

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

ESTABLISHED 1891

DECEMBER 1, 2017

ISSUE 10

Gustie of the Week: Joy Dunna



VARIETY - PAGE 3

"The irony of education for an informed citizen in the real world"



OPINION - PAGE 10

Women's Basketball ranked 12th in the nation



SPORTS - PAGE 14

Christmas in Christ Chapel: A Life Abundant



Cole Trebelhorn

The Gustavus Choir, Choir of Christ Chapel, and the Lucia Singers perform at mass rehearsal for Christmas in Christ Chapel.

Samantha Walters
Staff Writer

Over 350 students and staff, along with their families, alumni, and people of the community will gather on campus for the 45th annual Christmas in Christ Chapel this weekend.

The show is one of the biggest events at Gustavus, each year with its own theme.

This year's theme is Life Abundant to celebrate the 500th year anniversary of the Reformation when Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses on the door of the Wittenberg Castle Church.

"We commemorate the spark of renewal that Martin Luther ignited 500 years ago," Artistic Director and cantor of Christ Chapel, Chad Winterfeldt, said.

"In this service, we immerse ourselves in the rich heritage of the Lutheran tradition." The Luther Rose is the symbol used to emphasize the Lutheran tradition and represents abundance, love, and joy during the Reformation celebration.

Also known as C in CC,

Gustavus students and staff prepare and look forward to the first show.

"It's my first Christmas in Christ Chapel, but I can tell by the way people talk about it that it's really going to be something special," First-year Rose Eerdmans member of the Lucia Singers, said.

"I really like how it's already bringing together so many different people."

According to the Gustavus website, "Christmas in Christ Chapel 2017 will celebrate the nativity through the rich and diverse heritage of music, word, and art inspired by the global Lutheran movement—both historic in depth and continually emerging in scope."

The Gustavus Choir, Choir of Christ Chapel, and the Lucia Singers, as well as the Gustavus Symphony Orchestra and the Christ Chapel Ringers, will perform music centered around the Reformation. "You'll see there's a lot of music [from] reformation composers, some of the early music," Dr. Gregory Aune, director of the Gustavus Choir, said.

This year's service will include two pieces by Martin Luther, From Heaven Above and Savior of the Nations, Come. Other music by Praetorius, Bach, and F. Melius Christian-sen will be performed.

"This years show sets the tone right away with a huge combined choir and orchestra rendition of "Joy to the World," which will surely put all spectators and performers in the holiday spirit," Sophomore Coleden Wedge, member of the Choir of Christ Chapel, said.

"[We try] to make it kind of relevant to our time as opposed to just looking back at it as a historical event. We want the music and the thematic, textual side of it to mesh as much as possible so it's kind of a seamless message," Aune said.

To give it that modern push, the hymn "God Among Us" was commissioned for this year's Christmas in Christ Chapel by poet Susan Palo Cherwien and composer Robert Buckley Farlee.

It is a central part to this year's service and contains a mix of the congregation, choir,

and orchestra.

"O Come All Ye Faithful" will again close the show. It has been the closing hymn since its commission for Christmas in Christ Chapel in 1976.

"This service is extremely distinctive among all colleges... the level of sophistication and thematic integration into musical performance is extraordinary," Dr. Brandon Dean said.

Students are also very excited to perform on new risers this year. "We had a committee that worked on kind of designing [it] and we hired a company... It was provided by a gift from the president's office," Dean, director of the Lucia Singers and Choir of Christ Chapel, said.

"We're very thankful to the president and everybody responsible for overseeing the installation and purchase."

According to Dean, the choirs both look and sound better: "It's a different formation and all of the choirs are gonna sound better. There's a little more room up there which is nice and more importantly, they're safe for our performers," he said.

For the last two years, Christmas in Christ Chapel has been broadcasted over livestream thanks to alumni and Friends of Music donors and has received very good feedback.

Over 5,600 households in 45 states and 25 countries viewed the live stream in 2015.

It will be broadcasted this year during the Saturday evening performance.

The Gustavus Hill Crew will also be sponsoring a hats and mittens drive throughout the weekend of the show.

Students and families are invited to donate their new or gently used hats and mittens in Christ Chapel and they will be donated to the Salvation Army in Mankato.

A Scandinavian holiday buffet will be taking place prior to each show for those who purchase tickets.

Students and staff are allowed one free ticket for one of the five shows happening this weekend.

The Gustavian Weekly Staff

Caroline Probst Editor-in-Chief
 Tanner Sparrow Managing Editor
 Monali Bhakta News Editor
 Sarah Knutson Variety Editor
 Corinne Stremmel Features Editor
 James Harlan Opinion Editor
 Joe Brandel Sport & Fitness Editor
 Ben Wick Entertainment Editor
 Abby Anderson Photography Editor

Katie Allen Copy Editor
 Elliott Robinson Copy Editor
 Gabriela Passmore Copy Editor
 Monika Pham Business Manager
 Jack Sorenson Advertisement Manager
 Cole Trebelhorn Graphic Designer
 Monika Pham Web Editor
 Evan Jakes Distribution Manager
 Glenn Kranking Adviser

Published weekly on Fridays, except during academic breaks, by the students of Gustavus Adolphus College. Subscriptions are available from THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY for \$40 per year.

Opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of the institution or of its student body. The editors assume full responsibility for editorial and unsigned material.

Letters to the Editor can be sent to lettertotheditor@gustavus.edu.

If interested in publishing an ad, please contact our advertisement manager, Jack Sorenson, at admanager@gustavus.edu.



50¢ First copy free

EMAIL weekly@gustavus.edu

WEBSITE weekly.blog.gustavus.edu

Campus Safety Report

Monday, November 13

- Campus Safety responded to Health Service to take a report of an injury and transported an employee to the emergency room.

Tuesday, November 14

- Campus Safety responded to Anderson Hall for a medical assist. An injured student was transported to Health Service.

Wednesday, November 15

- Campus Safety transported an injured student to the emergency room.

Thursday, November 16

- Campus Safety responded to multiple CO2 alarms at the Sjostrom House and documented an issue with the alarm notifications.

Friday, November 17

- Campus Safety responded to a report of a carbon monoxide alarm at the Sjostrom House. A faulty detector was replaced.
- Campus Safety and the Saint Peter Police Department responded to a report of a vehicle backing into another vehicle and leaving the scene on College.

Saturday, November 18

- Campus safety responded to the Johnson Student Union for an of-age alcohol violation.
- Campus Safety and Residential Life staff respond to an underage alcohol violation in Sorensen Hall
- Campus Safety and Residential Life staff responded to an underage alcohol violation in Norelius Hall. One student was transported by Campus Safety to the emergency room.
- Campus Safety took a report of theft of personal property in Norelius Hall

from the laundry room.

- Campus Safety and Residential life staff responded to a marijuana odor in Pittman Hall and documented drug and alcohol policy violations involving seven students and one non-student.

Sunday, November 19

- Campus Safety responded to an underage alcohol violation on College Grounds. Case referred to the campus conduct system.

Monday, November 20

- Campus Safety took a

report of theft of personal property in Norelius Hall from the laundry room.

Tuesday, November 21

- Campus Safety and Residential Life staff responded to vandalism in Norelius Hall. Throughout the building furniture was found moved, pictures were torn off bulletin boards, trash and recycling bins were moved or tipped over, a pumpkin was found smashed, and a piano was found tipped up but not damaged.

Godfather's Pizza

PHONE: **507-931-6140**

6 Inch Pizza & Drink \$4.49

FREE Party Rooms
Nightly Specials / Value Deals
FREE WiFi
Daily Lunch Buffet

Receive Hot Specials Via Text Message!
Text: gopizza To: 69302

ORDER ONLINE
www.Godfathers.com

225 SOUTH MINNESOTA, ST. PETER

2 Buffets with 2 Drinks \$13.98

Large 1-Topper & a Monkey Bread \$11.99
Caramel, Cinnamon, Italian or Streusel Monkey Bread

Offer good with this coupon through 5/31/14 at participating locations. Not valid with any other coupon or special offer.

URGENT CARE

\$59 for
 Sore Throat w/strep test
 Pink Eye
 Ear Infection
 Rashes
 Bladder Infection (females 12-75 y.o.)

See us for*:
 Sore Throats | Ear Infection | Minor Cuts or Bruises
 Minor Burns | Sprains | Insect Bites | Bladder Infections
 Rashes | Workplace Injuries
*list not all inclusive - all ages welcome - no appointment needed

Payment due at the time of service. Additional tests or procedures may be required depending on the nature of the patient's present condition. Additional services are not included in the above listed price.

RIVER'S EDGE

Hospital & Clinic at St. Peter

Monday - Friday 3 p.m. - 10 p.m. | Weekends & Holidays 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Last patient seen 1 half hour before closing

Conveniently located on the River's Edge Campus in the Specialty Clinic

1900 North Sunrise Drive | St. Peter
www.REHC.org

D.E.E.P. hosts silent auction with a variety of

Silent auction provides necessary funds for DEEP to embark on their trip to Little Havana in Florida

Ella Napton
Staff Writer

With all of the events going on around the world, the good and the bad, it never hurts to become more educated on different cultures and the diversity around you.

D.E.E.P, or Diversity Education Exploration Project, aims to address this directly by giving students the chance to explore different cultures by offering trips to interact with various cultures on them.

D.E.E.P. has three pillars that aim to fulfill this goal: Culture, Education, and Service.

And this year they will address these pillars in Little Havana, Florida.

In Little Havana they will learn more about the Cuban culture by going to various museums, eating traditional food, and much more.

“For our culture aspect, we explore different museums, eat traditional foods, and attempt to truly experience the culture of the location we visit. Next, for education, we integrate a trip to a graduate school in our itinerary. This way, we can broaden the horizon for students by exploring the opportunity to attend graduate school. Lastly, we incorporate a service aspect into our trip. We believe that when we travel it is important to give back to the area that allowed you to have fun, learn and relax. We attempt to plan service projects that are meaningful to the area. This year we hope to help with some relief efforts for Hurricane Irma” Junior Claire Dirnberger, one of the co-

presidents of D.E.E.P., said.

All of the events and trips are planned by students, which in turn gives these students the chance to learn how to network with many different people during the planning stage.

For example, they contact hotels, connect with graduate schools, and coordinate activities with one another.

This gives students the opportunity to learn these skills for use in the future.

“The Diversity Education Exploration Project strives to provide Gustavus students with a safe, fun, and educational Spring Break trip. We strive to make the trip as affordable as possible, so holding a silent auction and setting up GoFundMe are two of our major ways to keep the cost of the trip as low as possible” sophomore PhePhe Quevi, the other co-President of D.E.E.P. said.

This past Tuesday, November 28, from 9 am to 3 pm, D.E.E.P. held a silent auction to help fundraise for their trip to Little Havana, Florida in the Dive.

The avenue of a silent auction was chosen because of tradition. Many different prizes were offered and advertised around campus in the weeks leading up to the auction.

“The silent auction tradition has been happening for several years, and we always get a great turn out for the holidays. It’s an amazing way for the Gustavus community to start looking for holiday gifts and celebrate the season together. Additionally, it is an amazing experience for students. I have had to communicate with businesses, fill out donation request forms,



Students look at the various prizes at the DEEP Silent Auction which was held in the Dive.

Abby Anderson

write letters, and market the event! It is a great way to work on your professional communication and marketing skills” Dirnberger said.

Their goal with fundraising is to be able to continue the project for many years to come through the success of this year’s trip.

Furthermore, through the silent auction, students are able to actively interact with the organization and potentially learn about it and thus become interested in their trips.

“We fundraise in order to help students learn and grow during

spring break. People of all backgrounds are welcome! Our main goal is to have an open mind and immerse ourselves in a culture” said Janet Jennings, the Advisor of D.E.E.P.

Looking towards the future, D.E.E.P. and the people involved hope to continue to grow and develop the organization and the trips and lessons they have to offer to Gustavus students.

They hope to accomplish this by partnering with other organizations to help educate the Gustavus com-

munity about other cultures and the Cuban Diaspora.

Make sure to keep an eye out for their other main fundraising path, their GoFundMe, that will be developed within the coming months according to members of D.E.E.P.

Any help is appreciated to help fund their trips and causes.

If you are interested in getting involved with D.E.E.P., or simply learning more about their values and goals, in the future, you can contact Claire Dirnberger, PhePhe Quevi, or Janet Jennings.

Gustavus gives back with the annual Holiday Sharing Tree

Laura Stickney
Staff Writer

Walk through the O.J. Johnson Student Union and you’re bound to pass by the annual Holiday Sharing Tree, a cheery little Christmas tree set up just outside the Community-Based Service Learning office.

In partnership with the St. Peter Head Start Program, Gustavus puts up this “Angel” tree every year as a chance for students and staff to give back to the community. Participants can select one of the tags hanging on the tree, each of which is a different gift request from a child in need this Christmas.

“The purpose of our Holiday Sharing Tree is to help families who need some assistance during this season,” CBSL Assistant Director Amy Pehrson said.

“The director of the Head Start Program collects the informa-

tion from the families and then gives it to us anonymously for each child -- this year there are over 30 families who are part of the program.”

Gustavus has been working with Head Start for many years now, although the tree has only recently found its current home outside the CBSL office.

Considering the mission of CBSL, this is the perfect spot for the Holiday Sharing Tree not only because of its visibility to the public, but because of the way it links Gustavus to the St. Peter community.

“I think that the Angel Tree is important to Gustavus because it is another thread that weaves us as individuals and as a college into the beautiful tapestry of the local community,” CBSL Director Tonya Kjerland said.

“Being given a chance to tangibly benefit an unknown child is a gift to the giver, and it helps to focus us less on ourselves and more on our role in building

community.”

This year, the CBSL office has strengthened this idea of community-building not only by setting up holiday projects like the Angel Tree, but by expanding community service opportunities on campus, like the Gustie Buddies program and Big Partner/Little Partner, which now includes middle school students.

The office’s efforts to forge these connections to the community and inspire people to give back have clearly been successful -- as of right now, all of the Holiday Sharing Tree’s tags have been taken.

This says much about how CBSL’s values coincide with those of the Gustavus community as a whole.

“When I was little, my family always used to participate in a giving tree at our church, and I always looked forward to going shopping with my mom and helping her wrap the gifts,”

Senior Shailagh Lannon, who is participating this year.

“When I saw the Holiday Sharing Tree here, I felt called to continue what my parents always did -- to spend the Christmas season focused on giving rather than receiving.”

This sense of holiday spirit is clearly alive in the efforts of both the CBSL office and those participating, and the donated gifts will be sure to bring smiles to many a child’s face this Christmas.

The CBSL staff would like to remind those participating that gifts are to be returned to the CBSL office by Wednesday, December 13; gifts should be wrapped and should include the original tag.

For those who did not have a chance to grab a tag from the Gustavus Angel Tree, there are still several opportunities to participate this season.

Holiday Sharing Trees have also been set up at the First

National Bank and Nutters Clothing in St. Peter, along with several locations in Mankato; these Trees are all serviced by the Salvation Army and Nicollet County Social Services.

Gifts need to be returned to these places by 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 16.

As the winter holidays draw near, there is no doubt that the Holiday Sharing Tree stands as an important symbol not only for the strong sense of community on the Gustavus campus, but for the spirit of giving in a world that sometimes forgets what truly matters at Christmas time.

“The holiday season has become so commercialized in the past decade, and I think it’s important for the Gustavus community to take a moment to step back and remember what the holiday season is about,” Lannon reflected. “It’s about love and gratitude and community. The Tree is one way to do that.”

Sigma Tau Delta organizes first “Booksgiving”

English Honor Society collects books to donate to Books for Africa



Students table outside the caf to collect books and school supplies for all ages in Sigma Tau Delta's first book drive, Booksgiving. There were a variety of books the organization was collecting such as children's books, non-fiction and fiction books, and textbooks that would be sent to Books for Africa.

Abby Anderson

Monali Bhakta
News Editor

Many students discover the benefits of attending a liberal arts institution when participating in various student organizations.

These clubs sometimes pertain to a particular major which gives students additional opportunity to engage in the subject area they are interested in.

They have the enriching option to surround themselves with like-minded individuals with the same driven ambitions and aspirations as them.

Gustavus Adolphus College has a variety of honor societies in subjects such as Physics, Biology, and Spanish.

Sigma Tau Delta is the honor society for English majors, a chapter of a national society prominent throughout the United States.

The Gustavus Phi Rho chapter and has been in place since 1982.

The purpose of this organization is to provide English majors with beneficial opportunities such as scholarships and internships.

Students also have access to

reputable journals that focus on engaging in scholarly and creative works.

This chapter makes sure to connect students to these types of resources while also trying to reach out to the Gustavus community.

This year, in particular, the organization is doing its best to make a greater presence around campus.

“As an organization, Sigma Tau Delta hasn’t done much in the past in terms of community service, so we’re trying to change that atmosphere and culture surrounding our organization to make it seem like you can have scholarship and community service be in the same type of group,” Megan Johnson, Senior Sigma Tau Delta historian said.

This past Wednesday, Nov. 28 and Thursday, Nov. 29, Sigma Tau Delta hosted their first ever book drive, Booksgiving.

They tabled outside of the caf in order to collect new or old books for all ages that are eventually going to be donated to the charity, Books for Africa.

The organization accepts books of all ages in popular fiction and nonfiction, including children’s books.

They prefer to take books that

have been published in the last fifteen years to maintain relevance in literature.

They also take informational textbooks and school supplies.

After all the materials were collected, the books and materials will be sent to African schools.

“There’s nothing wrong with sending books to Africa, like if we have extra books that the Book Mark certainly will not give us money for, we might as well give them to people that might need it,” Johnson said.

Even if people were unable to donate books during this time, the group has considered adding a donation box in both Anderson and Convic in the upcoming week, so people who didn’t have a chance to contribute can still do so.

Because this was the first time Sigma Tau Delta organized this event, they did not have a specific goal for how many books to collect.

The board members wanted to implement a service project, so members could find something else in the organization and the Gustavus community.

They believe collecting and donating books is a way to foster the growth of literacy for less fortunate

individuals outside of the college.

This will be the way intelligent individuals are making a difference in the world.

“There’s nothing wrong with sending books to Africa, like if we have extra books that the Book Mark certainly will not give us money for, we might as well give them to people that might need it.”

-Megan Johnson

“As an honor society representing Gustavus English majors, we believe that it is important to uphold the Gustavus pillar of Service, especially in ways that promote learning and literacy,” Junior Thomas Sullivan, Co-President of Sigma Tau Delta, said.

One of the ways Sigma Tau Delta tried to promote the Booksgiving was by creating colorful posters.

They also emailed various faculty members in the English department, and managed to get it put on

the Gustavus email alias to spread the word.

During tabling, people were welcome to asking questions about their organization and the details of the book drive.

Along with Booksgiving, Sigma Tau Delta aims to promote itself by organizing additional events throughout the school year.

They will be hosting a Courtyard Cafe event on Monday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m.

This event will consist of faculty members and students who will read literature they appreciate, and share their personal scholarly work.

“Our new mission statement is: To promote interest and knowledge of literature, theater, and the fine arts for the members of the society, all English majors and minors, and the greater Gustavus campus. We have a lot of good people, and I have confidence that Sigma Tau Delta will continue to grow in the next few years,” Senior Gretchen Seewald Secretary of Sigma Tau Delta, said.

GUSTIE of the WEEK

Joy Dunna

Trevon Sladek
Staff Writer

Joy Dunna likes to start off her day by thinking, "I am alive, I am awake, I am alert, I am enthusiastic!"

With her positive mindset, she makes the most of every day and is able to brighten up the people around her, as well as the campus at Gustavus Adolphus College.

Joy grew up in Saint Paul, Minnesota and attended Hill Murray High School before making her way to Gustavus.

She fell in love with the college immediately.

"Gustavus was the very first school I toured when I started my college search. I found myself comparing every school I looked at afterward to Gustavus, and nothing could ever compare to life on the hill," Joy said.

For Joy, home is a feeling more than it is a place.

"Gustavus felt like home all of the times I was on campus, so I decided to make it my home in

the physical sense of the word too. So far it is one of the best decisions I have ever made," Joy said.

Joy is currently a sophomore and is majoring in pre-nursing. She is also pursuing a minor in Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies.

"Joy is one of the most caring, thoughtful, and genuine people you will ever meet."

—Maddy Schwartz

Professor of History and GWSS Kate Wittenstein has had Joy in two classes and is already very impressed with her.

"I consider Joy a model student both in her preparation for and interest in the classes she takes," Wittenstein said.

"She is open minded and willing to grow in her thinking—a perfect role model of a liberal arts student who takes her education seriously."

Professor Wittenstein has

attempted to encourage Joy to become a history major on several occasions, but has not convinced her quite yet.

Joy Dunna is impressive in academics, as well as in her involvement around campus.

She is a Gustie Greeter, serving as a resource, friend, mentor, and leader on campus for new incoming students.

She is also active in Building Bridges, a student organization that focuses on educating and informing community members on issues relating to social justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion.

In addition, Joy participates in Feminist Bible Study and is the secretary of the Women's Action Coalition.

She works as a tour guide in the Admission Office and is a member of the Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority on campus.

As if that is not enough, Joy finds time to be in the Cribbage Club too.

Although she juggles an extremely active presence in a variety of organizations at Gustavus with schoolwork, Joy manages to be described with



Abby Anderson

Joy's friends describe her as compassionate and motivated.

only positive adjectives by her close friends.

"Joy is compassionate, motivated, and oh so easy to get along with," Zach Diedrich, a good friend of Joy's, said.

Maddy Schwartz has been a buddy of Joy's since high school

and is now one of her sorority sisters.

"Joy is one of the most caring, thoughtful, and genuine people you will meet," Schwartz said, "She is a great choice for Gustie of the Week."

Joy Dunna is also often praised by her friends to be an eminently positive person, who has great influence on their day to day lives.

"She goes about her life, aware of it's challenges, but she keeps her head up and lifts her friends up too with her positive attitude," Diedrich said.

"Whenever you cross her path, you are greeted with a bright, shining smile and an array of positivity," Schwartz said.

"I am always in a better mood after I spend time with Joy as her personality is contagious."

Dunna often tells Diedrich to "treat yourself. Spend more, do more, BE more."

Diedrich explains that "while sounding like a vain, materialistic phrase, it has deeper meaning to [them]."

He said, "We both know that school is hard, and that sometimes you need a little pick me up treat to get through the day."

It's our little way of motivating each other to keep going and to get through the tough times."

Tough times seem to be ineffective as Joy embodies the emotion that is her name.

Every morning when she wakes up, Joy reminds herself she is alive and that she "already has so much to be grateful for that morning."

"After that," Joy said, "I can go about my day trying my best to be alert and enthusiastic." siastic."



Joy aims to live everyday trying her best to be alert and enthusiastic.

Abby Anderson

Volunteer for the Holidays

Hannah Haas
Staff Writer

It's the most wonderful time of the year. It is also the time to be thankful for all that you have, and give back to those in need. Too many times it is easy to forget what the holidays are truly about.

If you have yet to volunteer or give back during this time, you are truly missing out an enlightening experience that allows you to help others and put your time towards something worthwhile.

There are numerous opportunities in our area and everywhere to do some good and get out there and make it happen.

The Salvation Army is a great place to start and get your feet wet.

You can do some classic bell ringing and sign up on The Salvation Army's website for an hour up to all day.

If you are really feeling adventurous, you can bring along some friends and sing some Christmas carols for people walking by.

You can help with things such as preparing and serving holiday meals or gathering and collecting toys and other

essentials for children and adults in need.

Check out your local Salvation Army as soon you can, you won't regret it.

People Serving People is another great organization in the Twin Cities area.

They have been helping homeless adults and children since 1982. They offer emergency services for and help people in need take care of themselves.

The opportunities are endless when it comes to People Serving People, including serving meals, caring for children, and tutoring.

You can also help with gift wrapping (if that is your forte), setting up the toy shop, as well as delivering gifts.

Your local food shelf would also be a great place to look into, I know there is one in the Saint Peter and Mankato area, and I'm sure there is one close to home that could use your help.

These facilities are always looking for help during the holidays to do things such as sort through donated items.

You can also donate some yourself if you don't have time to volunteer but are looking for a way to give back to the

community.

You can also pack specialty boxes for the people and families in need and help in anyway that you can.

If you feel like focusing on helping people get food they need for the holidays, maybe Meals on Wheels would be right for you.

Meals on Wheels helps bring thousands of people food throughout the Twin Cities area.

You can also get your family and friends involved and help decorate lunch bags, make holiday cards and also just visit with the people you are bringing the food too; I'm sure they would more than appreciate it.

Love Your Neighbor is an amazing organization through Neighbors Inc that works toward reducing poverty, building a better community, and promoting self sufficiency.

As a volunteer, you can purchase all the ingredients for a holiday meal and donate them, or donate new toys and/or clothes to children in need.

You can also work hands on through the local food shelf and thrift store in the Saint Paul area that Neighbors Inc works directly with.

During this time of the year



Volunteer as a Salvation Army bell ringer over the holidays.

Creative Commons

local schools, hospitals, elderly facilities and churches almost always have some sort of volunteering opportunity and could use help.

So ask around, see what's out there for you to do. Seek out opportunities, don't just wait for them to come to you.

This is the time of the year that you should be giving back and thanking others for all they do.

Even though times may be tough every now and then, you should try and feel grateful for what you have and everything that either is given to you, or that you have to work for.

Either way, not everyone

gets that opportunity, do not take it for granted.

Who knows? Maybe after all your volunteering during the holidays you will realize that this is something you would like to continue with down the road.

Volunteering can lead to great opportunities and connections for people in need, and for yourself.

We need more people in this world willing to do what they can to help others, that is how we succeed, make each other better, and set examples for the future generations.

Be the best version of yourself and make a difference: volunteer.

The musical ensembles of Christmas in Christ Chapel

Elsa Beise
Staff Writer

This weekend, musical ensembles of Gustavus will be participating in the annual Christmas In Christ Chapel concert.

This concert includes musical pieces sung by the Gustavus Choir, the Choir of Christ Chapel as well as the Lucia Singers, in addition to the choirs, there will also be music produced by the Gustavus Symphony, Chapel Ringers and other ensembles will also perform.

The theme for this year's performance circles around Martin Luther and the Reformation.

For the 500th year anniversary of the nailing of the 95 theses, Gustavus will celebrate the Christmas season with the intention of using the Lutheran heritage and history to intertwine within the performance.

"This year's [Christmas In Christ Chapel] is a fun, reflective and classic Christmas celebration through music and song," First-year Tyra Ericson, member of the Lucia Singers, said.

Students are putting in a great amount of passion, time and energy in order to spread a beautiful and festive message.

"I'm hoping it will be something I never forget," First-year Carrie Bather said.

Bather is part of the Chapel Choir and is excited to be a part of the performance that she has heard is very unifying.

"I'm excited for [Christmas In Christ Chapel] because I've heard from people in the choir



The Gustavus musicians are hard at work preparing for Christmas in Christ Chapel.

Submitted

that it's not only spiritual but a very emotional and binding experience for the choir and community," Bather said.

For others, this concert has been something they have looked forward to being a part of after attending before.

"I've seen [Christmas In

Christ Chapel] multiple times and being able to sing in it is very exciting for me," First-year Isabel St. Dennis said, who sings in the Lucia Singers.

All ensembles, both choir and instrumental, have been working on this concert for weeks and have had numerous re-

hearsals, with the most intense being in the week leading up to the performances.

"[The choirs] have been practicing all year, and this week in preparation for the performance, we have mass choir rehearsals every night that can last up to four to five hours," St.

Dennis said.

For some participants, however, the amount of work pales in comparison to feeling the religious and spiritual connection and energy during the concerts.

"There's something about the chapel and the feeling of Christmas and God's presence as the choir sings that's truly an amazing experience," St. Dennis said.

Bather is excited to perform a specific few pieces and the different aspects of those pieces.

"[I am excited to sing] this song called 'Alleluia' because there's clapping," Bather said.

Other students share some concerns, but are mostly eager to perform. "...we have practiced [the concert] so many times, I do however hope I remember all [of the] words," St. Dennis said.

Students are encouraged to see this concert and experience the beauty and passion the singers feel when performing for their community.

"People should come and watch [Christmas in Christ Chapel] because it is not only a beautiful concert to watch and listen to, but it is an incredible thing to be [a part] of," St. Dennis said.

This concert, with the performances beginning on Dec. 1 and running through Dec. 3, will be a great opportunity to bring together the Gustavus community and celebrate this time of year.

"I'm excited to see everyone's hard work come together for a heart-warming weekend to ring in the holiday season," Ericson said.

The tradition of Lucia brings light and service

Corbyn Jenkins
Staff Writer

The annual Festival of St. Lucia will begin the Christmas season on campus in Swedish custom on Thursday, Dec 7.

The Swedish tradition has been celebrated on campus since 1941.

The Festival celebrates a long, Swedish tradition. It surrounds the story of a young woman from the third century named Lucia who was killed for her faith.

The Swedish legend says that after her death, Lucia showed up in Sweden and brought food and clothing to the people in the village.

The festival celebrates bringing light and service into the lives of other people.

"This festival highlights the many lights that we have on campus and brings some positivity into a world filled with darkness," Junior Alicia Lhotka said.

It takes many people working together to make the festival run smoothly.

The Guild of St. Lucia, made up of Senior women, helped plan the festival.

The Lucia singers choir will perform, and the chaplains and the past Lucia will pass off the torch to the newly crowned Lucia.

The court of St. Lucia will be there to accompany the St. Lucia that is crowned.

There will also be cute "star children" to keep with the traditions of the Swedish celebration.

Many Gusties, professors,

family members, and people from the Saint Peter community walk through the chapel doors each year to attend the event.

"It definitely takes a village to put on this festival!" Junior Emma Myhre said.

The day will begin with the St. Lucia Court singing carols throughout the residence halls on campus starting at five in the morning.

At 10:00 a.m. the whole Gustavus and St. Peter community is invited to attend a free service in Christ Chapel which will feature singing by the Lucia Singers choir.

It will also feature the Lucia Court, and the previous year's St. Lucia, Alicia Lhotka, who will provide a homily during the service.

The homily will be about being a light to the world.

"Being a part of the fun and meaningful traditions that surround this festival is unbelievable and something that I am so grateful for and wouldn't trade for anything," Lhotka said.

The court is chosen by a two-step process.

Five to six sophomore women are chosen by their peers each year for displaying qualities of service to others, courageous leadership, strength of character, and compassion.

The campus votes, and the top three nominees are placed on the court.

The Guild of St. Lucia then selects up to three more women from the nominations to join the court.

Finally, one woman is chosen to be St. Lucia which is a great honor and the main focus of the

festival.

"These women bring light to others. Being crowned the 2015 St. Lucia was an unforgettable experience. It was an extraordinary honor to be recognized for my courage, leadership, and compassion. To know that I was bringing light to others lives meant so much to me. It helped me see my purpose within the Gustavus community," Senior, Avery Bather said.

This tradition on campus is very special to the many people who take part.

"This Gustavus tradition will forever hold a special place in my heart. I feel incredibly honored to be associated with such strong, loving women leaders," Bather said.

Each year the festival draws in past Lucias from previous years allowing for current court members and Lucias to hear about how their experiences compare to each other.

"It's so incredible to look at the long history of the celebration at Gustavus and see how it's evolved. Last year, we were able to meet past women on the Lucia court and talk to them about how this tradition has changed their lives," Myhre said.

If you are unable to attend the service in person but want to experience it, you can tune into the live stream which will also be archived.

Following the service, the Gustavus Library Associates (GLA) is hosting a Scandinavian smörgåsbord luncheon and program.

GLA members were mailed

invitations in mid-October and tickets went on sale in early November.

Those who choose to attend the festival have a lot to expect. "Expect a beautiful celebration of light. Expect a real crown

of flames. Expect beautiful and strong women to be recognized for the glowing lights that they are on campus. Expect to be inspired. Expect a full chapel," Lhotka said.



Alumna Christina Paulson being crowned Lucia in 2013.

Submitted



The Lucia Court of 2016.

Submitted

Christmas in Christ Chapel

Olivia Niles



Cole Trebelhorn

Handbells

How many years have you done C in CC?

This is my third year in C in CC.

What is your favorite part of C in CC?

The comradeship that develops between all students, whether in C in CC or not, is so amazing and supportive because everyone is so stressed.

Is there anything new this year that audience members can expect?

There won't be a processional which I believe is the first time there hasn't been one.

How much time have you spent preparing?

Handbells starts preparing a couple weeks after the start of school. We only meet once a week on average so it takes a lot of time.

What are you most excited for this year?

As usual, I am really excited to see the final product of the whole show put together with the awesome decor and lights.

Katelyn Yee



Cole Trebelhorn

Orchestra

What is your favorite part of C in CC so far?
This will be my second year in C in CC as a sophomore.

What are you most looking forward to?

It's so hard to choose a favorite part! I really love the candles that the choirs hold during "O Come All Ye Faithful." It's such a perfect way to end!

Is there anything new the audience can expect this year?

The choirs have always done a processional, but this year will be the first time that they'll all be up in front right away to start a song with everyone—choirs, orchestra, and congregation. I think this year's service has a strong feeling of togetherness.

How much time have you spent preparing?

In Chapel Choir, we've been doing most of the pieces we'll perform since the start of the semester. We got our orchestra parts about a month ago, so we haven't worked on them as long, but we've definitely put in the time! Otherwise, this entire week we have mass rehearsals that started this last Sunday at the end of break, and those are about four hours long each. It's a lot of time, but I think it's very worth it!

Friday

7:30-9:30 Performance

Saturday

1:00-2:30 C in CC Buffet in Campus Center Banquet Room

3:30-5:30 Performance

5:00-6:30 Buffet in Campus Center Banquet Room

7:30-9:30 Performance

Sunday

1:00-2:30 C in CC Buffet in Campus Center Banquet Room

3:30-5:30 Performance

5:00-6:30 Buffet in Campus Center Banquet Room

7:30-9:30 Performance

Choir

What is your favorite part of C in CC so far?

I really like how big of a deal everyone is making it, and how well it's forcing us to learn the songs.

What are you most looking forward to?

I'm looking forward to getting to show the audience how hard we've worked.

How much time have you spent preparing?

I have been at almost every rehearsal and spent time outside of rehearsal for memorization.

Because this is your first year, do you know what to expect?

To be honest I have only heard good things but I still don't know what to expect.

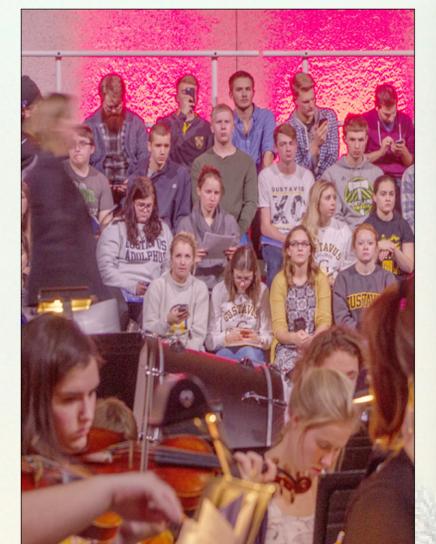
Have you been to C in CC in the past?

I have been to two different C in CC performances but I never thought I would be in it so I think I'm going to get a whole new perspective.

What's your favorite part of choir?

I really like how many voices there are in Chapel Choir because it makes it sound really full.

Carlin Meier



Cole Trebelhorn

Dance

How many years have you done C in CC?

This is my first time dancing in C in CC and I am so grateful for the opportunity. I am not a singer or a musician, but still getting the chance to perform in this concert is a wonderful experience.

Is there anything new this year that audience members can expect?

To celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and the history of Gustavus, part of the display hung in the chapel will include pictures showing the progression of the church and school. There will be images of key members in the Lutheran Church along with past and present Gustavus students and faculty.

How much time have you spent preparing?

The two other dancers and I, along with our choreographer have worked through the pieces beginning in October. We come together for about four hours per week in order to learn the choreography, clean, and clarify the movement.

What are you most excited for this year?

I am excited to perform and be a part of such a rich tradition at Gustavus. I have watched in the audience for the past two years and look forward to dancing on stage, sharing my love of dance and faith with others.

Maddy Schwartz



Submitted