

# Alumni News

VOLUME I, ISSUE I

DECEMBER 2009

UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHAPEL, LINCOLN

## The Mission of the University Lutheran Chapel is to

1. Love God
2. Love Each Other
3. Make A Difference

We strive to help students receive and express **God's love** in vibrant worship and in personal scripture time.

We encourage students to **love each other** through small groups.

We direct students to **make a difference** in their world through little daily acts of obedience to Christ and by helping them pursue their passions, identify their spiritual gifts, and launch them into mission trip experiences.

## Special points of interest:

- Chapel Renovation Project
- Freshmen Find a Way to Survive
- Messiah Missionaries, Meaningful Mentors
- International Students Learn of Jesus' Love
- Chapel Alumni Are Making a Difference
- Summer Mission Trip to Jamaica

## Chapel Renovation Project

When was the last time you visited the Chapel? Do you remember how the entryway and main floor of the Chapel looked? This area hasn't had significant updating since it was built in 1969, and it's showing its age!

It's time for some considerable improvements to this area. The original carpeting is worn through and wavy. The area is poorly lit and ventilated. These issues cause major safety concerns that need to be addressed.

Our dream is to turn the first floor into a giant living room, where students can invite their friends to study together, watch a movie, hear live music, and meet for small group Bible study.

Please prayerfully consider making a donation to the Chapel Renovation Project to help us update this space into an area useful for ministry today.

Your support of our ministry is so important. Donations of materials, time, and money are important to keeping this ministry available to students on the UNL campus.

Alumni and friends who wish to support this ministry may send gifts to the University Lutheran Chapel, 1510 Q St., Lincoln, NE, 68508. Gifts for the renovation should be marked as such.

Gifts given will allow the University Lutheran Chapel to continue reaching out to students, connecting them with God's love, each other, and the world they are a part of.

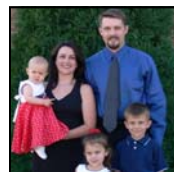


THE CURRENT COMMON AREA

## Chapel Alumni Are Making a Difference

**Rev. Brent and Jenny Smith** are living in Oberursel, Germany, where Brent serves as regional director for Eurasia for the LCMS Board of Mission Services.

**Ashley Effken** is serving with LCMS World Mission in Slovakia.



**Seth Korte** is on vicarage at Faith Lutheran Church in Huntingtown, Maryland.

**Adam and Jess Snoberger** are at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

Thanks be to God for using these Chapel alumni to enlarge His kingdom around the world.



# making a difference



**SARA, ANN, KATE, JESS, AND LORI FIND SUPPORT AT FRESHMAN NIGHT MINISTRY**

## Freshmen Find a Way to Survive *by Ann Oswald*

Everyone knows it's tough being a freshman, but you don't have to go it alone. What's my secret for survival? The University Lutheran Chapel's freshman night ministry.

Freshman night has impacted me first and foremost in my spiritual walk with the Lord. Each week we read through a chapter of the Bible on our own, then discuss what we've read in a group setting on Wednesday. Pastor Bill even ties the readings into his Sunday sermons. These weekly discussions keep me deeply rooted in the Word.

Small group settings for these discussions grow relationships with fellow brothers and sisters in the faith. I look forward to Wednesday night because I know that I am going to be surrounded by genuine people who care about the same things that I do. The best part is that these students aren't just friends that I talk to at the Chapel two days a week, but instead are the same friends that I see on campus every day!

I am truly thankful for the Chapel's ministry to freshman; it serves as a great light and support system in my life.

*We're trying to build a community of believers who . . . have the courage to explain to their peers what Christ is doing in their life.*

## Sunday Morning Worship Focuses on Gospel of Luke

Approximately 150 students gather each Sunday to worship at either the traditional or contemporary service. For the remainder of the fall semester and all of next semester we will be studying the Gospel of Luke one chapter per week. Students are encouraged to read the assigned chapter five different ways during the week and bring their questions and reactions to their small group.

We're trying to build a community of believers who see themselves as contributors, not consumers, on Sunday morning – a family of followers who take ownership for their own devotional life and have the courage to explain to their peers what Christ is doing in their life.

If you are ever in the area, stop in to join us for worship and see how God is using ULC to make disciples.

The Sunday morning sermon is a collection of Pastor Bill and students reacting to the text.

# love God

## Messiah Missionaries, Meaningful Mentors *by Lindsey Muehling*

*Women from Messiah, Lincoln, are volunteering to lead small group Bible studies for women at the Chapel. These small groups provide time in the Word, as well as develop relationships and provide spiritual mentoring. The following account is from a student who is part of one of these small groups:*

Like most college students, I am extremely busy and occasionally overworked. Whereas in the past I would often push my Bible study work to the last minute and find myself less and less in the Word, the structure of this study encourages me to spend time every day exploring the Bible.

My time with the Messiah Missionary program has had a significant impact on my faith life. I have been in Bible studies before, but this program is unlike any that I have ever participated in. My group is quite small, so I have enjoyed close fellowship and mentorship within this Bible study.

Each week we are given a new chapter of the Bible to study, and are encouraged to spend each day contemplating different aspects of the assigned reading. This has given rise to some compelling discussions about portions of the Bible that I had never given much attention to before. Most importantly, this study has kept me grounded in God's Word, and reinforced that when my life is chaotic and stressful, that is when I need His Word the most.



**A GROUP OF STUDENTS WITH THEIR MESSIAH MISSIONARY**

## Worship Team Offers Praise *by Hayley Clark*

I have been a part of the Lutheran Chapel Worship Team on and off since my freshman year of college, four years ago, and the experience has never been anything short of rewarding.

I grew up singing, and I was a member of my worship team back home. I knew I wanted to continue worshipping the Lord in this way when I came to college, and being a part of a team that engages members of the Chapel in worship on Sunday mornings is incredible.

We meet once a week to organize the set list and also talk about what the message will look like for

the upcoming Sunday. Although I never saw this as a Bible study before, I recently realized that the way we gather as a team to praise the Lord is just a different twist on a standard group study.

Being a part of the Worship Team here at the Lutheran Chapel has brought me closer to God, has become a creative outlet, and a great opportunity for me to show leadership in the community; as well as meeting some outstanding people along the way!



**THE WORSHIP TEAM JOINS IN WORSHIP**

# love each other

## Sunday Lunches Serve More Than Food

Sunday lunches after worship are critical for the mission of the Chapel. They allow students to build friendships and further discuss what they are learning from God's Word.

A huge thank-you to area Lutheran churches for cooking and serving the food. Pictured is a young men's leadership group from Christ Lutheran in Lincoln.



**LINED UP FOR LUNCH**

## Making a Difference in Jamaica *by Joe Baye*

In August of 2010, Pastor Bill, along with Joe Baye, will be taking a group down to Portmore, Jamaica on a LCMS World Relief Mission Trip. Part of the group will be teaching Vacation Bible School to K-12 students, while the other part of the team helps build a new church for St. Andrew's Lutheran Church. Our goal is to take a group of 20-25 college students to travel down on this mission trip, but have many spots left to fill!

Please pray that God will move hearts and bring students forward to join this trip. If you know a student you would like to encourage to be a part of this team, please contact Joe Baye at [jbaye@huskers.unl.edu](mailto:jbaye@huskers.unl.edu) or go to you can make a donation to this trip by visiting <http://jamaicamissiontrip.org> and clicking on the 'Donate' link on the left-hand side of the page. Please keep the team and our preparation in your prayers!



**THE CHILDREN OF JAMAICA**

# making a difference

## YOU Can Make a Difference

God has used campus ministry to minister to college students in Lincoln since 1924, when Nebraska congregations first began supporting special ministries. Today, this ministry is still supported through generous gifts made by congregations and individuals.

As a UNL alumni who received spiritual nurture and care from campus ministry, please consider a gift of support for this important ministry. Your gifts enable the Chapel to continue touching students with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Your regular commitment or one-time special gifts can be sent by check or online by clicking on "Direct Giving" at the chapel website at [www.lutheranchapel.org](http://www.lutheranchapel.org).

The Chapel is about equipping college students with the faith and courage to be disciples of Jesus on campus and for the rest of their lives. Your gifts help ensure this ministry will continue.

1510 Q Street  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
Phone: 402-477-3997  
www.lutheranchapel.org  
E-mail: alumni@lutheranchapel.org

Non-Profit  
Postage  
PAID  
Permit #8  
Seward, NE

**Save mailing costs—  
send us your email address!  
alumni@lutheranchapel.org**

## International Students Learn of Jesus' Love *By Mark Meyer*

It has been a tremendous blessing for me to be a part of a Thursday Night Bible Study with international students. These students are often experiencing the power and life of God's Word for the first time. I asked several of the students to briefly share how this group has been helpful for them. Below are a few of their responses:

"It seems to me that I attended the Bible study on every Thursday night for the purpose of learning English. However, as time goes by, I realized that the most important thing is not to learn English but to know who Jesus Christ is and what He did for us. Besides, I am also recommending other international students to join this Bible study with us. Let's know about history! History is just His (Jesus) story!"  
— Jee-hoon

"Thursday night Bible study really helps me a lot. I have learned that Jesus Christ is the most exciting relationship we can have. God always company with us with an all-loving, all-powerful God. The only sufficient provision for a relationship with God, that is Jesus Christ's death on the cross, since then we have been completely forgiven and accepted by God. All I've learned would help me build a firm foundation on my growing pains. I think I will be more encouraged in my tough time because God will bless everyone."—Yan

"In Bible study, I know that Jesus Christ devotes all He has to human beings in the world. I'm so moved by the great and selfless love that Jesus gives to us, no matter which kind of nationality or background one possesses. I will learn what Jesus teaches us by heart and I want to say 'Thank you very much' to Jesus and those nice Christians who are ready to help others."  
— Enqi

# love God



**MEMBERS OF THE  
THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE  
STUDY GROUP**

*Please pray for the students in this Bible study.  
May they all develop a true and living relationship  
with Jesus Christ!*