2019 Blessings by Pastor Jon Bilitz

Wisconsin Lutheran Chapel and Student Center enjoyed great blessings from the hand of God in 2019. We are grateful for God’s grace and for the support we receive from people around the world.

The congregation grew to a membership of 268, and those members, along with you, continue to make campus ministry a reality. In addition, over 120 people volunteered their time and talents to serve God and the ministry at Chapel. When we add the group of 99 musicians (soloists and instrumentalists) who assisted in worship, the total number of people serving Chapel grows to over 200! A total of 120 worship services were offered during 2019 with an average Sunday attendance of 206 and an average Wednesday attendance of 85. The live stream viewers averaged over 30 households per week.

In 2019, over 500 students spent time in the Chapel building. Over 300 attended a worship service at least once, with 140 students worshiping five or more times during the year. Students were also active in events and dinners. The winter exam week dinners drew 397 students to five meals! Throughout the year, over 60 events were held with over 1200 people attending. We are so grateful for students who continue to write devotions, teach in Sunday School, lead Bible study groups, and serve the Chapel in many different ways.

The International Ministry experienced immense blessings as well. For the year, 266 students registered to attend English as Second Language classes. Those registrants represented 40 different countries. Several of those students attend Bible studies, come to worship and enjoy conversing with an English partner. International student meals with devotions continued as well, with an average attendance of about 60. Thank you for your prayers and gifts! This ministry would not be possible without God’s grace and without you. We look forward to God’s blessings in 2020!

What's Happening at Chapel

The Chapel doors are always open and we would love to see you. If you are visiting the area, consider stopping by to say hello or join us for an upcoming event!

March 24 – Pie with Pastor 5-6:30 pm
March 25 – International Lunch 12:30 pm
March 31 – Chapel Career Night 6-7:30 pm
April 9 – Maundy Thursday Worship 6 pm
April 10 – Good Friday Worship 12 pm
April 12 – Easter Worship 8:30 and 11 am, Breakfast in between
April 15 – International Lunch 12:30 pm
April 28 – Pie with Pastor 5-6:30 pm
May 2 – Study Day
May 3 – May 8 – Finals
May 9 – UW Graduation
May 17 – Confirmation 10 am

Mark your calendars! September 27, 2020 – Celebration of 100 years of Lutheran Campus Ministry.
365 Days (Opportunities) for Impact

It is a blessing to see students walk through the Chapel doors 365 days a year. Many students who have graduated tell us that they continue to serve God’s ministry in their new communities, and the Chapel ministry continues year after year with strong support from members, parents and alumni.

Many supporters choose to make gifts throughout the year. A steady stream of gifts allows the Chapel to pay the bills to keep the lights on, ensure the coffee never runs out, and secure the building 24 hours a day. Thank you to all the donors who have chosen to give quarterly, monthly or annually. You are making this all possible 365 days a year.

If you would like to consider a gift to Chapel you can visit us online at www.wlchapel.org. You can also make gifts directly through your bank account by setting up recurring gifts from your checking account.

Students Giving Back

In November, I was fortunate enough to host the Christmas Giving for the second year here at Chapel. Christmas Giving is a program that provides Christmas gifts in wrapped shoe boxes for the less fortunate in our community. It is an opportunity for students and members to give back and volunteer. There are several ways people can donate to the program: wrap and pack a shoebox themselves, donate items for boxes, or simply donate shoeboxes or wrapping paper. This year we had about 20 volunteers help pack them all, and in total we delivered 120 shoe boxes to the River Food Pantry! The amount of donations received was incredible, which allowed us to expand the program from the first year. On top of all of the donations, I, along with my family, used Thrivent Action Dollars to buy the rest of the items for the shoe boxes. As I finish school, I hope that the growing success of the Christmas Giving program at Chapel will allow them to continue the program for many years to come.