

LUTHER HOUSE NEWS

Lutheran Campus Ministry @ UNM & CNM

A LuMin campus ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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March 2019

Expanding Minds, Deepening Faith, Inspiring Service, Building Community

WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH CAMPUS MINISTRY?

As I write this to you, dear campus ministry supporters, a plumber is fixing a shower in Luther House. I sit in my now-warm office in the den of the house, since we just replaced our 18-year-old furnace the day after it snowed in Albuquerque and residents were especially chilly. I am telling you this, not to incite pity or concern, but to help connect the dots about what campus ministry is and how much of it is love made visible.

Love is visible when we make room for everyone at the table in a warm house on Wednesday nights dinners. Since we have folks in motorized wheelchairs who regularly join us, we have been eating in our chapel, as it is the most accessible space in a home built in 1937. But alas, our bathrooms are up a set of stairs and are nowhere near able to accommodate people who use wheelchairs. How can we show more love?

Love is visible when we make meals that are vegetarian, dairy-free, or simply have an actual vegetable present since fresh, healthy foods are often a hard thing to find on a student's budget. It is estimated that one third of college students are food and/or housing insecure, that is they are not sure where their next meal will come from or they are unsure of where they will sleep at night. How can we show more love?

Love is visible when we show up as Lutherans to care for young adults who are not only from our own tradition, but also Roman Catholic, non-denominational, Episcopal, Southern Baptist, and beyond. I participate with many other religious leaders on campus as part of the Interreligious Council and we are able to learn, plan, and share fellowship across many boundaries our denominations would maintain. Not every religious tradition is yet part of our group. How can we share more love?

Love is visible when a congregation like Valley Lutheran Church in Los Lunas, New Mexico boldly steps out in faith to generously support a campus ministry a town away. They feel connected to what happens around plates of food and in conversation, where Jesus is present in the face of college

students and Luther House friends alike. In a time when there is always a word of scarcity, I'm grateful for enough, just enough so there are leftovers to share with those who will never be able to repay. How can we show more love?

Love is visible when a donor says "Here's \$5,000 to spend on improving the house." and the Luther House board says to you, dear reader, can you help us too? For **every gift given to our Building Fund through May 2019, our donor will match it, dollar for dollar**, giving us a chance to have \$10,000 to spend to make bathrooms, tables, rooms, anything we dream up into a chance to make the love of Jesus Christ become real in the lives of college students at UNM and CNM. See below how to contribute and help Luther House live into the future God has in store for us. You are God's love made visible and I am so grateful!

Pastor Bre Roberts

WHAT'S UP ON WEDNESDAYS?

The other week we literally ran out of chairs for everyone to sit down for dinner - what a wonderful "problem" to have! Join us on a Wednesday night at 5pm for a simple meal and bible study following at 6pm. Everyone is welcome, so please tell UNM and CNM students in your life about us.



