Christian Unity

“You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbor as yourself.”
(Luke 10:27)

This is the theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity January 18-25, 2024. As in previous years, the selection of a theme is a collaboration of many Christian Churches. This year, the Pontifical Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity, the World Council of Churches, the Christian Churches in Burkina Faso, and the community of Chemin Neuf, (a French Catholic and ecumenical community of vowed and lay people), focused on a core element of Christian teaching and practice.

The most important thing we can do to build up unity among Christian brothers and sisters is loving them. God’s love for us, and our love of God, motivates our reaching out to other Christians.

The prayers at Mass continually return to this theme! The prayer the priest prays just after the consecration focuses on the Holy Spirit and the unity of the Church: “may we be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit...” The doxology at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer returns to the theme of unity in the Spirit: “Through him (Christ) and in him and with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit...” The prayer just before the sign of peace includes: “Lord Jesus Christ, who

Prayer for Christian Unity

We pray, O gracious Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that we all may be one as you are one. In your community of complete unity, we have our beginning and our end. To you we pray, asking for the gift of visible unity among all who believe in your Christ.

As we commemorate this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we are reminded by your Word that all human beings are our neighbors and that we are to love them like ourselves and in the same way we love you. Help us to overcome the barriers and divisions we have nurtured against your will.

Grant to us, O Lord, a new Spirit of love and solidarity, that we may proclaim your good news to all of creation. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit are one God, for ever and ever. Amen.
said to your apostles, peace I leave you... graciously grant (the Church) peace and unity.” There are so many mentions of our desire for unity throughout the celebration of the Eucharist. We share in the one body of Christ and in his blood.

Our unity as followers of Jesus is often in need of repair! Even in Jesus’ time with his disciples, and in the first generation of Christians, it was necessary to work and pray for unity. Missionaries have been particularly committed to working for unity, since we see that our divisions make it hard to recognize the unity of the Trinity and the gifts of the Spirit in our sometimes broken relationships.

St. Arnold Janssen was keenly interested in building up Christian unity. He actively promoted prayer for the healing of the divisions among Christians of his time and place. In a speech in 1869 he urged the leaders of the Apostleship of Prayer to focus on building unity: “…we are being challenged to hope for greater things, to hope that many separated Christians will return.... The return of separated Christians! What an exalted and holy slogan!”

To this day, members of the Arnoldus family are committed to reaching out to and with other Christians. Constitution 114 says that Divine Word Missionaries “must be ready to recognize the rays of (God’s) light in the religious traditions and convictions of peoples.” We are to be ready for dialogue, bearing witness to the Word incarnate in Jesus of Nazareth, and willing to “be enriched by other people’s religious experience and search for truth.” Constitution 114 goes on to say, “Inspired by the prayer of Jesus that all be one so that the world may believe (see Jn 17:21) and convinced that disunity of Christians is an obstacle to this faith, we will promote ecumenism in line with the concern of our founder.”

A good place to start or to renew outreach to other Christians is: “love God, love your neighbor.”

Institutional Assessment Committee

At the last meeting of the Board of Administration in December, the former Academic Assessment Committee was replaced with an expanded Institutional Assessment Committee. The name change reflects a big step forward in DWC efforts to make continuing improvements in our educational programs. The new committee will continue to work on assessment of academic learning, and will also work on the learning that happens in formation and student life.

For many years the formation and student life committee has used various ways of reviewing their programs and making adjustments. Now, their desire for responsive and constantly improving formation programs will be aided with some assessment techniques that have been introduced over the past several years in IELI and in the undergraduate program.

The new committee will include the three members previously appointed for academic affairs, and will be enlarged with three members from formation and student life. The members of the committee were nominated by Fr. John Szukalski SVD and by Fr. Long Phi Nguyen SVD respectively. I am grateful to all of the members of the committee for their willingness to take another step forward in DWC assessment efforts. The committee membership is:
Draft Academic Strategic Goal & Objectives 2024-2027

Happy New Year! Thank you for contributing helpful ideas for the 2024-2027 Academic Strategic Goal. Below please find my draft recommendations for the Academic Goal with four Academic Objectives. The idea is to prioritize two of the five Core Competencies, namely: Communication Effectiveness (both written and oral skills) and Social & Global Responsibility.

Academic Goal: Formulate and execute data-driven recommendations to measurably boost student skill achievement of two Core Competencies: Communication Effectiveness and Social & Global Responsibility.

- **Objective 1:** Implement data-driven recommendations from the Institutional Assessment Committee for curricular improvements.
- **Objective 2:** Strengthen academic writing and research skills.
- **Objective 3:** Invigorate dynamic oral proclamation of Sacred Scripture.
- **Objective 4:** Advance commitment to Social & Global Responsibility grounded in Catholic Social Teaching.
I also propose the following calendar, which will allow for due consultation among ESL faculty, UG faculty, the VPAA, and for approvals by constituent bodies. Once the draft Goal and Objectives are defined and reviewed by the Board of Administration on February 9, 2024, the specific Action Steps can be determined. As always, thanks for your collaboration in improving student learning and program effectiveness at DWC!

January 16 & 18, 2024 Consultation in Departments (ESL, DTP, DIS)  
January 30, 2024 Review by Faculty Senate

January 23, 2024 Consultation in Chairs Council  
February 9, 2024 Review by Board of Administration

Faculty Transitions:

Ms. Jacqueline Hunter—Adjunct Instructor of History
Ms. Jacqueline Hunter, Adjunct Instructor of History, will not be available to teaching during the Spring 2024 Semester. She is studying to become a midwife with the goal of serving in a community that lacks maternal health care. This is a continuation of her work with high risk pregnant women as a doula. Divine Word College is thankful for her availability to teach two important courses since 2019: World History II and US History: Civil War to Civil Rights. Ms. Hunter has impacted the learning of many DWC students in these Core Curriculum courses. Thank you, Jacqueline! We wish you God’s blessings in your new endeavors.

Ms. Mabel Rains—Adjunct Instructor of ESL
Ms. Mabel Rains, Adjunct Instructor of ESL, will not be available to teaching during the Spring 2024 Semester due to new family responsibilities. A graduate of Emmaus Bible College in Dubuque with a Bachelors degree in Bible and minor in TESOL, Ms. Rains has taught ESL at Divine Word College since 2019. We are grateful for teaching ESL at DWC over the last several years. Thank you, Mabel! We wish you God’s blessings.

Ms. Aneta Steel—Adjunct Instructor of ESL
Ms. Aneta Steel joins DWC as an Adjunct Instructor of ESL. Originally from the Czech Republic, she graduated from Emmaus Bible College in Dubuque in May 2022 with Bachelor degrees in K-12 ESL Education and in Biblical Studies. Most recently, Ms. Steel taught ESL in Galena, Illinois and volunteered in the Bridge ESL Ministry program as a free online tutor for immigrants and English language learners in the Dubuque area. She is proficient in English, Czech, and Slovak. Welcome, Aneta!

Ms. Heather Taylor—ESL Intern
Ms. Heather Taylor joins DWC as an ESL Intern for Terms C and D (January – May 2024) under the supervision of Dr. Seo Hyun Park. Originally from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, she is an undergraduate student at Emmaus Bible College in Dubuque and is scheduled to graduate in May 2024 with a Bachelors degree in Education/Ministry Leadership and a minor in TESOL. Ms. Taylor will assist with teaching responsibilities and engage as a conversation partner for ESL students. Last summer, she participated in an English Bible Camp in South Korea. Welcome, Heather!
Inclement Weather Policy for Off-Campus Students

At its meeting on December 1, 2023, the Board of Administration approved a new inclement weather policy for off-campus students (see DWC Handbook 5.15 and Student Handbook 606.6). This policy pertains to all students living off-campus, including religious sisters living in the convents in Dubuque, lay students living in Peosta, etc. Kindly review this new policy which is now in effect.

Inclement Weather—Off-Campus Students: Divine Word College rarely cancels class days due to inclement weather. It is the responsibility of each off-campus student to decide whether road conditions for his/her area prevent travel to the College.

Divine Word College aligns its inclement weather travel policy for off-campus students with those specified by the Western Dubuque Schools (WDS):

- If WDS cancels on-site classes, off-campus students will not be expected to drive to the College.
- If WDS delays classes, the students will arrive at the College within a half hour of the designated delay.
- If WDS announces an early dismissal, the students would depart early or plan to remain at the College overnight.

Off-campus student absences due to inclement weather will be excused; however, faculty will not be required to conduct classes via ZOOM during such circumstances. Affected students will be required to complete assignments posted on Populi LMS by instructors.

An off-campus student whose absence from class is due to inclement weather should notify the Dean of Students and each of the affected instructors of their class absence by email in a timely fashion. The same requirement applies if an off-campus student decides that he/she must leave early because of inclement weather conditions.

Students should document all class absences utilizing the Student Class Absence Report [S-CAR] form, available on the www.dwci.edu website (DWC Community>Student Forms), as soon as possible. Absence forms submitted later than two weeks after the class absence may not be accepted.

---

**Piano Recital**

**Sunday, January 20**

2 - 3 PM

Main Chapel

Area youth will perform as part of their annual winter recital. You are welcome to come to enjoy the talent of some young musicians.
Welcome back!
The faculty evaluator schedule of fall ’23 signature assignments is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Assignment/Class</th>
<th>Faculty Evaluator</th>
<th>Assessed PLOs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sr. Aprilia Untarto, SSpS</td>
<td>PSY 213 “Final Critical Paper”</td>
<td></td>
<td>CORE #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Round 1*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Round 2*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Round 3*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Round 4*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Joshua Young</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Richard Garrett</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Mathew Kanjirathinkal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Sam Cunningham</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Mathew Kanjirathinkal</td>
<td>SOC 350 (Race, Class, Gender)</td>
<td></td>
<td>ICS/BA/#2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Social determinants of personal identity”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Round 1*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Round 2*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Round 3*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Round 4*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jennifer Wintress</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Cathi Cleary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bro. Brian McLaughlin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fr. Paul Aquino</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Evaluation Periods: will be available from Monday 8 am to the following Monday at 8 am. Please allow a few minutes in between rounds to de- an activate each!

1) Round 1: January 15 to January 22
2) Round 2: January 22 to January 29
3) Round 3: January 29 to February 5
4) Round 4: February 5 to February 12

CPR Workshop
DWC is offering a free one-hour CPR training workshop for students and employees. Take this opportunity to learn a life saving skill.

STUDENTS       SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3  10:00 am - 11:00 am
EMPLOYEES     THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8  12:45 pm - 1:45 pm

Location: Epworth Fire Station

Sign up sheets are available on the student bulletin board. Please sign up no later than Thursday, January 25.
Welcome back

I am delighted to see everyone back on campus, especially after navigating through the challenges of the recent severe snowstorm. As we begin this new academic and formation semester, I extend a warm welcome to all our new and returning students. I wish each of you a successful, fulfilling, and safe semester. Let’s work together to make this a memorable and enriching experience for all. Welcome back!

Formation Meetings and Community Service

Please note that our Formation Meetings will recommence on Wednesday, January 17, at our usual time of 7:30 PM. Additionally, our Community Service, Work-Study, and Ministry activities will also resume according to their regular schedules. For more information and the latest updates, please check the Student Board or contact Sr. Aprilia Untarto, SSpS.

Orientation for new students

The orientation session originally planned for last Friday, January 13, was postponed due to inclement weather. This session has now been rescheduled to Thursday, January 18, at 1:00 pm in room 107. Kindly request all mentors to remind and accompany their mentees to this rescheduled orientation.

Winter Wonderland!

Photos by Fr. Duc Le, SVD and Emily Shedeck
The Beginning of a Better Future

The new year is an opportunity to be a better you. The Counseling Center would like to welcome new and returning students this term/semester. For those new to the country, the language, the weather, the culture, adaptation and adjustment are not easy but possible. It requires hard work, perseverance, and determination. For returning students, getting ready and being well-prepared at the beginning of the semester is an excellent way to be successful in your studies. Remember that procrastination is a big temptation as you go along your daily schedule. Keep what you have to do today. Do it now with enthusiasm and passion.

For your attention: for the last few days, we have experienced bitterly cold weather. This might become a significant challenge for us. It is highly recommended that we pay extra attention to what we wear, eat, and do. Freezing weather can cause you to get frostbite and hypothermia. If you are a smoker or drinker, these activities can make your body more sensitive to acute cold. You cannot underestimate high winds and their impact on “feels like” temperature. Monitor the weather forecast, especially for those living in Megan Hall and off campus. You have to change your wet clothes and shoes. Please wear your boots, mittens, shawl, and winter hat whenever you go out. Opt for outer, water- and wind-proof layers and inner layers that will stay warm all day. You need to eat, rest, and stay hydrated.

The Counseling Center offers help, support and accompaniment during this term/semester to address any concerns in life and to provide self-help tools. Please contact us if you need help with time management, adjustment (social and personal), sleeping difficulties, stress, loneliness and learning accommodations.

The Counseling Center is open **five days a week, with appointments on weekends and holidays.** Please reach out to us at auntarto@dwci.edu | Room 220 | Ext. 377 for more information.

*In life, what differentiates successful people from unsuccessful people is not necessarily their brilliance or gifts. It is their determination not to give up.*
Welcome Students

While being excited to see all our returning students back at on campus after the Christmas break, we warmly welcome our new students to our Divine Word College community. We have 13 new students this semester:

**SVD Candidates**
- Tan Duy Trinh Nguyen
- Andrew Nguyen

**Religious Sisters**
- Sr. Precious Mutepfa, HLMC
- Sr. Charity Nyasha Rabson, HLMC
- Sr. Lien Hong Thi Dang, FMM
- Sr. Mo Tuyet Pham, FMM
- Sr. Diem Kieu Thi Nguyen, LHC
- Sr. Trinh Tuyet Thi Nguyen, LHC
- Sr. Edem Rita Ocloo, OLVSM
- Sr. Ruoli Jin (Sr. Gemma)

**Diocesan Priest**
- Fr. Diangang, Guo (Fr. Daniel)
- Fr. Lin Teng (Fr. John)
- Fr. Oscar Alexander Rosales Hernandez

Staying safe in parking lots requires focus and taking it one step at a time.

At this time of year, it’s good to watch for changing conditions and to take it slow when you see snow and ice.

**Please follow these simple tips to stay safe:**

1. Walk like a penguin: Take short, flat-footed steps.
2. Watch for changing conditions.
3. Wear shoes or boots that provide traction on snow and ice.
4. Report icy conditions to the appropriate person.
5. Walk in designated walkways only. No shortcuts.
New to DWC?

Whether you’re a seasoned DWC student or employee, or just arrived last week, here are some important library tips:

1) Always bring your ID badge with you to the library. It is also your library card and you cannot check out items without it!

2) The library is open 24/7. Please be sure to turn the lights off in the evening when you leave.

3) Students may check out up to 25 items at a time. The loan period for books and DVDs in the main library is 4 weeks. You can then renew each item 3 additional times (16 weeks total).

4) Faculty, staff, and SVD loan periods have been extended! The initial due date is now 8 weeks from the check-out date (50 items, 3 renewals).

5) The Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) is the library’s main website. Check it out today: https://opac.dwci.edu. Be sure to bookmark it so that you can find it later!

6) Log into your library account to:
   • View item due dates
   • Renew items
   • View your reading history
   • Manage your purchase suggestions
   • Review and edit your lists

7) Log into your library account by entering the number on the back of your library card in the “ID Number” box and your 4-digit pin number in the “PIN” box. **Forgot your pin number?** Click the “Forgot your password?” link to reset it!

8) Stop by the library periodically to browse the newly added books and thematic displays!

Finding items in the library

Organization
Most of the items in the library are organized by Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC). A typical call number on a book will look like this: 973.12 C375a.

• The numbers (973.12) are the SUBJECT (More #s = more specific subject).
• The letter/number code (C375) is the author/editor’s LAST NAME.

Some items are not organized by DDC.
• **Fiction Books:** Organized alphabetically by author’s last name.
• **DVDs:** Organized alphabetically by title.

**Locations**

• The main level of the library contains atlases, reference books, DVDs and DVD players, fiction books, oversized books (001-699), and nonfiction books with call numbers 001-699.
• The mezzanine level has nonfiction books with call numbers 700-999 and oversized books (700-999).

**Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC)**

Now let’s find 973.12 C375a:

1) Determine the floor location. The above book is on the mezzanine.

2) Find the first number 973

3) Find the number after the decimal point .12

4) Find the cutter code C375. This is a code that arranges the author or editor’s last name alphabetically.

5) If an author has written several books, then you will need to pay attention to the last letter, in this case “a”. This is the first letter of the book’s title.

Most importantly, if you have trouble finding an item, ask a librarian! We are here to help. If a librarian is not on duty, email ewinter@dwci.edu for assistance.