

In Memoriam of Mark



It is with great sadness that we report the unexpected loss of our dear friend and brother in Christ, Mark Chytrcek. On October 9, 2015, Mark suffered a heart attack and passed from the arms of his beloved family to the arms of his Lord. Mark had been the director of Student and Resident services for 33 years and a founding member of the Chaplaincy Council in 2005. From the time before merger, Mark was a strong advocate and supporter of campus chaplaincy as he believed in a school that nurtured the whole person and that caring for

our students meant supporting their spiritual development as well. Fittingly, from his influence of students' spiritual lives, his name was the first to be read out as we remembered the saints among us on All Saints' Day. Our campus was rocked by this news, but students and staff have come together to honor Mark's memory and support and love one another in the way in which Mark modelled here on campus.

You are invited to... What's Cookin'? Soup Supper

Sunday, March 6, 2016
5:00 p.m.
The Chapel, Augustana Campus

Come and share in a simple meal, an evening of entertainment, pictures and music, celebrating Chaplaincy on the Augustana Campus

Why Chaplaincy Council?

Saying yes some years ago to being on the Chaplaincy Council was somewhat of a mystery to me. I am not necessarily gifted in sitting on boards, councils or committees in my opinion. I said yes to this one and I continue to say yes. Why?

Something about this group of people from the community, student chaplains and staff of Augustana, including Craig, Robyn and now Sara, caught my attention. It was not just the great work the chaplains do and they do a lot for the campus and the community; it was and is more than this. Reflecting on the "why" brought me to two observations beyond the good works. The first stems from the loftiest creator of a community ever, Jesus, who said "By this all shall know that you are disciples, if you have love for another". This is embodied in the work of chaplaincy at Augustana. It draws me in, this love. This love is reflected in

mutuality, respect and love for one's neighbour. The second observation is: others make me wiser if I meet them in love. Conversely, others make me wiser if they meet me in love. In this love, I have found a certain giftedness in myself for being on this particular council. I am drawn in by this love that reflects Jesus and I respond with "yes". Chaplaincy Council, a group of people who gather to discuss, plan, laugh and pray together, and recently shed tears together as we gather without Mark. It is in our strength together that we move forward into this next year.

May we continue to listen with one another to hear the guidance of love that bonds us together. May we continue to embody what is so needed in our world, a sharing in word and deed to ease suffering and bring comfort and peace.
Jane Arial

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The Good Wine First: A Gourmet Celebration of Farm to Table

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Table Manners

By Pastor Craig Wentland

Are you kidding? Table manners are taught at university?

It is definitely an extracurricular activity but each week some students gather around a common table and share a little bread and wine. From an external vantage point it does not seem like much but appearances can be deceptive. Students experience that you truly are what you eat. In the Christian faith, it is held that this meal is a revelation of the deep, deep reality behind all of creation, of Christ. Life at its core is about trusting in the Host who nourishes us, receiving in gratitude, allowing our lives to be broken for others and sharing until the needs of all are met.

This year Augustana Chaplaincy has chosen *Table Manners* as both its annual theme and an ongoing way to describe the mission of Augustana Chaplaincy. We understand that all we do in Augustana Chaplaincy, from the worship to the pastoral care to the feeding ministries to the community building events to the student chaplain program, is an extension of the pattern we learn around the communion table. Our spirits are nourished at this table and our spirits, in turn, mould our manners, the way we live in the world.

I hope that as you are introduced to our student chaplains and the new Assistant for Chaplaincy, Sara Smith, as you remember with us Mark Chytrcek, a faithful supporter of Chaplaincy, and catch a glimpse of our many activities, that you would see the table behind all that we do.



The Good Wine First: A Gourmet Celebration of Farm to Table

Student Chaplains



Craig, Wilissa, Annika, Katelyn, Nils, Sara, Tim

joy, life, energy and encouragement that I have received in my years here. As photographer and PR person I am especially excited to see all the familiar faces back on campus as well as many new ones. I will also be involved in planning the Fair Trade Local Made sale and co-leading a weekly baking group. I know this year will be an incredible chance to connect and share with my fellow students through many wonderful activities. I can't wait to see what God has in store.

Katelynn Cook — Hello! My name is Katelynn Cook and I am from Edmonton. It is my third year at Augustana as an Environmental Science student. On chaplaincy this year I am excited to be coordinating Fun-Raising events to bring the student community together through laughs, smiles and activities where we can share God's love with others. I am also eager to co-lead the student fellowship group Vikings' Friends with Annika, to support and help students grow in their faith. I was drawn to chaplaincy by the involvement and leadership of previous student chaplains, and it is something I wish to give back to the community. I enjoy sharing God's love with people and helping others to see the love of the Lord in their life. Seeing the way God works in people is incredible and I can't wait to witness what he will do throughout this year!

Nils Asfeldt — Hi, I'm Nils Asfeldt. I grew up in Athabasca, AB, and since then have spent my time in Norway and Camrose. I am entering my second year as an Environmental Science major. I'm excited to be a student chaplain and share God's love and community throughout Augustana and beyond! I have a great passion for outdoor pursuits of all, and I hope to connect with students through that interest. I will be helping to plan weekly worship, plan coffee house afternoons and SCORE!, a "free"-cycling event for gently used goods. I will also be co-leading the baking group on Wednesdays. I'm looking forward to a wonderful year as part of a wonderful team!

Annika Olesen — My name is Annika Olesen and I live on the Hoarfrost River in the NWT. I am a second year Bachelor of Arts student, but I have not decided on a major yet (or what I want to do with my life, for that matter). As a Student Chaplain, my role will include organizing Tuesday Soup Supper, planning the Fair Trade Local Made sale, as well as co-leading the weekly fellowship group Vikings' Friends. Outside of Chaplaincy, I run and ski for the Augustana cross-country teams, participate in as many community activities as possible, and sing in the Augustana women's choir. I look forward to sharing my love for the athletics, music, laughter, and the outdoors along with God's love for creation.

Wilissa Reist — Hello, my name is Wilissa Reist! I'm a 4th year Bachelor of Arts student majoring in Political Studies and minoring in history. I come from the thriving metropolis of Ryley, Alberta. After I graduate, I hope to pursue my masters in political science. This year I am working on the Augustana chalkboard, sitting on chaplaincy council, as well as helping out with various other activities. I am excited to share my faith with others this year and see what God has in store for me during my final year at Augustana.

Tim Faltin — Hello, my name is Tim Faltin. I am 23 years old, from Stettler, AB and am entering my fourth year of environmental sciences. I was raised in the Lutheran church and have greatly appreciated the chaplaincy program here at Augustana. This year I am excited to join the chaplaincy program and give back some of the

Meet Sara Smith the New Assistant to Chaplaincy

For some of you long-term readers and supporters, the name Sara Griffith may ring a bell. Although there is a new last name thanks to a wedding last Christmas, I have been a part of the chaplaincy family since my first year as a Student Chaplain in 2009. In my three years, I oversaw projects such as "If These Walls Could Talk", the installation of the chalkboard, donned the front cover of "Augustana at 100: More Lutheran than Ever?" with my fellow chaplains, and served in nearly every role (oddly except for fun-raising) in one semester or another.

I spent a lot of time in Robyn's office and thought of myself as one of the "and friends" that was always next to the name plate on her door. After the countless conversations and projects I worked with her on, I understand how many of you may struggle thinking that Augustana Chaplaincy just won't be the same without her and it never can be. I am not Robyn 2.0 and I never can be but Robyn's advice to me was to figure out what I uniquely bring to chaplaincy.

I honestly don't know what I am uniquely bringing to chaplaincy yet. I can tell you that thus far I have focused on getting to know a variety of students and welcoming everyone into chapel and many into my home. I have made it a priority to pray for our chaplaincy team and frequently ask how I can pray for students and staff. I have also appreciated the opportunity to preach during a Friday chapel. I see these three things as unique to me. My personal upbringing in a large family that often adopted in anyone who needed a place to belong shapes how I see hospitality. My experiences of working in a Christian workplace where we made it a focus to pray together daily shaped the importance of prayer. As well, I spent my last three years at Ambrose Seminary where I learned to value and love preaching.

What I do know, more than anything else, is how much I love and value Augustana Chaplaincy. I sincerely believe that our chaplaincy program changed my life and I never would have even considered going to seminary or into a ministry position before I was a Student Chaplain. Experiencing the annual Easter Vigil and being able to work alongside Robyn and the clergy from so many denominations and congregations shaped how I see what Christianity should look like and even though it is hard, I refuse to settle for anything less. I have always seen Augustana and Camrose in general as "home" and neither my husband nor I were surprised when I felt the call to come back to this place and this ministry. I am honored to be a part of this ministry full-time and I look forward to the years to come and the lives that will be changed.



The Good Wine First: A Gourmet Celebration of Farm to Table

On October 3, 2015, sixty-six guests joined us at Bethel Lutheran Church for a fall fundraiser "The Good Wine First: A Gourmet Celebration of Farm to Table". It was a lovely evening of food, community, and coming together to support the chaplaincy program of which we are all so fond.



Chefs Craig Peterson and Emil Yim, in conjunction with Chef Michael Chiu, plated seven delectable courses that highlighted the beautiful local foods and especially the proteins from Don Ruzicka's Sunrise Farm. Some of this local food and wine was then taken home to be enjoyed after a lively but silent auction of outbidding one another for potatoes, turnips, ham and kale among many other things. The jovial atmosphere of the evening was complimented by three different wines that were served as the meal progressed from the charcuterie platters, through the fish, and then into the pork. Thanks to all the volunteers who made this feast possible.