church in the city of Tours, but I find it hard to worship in another language. On the other hand, I appreciate campus ministry even more now that I am without it. It is such a blessing to have a caring Christian community to share ideas and grow with!

So, after leaving university, I am finding myself on all kinds of new adventures and enjoying every minute of them! I am looking forward to coming home to Canada in a few months and hopefully going to Teachers College in the fall.

Thomas Haase was active in the LSM while he was studying at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary. He introduced Taizé worship to our Sunday evening sanctuary services.

In summer, I graduated from seminary in Germany. On September 4, I started my internship. First, they asked me to go to Minnesota, but I asked them to find a different placement for me, because the congregation

was very small and they didn't have youth work. So, now I am in Chino, California, which is pretty close to Los Angeles. The congregation is very interesting. They have all kinds of ministries. I even can continue doing prison ministry once a week. Maybe you have heard of Claremont College. That is where I often go to listen to international speakers. I have also visited the chaplain and plan to do some work with them. Another Lutheran church nearby is doing a mentor program for mainly Spanish speaking kids. In January, I will teach English to an Arabic speaking child. I was already joking that this child will probably get my German accent.

Stephanie Tubbe served as a peer minister from 2002 to 2003 working with Rob Josephson, Melissa Stephens, Mike Doan and Rob Wiesner. She wrote the following:

I am in my last year at Wilfrid Laurier University studying history and geography. For those of you who do not know me yet, I am involved in the Lutheran Church in many ways. I am Youth Co-ordinator at St. Stephen's in Kitchener; I served on the Committee for the National Young Adults Conference this spring and I'm currently on an internship committee and volunteer at the "Out of the Cold" Program at St. John's, Waterloo. I have also been involved in Sunday School, Gospel Cloning, church choirs, ELW and Church Council.

In choosing which universities to apply to, I looked for schools with campus ministry programs, as my sister had been involved in campus ministry a few years prior. I decided on Laurier as it allowed me the opportunity to stay at home and save some money. Though I did not have much time in first year to get involved, I gradually became part of the Lutheran Student Movement through attending Cost Suppers, the student meals every Thursday at Mt. Zion, Waterloo.

Many of the peer ministers, friends of mine, inspired me to try my hand at working with people my own age (something relatively new to me). Peer ministry has been a challenging learning experience and I have thoroughly enjoyed it. It has given me the chance to work with a team of fellow students in planning and leading worship each Sunday night, as well as study and fellowship opportunities. This year, we focused on the areas of worship and fellowship and acted as a liaison between the student movement and local churches.

Lutheran Campus Ministry has been the highlight of my final year of studies, and I hope the Peer Ministry program continues to help students find a safe, accepting Christian environment on campus.

*Another student **Karen Kuhnert** and her husband, Peter, and their three young daughters moved from Inuvik, in the Northwest Territories, to Waterloo in 2000 to attend Waterloo Lutheran Seminary. Karen compares Lutheran Campus Ministry in Waterloo and at the University of Alberta, where she and Peter were students, and writes about how her life was affected by campus ministry.*

Peter and I have been shepherded in three different provinces by LCM pastors in 11 of the last 15 years.

First, at the University of Alberta campus by Steve Larson. Who would not love Steve! He was my first real shepherd. He could sing, lead, welcome, counsel, teach, love – and, praise God, could he preach! It was only on his last Sunday before he departed for Switzerland that I discovered that he wrote his sermons – the words seemed to come straight from God through Steve, and what he had to say was just what my soul needed to hear.

Then came Richard Reimer. I had a hard time allowing myself to be shepherded by Richard, likely because he wasn't Steve. Richard could sing, lead, welcome, counsel, teach, love – and, praise God, could he

preach! But what he offered was different, equally sincere but even more creative.

Sometimes we'd watch Dana, Richard's wife, perform liturgical dance. Sometimes we had sharing time during service, when we'd discuss issues and feelings. Richard once crafted a sermon that was a gripping journey of evolving visual poetry. The piece reflected an imagined encounter with aboriginal and Christian faith. It was undeniable that Richard was also gifted and I had been unappreciative. Richard and Dana came twice to Inuvik to teach and share their gifts with our largely aboriginal faith community. Both times, our group devoured the experiential and academic faith this couple had to give. Richard never stopped offering me what I did not even know I needed.

Now our family is in Waterloo while Peter studies at seminary. Jonathan Schmidt is our LCM shepherd and we see him mostly on Thursday nights at the student suppers. I haven't heard him preach or lead worship but I've observed him with students, sat at table with him many times, and been in his company often enough to know that he is also gifted. Oddly enough, what I appreciate most about Jonathan actually makes me feel uncomfortable. Jonathan, knowingly or not, challenges me to examine what I think I need. Out of his choices and his integrity, he calls me to question my own. While I would not have asked God for a call to examination and enlightenment, for this I am grateful. As with Steve and Richard, Jonathan helps me see Jesus. What more could anyone ask of a shepherd?

I am grateful to God for all who make campus ministry possible. I am grateful to God for the gifts God has bestowed on these shepherds. I am grateful to God for blessing Peter and me with LCM shepherds and flocks, and I pray that campus ministry will survive to shepherd our daughters through the doubts, fears,

temptations and joys of their lives. Thanks be to God for it all.

When Karen wrote the above article in 2001, she could not have imagined that in the 2006-2007 school year, she would serve people as a part-time intern through Lutheran Campus Ministry - Waterloo at University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier as a “shepherd” herself.

***Julia Beddoe**, a student who lived at the Lutheran Student House and worked as a peer minister in campus ministry, was asked to share her insights about campus ministry as she looked back from the vantage point of 2010.*

Campus ministry has a lot to celebrate, and I am happy to be a part of the celebration. My introduction to campus ministry was as a first-year student at Laurier in 1997. I remember keeping a pair of slippers at the Lutheran Student House that year, even though I lived on campus. It just made sense, since the residents of the house welcomed me so warmly and I ended up spending hours there every week. I ended up living at the Student House for three years and am happy to count many of those housemates as close friends 13 years later.

That same sense of community touches all aspects of campus ministry – the weekly Cost Suppers, the many social events, the worship services, the welcome barbecues in September and the monthly committee meetings. As a student active in the campus ministry community, a Lutheran Student House resident, a peer minister, and now as a Council member, I continue to hold this community close to my heart.

Looking back, there is a flood of memories that stand out for me. Central to many of them is the large oval table in the kitchen at 177 Albert Street and the conversations, meals, laughter and quiet moments it has seen over the years. I also remember retreats at Camp Edgewood. ‘Sanctuary’ services at the chapel on Sunday evenings – what a beautiful way to come together at the

start of the week. A celebration of Oscar Romero’s life through film and discussion while learning about liberation theology in Latin America. Ash Wednesday services at the Student House. A few April Fools pranks that ended up with a couch in the kitchen for a month or more. A crazy game Pastor Val led that had us running through the House and around the yard on Albert Street, and police cruisers checking things out. Sharing a Wednesday night meal with the community that gathers at St. Mark’s Church – and reflecting afterwards on issues of poverty and access to food in Canada. My life has been shaped by campus ministry in many wonderful ways – and I look forward to celebrating this ministry for many years to come.

***Robert Wiesner**, a peer minister in the early 2000s, now pastor of Holy Trinity, Belleville, Ontario, wrote the following looking back from 2010:*

I have many fond memories of being part of a wonderful organization which did many things for students and staff at WLU and UW.

I remember the first time I met Pastor Jonathan Schmidt shortly before entering the seminary. I also remember participating in my first Sanctuary service on Sunday evenings in the seminary chapel.

Waterloo Lutheran Campus Ministry was an opportunity for me, as a seminarian, to meet other Lutherans and others from various denominations and to have a safe environment in which to ask questions and express my doubts. LCM was also a place for nurturing and developing my faith as well as my sense of call into the ministry. In fact, I am convinced that if I had not had the friendships and opportunities that I had in LCM, I would not be a pastor today. I am thankful for all the friends I have made during my time in LCM.

I was at WLS from 2000 to 2005, and in that time I was fortunate to participate in many events and activities! Whether we went bowling, participated in pub-nites, attended Cost Suppers, lectures or worship services, everyone was welcome to share in our fellowship and fun!

LCM was also very involved in the Lutheran Student House, across the street from the seminary, where some of us working as peer ministers lived. I have many of my fondest memories of LCM from the Student House. Many of my current friends and colleagues lived at the Lutheran Student House. It was a great place to meet people, to hold meetings, to share in wonderful food, to build connections between LCM and the seminary.

LCM was a wonderful organization to work with and for. Students of all denominations and religions were able to come together to learn from one another and to have the opportunity to work together for various projects and causes. One such project was the creating of a multifaith worship space, which was opened on campus in an old storage space, which has recently moved to a more inviting space at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary! It was such a privilege and honour to work with students from many faith traditions on this project ... to learn from each other, in respect and understanding, and to offer people of faith on campus a safe space in which to pray and worship.

There are many reasons to give thanks for Lutheran Campus Ministry and its work on our university campuses and communities! I give thanks for the opportunity to work with so many gifted and wonderful people! I also give thanks to all those who supported campus ministry with their generous gifts of time and treasure! You have given a great gift to our students!

Thanks for the memories, LCM!

Many blessings for the future vision and success of this important and meaningful ministry to the students of our communities.

Sebastian Meadows-Helmer, a seminary student in 2010, now pastor at Christ The King/Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Thornhill, Ontario, reflects on Lutheran Campus Ministry.

When I first moved to Waterloo in 2006 to attend seminary, I was a little anxious as to whether I would find a good apartment or have to stay in residence. However, when I was accepted at the Lutheran Student House, I found an incredible home. My room had beautiful high ceilings and large windows to let in the light. The house was just across the street from the seminary, so it took only minutes to get to class. But most of all, I had the privilege of having wonderful roommates, including some from World University Service of Canada who had been refugees from some of the most desperate parts of the world: Somalia, Burma and Rwanda. Hearing their stories and their point of view has greatly enriched my life and helped me grow as a person and a pastor. The relaxed, friendly atmosphere of an intentional faith community (which currently includes two Muslims) has been a nurturing home for me for three years during my journey to ordained ministry. I will always look back fondly on my time here.

Janaki Bandara is enrolled at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary and is a peer minister. She shares some thoughts about campus ministry in Waterloo.

I became part of Lutheran Campus Ministry of Waterloo in 2009, and have had the pleasant challenge of exploring new ways to do campus ministry amongst the very busy student population at Wilfrid Laurier University. Working with the Lutheran chaplain on campus, Pastor Patricia Jackson, we have done a number of awareness-building projects for Human Trafficking Awareness and Refugee Rights Awareness.

The challenge with campus ministry is getting students to see social justice activism and ministry work

Lutheran Congregations and Campus Ministry

as equal in importance to the many other things that vie for their attention and time. I attempted to do Movie Ministry – showing free social justice oriented movies, and providing snacks in the hope of stirring students to a desire to be involved with social justice issues. This exercise was a good learning experience, and I realized the depth of the challenge we face in accessing students in the midst of their school, leisure and extracurricular time demands.

Pastor Patricia and I are working together this year on developing a longer-term agenda that will provide direction to LCM-W projects for a few years to come. From the awareness-raising projects, we have found a couple of student volunteers who will work with us. Going forward, we hope to work with these students, gathering more students along the way, and to actualize the ELIC mandate to work on the problem of Human Trafficking in Canada.

In my own experience, campus ministry is a vital part of being a Christian, and social justice activism is an awesome way to awaken non-Christians to the Jesus principles taught to us in Christian scripture, especially, loving our neighbours as ourselves – and what this means in practical terms. It is my hope that, through the projects and programs that we have planned for the upcoming years, we will be able to do useful ministry and awaken amongst our student population the desire and interest and passion to love our neighbours as ourselves.

*Lutheran Campus Ministry
and Local Congregations*

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In 1999, Nadine Schroeder-Kranz prepared a study titled "Linking Congregational and Campus Ministry" as part of the requirements for a Master of Divinity degree at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary. Students were interviewed and asked questions pertaining to their experiences of congregational support which she summarized as follows:

The interviews show that students are receptive to and appreciative of any support offered by their respective home congregations. The interviews indicate a need for more communication between congregations and campus ministry. The findings of the current study suggest possibilities for future communication between congregations and campus ministry and for how a congregation might further support the faith journey of its students.

Nadine's study goes on to say that,

University life is not unlike a boat ride. Leaving home for post-secondary education can be described as students one day getting into a boat and travelling uncharted waters. They are faced with challenging waves of thought, hard life experiences and the responsibility of staying afloat. They can be whipped by the winds of doubt and rocked by the waters of stress. Through this life changing experience, students learn about themselves and life. Students make life-impacting decisions that eventually land them on the shore of the other side of the lake. A

shore that is unfamiliar and perhaps unexpected. What can particular Lutheran congregations do to support their post-secondary school students in their faith lives during their studies? How can congregations encourage students to keep their heads above water? How can congregations offer support to those students experiencing rough waters? How can they support students in times of calm and quiet thought? Be it rough or be it calm, students need support from their congregations as they journey through post-secondary education.²⁷

The study focused mainly on how the home congregation can support the student who has left home. It suggested that a sister congregation, in the city where the student is attending post-secondary education, should be established with the student's home congregation so that continued contact can be maintained.

In Waterloo, there have been various ways of showing support for the students. Donations of time and money have been given freely and enthusiastically in the interests of the students' well-being, both physically and spiritually. Campus ministry has been and still is supported by the local congregations as they volunteer many hours for the upkeep of the Lutheran Student House and to support the students who live there.

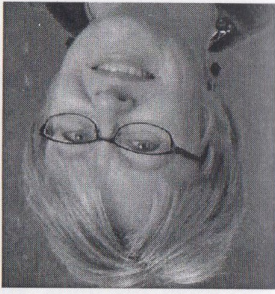
Another way in which the local congregations support the students, staff and faculty is by providing home-cooked meals once a week. These have come to be known as Cost Suppers, for which a minimal donation is requested from those sharing these meals.

Food and Fellowship

Cost Suppers

Anne Wohner

Chair of Lutheran Campus Ministry - Waterloo



Anne Wohner

Many years ago, Cost Suppers were initiated by Rev. Dr. John Neeb, a professor at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary. The first suppers were held at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Waterloo where he was a member. Members of the church hosted and cooked nutritious suppers for students of the University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University at a cost of \$2 to \$3, enough to offset the cost of the supper. These evenings of food and fellowship were enjoyed for many years with the chaplain leading some very thought-provoking discussions.

Attendance started to decline when more and more students had evening classes and many students had difficulty getting to the Cost Suppers due to lack of transportation. As a result, the Cost Suppers were discontinued.

When students started mentioning that they would like Cost Suppers again, Lutheran Campus Ministry Council decided to try a new approach and take the Cost Suppers to the students. Each week, different churches sponsor the supper and bring wonderful home-cooked meals to the Waterloo Lutheran Seminary student lounge for the students before they head home or off to their evening classes. This enables the students to have an inexpensive home-cooked meal without having to leave campus.

By providing Cost Suppers, Lutheran Campus Ministry has demonstrated to the students that our KW Conference churches are there to support and nurture them.

Martha's Table -
Thursday Night Cost Suppers

Joan Bringer
Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Waterloo²⁸

Cooking dinner for 30 hungry university students sounds like a pretty daunting task. But it's really not. Team effort makes the meal planning and preparation flow smoothly and even fun. Sandra Willman is the person who co-ordinates the meals. Sandra posts a list in the narthex each session asking for three volunteers each week, one to prepare salad and bread (which can be bought), one to prepare the main course and one to provide dessert. Tossed salad is standard fare or how about coleslaw or your favourite family recipe?

The main course selection really lets your creative juices flow. Will it be a one-dish casserole or stew, or maybe a beef or pork roast? Dessert can be as easy as ice cream and cookies or pie or fruit cocktail. Sandra is always willing to help with menu suggestions and quantity cooking hints. You can prepare your meal at home or arrange to borrow a key and use the church facilities. Delicious, nutritious, fragrant meals appear on the table each week, always different; somehow the menu is never duplicated.

The kitchen is marvelously equipped with stoves, cooking and serving utensils. There are always helping hands to set up tables and make coffee and juice (which is provided by the church). The best piece of equipment is the automatic dishwasher run by Harold Remus. Harold is truly a blessing because, truthfully, after cooking the food, it is so relaxing to know you don't have to face a mountain of dishes.

Now that we have the meal preparation out of the way, we can talk about the real reason for coming together on Thursdays to cook: the students. If you don't like cooking, come to meet the students and hear their stories. The group of students each week is as interesting and diverse as the meals prepared – the experiences and stories never to be duplicated. I had the pleasure of taking a group of European students for their first cross-country skiing experience on a Sunday afternoon at Laurel Creek. Always appreciative, always interesting and definitely never boring, the university students are awesome dinner guests.

I challenge others to pick a recipe, invite some friends and sign up to meet a part of the body of Christ that is living and studying on our doorstep.

Afterword

Chaplain Val and Chaplain Jonathan both observed that they never had to worry about the work of the Council or that assignments taken on by the Council would not be carried out – which left them free to focus on their own part of the ministry. My computer has 45 folders devoted to LCM, with many subfolders that tell the various ways our Council worked in support of LCM in Waterloo:

- The agendas for our monthly meetings, with times allotted for each agenda item so that we ended promptly at 9:30 (nothing more frustrating than a meeting that exceeds the announced adjournment time).
- The list of committees on which members served, whether Finance, Hospitality, House, Website, Friends of Campus Ministry or the ad hoc kind.
- The spring and fall cleanup days at the House when members of Council and of local congregations showed up to lighten the burden.
- Val's and Jonathan's monthly reports to Council.
- The annual evaluations of the ministry that the Eastern Synod required of the Council and various folders relating to the Council's relations with synodical boards.
- Peer ministers. A document entitled LIFE TOGETHER AT THE LUTHERAN STUDENT HOUSE, WATERLOO: *Some Precautions and Policies*.
- Loonie Sunday, the annual fundraising appeal in Kitchener-Waterloo congregations.

When I arrived at Wilfrid Laurier in 1974, long hair and sideburns were common among males. Many, including Bart Beglo, the Lutheran Campus Chaplain, sported ponytails. Skirts were short – well, maybe they were long, but they had been short – who could keep track? What's clear is that hemlines went up, down, and up again from one year, or one decade, to the next, reflecting (say some observers) the state of the economy and society, both of which underwent marked changes over the decades since 1974. Long hair and sideburns on male students gave way to trimmed hair, then

baseball caps turned back or front, and now shaved heads on some, long hair on others, and something in between as well.

What sets these changes apart from changes in earlier eras is the speed with which they occurred and the magnitude of change. To take one example, I used to try to convey to students some notion of life B.C. – *Before Computers* – when term papers and dissertations had to be typed on a manual typewriter with mistakes on the original and on each carbon copy painstakingly corrected with an eraser or white-out. And of course, no websites or Internet to facilitate research (and sometimes plagiarism) and “staying in touch.”

And yet, though students and their styles have changed so much, many of the same issues and problems were – and are – still central. How to connect the faith, if any, that students bring to campus, to what they were learning in class and experiencing outside of class? What to study, what kind of life-work to settle on? How to get an education while also preparing for a career and worrying anxiously about marks and how to make it through exam time? How to relate to the opposite gender? How to pay for it all?

Over the course of those decades, styles of campus ministry also changed, with the chaplain and Council each trying to figure out how to offer a Christian presence on campus, how to connect with students where they are, to give a listening ear, to stand with them, to offer the traditional Word and Sacrament.

In the phrasing of the Letter to the Hebrews, time would fail to tell of the contributions of the many persons involved in the ministry in Waterloo, whether on the Council, or from local congregations, or in the synod office or on synodical oversight committees, or employed by the two universities. From all walks of life, they sensed the importance of the ministry and gave of themselves in support of it. Thank you to them, and thanks be to God as others now continue the ministry in many and various ways, as an essential mission of the church.



Waterloo Campus Ministry Council, 2011

*L-R: Rev. Lloyd Wiseman, Rev. Patricia Jackson, Grant McDonald,
Anne Woolner and Rev. Peter Kubnert*

Students

*The Lutheran Student Movement in Canada
and the Quest for Autonomy*

The following article is taken from the minutes of the National Committee on Autonomy, May 1960, which met at Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. The Secretary was Helen Pearson, Kenora, and the Chair was Ross Klinck, Kitchener. Others on the committee were Ivan Saarinen, Sudbury, and Arnold Weigel, Neustadt, representing the Eastern Canada Region (ECR). Dorrine Kurtz, Armin Mohr, Ed Schludermann and Don Storch representing the Maple Leaf Region (MLR).

The history of the National Committee on Autonomy (NCA) is an exciting chapter in the life of the Lutheran student in Canada.

One is hard pressed to mark the first steps which led to the NCA. Not until the close of WWII did Canadian students begin to feel a need for autonomy, individuality and self-expression. In their relationship with LSAA (Lutheran Student Association of America), their only individuality was an ELPAM²⁴ hat and a beat-up Union Jack, which they may or may not have been allowed to fly. The voice of Canada was a weak cry. Not only was it difficult to hear, but also it was unheeded because it wasn't understood.

So it remained, very few Americans understood why Canadians wanted to be recognized, wanted their flag and anthem held in respect and their country paid the tribute due to a nation.