



Members of the newly formed Campus Chapel Leadership Team. From left to right: Sabrina, Sarah, Andrew, Erica, and Natalie.

The Campus Chapel Leadership Team

Erica Boldenow

graduate student in School of Public Health, studying Toxicology

This fall has brought many exciting changes to the Chapel from welcoming new students and pastoral staff to new sermons and service opportunities. One such addition to the Chapel this fall is the Leadership Team, which was formed to improve organization and leadership structure for the Campus Chapel. Pastor Sam says “ I think that the Campus Chapel’s vision of being a community is living out the gospel together rather than only being a place where a pastor is ministering to students is really powerful. It is exciting to see the really talented and dedicated leadership team members brainstorm and work on fulfilling God’s call for the chapel community. “ The team is structured to fulfill core values of the Chapel: discipleship and worship, communication and outreach, hospitality, and social justice and has been exploring what it means to facilitate interactions between the Chapel community, our supporters, the board, and broader Christian community. The team is currently comprised of three members of the Chapel community, the administrative assistant, the worship coordinator, and the Pastors. The team has been meeting bi-weekly to help plan and coordinate some of the daily goings-on.

“I think that the Campus Chapel’s vision of being a community is living out the gospel together.” ~ Pastor Sam

Our **Discipleship and Worship coordinators** are Sarah Feenstra and Sabrina Na. Sarah is an undergraduate at University of Michigan studying neuroscience and international studies, and Sabrina is also a University of Michigan undergraduate studying neuropsychology. Sarah has served as the point person for getting Bible and book studies up and running. Sabrina has been serving the Chapel as worship coordinator. She coordinates musicians and music, put together the bulletins and Sunday morning powerpoints, and helps with worship decorations.

Communication and Outreach was created to expand our communications within the Chapel community, supporters and donors, and the University community. Natalie Wiersma, a University of Michigan, graduate student in architecture has done an excellent job at this as our administrative assistant over the past couple of years. She helps keep our website up to date, compiles and designs Inklings, and sends email reminders and updates to the community.



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Community Life at the Campus Chapel

Pastor Sam Boldenow

Pastor for Chapel Community



This semester the Campus Chapel book study is reading Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Life Together*. One point the book emphasizes is the importance of eating together for Christian fellowship. Bonhoeffer writes "The fellowship of the table has a festive quality. It is a constantly recurring reminder in the midst of our everyday work of God's resting after His work, of the Sabbath as the meaning and goal of the week."



Wednesday Night Dinners are one of my favorite parts of Campus Chapel life. In part because there is very much a festive quality as we gather. As 6:30 approaches the down stairs of the chapel slowly transitions from the quiet studying of one or two students to a cheerful din as people trickle in. The aroma of good food fills the basement. It is a chance to talk and laugh with friends. People talk about how they are doing and what they are studying. After we eat dinner and talk for a while the Bible and book study meet. Everyday work, and students sometimes have an overwhelming amount of work, is set aside for a brief time. We are indeed reminded to delight in God and that we are part of the body of Christ. It is a good break and gives a little perspective.



There's no shortage of recreation and entertainment around campus. There are football games and intramural sports. There are some really great concerts. A number of Chapel members are always up for some video games. But finding a place where people will listen and care, where there is real fellowship isn't as easy. The transient and busy nature of University life can be lonely which is why Wednesday night dinners are really quite a precious thing.



Current and former chapel folks on a visit to the Dexter cider mill.

Director's Corner : Looking Backward and Forward

Dr. Rolf Bouma

Director of CFS and Pastor for Academic Ministries

This year marks the tenth of my ministry at the University of Michigan. I find myself often reflecting on the changes of the past decade. The economic environment, especially here in Michigan, is decidedly different than it was in 2002. Despite the time and money put into it, our home is worth less than it was when we bought it. That's not so good. But there's good change, too. I can access articles and books on almost every topic from my desk. The life of the mind has rarely had so much fodder.

Students change, too. Curious fact: in the past two years I have taught courses in which the Female-to-Male ratio has been 7:1, 22:0, and 17:3. My daughter says it's because she put a hot chili pepper rating next to my name on RateYourProfessor.com. I don't buy it. I should have huge initial enrollments followed by mass exodus after the first day of class when they get an actual glimpse of me. Something else is going on. Young men are less and less assertive and more inclined to stay in the background.

What gladdens my heart more than anything else in retrospective are former students affiliated with CFS or the Campus Chapel who have graduated

and taken their place in the wider world. This fall a regular procession of alumni have come through, asked me out for coffee or come to our house for dinner or stopped by during a worship service, and brought me up to speed on their lives.

Does this sound like nostalgia? I think it's hope. What good people God brings along through our lives!

Amazing lives they are. Some have children, and we witness their embrace of that most perplexing state of parenthood. Most have interesting jobs. Most are pursuing their dream, not settling just for the easiest or most lucrative. Some teach. Some do medicine. Some work at non-profits. Some venture overseas. I wish I'd been as venture-some or as on the ball when I was their age as they are now.

Does this sound like nostalgia? I think it's hope. What good people God brings along through our lives! It reconfirms a commitment to campus ministry, because CFS and Campus Chapel were an integral part of their UM experience. And it makes me wonder what the current students will be up to a decade from now.

Veritas Forum: Ignorance Isn't Bliss

Top Row: Students and Ann Arbor-ites fill Rackham Auditorium at the University of Michigan to listen to Dr. Mary Poplin



Next Row: Dr. Mary Poplin shares her faith journey with those attending the forum.



Next Row: Members in the audience listen intently as Dr. Poplin recounts her experiences.



Bottom Row: Dr. Poplin engages the audience during a question and answer session.



Rebecca Timmermans

CFS Program Assistant and graduate student in Social Work

This year's Veritas forum at the University of Michigan featured Dr. Mary Poplin from Claremont University. Dr. Poplin packed the Rackham Auditorium on Friday, October 4, for her lecture titled "Ignorance Isn't Bliss: What Every College Student Should Know about Religion and Doesn't." The crowd of 900+ people was welcomed by Sam, a fifth year engineering student affiliated with InterVarsity. I then had the honor of introducing Dr. Poplin.

Dr. Poplin spoke of her journey from agnosticism to faith, a journey that arrived at belief in Christ only recently when she was already well-established as a professor of education at Claremont. A pivotal event in her conversion was spending several months working with Mother Teresa in Calcutta.

Upon returning from Calcutta, Dr. Poplin wrote a book about her experience and realized that she was misrepresenting Mother Teresa's mission. She had started writing about Mother Teresa without mentioning Jesus; yet, Mother Teresa had consistently mentioned Jesus' ministry to the poor as the model for her work. Mother Teresa's work only made sense in light of its grounding in Jesus Christ.

Following her lecture, Dr. Poplin answered questions from the audience. Many students asked questions- agnostics, atheists, and Christians alike. I walked away with the message that Dr. Poplin thinks it's incredibly important for people to be informed about religion. Her goal as an educator is for her students to have all the information needed to make an informed choice about religion and spirituality. It is her belief that this will lead them to Christianity.

Christianity and the practice of law: Dr. David Skeel

CFS in conjunction with the Christian Legal Society will be hosting Dr. David Skeel of the University of Pennsylvania on Thursday, March 15, at the Law School. Dr. Skeel is an expert on bankruptcy law and speaks often on the relationship of Christian faith to the practice of law.

For the Beauty of the Earth

The Au Sable Graduate Fellows will host a conference for all graduate fellows at the Au Sable Institute on January 13-16. Dr. Stephen Bouma-Prediger, professor of religion at Hope College and author of *For the Beauty of the Earth* will be the featured speaker. Thirty grad fellows and leaders from five universities will gather for the conference.

New CFS Fellows

Two new CFS Graduate Fellows have been appointed during the 2011 Fall term. Graduate students in Ph.D. programs at the University of Michigan are eligible for appointment. The new Fellows are:



Esohe Osai is a Detroit native who cares deeply about her city and is committed to youth and community development. Esohe also has a passion for the nations and has travelled on international missions trips to various countries, such as Zimbabwe and South Africa. After completing her Bachelor's and Master's degrees, Esohe worked as a high school teacher in Detroit, where she operated in various school leadership capacities. Currently, she is in a Ph.D. program at the University of Michigan, studying Educational Psychology. Esohe is an active member of Shekinah Christian Church, Ann Arbor Michigan, where she serves under the leadership of Pastor Barbara Yoder.



Jessica Joslin is a doctoral student in the University of Michigan's Center for the Study of Higher and Postsecondary Education. Her research interests include the changing role of religion in higher education and gender dynamics on university campuses. She has a B.S. in Social Policy and History from Northwestern University and a Masters of Divinity from Harvard University. Jess is also in the ordination process in the United Church of Christ. Prior to coming to Michigan, Jess spent four years living and working in a freshman residence hall at Harvard College, and two years as the student minister at Pilgrim Congregational Church, United Church of Christ in Southborough, MA. After graduation, Jess plans to pursue a career as a University Chaplain.



January Series

The January Series from Calvin College will be shown in simulcast at the Campus Chapel during the month of January. This year's slate of speakers includes Joel Salatin, N.T. Wright, Eric Metaxus, and Jennifer Pharr Davis. Showings are from 12:30-1:30p each weekday from January 4-24. For a complete list of speakers, visit:

www.calvin.edu/january.

New Au Sable Graduate Fellows



Kathryn Bomey is pursuing a master's degree at the School of Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Michigan. She has a dual-concentration in behavior, education, and communication and in conservation biology, with plans to graduate in spring 2012. She is studying behavior change resulting from environmental education, communication, and outreach programs, as well as expanding her ecology background and field skills. Working in the forests of Vermont during a Nature Conservancy internship in summer 2011 strengthened Kathryn's passion for conservation and helped her form an even deeper connection with the natural world. After earning her bachelor's degree in journalism from Eastern Michigan University in 2007, Kathryn worked for three years as a reporter at a daily newspaper, where her interest in conservation developed as she wrote occasional articles about the environment. The daughter-in-law of a pastor (and wife of a P.K.), Kathryn enjoys playing the flute in her church's orchestra.



Leah Zimmerman is a dual degree student at the University of Michigan, pursuing an MS at the School of Natural Resources and Environment and an MBA at the Ross School of Business. She is motivated professionally by a deep appreciation as a steward of Creation and by a desire to provide faith-enriching experiences in nature for future generations. Leah received a BA in Russian and East European Studies from Yale University and studied Russian Language and International Relations as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar at Far Eastern State University in Vladivostok, Russia. After an adventure-filled conservation career in Siberia and the Russian Far East, Leah realized that she wanted to return to her home state — Michigan — to spend her efforts protecting the region's rich natural resources and vibrant local communities. Before returning to Michigan, Leah served as Russia Program Director and Interim Executive Director for San Francisco-based Pacific Environment, worked as an independent consultant for Portland-based Wild Salmon Center, taught English and volunteered for organizations in Siberia, and interned for Yale Students for Christ. In her spare time, Leah likes playing and coaching soccer, experimenting in the kitchen, backpacking, and cycling on quiet country roads.



Allyson Green is working on a joint MS in Environmental Justice and MPH in Environmental Health at the University of Michigan. Her love for nature and interest in environmental justice stems from growing up in Baraboo, WI, a town rooted in a strong conservation history yet facing controversies over land use and environmental health issues. After graduating from Calvin College, where she spent a semester in New Zealand and Samoa with the Creation Care Studies Program, she moved to southwest Virginia to serve as a VISTA volunteer with the Appalachian Coal Country Watershed Team. She put her Secondary Science Education degree partially to work writing curriculum, doing community outreach, and learning birding and mandolin playing tips from her neighbors. She then spent a couple years doing environmental education and community outreach near Milwaukee before heading back to school. Allyson finds immense joy in small wonders and takes every opportunity possible to help cultivate a sense of wonder in others, even if that just means taking a minute to watch a squirrel's antics during the morning walk to school.



Josh Miller is a MS student in Environmental Policy and Planning at the University of Michigan SNRE. His love for the natural world began in rural Michigan on camping trips with his father. His love for spiritual restoration began in a small, rural youth ministry, and grew during his undergraduate years at Huntington University, IN. Following graduation, Josh and his wife, Andrea, moved to Syracuse, NY, where he served as an associate pastor. Disillusioned with a faith that separated the spiritual and the physical, he earned a MA degree in Biblical Studies at Asbury Theological Seminary, KY, focusing on religion and the environment. This experience birthed a desire to work as a person of faith toward environmental stewardship revolving around freshwater policy. He is interested in pursuing a career with a NGO in watershed policy and management, and plans to eventually work with an international NGO that aids community-based organizations in developing countries with education, networking, resources, and expertise. He is especially fond of his three children, of gardening, of health, and of sustainable living.



Left: Chapel community members line up for food and fellowship during a typical Sunday potluck.

Right: Chapel community members help wash dishes at Community Kitchen.

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Hospitality helps to make the Campus Chapel a welcoming place for new-comers and regular attendees alike. Hospitality has been headed up by Erica Boldenow, a graduate student studying toxicology at University of Michigan. Erica has been arranging Wednesday night community dinners, planning potlucks and BBQs, after worship snacks, and various social events including board game night and Chapel clean up day.

Social Justice is designed to help us actively engage our wider community as we better learn to serve God and each other. Our Social Justice coordinator is Andrew Van Winkle. Andrew is an undergraduate at Washtenaw Community College studying education. He has been managing our volunteer efforts at the Community Kitchen of Ann Arbor (part of the Delonis Center which serves as a central homeless shelter to Ann Arbor and provides daily meals year round). Andrew has also been working on exploring service related Spring Break trips and has been instrumental in starting and recruiting volunteers for our Sunday morning nursery this fall.

In addition to helping manage and meet our daily needs at the Chapel, the leadership team has also been brainstorming new ideas and possibilities for next semester, such as alternative worship and a faith and architecture and urban planning symposium.

Although the Leadership Team is still young, it has already created a great learning and serving opportunity. All too often, we wait until we are older to serve in churches, but this leadership team and the Chapel as a whole really creates a wonderful way for us to serve God and the Church now and actually make a difference. We have an obligation and a calling to serve God's kingdom now to the fullest of our abilities and this gives us that opportunity. The leadership team has found it to be a fun, challenging, and interesting process to learn how churches and campus ministries work and function. In particular it's been a joy to watch people bring their various gifts and talents to the table and actually see them used. Together we support one another in our strengths and weaknesses. I think it really reflects the body of Christ in 1 Corinthians, "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ." We all have different functions, but together form one body that works together. As we look forward to continuing to love and serve the Chapel community as it grows and changes in the future we ask for your prayers and continued support. 🙏

STAFF

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