

Fall 2015 Report to Presbytery
Kim Woeste, Rocky Mountain College

The mission of the Chaplain and Office of Spiritual Life at Rocky Mountain College is to provide for the spiritual growth and well-being of the College community. Objectives include addressing the diverse spiritual needs of the College community, supporting the exploration and practice of faith, and representing Rocky Mountain College's denominational heritage. Goals include:

- Offering presence and programs that address students as whole persons.
 - Support the integration of faith with academic pursuits.
 - Create opportunities to put faith into action.
 - Build a supportive spiritual community.
 - Enable students to take initiative for spiritual growth and programming.
- Serving as a spiritual resource for the College community.
 - Provide spiritual support for the College community.
 - Support collaborative institutional programming.
 - Provide oversight for spiritual activity on campus.
 - Celebrate the church-related heritage of Rocky Mountain College.
- Strengthening and maintaining denominational relationships.
 - Meet denominational obligations and expectations.
 - Inform denominational partners about the College & the ministry of the chaplain.
 - Enhance partnerships between the College and the Billings community.
 - Link local church resources to the needs of the College community.

During the past year I've continued to establish spiritual life programming. It's been my goal to provide a consistent weekly presence as well as monthly and occasional special opportunities. This semester, these include:

- Offering the Cookie Table every Monday.
- Making PBJ sandwiches for the HUB every Tuesday.
- Meeting with "Lunch Out Loud" every Wednesday. This student-led group gathers during lunch to discuss and plan service projects. They have partnerships with the HUB, Special Olympics, and Eagle Mount, and volunteer regularly with other agencies and organizations.
- Meeting with a small group for Bible Study every Thursday afternoon.
- Supporting weekly GSA meetings.

- Supporting the integration of faith with academic pursuits, including "Coffee and Conversation" gatherings every other Tuesday, planned in collaboration with Student Activities. We encourage conversations about issues that matter.
- Creating opportunities for students to put faith into action, including the partnerships listed above and additional projects like volunteering at Saturday Live, planning the "Halloween for Hunger" food drive, assisting with set up for the Veterans Stand Down...

- Building a supportive spiritual community, including monthly “Faith and Fun” activities on the 4th Thursday, usually involving discussion, games, arts and crafts, food, conversation and community, monthly chapel services, and visits to diverse churches/worshipping communities...
- Supporting collaborative institutional programming, including the “Stand Up RMC” group – meeting and planning, staffing the event booth, offering programming around student wellness initiatives each week.
- Celebrating the church-related heritage, including RMC events – Black Tie Blue Jeans, Yule Log, Lessons and Carols, Candlelight Dinner, Baccalaureate and Commencement...
- Strengthening and maintaining denominational relationships, including meeting with clergy, sending newsletter/bulletin updates, and an upcoming mailing project

Some additional things worth noting:

- Helped with Student Leadership Summit, New Student Orientation.
- Updated the technology and sound system in the Chapel.
- Teaching Campus Compass classes.
- Working with Work Study students to encourage student initiative for programming.
- Planning a “Community Conversations” Interfaith forum featuring students, originally scheduled for October 1st and now (hopefully) rescheduled for October 22nd.
- Working with the Debate Team and the Office of Community Involvement to plan a collaborative community forum for Spring semester.
- Working on plans for a Spring Break or May Service Trip in 2016
- Continuing to work on the puzzle of effective communication with denominations, local churches, national events and regional gatherings....