

## *“Worship 101”*

Augustana Campus Chaplaincy, U of A, Camrose

Every week during the academic year a group of students, the Chaplain and the Assistant to the Chaplain meet to plan the worship services at Augustana for the upcoming week. There is a lot to plan!

Typically we worship three to four times per week during the academic year. On Mondays the students form a praise and worship band, on Wednesdays we gather around the table for Holy Communion and on Fridays we worship through Word and song. In addition to the regular pattern most weeks there is also a vespers or healing or festive season worship service to plan. Several times each term there are also invitations to lead worship in local congregations and seniors’ residents.

One of the gifts of worshiping on a university campus is that there is both an opportunity to steep students in the depth and the beauty of the Church’s worship tradition and to be wildly creative. Students bring an array of gifts to worship in the areas of music, art, drama, dance, spoken word and leadership. All of these gifts help to enhance our worship and praise of God.

In the university context where young adults are making important life decisions, worship provides an opportunity for students to ground their spirits, be reminded of God’s gracious presence in life and find space to discern their callings. Campus ministry provides an opportunity for young adults to hone their worship planning and leadership skills.

We are always pleased to hear reports of former students who have taken up leadership roles in their local congregations, bringing with them some of the things that they learned through chaplaincy.

Rev. Craig Wentland

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