

## Every Campus Should Have a Campus Ministry

What Is a Campus Ministry Director? What does a campus ministry director do? What is campus ministry?

It is easy to identify a deaconess, a pastor, or a church secretary, but much harder to recognize a campus ministry director. Quite often visitors assume that I am All Saints Lutheran Church and Student Center's secretary, but I am not. I don't have the skills necessary for that kind of work.

Campus ministry directors can be pastors or deaconesses. Campus ministry directors can also be laypersons who love sharing the Gospel with college students, American and international. That's me. Lay campus ministry directors work with pastors and the congregation to Go and Tell. That's how I got started. It's a servant role. It's also the best job in the world. It is so important that every campus demands a campus ministry to help students with their need for Jesus.

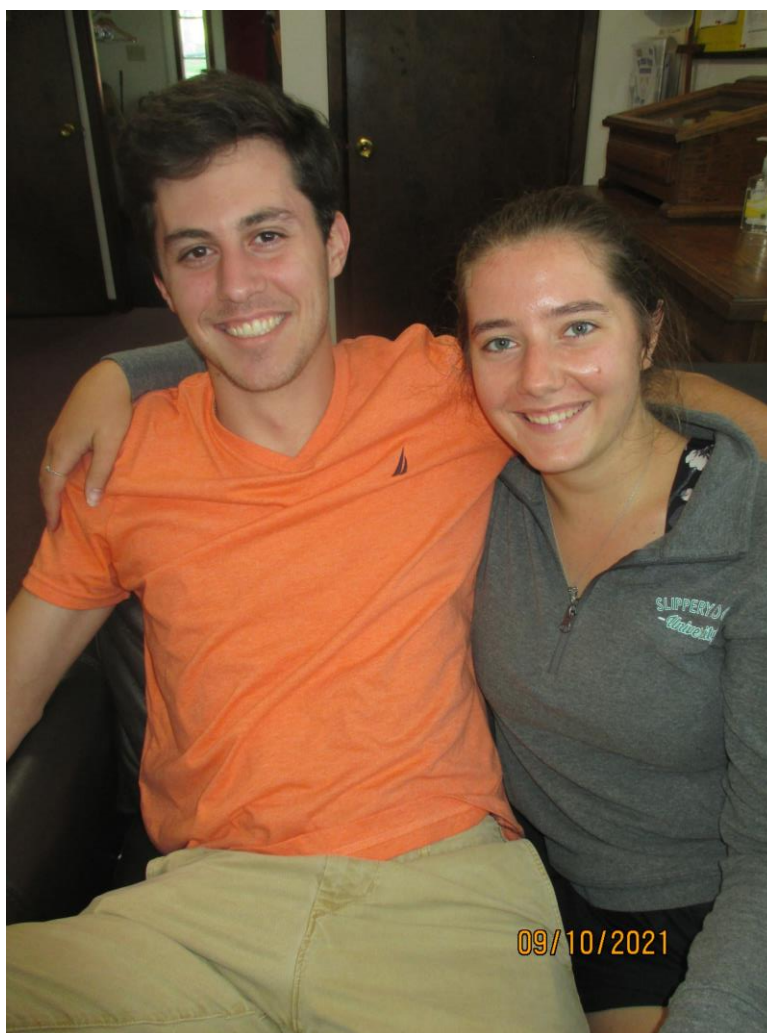
What do campus ministry directors do? Campus ministry at All Saints reaches out to students who currently attend Slippery Rock University, Grove City College, and Westminster University. Just as importantly, campus ministry is reaching out to students who graduated years ago. We especially reach out to graduates who live in countries where war is a reality, or threatens to become a reality. We pray hard for them. We pray for Val, who came from the Ukraine to All Saints. He came for friendship and Bible classes. He was not a Lutheran. He joined a local Baptist church, married a beautiful lady from Ukraine, and remained in the US. Almost all internationals were grateful to be in America because they had had little religious freedom in their homelands. Another graduate of more than a decade ago is from Taiwan. She studied dance at SRU, but decided to teach when she went home, where she takes care of her parents. We have stayed in touch through email. We have urged her to study God's Word which she had done while a student here. We are so thankful to be connected with her. Recently she told us how glad she is to be part of a teacher's Bible study group, which gives her courage to care of her parents and to be ready for changes which may come if and when war comes to Taiwan.

Campus ministry studies the Bible with students who currently are attending classes. Taking students out for lunch or taking them to get their drivers license is fun, but the most enjoyable experience is sharing God's Word while studying books like Romans and Exodus. Three years ago a young couple, Chris and Samantha, came to a Korean student meal and then to worship. They accepted our invitation to study the Bible, and have not missed a class in three years. They were looking for a church. They were a Reformed and a Catholic couple. When he asked what LCMS believes about baptism and the Lord's Supper I thought that would end the study. Why? Every other time I had had this discussion, I had lost the students – they no longer attended the Bible study. It did not happen this time! When I explained our views on baptism and the Lord's Supper, he was entirely in agreement. He wanted a church with our LCMS beliefs. The reality of the Lord's Supper fills them. Although they decided to be Catholic, they

still asked if they could study the Bible at All Saints every week. They just love to read the Word. We use the People's Commentary Bible for our studies. We agree that we do not agree on several fundamental issues, but we do thrive on reading the Bible. I wish they had become Lutherans, but even so this study has been one of the best things I've ever been able to do. Since they both will graduate this May I will give Chris a copy of the Concordia Lutheran Confessions, a book he uses as a reference; a book he has let me know he would love to own. He's been such a fine president of All Saints Fellowship and he will be very hard to replace.

In fact, Chris and Samantha will never be replaced. They, like our many other students, will live in our hearts forever. What a blessing to have been part of ministry to college students. Every campus should have a campus ministry.

Submitted by Augusta Mennell



Chris Galbraith and Samantha Woloszyk enjoy studying the Bible at All Saints Lutheran Church and Student Center