



What's Cookin'? Soup Supper 2016 by Sara Smith

Even after being present for What's Cookin'? Soup Suppers during my time as a student, I was once again surprised by the community that comes together to create this event.

When I agreed to take on chairing the committee, I knew I was going to need a lot of help. The seven individuals from Chaplaincy Council as well as from the community working together made this event possible. Their experience and connections within the community meant they knew who to ask for everything from silent auction donations to selling tickets. Their requests were never turned down.

Many of the students who were in attendance looked around at the 160 other people in the room and were flabbergasted that so many people care about Tuesday night Soup Supper, the Winter Retreat, square dancing and all the other student initiatives. No matter how many times you experience it, it is always a blessing to once again see with your own eyes the number of people who care so much.

Thank you to all of you who were able to be a part of this evening. I hope you will consider joining us next year on March 5, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. for our next What's Cookin'? Soup Supper.



You may have noticed that some of our stories are adorned with red banners. The banners connect the stories to the pages in the booklet introduced at What's Cookin'? Table Manners 101 will continue to be a resource that we use to talk about Augustana Chaplaincy. We hope that as you read through this newsletter, you will see how our table manners inform all we do in Chaplaincy.

Endowment Fund Nears \$360,000!

The Augustana Chaplaincy Endowment Fund has received some generous gifts over the last 18 months which has brought its value up to approximately \$360,000. At the time we merged with The University of Alberta, this fund was established so that the faith-based heritage of Augustana that brings faith and learning into conversation and allows for the education of the whole person, could be supported in perpetuity. The interest generated from the endowment is currently providing support honoraria for the Student Chaplains and a portion of the Chaplain's salary. The goal for the endowment fund is \$600,000.

If you would like to support the Augustana Chaplaincy Endowment fund, please make your cheque payable to the University of Alberta (Augustana Chaplaincy, 4901 -46 Ave. Camrose AB T4V 2R3), noting Chaplaincy Endowment Fund in the memo line. If you would like to donate on-line, please go the Augustana page www.augustana.ualberta.ca/giving/ and click on "Make a Gift." You will need to specify the Augustana Chaplaincy Endowment Fund. Gifts may also be made by contacting Augustana's Development office at 780-679-1558.

If you would like to give a significant gift but are not able to do so at the present time, please consider leaving Augustana Chaplaincy a bequest or planned gift in your estate. For more information please contact: Augustana Campus Development Office at 780-679-1558.



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Winter Retreat

By Sara Smith

Fresh snow had fallen as we packed up skis, skates, and guitars and prepared to join 45 other folks from across Alberta and Saskatchewan at Camp Kuriakos for the Young Adults Winter Retreat. We were also anticipating meeting Christian Chavarria, our guest speaker, from El Salvador.

Christian's hand-painted crosses are now in demand all around the world; but he did not always live such an easy life. He spoke to us about the realities of being a refugee during El Salvador's civil war, a child soldier, and the lengths he had to go to in order to escape that life.

These discussions came at a time when we as Canadians are welcoming thousands of refugees facing similar stories. Christian offered insight into how best to welcome refugees into our communities and show them that they are cared for during a difficult time in their lives.

After Christian shared so much from his life with us, we shared some of our lives with him. We had the chance to introduce him to sushi, the coldest weather he had every experienced (around -20°C) and the joy of playing hockey on a frozen lake.

No retreat would be complete without the final night culminating in a feast, a show of unusual talents, and worship together. Overall, it was a very meaningful weekend that allowed us all to relax, reflect, and worship together with old friends and new.



Contact Us

Augustana Chaplaincy
Augustana Campus
University of Alberta
4901-46 Avenue
Camrose, AB
T4V 2R3

Rev. Craig Wentland
Campus Chaplain
780.679.1535
craigw@ualberta.ca

Sara Smith
Assistant for Chaplaincy
780.679.1597
sngriffi@ualberta.ca

[www.augustana.ualberta.ca/
services/chaplaincy/](http://www.augustana.ualberta.ca/services/chaplaincy/)

Facebook page:
U of A Augustana Chaplaincy



Winter Retreat, a time away for fellowship and worship

Ukrainian Christmas Feast

by Craig Wentland

Table Extensions

"Pinch the edges well or it will break open during boiling." These sage words were offered to the students on the proper making of pyrohies by the women of the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church. 1000 pyrohies were made in preparation for the Ukrainian Christmas celebration held at Augustana during the Tuesday Soup Supper on January 12th.

Hosting a Ukrainian Christmas dinner was the brainchild of U of A Senator Jerry Iwanus. He recruited the support of U of A Senator Bilash who explained the cultural traditions, Fr. Greg Faryna who lead the prayers for the feast, Suzanna Brytan of Edmonton's St. John's Institute and the women of Blessed Virgin Mary who generously prepared and catered the twelve traditional dishes, and the Axios Men's Choir which regaled the crowd with the rich harmonies of Ukrainian Christmas carols. 130 students and community members from a variety of religious and cultural backgrounds gathered to experience this feast.

Augustana has long promised students a whole person education. Many public institutions do not always know how to deal with topics of faith/religion/spirituality and therefore these dimensions of life sometimes go unacknowledged. Sharing hospitality around the table is a tried and true way of being introduced to the faith, values and culture of others. We are thankful for the community partnerships and the generosity of spirit which made this feast, and rich educational experience, possible.



Pyrohie making experts



Learning to make pyrohies



Vikings' Friends pumpkin carving event on October 27, 2015

Vikings' Friends

by Annika Olesen

Three years ago, Vikings' Friends was established as a Christian fellowship group for Augustana athletes. It has evolved into a gathering for students with a wide variety of interests, faiths, and backgrounds.

Campfires, pumpkin carving, gingerbread-house decorating, square dancing, a Christmas dessert potluck, and a spring camp-out were some of our best attended events this year. Other events we hosted included meditative mandala drawings, centering prayer with Linda Gervais, conversation and Ethiopian food with one of Augustana's international students, and a slideshow from Chris Audet about his church's trip to Israel.

It brought me joy to see people, who were once strangers, laughing together over a misshapen gingerbread house or s'mores. The relationships formed were not fleeting. Ever since we ate Ethiopian wat (curry) together, or sang campfire songs in the rain, I always stop to chat when I see a new friend around the school. It was those moments and those connections that kept my enthusiasm for the group strong throughout the year.

I hope that Vikings' Friends, no matter what shape it takes in the future, will continue



Coming together around "one" table to celebrate Ukrainian Christmas