

Lutheran Campus Ministry-Twin Cities (LCM-TC) thanks the Minneapolis Area Synod for your consistent support and encouragement of our collective ministry with students, faculty and staff at the U. We are deeply grateful for the many ways you; as a whole synod, as congregations and individuals came alongside this ministry over the last two years. Together, we are ensuring a stable, healthy and vibrant ministry for today, and investing in our church and world for many years to come.

As we pivoted (many times!) during the pandemic, we continued to hold the tension between nurturing the committed young Christians that are the core of our faith community while also extending hospitality and welcome to those outside our doors. Some ministry highlights from 2021:

- We returned this Fall with just 10 servant leaders in the Fall of this year, a testament to the difficulty of connecting with people online and the general exhaustion of people. And still, our student leadership development work shone as students continued to bear witness to the warmth and welcome of Christ, with creativity, courage and compassion.
- Our ministry has focused on doing a few things, doing them with depth and with a clear sense of commitment. This allowed us to focus, to get to know one another in person, and extend clear invitations to people who are new to our community. We centered our efforts on our Wednesday night worship service, our Big Questions Small Group and Queer Bible Study, alongside opportunities for students to simply be together and support one another. This “simple church” model proved to be just right for our smaller leadership group, and the unexpected demands everyone faced as they learned to live their lives in person again.
- Leaning deeply into our call to work for racial justice through a hybrid racial justice retreat over winter break with Joe Davis and David Scherer, a hybrid spring break exploring the theme of wilderness with author Cole Arthur Riley, alongside numerous opportunities to work for justice and serve our neighbors each month of the Fall and Spring semesters.
- In the midst of a pandemic, we sent 12 seniors, many of whom had 4 years of involvement with LCM, out into the world. Their vocations led them to law school and med school; to farming internships and the National Institutes of Health; to communications firms in Washington, DC and PhD programs. This sending is one of the hardest and most beautiful things I do. It was particularly challenging this year.

We are grateful for the many blessings of partnering with Grace University Lutheran Church and University Lutheran Church of Hope alongside the myriad congregations of the Minneapolis Area Synod who support us prayerfully, financially, and in so many other important ways. It is life giving to partner with healthy congregations, and to involve students in the intergenerational life of these communities.

Pastor Kate Reuer Welton, and the Lutheran Campus Ministry-Twin Cities' Board of Directors