SCORE! 2016
The seventh annual freecycling event, SCORE! was another huge success. The purpose of SCORE! is to reduce the stigma around poverty and divert waste from the landfill; it gives value to otherwise valueless stuff. This event was created by alumna Carmelle Mohr after being inspired by a pop-up swap in Brooklyn. Former student chaplain Erin Specht continued to champion this event. Under Geordie’s leadership this year’s SCORE! raised $975 in support of the local Camrose NGO Sahakarini.

OKTOBERFEST: WITTENBERG COMES TO AUGUSTANA
In preparation for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and as a definitive answer to the long pondered question Where is Luther (the statue) going in such a hurry?, Augustana Chaplaincy hosted our first Oktoberfest on Alumni Weekend as a Chaplaincy fundraiser. It was a great success with a German meal, sampling local craft beers, and polka dancing with a live polka band. Craig, Geordie, and the student chaplains all dressed up in lederhosen and dirndls for this festive event.

Can we be a part of Chaplaincy too?
When three students from other religious traditions asked if they could be a part of Chaplaincy, the request provided both an exciting and an interesting challenge. How wonderful (the exciting challenge) that these students valued Chaplaincy and expressions of faith on the Augustana Campus that they wanted to become formally involved! How would this ever work (the interesting challenge)? The student chaplain program is a particularly Christian expression of student leadership. Students become student chaplains because it is a valuable venue for them to gather for worship, study, prayer, and service in the name of Christ. Our experimental solution this year has been to form an Inter-faith Council. The Council began by hosting an Inter-faith Dialogue evening where students had an opportunity to share and learn about one another’s faith. It was a big success and there are plans for more such events.

You are invited to...
What’s Cookin? Soup Supper
Sunday, March 5th, 2017
5:00 pm
The Chapel, Augustana Campus
Come and share a simple meal, an evening of entertainment, pictures and music, celebrating Chaplaincy on the Augustana Campus.

Love>Hate
Chaplaincy Theme 2016-2017
It seemed like an unusually high number of bad news stories filled the media last summer. Racial unrest amongst our neighbours to the south, politicians capitalizing on the fears of the public by scapegoating minorities and refugees, terrorist attacks in Western Europe, continued unrest in the Middle East, and more. While I knew the probability of my two daughters experiencing violence was infinitesimally small, I was nonetheless relieved when they returned from their work and study in Germany at the end of last summer. In the face of violence, intolerance, and unrest, it can be easy to despair and lose hope.

Jesus’ first followers went to the tomb with the expectation that violence, hatred, injustice, and death had won. Jesus had modelled a different path, the path of vulnerable suffering love, a reflection of the very heart of God. The events of Jesus’ passion and death suggested that Jesus’ way was a bust. The news that met the disciples at the tomb was something totally new and unexpected. Resurrection! To shift metaphors, life was a whole new ball game.

Under Chaplaincy’s overarching theme of Table Manners, our annual theme this year is Love>Hate. Today’s university students are exposed to a lot of bad news. Around the communion table, we are reminded again and again of the promise of resurrection and of Jesus’ way. Augustana Chaplaincy provides opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds and experiences to talk, work, worship, and study together. Even in the midst of bad news, it is a time to practice what it means to live with the conviction that Love>Hate.

Craig Wentland, Chaplain

Geordie Nelson—Assistant to Chaplaincy
This year the new Assistant for Chaplaincy, Sara Smith, had a baby! She and Adam had a beautiful baby boy named Gabriel. So Geordie Nelson, an alumnus of Augustana and a former student chaplain, will be our interim Assistant for Chaplaincy while Sara is on her maternity leave. Geordie is excited to be back at Augustana where he experienced a strong sense of community. He is enjoying working with Craig (with whom he shares a similar sense of humour) and the student chaplains to make a positive impact on the student body.
Meet the Student Chaplains

Katelynn Cook
My name is Katelynn Cook. I am originally from Edmonton, but over the years I have come to call Camrose another home. It is my fourth year at Augustana where I am majoring in Environmental Science and minoring in Physical Education. My time spent as a student chaplain last year was very meaningful to me as my leadership grew as well as my faith. I have chosen to return as a student chaplain this year because of the incredible community, opportunity for student leadership, and the ability to serve the Lord on campus. God asks us to love others and Chaplaincy provides a welcoming, safe, and diverse environment to welcome students and show them Christ’s love in a variety of ways. This year on Chaplaincy I will be doing FUNraising by organizing community building activities for students of all faith backgrounds. I will also continue with the small group Vikings Friends, a safe space for students to tackle faith questions as well as enjoy each other’s company.

Tim Faltin
Hello, my name is Tim Faltin. I am entering my fifth year of study at Augustana in pursuit of a BSc in Environmental Science. After growing up in Stettler, AB I chose to attend Augustana because of it’s small size and proximity to home. As part of Chaplaincy this year I am excited to be working with the students in our Monday worship bands who play for chapel services. I will also be a part of the Chaplaincy Council meetings. I became a student chaplain because I have been so positively impacted by the Chaplaincy program during my time as a student and wanted to pass along that impact to others.

Matthew Kuefler
My name is Matthew Kuefler, a third year kinesiology major at Augustana. I chose Augustana largely as I live in Camrose. I saw being a student chaplain as a great opportunity to lend a hand wherever I am needed, as well as build community with like-minded individuals. The duties that I have accepted this year include helping with the Soup Supper on Tuesdays, being the sacristan (helping set up and clean up for chapel), as well as helping out wherever else I find myself needed. I prefer to be of service in any way I can to the community, and joining Chaplaincy adds a certain organization to my life that I certainly don’t have on my own.

Hillary Kemp
Hi, my name is Hillary Kemp. I am a third year student at Augustana studying outdoor education. Ever since my first year at Augustana, I have wanted to be a student chaplain because they have an important ministry role on campus. Chaplaincy also organizes community building and worship activities and opportunities for students of all faith backgrounds. I am planning fun events for students, service opportunities, and writing questions on the community blackboard. This year, I am excited for the new year and all the new adventures that it will bring!

Leah Reid
Hi, I am Leah Reid. I am a 3rd year biology major from the Pigeon Lake Area. This is my first year being a student chaplain. I want to be a student chaplain because I want to serve God on campus and in the community, and help plan events. I am excited because I want to meet new people and to get to know the other student chaplains. I hope that I can learn from them, and we can encourage one another throughout the year. As a student chaplain, I am helping with fundraisers like the Fair Trade Local Made Sale and worship planning for chapel services. Carly and I have partnered our student knitting group with a group of older women who come to campus to knit. This allows students to form inter-generational friendships while taking a break from school and learning a new skill. I am excited for the new year and all the new adventures that it will bring!

Rebecca Pospolita
Hi, I’m Rebecca! I am a second year Psychology student from Wainwright, Alberta. I really enjoyed my first year at Augustana so I am excited to be back and to get more involved in our vibrant campus life. I became a student chaplain this year for a few reasons. I want a chance to step out and live my faith out loud with a group of like-minded people. I hope to have fun and become close with the rest of the student chaplains as we support each other. Finally, I truly appreciated the services and activities put on by Chaplaincy in my first year, so I would like to lend my support to those efforts to improve the lives of Augustana students! This year, I am planning fun events for students, service opportunities, and writing questions on the community blackboard.

Carly Rivard
Hello! My name is Carly Rivard and I am a third year biology student here at Augustana. This will be my first year on Chaplaincy and I am very excited to see what the year ahead will bring. I decided to join as a way to build more connections within the Augustana and Camrose community. I also hope that my time as a student chaplain serves to strengthen my faith, as this is something that can easily be lost in the many distractions that university life presents. I will be in charge of getting our group out and serving in the community. We will be hosting worship at various seniors’ homes. I am also hoping we can offer our time to other organizations such as The Open Door and Habitat for Humanity. As well, Leah and I have put together a knitting group for all the old souls on campus. What’s exciting is that we have joined with a group of older women who knit on campus as well. Although the days ahead are already looking busy, I am confident that good things are in store.