



A Brief History of Lutheran Campus Ministry

1907 to 2007

Lutheran Campus Ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America dates its beginning from the call of the first campus pastor, the Rev. Howard Gold, to serve students at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, in 1907.

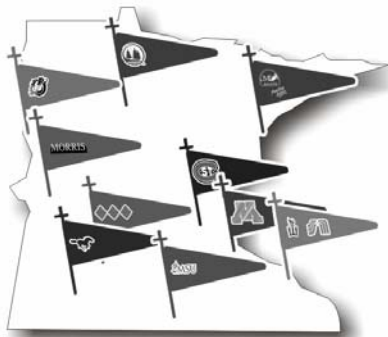
In 1922, the Lutheran Student Association of America was organized to build a network of Lutheran students at state and public colleges, as well as church-related institutions. The first president was Fredrik Schiotz. In 1969, the LSAA gave way to the Lutheran Student Movement, USA, a pan-Lutheran movement that continues strongly today.

After World War II, when the GI Bill made public education readily available to returning veterans, the Lutheran church bodies cooperated in expanding the witness of the church to over 100 campuses. Buildings and staff for campus ministry were secured. Nearby congregations were enlisted to support the ever-expanding work among students, faculty, and staff. Currently there are 190 campus ministry agencies across the country at public universities and over 400 cooperating congregations.

Minnesota Beginnings

While several Lutheran Churches near the University of Minnesota campus in Minneapolis undertook "student" work as early as 1904, Minnesota identifies 1918 as its beginning. The Board of Education of United Lutheran Church called Rev. Wendell as campus pastor at the U of M. The St. Paul campus records its first staff person in 1946. It was during the 1950's and 60's that ministries were staffed at many state universities. Today, Lutheran Campus Ministry of Minnesota (LCMM) provides oversight of ministries on nine campuses. The LCMM Board is comprised of representatives from each Minnesota ELCA synod and each local campus ministry board.

- 1918 Minneapolis
- 1946 St. Paul
- 1950 Duluth
- 1953 Moorhead
- 1955 Winona
- 1956 Mankato
- 1957 St. Cloud
- 1957 Bemidji
- 1965 Morris
- 1973 Marshall



Check out our website @ www.lcm-mn.org

Our Mission

Lutheran Campus Ministry of Minnesota (LCMM) invites people in academic settings more deeply into Jesus Christ and the community that bears his name, so that they can discover and fulfill their vocation as disciples.