



Deacon Anna Dykeman, Campus Minister

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## Summer Newsletter 2018

LOVING GOD + LOVING PEOPLE

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## LCM Happenings!!

*"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9*

Why Hello there! It has been awhile since you've probably received one of these newsletters. So much has changed since the last one and I am here to bring you up to speed. Our fall semester started off a little rough because we were without a Pastor or Minister. As we still were in the call process, it was quite stressful for us involved in LCM. BUT as God is in control of everything, we persevered and continued as best we could. Our fall semester started off with a club fair, where all of the clubs on campus set up booths and get to talk to new students. It's always a fun time getting to see people you know while meeting the new students.



The next big event we participated in on campus was handing out free root beer floats during the Homecoming block party. It's a wonderful time to meet people in the community and be able to serve them a sweet treat! All the while when these events were happening, we were still actively looking to call someone to our ministry. We were lucky enough to have two wonderful candidates. After much deliberation we extended a call to Deacon Anna Dykeman and were pleased to receive an excited "YES!"



In the short amount of time that she has been here we have accomplished and done so many things. We started back with our regular worships, along with continuing our weekly Tuesday Soup provided from local ELCA churches and served by wonderful volunteers. One of the biggest adventures we embarked on was our Spring Break trip to Badland's Ministries near Medora. We learned so much about what it means to be a part of a community and talked about what we envisioned for LCM in the future. After we got back from our trip, we had our major fundraiser, the Chili Feed and Silent Auction. It also became the day we formally installed Anna as our minister! We've done so many other activities like making and handing out free rice crispy treats and bubbles, being a part of various resource/wellness fairs, helping to host a tea party all about consent on campus, running a couple carnival games for the MSU essentials for learning Sunday Funday, and ending our semester with a Thank you dessert event to give thanks to all those people that have supported us throughout the year. So I think that the verse at the top of the letter is quite relevant to us this year because doing something new and going into things is scary, but with God by our side we have done many amazing things and we will continue this into the future with the support of all of you!



By Paige Dolan

## Campus Minister's Report

Hello! My name is Anna Dykeman and I have the privilege to serve as Campus Minister through Lutheran Campus Ministry at Minot State University! My family and I moved to Minot in January. So far in this new call campus life has proved to be an active, multi-faceted environment with rarely a dull moment and LCM is a part of it all.

LCM is very focused on spiritual wellness of college students. My hope as campus minister is to engage students and walk with them as they ponder who God is, what God is up to in their lives, and how faith might be an important part of their lives and college career. So, we meet weekly for worship and Bible study. We go on retreats to deepen our understanding of God and ourselves. We go on Spring Break trips to widen our worldview and to learn about other people and to serve. We play, eat, and laugh together regularly. We serve with other clubs on campus to raise awareness on a variety of issues – from tea parties that focus on consent, to carnivals that raise funds for toiletry items to be handed out to local Minot schools to give away, to handing out bubbles and rice crispy treats to encourage stressed students to keep going in their studies.

LCM is a community centered in Christ who gathers to be nourished through Word and sacrament, so they may be sent to love and serve their neighbors and the strangers they meet. LCM, in partnership with local congregations, also serves soup to the MSU community every Tuesday during the school year (if you'd like to participate in this ministry please be in touch with me!). We also have a Vocational Internship Program funded by the Lilly Foundation, so students can explore firsthand how their gifts can be used to serve others while exploring their faith.

Even though I just began this call a few months ago one thread that distinctly runs through the tapestry of LCM is a sense of community. I hope that you, too, will see this as you read through this Spring/Summer LCM newsletter. I would also like to invite you to be a partner in the ministry that happens on campus through LCM. Would you please pray for the students, staff, faculty at Minot State, the LCM Board and for me? Would you also

consider financially supporting LCM? LCM thrives on partnership and community and we are overjoyed that you are a part of this ministry!

Peace be with you and enjoy reading our story...

Anna L. Dykeman

Campus Minister



## ANNOUNCING:

### Spring Break 2019

LCM is excited to announce our 2019 Spring Break opportunity: we are headed to Washington DC!!! We will spend six days in DC and Virginia learning, worshiping, playing, eating, and growing as LCM MSU community.

Here's a sneak peek...

**The Lamb Center:** we will be involved with this community whose mission is to "serve the poor and homeless, transform lives, and share God's love."

**ELCA Advocacy Office:** we hope to experience and learn more about what the larger Evangelical Lutheran Church in America does to live out the call to love God and serve others through the scope of advocacy.

**Virginia Beach:** we will take two days to play, relax, and talk through our service experiences. **Worship:** daily we will worship. We will also join a local congregation to participate in their worship and context. **DC Day:** We will take a day to explore some of our national attractions.

Spring Break 2019 will be March 9-16. Cost is TBD as of this publication. Please consider financially supporting this LCM MSU opportunity.



## Tuesday Soup

When you hear the words Tuesday soup you might have an idea of what that could be in your head, but for students at Minot State they might have a different idea than what you thought of. Lutheran Campus Ministries has had the pleasure of serving over two hundred students, faculty, and staff every week this past semester. It's not only the free soup, bars, and drinks that attract all of the people every

Tuesday. I believe that it is the volunteers from the local churches and the community that it provides for people searching for something more that really brings everyone together.

I have been going to Tuesday soup for four years now and it has been a great

blessing for me as a college student. I know that every Tuesday from 11-1:30 there is a free meal with wonderful people to enjoy it with. It is one of the very things that got me involved with LCM in the first place and in doing that it has changed my life forever. Many other people have been impacted by having this on campus and here is what they have to say.

"As the parents of two little boys, a quiet meal together is rare. So Tuesday soup becomes a little retreat or noon date for us where we can be together and with the larger MSU community." -Ryan Stander; Art professor at MSU



Ryan Stander and Karina Stander

"Soup Tuesday is arguably the best day of the week for students like Nick and I who needed food, wanted community, and had an hour gap between classes. The volunteers from the local ELCA churches around Minot and the surrounding areas are always so kind and willing to serve. It is a blessing to the students and great to be able to come together for a short time over a bowl of soup." -Rhayna Scheffler; graduated senior: Music education major

"It all started at my freshman year, when I heard that there was some free soup at the student center. It used to be at a smaller area by the international office, and I went to check it out. I was impressed with the quality and variety of food provided, and how nice the people were. After having a great first experience, I came back every single week, and Tuesday Soup became part of my schedule. It did not matter how my day was going, I would always leave there happy and with a positive attitude. I made great relationships throughout the past 4 years, and being so far away from home (Brazil) it meant the world to me to have a "second" family around to feed me and spend some time with. This year my parents came to visit and I had to make sure they would also experience the famous Tuesday Soup, they are very grateful for how kind LCM has been to me the past 4 years. I am very grateful for LCM and everyone involved, it is clear for me that what makes Tuesday Soup so special was not only the delicious tastes, but the incredible people I was around. I am now graduating from Minot State University, but will never forget all amazing Tuesday's I used to have." -Luis Ricci Maia; graduated senior: Major in Finances



Ryan Fila, Sue Robb, and Luis Ricci Maia



Nick Martens and Rhayna Scheffler

## Lutheran Campus Ministries

Hello, my name is Cassie Stauffer and I am a recent graduate of Minot State University. Sadly, my time with Lutheran Campus ministries has come to a close. I was asked to reflect on how LCM and the Vocational Internship Program have impacted my life journey, but before I go further I want to tell you a little about myself. I plan on attending Fuller Seminary this fall; however, if you would have told me just a few months ago that I would be going, I would have likely responded with laughter. I'm overjoyed to get to share with you a small snippet of how God has used LCM in my life.

In order to tell the whole story, it's important to start at the beginning. I was a freshman at MSU reading through the campus email newsletter, and I saw an advertisement for Free Soup on Tuesdays. Now I thought to myself that this sounds like the best thing ever! I told one of my friends about it, they were skeptical, but I talked them in to checking it out with me. It was there that I came to know Pastor Kari. It wasn't long after finding out about soup that I was attending in Bible study at Pastor Kari's house and joined them on a mission trip to Portland, OR. Now, this was just the beginning of an adventure because little did I know all that God was going to do through this ministry, nor will I completely understand it.

I have had the privilege of being a part of LCM as it has transitioned through two pastors and one deacon. Each of whom have had a different impact on my life and the ministry. While Pastor Christoph was our campus pastor, he helped establish the Vocational Internship Program (VIP). I also has the honor of going to Israel and Palestine to learn more about the conflict. Both would play large roles in directing the course of my next life decisions, but I will focus on my internship for time sake.

As a part of VIP, I was placed at Zion Lutheran Church. It was here that I able to combine my passion for the arts with my love for God. This was done in various ways including: lecture series, installing an interactive sculpture, hosting events and creating collaborative artworks with the congregation. I enjoyed my time immensely and am so grateful for how God used me and all that I learned from that experience.



During my time there, Pastor Carol pulled me aside and asked if I planned to go on further to study theology and/or art alongside it. I laughed and said no. At that point in time, I knew I was finding great joy in serving there, but I thought my next step was to graduate and become a teacher. I thought it was a nice idea, but didn't fit into my plan. And there it is, keyword being my plan. I was so focused on the plan that I wasn't willing to listen to where God was calling me. I felt that it didn't fit because I wasn't surrendered to following Him and willing to let go of what I had in order to do so.

Through a long process I found myself applying to Fuller Theological Seminary. It is my hope that I will deepen my theological understanding and use that in my future artwork to minister to others. I am not sure if I will work in a church, return to the teaching profession, or become a full-time artist. None of us know what God has in store for us. Many of us know Proverbs 16:9 "A man's heart may plan his ways, but the Lord determines his steps." We are reminded that we can plan, but don't hold too tightly to them. God holds us, loves us, and wants nothing but the best for us.

I take comfort in Ecclesiastes 8:17 "...No one can comprehend what goes on under the sun. Despite all their efforts to search it out, no one can discover its meaning. Even if the wise claim they know, they really cannot comprehend it." God is all-knowing, all-powerful, and all-loving. We don't, nor can we fully comprehend what God is doing with us here. What I do know it that I am glad to submit and surrender to God, knowing that He directs me and will guide me on the next adventure. There is so much more I would love to share about what I have learned through LCM. If you want to meet up





and chat more I would love that. If you support LCM, please know that you are making a difference in the lives of so many students and faculty.

Grace and Peace, Cassie Stauffer

## VIP and me!

This is our official second year having our vocational internship program at Minot State's Lutheran Campus Ministries. This is funded through our grant with the Lilly Endowment. There were two of us this year that participated in this program at two surrounding churches. Adam Barden was the intern at Hope Lutheran in Surrey, North Dakota and I was the intern at Peace Lutheran in Burlington, North Dakota. I'll be telling you a little bit about my experience during the year. Right away I felt quite at home because it's a smaller church like the one I grew up in. As I got to know some of the congregation I felt more a part of their faith family because they welcomed me right in.

One of the elderly ladies named Sylvia became a kind of surrogate Grandma to me. She would always ask me how my week was, let me sit by her during the service, and helped to introduce me to all of the people that I didn't know. She's always very encouraging and gives hugs when it's greeting time during worship. Her kindness and care for others really shows God's love to all of those at Peace. I am grateful for her because I am an introvert, so introducing myself to new people isn't always my strong suit.

My last story happened one Sunday morning when I was sitting with some of the church members having coffee hour and making conversation with everyone. As time went on I struck up a conversation with an older gentleman who sat at our table and was a visitor at Peace that Sunday. We talked about what I was up to, what my major was, and what I was doing at Peace Lutheran. When I told him I was a physical education major and then said "I know those are kind of an odd combination because how does physical education and God go together?" He then told me something that really struck me. He said "it doesn't really matter what your profession is as long as you are doing it to glorify God and showing those kids his **Grace and Love.**"

If I can do that, then whatever I do and wherever I go, I will use what I've learned in my vocational internship and spread the love of Jesus.

Peace out, Paige Dolan



Adam Barden, Anna Dykeman, and Paige Dolan

## LCM Board President's Report

Greetings from LCM board President, Jeri Langemo

It is with joy I greet you. In May 2017 the Lutheran Campus Ministry Board began working diligently through the summer and well into the fall in search of a Campus Minister to continue the good works of Lutheran Campus Ministry on the campus of Minot State University. We are ever grateful for the support we received during this time from Sherie Heine, Assistant to the Bishop and the office of the ND Western Synod of the ELCA.

Deacon Anna Dykeman answered our call and joined us in January 2018. She quickly immersed herself in LCM and campus activities. Soup Tuesdays, time with Peer Leaders, Vocational Interns, organizing Wednesday night worship, and Bible studies to just name a few. March brought the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Feed and Silent Auction along with the Installation of Anna Dykeman as our Lutheran Campus Minister. She sits on the Student Affairs Board, the University Cabinet and continues to make connections around campus. Most recently she has stepped into the pulpit in a couple of local churches, assisted in training for the leadership team at Camp Metigoshe and give the invocation at MSU 2018 Commencement and at the MSU Memorial Day event.

A core group of students have been a great resource to in helping Anna. Paige Dolan and Adam

Barden completed their second year as a part of the Lilly funded Vocational Intern Program. Thank you to Pastor Kim Gifford at Hope Lutheran Church in Surrey, and Pastor Emily Nesdahl at Peace Lutheran Church in Burlington, for giving these young adults the opportunity to serve among you and your congregations.

Love to make soup? Presently the five ELCA churches in Minot, Norwich Lutheran, and Hope Lutheran of Surrey, provide soup, bars, and bread for Soup Tuesdays on the campus of Minot State. In the rotation this means each church serves about 6 times during the school year. Our three area bible camps also participate each semester. More churches joining us would be such a blessing, even if it were just one Tuesday during the year. We serve 150-200 people each Tuesday. If you are a member of a church that would consider joining us in this ministry please contact Jeri Langemo at 701 833 4185. This ministry provides a hearty bowl of soup and place for young people to gather for caring conversations in the midst of their full school week.

Our board members serve three year terms. Should you see Cindy Nordquist of Zion Lutheran, Tammy Wolf of Bethany Lutheran or Larry Long of Christ Lutheran please thank them for their dedication in serving LCM. In some cases as many as twelve years! Now that says something about how much they love and care about this ministry. Thank you for your continued support of Lutheran Campus Ministry at Minot State University.

Blessings, Jeri Langemo, LCM Board President



Dan and Jeri Langemo



**Deacon Anna's installation at our 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Feed**  
Her family, the board, peer leaders, and MSU staff participate in the laying on of hands while Sherie Heine reads a prayer.



**Top Photo:** LCM people making rice crispies and getting bubbles ready to hand out.

**Bottom Photo:** Handing out treats, bubbles, and cheer as the end of semester came around!



**To the left:** Students show off their tea cups they made during a student life event to have conversations about consent.





Left: Dinner Church in the Multicultural Center



Right: One of the first worships with Deacon Anna



Spring Break 2018! Taking a hike around Badlands camp in God's creation



Dana Cluever and Kaitlin Walker at one of the resource fairs we attended



Left: Karen Langemo came to talk to us one of our spring break trip days

Right: Having a trip through the East part of the Theodore Roosevelt National Park



Left: Showing off the recycling game at the MSU Essentials learning Sunday Funday!

Right: Having some fun with a little friendly competition



What we all learned about vocation and community during the trip that we didn't know before.

"That **everyone** is different and that you are different in each one."  
-Shandra Getzlaff

"I was made **more aware** of the multiple aspects of community."  
-Adam Barden

"This trip gave me the **confidence and the confirmation** about how my long term goal needs to look like. Thank you all for your inspiration."  
-Marina Carrillo

"Vocation isn't so much a job as it is **what God calls us to do**, and while we all may define community similarly, each of us view communities in our lives very differently."  
-Dana Cluever

"That sometimes you really have to **be intentional about community**. It's not always easy. Community is great when you nurture it and find the good in people."  
-Paige Dolan



Ending our spring semester with our **Thank you dessert event!** They got that looking natural thing down!

### ***We are grateful for your support!***

Thank you for your faithful support of Lutheran Campus Ministry-MSU. Your donation makes a real impact in the lives of our students! Here's what your gift can do:

**\$25 = worship materials for Wednesday Worship**

**\$50 = bible study resources for 10-12 students**

**\$100 = vocational retreat student scholarship**

**\$250 = Vocational Internship**

**\$500 = Student Peer Leader training & mentorship**

Another way to support LCM is through Thrivent's charitable grant program called Thrivent Choice. Simply go to [www.thrivent.com](http://www.thrivent.com). Select **Lutheran Campus Ministry at Minot State University**.

*Tax-deductible donations may be sent to:*

**Lutheran Campus Ministry - MSU**

**500 University Ave. West, #17 + Minot, ND 58707**

***Thank you - your gift is a blessing!***



One of the summer BBQ times right after school was out! Have a wonderful rest of your summer!



**Goodbye to graduates:** Final supper to say goodbye and good luck to our graduating seniors

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