



## HAVING CHURCH FOR DINNER

The service started like most others: there was a call to worship and a greeting, songs of praise and a prayer of confession. But then the communion liturgy began. And after a giant loaf of bread was broken and shared, the congregation moved through the buffet line and filled their plates with hearty soup and salad — a full meal of God’s goodness. The sermon started after people got settled, followed by a time of table discussions. The service concluded with more song and the conclusion of the communion liturgy: sharing of the cup.

The Campus Chapel, like other Christian communities, has been sharing meals together as long as it has been in existence. But this October we shared a meal in a new kind of way, thanks to our special guest author, baker, and theologian Kendall Vanderslice. In partnership with Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church, we invited her to lead us through a dinner church experience. The worship liturgy of scripture, song, and sacrament flowed around and through the com

munity supper in a seamless package.

Vanderslice recently published a book on the phenomenon of dinner church called *We Will Feast: Rethinking Dinner, Worship, and the Community of God*. In preparation for her visit a small group from the Chapel read and discussed the book together, enjoying its viv-



Our community gathers in the Chapel sanctuary for “Dinner Church.”

id depiction of how various communities across North America combined worship and table, and the theological reflections on how food features in scripture.

The following night Vanderslice delivered a CFS lecture at Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church, sharing more of her research and work on a Christian theology of the table. It

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## PASTOR BAILEY'S ORDINATION

One of the joys of campus ministry communities is the frequent opportunity to celebrate. Students are always graduating, getting into grad programs, getting jobs, or the like. There are times that even finishing the semester is cause for congratulations.

But this fall the Campus Chapel community had good reason to celebrate one of its pastors. The Rev. Bailey Sarver (as she can now be called) was ordained to the office of Minister of the Word in Chapel worship on November 3, with all appropriate pomp and circumstance.



The newly ordained Rev. Bailey Sarver presides at the table.



Rev. Jeff Sajdak, Calvin Theological Seminary Dean of Students (and former pastor of 1st CRC in Pella, Iowa) gives Bailey gifts to symbolize her ordination.

Many of Bailey's family and friends journeyed to Ann Arbor for the service, along with Chapel alumni of various generations. Two of those alumni gave charges in the service: Dr. Amanda Benckhuysen, professor of Old Testament at Calvin Seminary and former campus minister at the Chapel, gave the charge to the congregation, and Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys, pastor at Calvin Christian Reformed Church and also former campus minister at the Chapel, delivered the charge to Bailey. Dr. Jason Lief preached the sermon on the parable of the good Samaritan, and Rev. Jeff Sajdak presented Bailey with some gifts from the community, including a pastoral stole made by Bailey's grandma from fabric belonging to Bailey's great-aunt Judy (who was part of Jeff's former congregation). Those in attendance enjoyed a celebratory lunch after the service with treats that had been hand-delivered from Pella's finest Dutch bakeries.

It was a joyous occasion for our whole community to see Bailey's gifts for ministry confirmed in the call of the church, and to thank God for that calling.

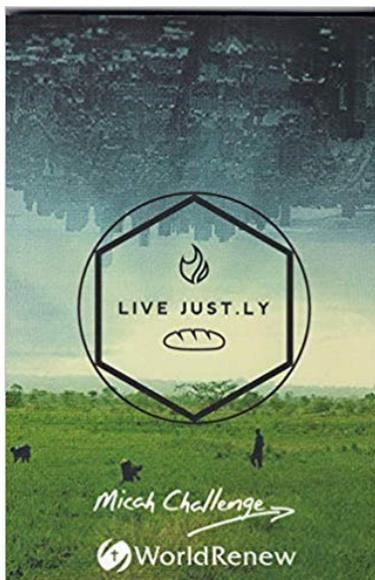
## SOCIAL JUSTICE INTERN: MEGAN HARRIS

The Campus Chapel is blessed to have many talented people involved in its life and ministry, and our community is richer when these gifts are used and encouraged. For this academic year Megan Harris, a recent Master of Social Work graduate, is serving as the Chapel's Social Justice Intern. This internship was made possible through an emerging leader grant from Resonate Global Missions.

Along with Megan's academic accomplishments, her previous experiences from service work, volunteering, and study abroad as well as her three year employment at Bethany Christian Services working in the foster care system in Muskegon, MI have equipped her with insight and wisdom into the systems and complexities often tied to social justice advocacy and work. She also spent time working at the Christian Reformed Church's Office of Social Justice.



During the fall semester, Megan coordinated several activities for the Chapel community. She led a book study working through *Live Just.ly*, a Micah Challenge and World Renew publication. For five weeks, a group of Chapel members gathered after Wednesday Night dinner to discuss readings on topics ranging from just consumption to godly relationships to prayer and its connection to advocacy. The conversation was rich and challenging. That contributed to another initiative: Megan organized an opportunity to write letters to government officials advocating for justice initiatives and organizations like the *Association for a More Just Society* in Honduras. And she led our monthly God @ the Pub discussion for December, where we unpacked the complexities behind the charitable giving of the season.



Megan also coordinated hands-on opportunities for our community. For a stewardship work day members of the Chapel community joined other Ann Arbor community members at the Bird Hills Nature Area and participated in invasive species removal (see the photo on the next page). And a group of us prepared a meal at the Ronald McDonald House for families whose children are being treated at Mott Children's Hospital. In a season of abundance and hurry, it was a gift for us to be given the opportunity to slow down and serve people in the midst of a challenging season of their lives.

We are thankful for the ways in which these endeavors have helped us think more critically, live more justly, and walk more humbly, and we look forward to further learning and growth in the semester ahead.

## A FALL PHOTO MONTAGE

Enjoy a glimpse of the many Campus Chapel and Center for Faith & Scholarship happenings this fall!



Chapel community members Allison Schepers and MC Westra pitch in at the Stewardship Work Day, taking out some buckthorn.



Pastor Matt and Pastor Bailey sporting their custom made UM pastoral stoles, which both received as ordination gifts. Note the Campus Chapel logo!



This month we congratulate and bid farewell to Ross and Kyra Vander Meulen. They came to the Chapel in the summer of 2018 so that Ross could pursue a masters degree in engineering at the University of Michigan while Kyra worked at Beckett and Raeder Inc. They have given to this community in many ways, including serving on the leadership team and sharing musical gifts. Ross recently accepted a job as an Assistant Engineer for Hazen & Sawyer in their downtown Detroit office where he will primarily be working on water and waste treatment facilities.



Christmas caroling at a special Christmas edition of Wednesday Night Dinner.



Chapel movie night showed the classic *Pirates of the Caribbean: Curse of the Black Pearl*, complete with pirate-themed snacks.



Chapel community member (and candidate for ordination) Nathan Groenewold leads one of our Wine Before Breakfast services. During Advent and Lent we gather once a week for an early morning service of prayer and communion, followed by a light breakfast.



This fall the Center for Faith & Scholarship hosted Dr. Jason Lief, author of several books on ministry and professor of youth ministry at Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa (and longtime mentor to Pastor Bailey). While he was here we kept him busy: he preached the sermon at Pastor Bailey's ordination service and presented a lecture entitled *Faith in a Secular Age*.



This year's cohort of CFS ProVocation Fellows gathers for a meal and discussion with Pastor Bailey. Once a month they meet to explore God's call in their lives, guided by a collection of readings on vocation. Each also meets one-on-one with Pastor Bailey and completes some written reflections as part of the program.

Pastor Bailey and Pastor Matt pose with their sign at the UM gathering of the Global Climate Strike in September.





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