

# FROM THE HEART

*Chaplain's Newsletter Update*



*The Wheaton College Chaplain's Office has begun the 2024–2025 ministry season, unveiling several new initiatives. Chapel ministries are focusing on the Nine Pillars of Life with God Together and spiritual disciplines, supported by a yearlong preaching series. Additionally, various topics are being addressed to encourage believers in their Christian walk.*

*This year's focus includes celebrating 50 years of the Billy Graham Scholarship and the global leadership of Wheaton students. Each month, a national or international scholar will be highlighted as a chapel speaker, showcasing their contributions to God's kingdom.*

## IN THIS ISSUE

LIFE WITH GOD TOGETHER  
MINI GRANT

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

GRADUATE SCHOOL  
CHAPLAINCY

WORSHIP ARTS DIVISION

STUDENT CHAPLAINS

THE LWGT PREACHING LAB

THE TEN-YEAR REVIEW

## LIFE WITH GOD TOGETHER MINI GRANTS

The Life with God Together Mini Grant Initiative is now in its second round, engaging faculty, staff, and students from multiple disciplines and generations. These practitioners are collaborating to develop ministry initiatives through this program. For the 2025 academic year, 10 ministry teams have been approved. Final project reports will be published in the Chaplain's Journal by May 2025.



## DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

Under the leadership of Eric Larson, Discipleship Ministries is continuing to reshape discipleship efforts across campus. New collaborations have been established with the Ministry and Evangelism Office to expand discipleship-ministry opportunities. The Faith and Sexuality component of Discipleship Ministries is also developing new faculty and staff collaborations for greater ministry success.

## GRADUATE SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY

Dr. Gregory Anderson continues to address the needs of international graduate students, particularly those experiencing food insecurity and other resource challenges. His efforts include building networks and support systems that provide essential assistance to this key segment of the Wheaton community. Graduate ministries also include midweek prayer meetings and fellowship evenings, which form part of the Life with God Together Initiative. Additionally, graduate chaplains and student leaders serve as representatives in undergraduate ministries, further uniting the campus community.

## WORSHIP ARTS DIVISION

The Worship Arts Division, under the leadership of Dr. Donté Ford and Mrs. Jessie Taetz, plays a vital role in organizing 98 annual chapels and fostering collaboration across disciplines. Students are offered internships, national leadership opportunities, and ministry practicums through the Worship Arts program. The Worship Arts Music Certificate continues to equip students for effective ministry, serving as a valuable resource for leadership development.





## STUDENT CHAPLAINS

The Student Chaplain program, led by Reverend Stephen Cartwright, has positively impacted campus ministry. Reverend Cartwright's work in coaching and mentoring students has shaped on-campus ministry initiatives and strengthened leadership development. Personnel changes are anticipated in this area, as the Chaplain's Office prepares for administrative adjustments. Reverend Cartwright has faithfully served as an interim part-time ministry associate, and his contributions are deeply appreciated.

## THE LWGT PREACHING LAB

The Chaplain's Office has introduced the LWGT Preaching Lab, responding to growing interest among students in learning to preach in local church settings. Initially created at the request of students involved in ministry, the program has expanded to include additional participants. The new cohort, beginning in January 2025, will collaborate with the Billy Graham Center's Preaching Institute, which recently received a Lilly Grant to engage pastors nationwide. The program integrates undergraduate and graduate students, with plans to eventually include partnerships with CCCU schools.

## THE TEN-YEAR REVIEW

Following a 10-year program review, the Chaplain's Office has developed a new three-year strategic plan for programming. This plan reflects insights from faculty and staff and introduces several new initiatives designed to provide best practices for chaplaincy in Christian Higher Education. The plan will be introduced in the 2025 Chaplain's Journal and aims to foster a collaborative approach with shared leadership and resource development across Wheaton College. This vision seeks to enhance ministry effectiveness and growth over the next decade.

