

Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Maryland, College Park

Annual Report to the Metro D.C. Synod, 2015

This year, Lutheran Campus Ministry has been in a season of transition: we changed our student organization name, the time and place of our main worship service in order to be more intentional in the ways that we strive to love and serve God and share the Gospel on campus. Inspired by the model of Christian community as a healthy balance between relationships with God, people in the ministry, and people outside of the ministry, we have spent the year shaping our ministry into a more missional and purposeful community centered around living out our Christian vocation. We continue to build up and train leaders in our ministry so that they may go and use their faith, gifts and talents to impact the larger world and make disciples that will follow in the footsteps of Christ.

In the 2014-2015 school year we are engaging in faith formation, leadership development, and discipleship building through these weekly programs:

- Dinner and casual worship every Sunday night during the semester
- 2 separate small groups (called “huddles”) centered around discipleship building in everyday lives
- Reconnect, a midweek, mid-day 20 minute worship service centered around student reflections
- Bible study for graduate students
- En Camino, our tutoring program for at-risk Latino children
- CARing Kids, our mentoring program pairing at-risk elementary school children with university student mentors
- Joyful Noise, our student led praise band

In addition, we have several special events throughout the year:

- Bi-annual student retreats focusing on service, learning, and worship
- A yearly alternate spring break trip with the Towson and UMBC LCM’s focused on learning about a specific issue of concern in the world; this past year, 13 students and 4 leaders went to Jacksonville, Florida to learn about refugee resettlement and help with after-school programs for refugee children
- A yearly road trip at the end of the school year; this year, we went to southwestern Virginia and learned about the lives of people in rural Appalachia as well as the environmental issues they are facing.
- Ecumenical programming during Lent, including an ecumenical Ash Wednesday service and Stations of the Cross every year on Good Friday
- Worship with other Christian communities in the area
- Events for alumni and friends of the ministry, such as our annual Homecoming tailgate

On May 2nd, Lutheran Campus Ministry celebrated 50 years of ministry at the University of Maryland by Pastor Elizabeth Platz! We honored her in a celebration at St. Luke Lutheran Church in Silver Spring, MD, during which we began a three-year campaign called “The Next 50 years” to help keep LCM @UMD going strong. For more information about our activities, the campaign, or how you can help support students, please visit our website www.lutheranterps.com or email us at Lutheran@umd.edu.

Thank you for your continued prayers and generous support!