Campus United Calgary <u>Newsletter of April 2024</u>



National Affirming Day

As an affirming ministry, the Campus United celebrated the P.I.E. Day by hosting "Scary Bible Verses" event at Mount Royal University (MRU) on March 14th - it was an open forum for everyone to "wrestle" with controversial passages about homophobia, and provide alternative interpretations from an affirming Christian perspective. Many thanks to Rev. Tracy Robertson from St. Thomas United Church as our guest facilitator, and Pam Rocker from Affirming Connections as a surprise guest for this event. We also served free apple pies to our friends in MRU during this special day, too!



"Grow Your Faith" in MRU

On March 21st, the Office of Student Experience in MRU organized an open terrarium building event at the Mainstreet area. Chaplains and representatives from various faith and spirituality communities, including Campus United, were invited to participate in this outreaching event. Through this pleasurable and therapeutic activity, over 70 MRU students gained awareness of the availability of multi-faith resources on campus. All the plants and most of the terrarium supplies were gone within the first hour!



"Care Wednesday" in U of Calgary

During the last week of classes, the Lutheran Campus Ministry and Campus United were proud to deliver a relaxing event on April 3rd at the Faith & Spirituality Centre (FSC) in the University of Calgary. Fancy beverages, freshly baked dessert squares, tasty pizzas and a variety of games were available for our community friends! Regular and new participants all appreciated the cozy, playful and relaxed atmosphere on this "Care Wednesday" evening!



Upcoming Events

Same as the previous years, we will be hosting monthly summer barbecues on the last Wednesday of each month from April to August. Staying connected with community friends through free food, cozy campfire and amazing music is what we like to provide during the spring and summer months! For April 24th, May 29th and June 26th, barbecues will be happening at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church at 840 - 3 Avenue SW. For July 31 and August 28th, the location will be Edworthy Park.

If you are attending the Chinook Winds Regional Gathering this year, please feel free to drop by our booth from May 2nd to 4th at McDougall United Church. Our campus minister, Jess Andrews, will be available to describe the highlights of our ministry, as well as to answer any questions. Upcoming students to the U of C and MRU can also sign up!

Our Gratitudes

Despite the leadership transition during this academic year, it was a grateful experience to witness the growing community of faith on both campuses through our signature "Drum, Dine, Discuss" program and several groundbreaking events! It was my honor to be involved in such meaningful campus ministries since 2021, may our loving and providing God continue to bless our community-building journey in the future. Please accept our heartfelt gratitude for all the generous support from our collaborators and local congregations.

Herman Ng Community Connector