

**Charlotte Glanville**  
**Showcase Talk – “Our Story: Nurturing the Intersections of My Story  
and God’s Story”**  
**April 30, 2023**

Lutheran Campus Ministry doesn’t exist without the students. For me, the best thing about being a part of LCM is the community and the way we are all able to step away from schoolwork and other stressors in our lives to share a time of sabbath together. However, for this student-led space to exist, we have to give more than the time we have to relax. Sometimes this is difficult, but I see our story most clearly in the way we consistently commit time to the ministry.

The student leadership board planning events, student ministers organizing 21theo, student music director preparing and playing music at worship, and all students helping are vital for the spaces we share together. It’s pretty standard for a group to need these sorts of “behind the scenes” things to be done. I’ve been in several clubs that add things to my to-do list and stress to my life, but LCM is different from other clubs. It’s a space where I and other students can relax and re-center, so it can be conflicting to balance the necessary and at times stressful work required for LCM to exist with the space of sabbath and community that we enjoy at LCM.

Even though it’s difficult, being student-run is what makes LCM so valuable to me. It’s the work we do that brings us together and defines our story. Whether it’s making meals for Connection’s for the homeless, engaging in thoughtful discussion at 21Theo, taking time on a weeknight to support the Margarita Inn at the city council, or the “behind the scenes” things: the work we do is what writes our story. It has a deeper meaning than completing a problem set or studying for an exam. It reminds us that our individual stories are part of a larger one and that we can help those around us. Our experiences and learnings at LCM will stick with us for a long, long time and have a lasting effect on our paths in life.

So, what is our story at LCMNU? We are all drawn to spend our time here for some reason. For me, this reason is that we do things with a strong sense of purpose stemming from our shared beliefs. But regardless of the reason why we are drawn here, LCM is a space for us to grow in our faith and make time to help others as a part of a larger story. LCM’s story and the experiences we share will stay with us beyond our time at college and impact the rest of our lives.