



Dear Friends,

This year, this annual appeal letter will reach almost 700 individuals throughout the United States and around the world. And wherever you are right now, the fact that you received this letter shows that at some point, Lutheran Campus Ministry at Northwestern University has had an impact on you or someone you love. We give thanks for the hundreds of lives this ministry has touched over the years!

And with every year, more students find their place in the LCMNU community. A place to worship, a place for fellowship, a place to explore faith, a place of respite from the rigors and pressure of academic life at NU...and it is only through the continued generosity of supporters like you that any of this can be offered. Already this fall, your support has made possible:

- A well-attended "Back to School" BBQ, welcoming new students and familiar faces alike.
- Fellowship opportunities like a game night or watercolor painting.
- Service events like the monthly meal prep for 30 residents at Connections for the Homeless.
- A bake sale fundraiser on campus for Lutheran Disaster Response in Ukraine.
- Wednesday night dinner and 21theo educational sessions.
- Homecoming brunch and worship with guest preacher and alumna Keebler Straz ('18).
- An overnight fall retreat held at Camp Lutherdale in Elkhorn, WI.

"Campus ministry is often the place where young folks take on their own faith identity for the first time. It offers them a safe space to wrestle, discern, and discuss the Word of God in a community of peers. This community of mutual support, learning, and worship are what I dream every congregation and worshipping body in our world would look like and it exists in campus ministry."

- Pastor Laura Harris-Ferree, Grace Lutheran, Evanston -

Again, if you've received this letter, perhaps you've experienced it firsthand: Campus ministries such as LCMNU offer affirming and life-changing faith development opportunities for students.

And it is impossible for a campus ministry to operate on its own.

That's why LCMNU is truly grateful for you and your generosity, which sustains this ministry and its work. Would you consider continuing or even increasing your financial contributions in the new year? You can send your check, payable to LCMNU, in the enclosed envelope, or go to lcmnorthwestern.org/support-lutheran-campus-ministry to donate online and find specific areas of our ministry you can support through your donations.

lcmnorthwestern.org/support-lutheran-campus-ministry

Another essential and much-needed gift is **your** time and talents. To strengthen the student ministry, LCMNU needs a strong infrastructure (a board of directors, property oversight, ongoing fundraising, staff support). LCMNU needs volunteers to create and support this infrastructure. Please take a moment to review the enclosed sheet that details all the ways you can help with the day-to-day operations of the ministry, and if you are called to give in this way, mail the form back to the ministry using the enclosed envelope or reach out to the LCMNU Board of Directors at the email address provided.

“The LCMNU experience provides an accepting, nurturing and supportive environment for young adults in higher education. It has given our niece and other students the gifts of friendship, mentorship and a positive reflection of God’s love and care in their lives.”
- Sarah and Dan Accettura, LCMNU Volunteers from Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Libertyville, IL -

This year, LCMNU is taking time to celebrate the multi-faceted nature of campus ministry with the “Our Community, Our Story, Our Faith” campaign. This is an opportunity to recognize how LCMNU impacts and plays a role in the lives of students, alumni, volunteers, and congregations — and goes beyond the four walls of this ministry to the Northwestern campus, the Evanston community, and the world! Our communities and our stories are influenced by each other and intertwined with the larger shared story of faith in God.

Thank you for your part in building the story of campus ministry at Northwestern!

Wishing a safe, healthy and blessed 2023 for our students, staff, ministry, campus, and all of you, wherever you may be.

“At LCMNU, I was able to grow in my faith through learning, leadership, and service. I’m so grateful for all the opportunities the ministry provided to me while I was a student there, and for all the ways it continues to support me as I attend seminary. I wouldn’t be where I am today, pursuing ordination in the ELCA, without LCMNU.”
- Bethany Ketchem, ’18 and LCMNU Seminarian at United Lutheran Seminary, Gettysburg, PA -

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