



# LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

## WINTER NEWSLETTER 2015

### A Word from the Chaplain

I want to take a moment to brag about how amazing and talented our LCM students are! I have the privilege of serving with some of the most servant-hearted, caring, and determined people I know. In our midst we have wonderful musicians, including five marching band members; gifted athletes and a clever photographer; careful writers and confident speakers; a radio host and a member of ROTC; and incredibly bright learners.

Out of their heart for others, our students help to oversee preparations for the monthly FISH (Fellowship in Serving the Hungry) program and spend time with families facing homelessness through Family Promise. Individual students manage community gardens; assist congregations with special dinners; and work with students and adults with disabilities.

It is a true blessing and joy to accompany the students of LCM as they grow in their faith and love of Jesus Christ while living out that faith in such varied, inspiring, and vibrant ways. Thanks be to God!

In Christ, Mindy †

### Tuesday Night Dinners at Pauls' Chapel!



Dinners on Tuesday evening during the school year have become a welcome and important part of the fellowship activities for Lutheran Campus Ministry. Students look forward to getting together with friends in a comfortable environment, laughing, sharing, taking a break from studies, and enjoying a home-cooked meal prepared by members of local congregations. Typically the meal starts at 6 PM and is followed at 7 PM by worship and discussion at the Chapel. Tuesday night hosts are welcome and encouraged to spend the evening with the students.

Some congregations like to work together as a group and divide up each portion of the meal. We welcome this as a hosting option. LCM is very flexible, and we are willing to work with our hosts to ensure a pleasant and rewarding experience for everyone.

We pray that you will consider hosting a Tuesday dinner during the second semester. Please contact the LCM office or visit the following website to sign up for a Tuesday dinner. Thank you!

<http://sites.udel.edu/lutheran-campus-ministry>

### Property Challenges at 247 Haines Street

Owning two sturdy buildings on a strategically located corner lot just off the UD campus is a blessing! It also brings its share of challenges. We invite your prayerful consideration of whether you might be able to help with some of our current needs:

- Do you have a truck that you could loan for the day for trips to the dump and to the green waste collection site?
- Do you have goats that you could loan us later in the spring for a day of ivy removal?
- Do you have the right kind of equipment to help us to remove a dead tree?
- Would you enjoy repainting an exterior door, portal ceiling, or railing?
- Would you consider donating a new banner to replace the one that was stolen this fall?
- Would you consider donating new mats and a matching hand towel for our chapel bathroom?
- Would you consider donating a secure mailbox for the property?
- Would you consider donating small plants or flowers later in the spring for a south-facing flower bed?
- Could you join us for two or three hours per quarter for a work party day?
- Could you join us once per month for a property partners meeting?
- Do you have property maintenance experience that you would like to share to benefit our student ministry?

If you want to dream big with us, our longer term goals include:

- Paving the parking lot
- Obtaining a new couch for the student apartment space
- Clearing the invasive vines from the back stretches of our property
- Replacing broken panes and ill-fitting doors in our chapel building
- Expanding our student gathering space as our group outgrows the chapel!



## What Does LCM Mean to the Students?

"LCM is a home away from home."

"Amazing people, fantastic food, and wonderful worship."

"A sense of community."

"LCM is a welcoming and fun place on campus."

"A great place with good people."

"Faith, fellowship, and fun away from home!"

"A lovely escape from the stresses of college."

"Relax and recharge."

"A welcome escape from daily stresses."

"LCM is a place of fellowship and home away from home."

"Friends becoming family through fellowship and food."



Rooms available Spring 2016

1 single

1 double (female only)

Contact the LCM office for details

## OUR MISSION:

TO EXPRESS OUR FAITH IN GOD THROUGH FELLOWSHIP, OUTREACH, AND SERVICE.

## 2015 Grillin' with God Annual Fundraiser



Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd was the venue for the fall fundraiser on October 17th. Almost 100 guests filled the social hall and enjoyed an evening of fellowship; a wonderful theme-based meal provided by Chef Sonia Brode of *Catering by Sonia, Inc.*; and an opportunity to win any number of silent auction items or raffle baskets. This year we were blessed to have 50 individuals and businesses, as well as 7 contributing congregations, donate items for the fundraiser. Through your participation and generosity, we were able to reach our goal of \$10,000! Your gifts will assure the continuity of this ministry, fund student retreats and activities, and extend its mission of fellowship, outreach, and service on campus and within the community.

A special thank you to Emily Pierce and Marli Hurff for co-chairing the fundraising committee this year. It is a blessing to see LCM alums wanting to remain involved in the ministry. Thank you to Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd for offering their facilities for the event; thanks to all of our generous donors and supporters; and thank you to all of the LCM students for their help before, during, and after the evening. It was a fun and fruitful event.



## BLESSINGS OF 2015

OUR STUDENTS AND ALUMS

OUR STUDENT LEADERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

OUR DIRECTING COMMITTEE

OUR MUTUAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE

OUR SUPPORTING CONGREGATIONS AND SYNOD

OUR CONGREGATIONAL ADVOCATES

OUR TUESDAY DINNER HOSTS

OUR VOLUNTEERS

OUR CHAPLAIN AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

PASTOR ANN DENTRY, MICHELE TOPI, AND JOHN KEATING FOR THEIR SERVICE EARLIER IN THE YEAR

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS!



*"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men."* Luke 2:14

## What does LCM mean to our first-year students?



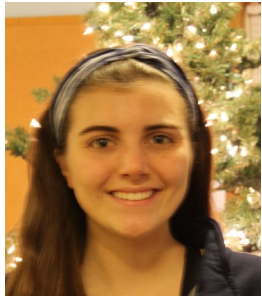
My name is **Hannah Roberts**, and I am from First Lutheran Church in Ellicott City, Maryland. I am a freshman in the honors program at the University of Delaware, and I am majoring in electrical engineering. My involvement in LCM was inevitable; church has always been an important part of my life. When I joined during my first month of college, I was greeted with open arms and instantly felt at home. As I finish up my first semester, I can easily say that Tuesdays are my favorite day of the week, and I cherish every second of dinner and worship. Everyone that is a part of LCM has been nothing but loving and caring, and I am very grateful for their support and friendship.

I began my involvement in the church when I was five years old and joined the children's choir, where I began to learn about Lutheranism and hymns. By the time I was confirmed, I was soloing for church every week as a part of the Seraphim choir, playing my clarinet, or cantoring. Music was a large part of my church, and I earned my Girl Scout Silver Award by teaching young Sunday school students about offering your gifts up to God. My class gave my pastor an idea, and I was asked to dance to *Stille Nacht* with a candle during the Christmas Eve service when I was in ninth grade. I will never forget the feeling of being able to make history in my church by doing ballet on Christmas Eve, and I continued to search for ways to serve God using my talents as I grew older.

When I reached high school, I joined the synod's Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO), which is a group of high school students that organizes and runs church retreats for middle and high school students. As a part of the LYO, I had the opportunities to give testimonies and be the leader of the Worship Team. I took the leadership skills that I developed in LYO back to my church and used them to volunteer my time. One of my proudest moments in the church was during my sophomore year when I earned my Girl Scout Gold Award by restoring the prayer garden at First Lutheran. I was able to learn more about hard work, networking, and leadership while helping the very place that fostered those skills. My leadership continued when I was asked to preach at my church during the Thanksgiving Eve service. It was life-changing to be able to be given a voice as a youth in my church, and seeing the impact of my words affect members of my congregation was something that I will always hold on to. After my experiences as a leader in my church, I continued to seek ways to share my thoughts and volunteer my time, from being a youth representative at the Synod Assembly to attending Gettysburg Seminary's Theological Education for Youth program.

Now, as a new member of LCM, I continue to look for ways to serve God and be a leader in the UD community. I can't wait to see God's plans for the opportunities that are ahead for me.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY THAT THIS MINISTRY MAY REFLECT THE LOVE AND GRACE OF CHRIST AND THAT OUR STUDENTS MAY GROW IN FAITH, SERVICE, OUTREACH, LEADERSHIP, AND DISCIPLESHIP THROUGH THEIR PARTICIPATION.



Hi! I'm **Kayla Reiner** and I am a freshman student at UD, majoring in Music Education with a minor in Disability Studies. As of right now, I am involved with University Singers, American Choral Directors Association, and National Association for Music Education, along with LCM. One of my youth group leaders back at home who attended UD recommended LCM to me, since she had been a member when she was a student. At church, I was very involved in the contemporary band, youth group, and many volunteer activities, so being involved at a religious organization at school was important to me. When I came to the first LCM event of the year, I knew it was the ministry I wanted to be a part of. It reminded me of my youth group at home, and Mindy and all the current members were so welcoming! I always look forward to every meeting Tuesday nights because of the great fellowship and discussions we have. I am very blessed that I found LCM and am looking forward to the next 4 years with the organization!



My name is **Leah Fitchett**, and I am a new student at University of Delaware in the 2015-2016 school year. This semester has been a tough adjustment, but I have found a wonderful home away from home in Lutheran Campus Ministry. I am currently studying as a Dietetics major, and in the future want to become a Registered Dietitian. I have always been interested in healthy eating, and it is such a prevalent topic nowadays that I hope to find success in the field. So far at UD I have gotten involved with organizations like Lutheran Campus Ministry, Nutrition and Dietetics Club, Yoga Club, and as the captain of the Neighborhood Empowerment Team on my dorm floor. I would also like to get involved with UDance in the future. At my home church I was very involved with my youth group, as well as the activities planned by the synod that my church is a part of. I did volunteer activities and went to many weekend retreats as a participant, as well as a staff member. These experiences had a pivotal role in my life, shaping my path as a Lutheran and me into the person I am today. I met so many friends throughout all of the activities that I did, and while I miss those memories, I am confident that LCM will be a great way for me to make new ones. I have already found familiarity in the Tuesday night dinners and talking with all of the regulars, as well as the guests who sometimes come to eat with us. It reminds me of the atmosphere of Sunday night youth group from my home church. I think my favorite part about LCM is how welcoming and warm everyone was from the very first time that I was there. It never felt awkward or like I was a "newbie." I felt like a member and a friend to everyone from the very start. I am so happy to have found LCM and hope to continue being a part of the awesome community that it is.



*Lutheran Campus Ministry would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with peace, health, and happiness.*

*May the light of Christ shine brightly in your life!*

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