

In This Issue:

ITEST	2
HLC Accreditation	3
Survey Results	4
Assessment Loop	6
Student News	7
Admissions Office	8
All Souls Day	9
Library News	10
Banned Books Week	11
Upcoming Events	addendum
Mission Sunday	addendum
Invite	

Birthday Corner:

OCTOBER

8	Mr. Khoa Dang Pham
10	Sr. Tham Thi Dinh, IHM
11	Fr. Betenora Bako Liba, SVD



THE PRESIDENT

Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD

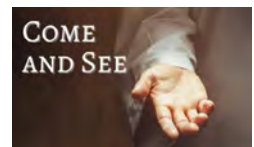
Are You Part of the Vocations Team?

DWC's Vocations Department is something truly uncommon. Very few colleges or universities would even imagine such a thing. Of course, every college has an Admissions Office to recruit students and assist them with the complex paperwork for enrollment. But our Vocations Team does all of that – and much more. The three lay members and the five SVD members of the team are deeply committed to meeting and encouraging young men and women who express an interest in missionary service and religious life.

Serving on the vocations team is far more than being a recruiter. It is a ministry, akin to the opening scenes in Jesus' public ministry. I especially like a moment from the first chapter of John's Gospel, in which Philip invites his friend Nathanael (*John 1: 43-46*).

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee, and he found Philip. And Jesus said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the town of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one about whom Moses wrote in the law, and also the prophets, Jesus, son of Joseph, from Nazareth."

But Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "*Come and see.*"



I am convinced that missionary service begins with two essential steps: *invitation and welcome*. Our traveling vocations ministers are especially gifted at the *invitation* – to come and get to know us. Here at the College, we strive to be expert in the *welcome* – the hospitality and openness our guests experience when they arrive.

This year, DWC community is reading together a book about vocations: *Called Beyond Our Selves: Vocation and the Common Good*. Its opening pages focus attention on a memorable insight of Frederick Buechner, who was a Presbyterian minister and writer in New England.



"The place God calls you to, is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."

This afternoon, faculty, staff and SVD community members gathered to reflect on that insight and discuss ways to weave the journey of vocational discernment more deeply into the life of DWC.

How large is the vocations team? I hope it includes all our faculty, staff and students! I hope it stretches out to encompass hundreds of SVDs and alumni who support and serve in missionary service. I hope it embraces thousands of benefactors, friends, and visitors who share in our efforts to educate today's missionaries... This is a good place – **come and see.**



Institute for Theological Encounter with Science and Technology (ITEST)

ITEST is an association of theologians, scientists, technology specialists, clergy, teachers, students, and others committed to a Catholic world view in which faith and science collaborate in exploring the truth. ITEST explores truth theologically in the wisdom traditions of the human community and in the data studied in the sciences. It is organized from the Cardinal Rigali Center in St. Louis, MO.

The institute invites guest members free of charge. <https://www.faithscience.org>

The Institute also invites members of the faculty, students and staff for complimentary lifetime memberships, which would allow free access to new webinars and the journal *First Principles*. For those who wish to accept this free membership, they may

send an email to ITEST@archstl.org to request it.

The Director of ITEST writes in his introduction to the website:



In the fewest possible words, our theme is “Be Not Afraid.” ITEST does not see science as the enemy of religion but stresses their mutual compatibility as parallel pathways toward knowledge.

St. Augustine said (400 CE) that “the book of nature and the book of scripture were both written by the same Author, and they cannot be in conflict when properly interpreted and understood.” ITEST agrees with that completely. The dialog that we have maintained for 50+ years begins from the belief that God revealed scientific knowledge for a purpose: to use it wisely for the betterment of all humankind. God’s word in scripture is similarly intended, with a richness that transcends human experience. We view the role of religious faith in human history optimistically. Our task is to travel both paths toward God. ITEST strives to have theology and science/technology encounter each other.

Committee Appointments

I am grateful to all of the members of the DWC community for their generous participation in the College committees. Shared Governance at the College is most evident in the annual listing of the 27 committees and councils. The list presented in the September 19 issue of the LOG is confirmed, along with the addition of Ms. Liz Winter to the Faculty Promotions and Awards Committee.





VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dr. Joshua Young



Thank you and Next: Accreditation Never Ends

Thank you to everyone that made the visit from the Higher Learning Commission team a great success! DWC is a special place, most significantly because of how engaged we are in each other's lives, and the engagement with HLC made the college an unforgettable experience for the visitors. A special thank you goes to Dr. Mathew Kanjirathinkal! At the Board of Trustees meeting, last weekend, Trustees noted how Dr. Kanjirathinkal has helped drive the college's accreditation success! Thank you as well to the faculty that played a key role in meetings with the team. And, of course, a huge thank you to all of the support staff. It really takes the collaborative efforts of all in our community!

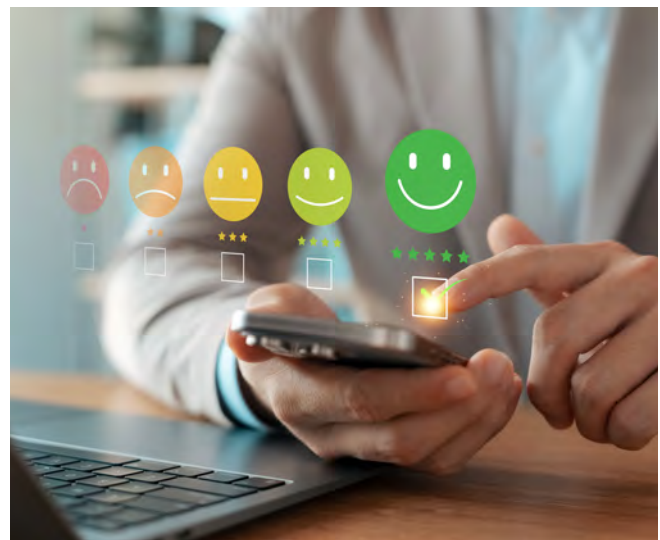
While we wait for the HLC report, the college is still in the accreditation process. Next week, Drs. Mark Garton and Seo Hyun Park will participate in a workshop preparing for accreditation with the Commission on English Language Program

Accreditation (CEA). Accreditation with CEA distinguishes the college's Intensive English Language Institute as a premier provider of English language education and improves the college's credibility with the federal government and the communities we serve.

Sometimes, accreditation can feel like someone is watching over us and trying to catch us making a mistake. Instead, we can view accreditation as a way of keeping ourselves accountable for the quality education we promise to all students in all of our programs. Thank you all, again, for your support in the process.

Preliminary Survey Results

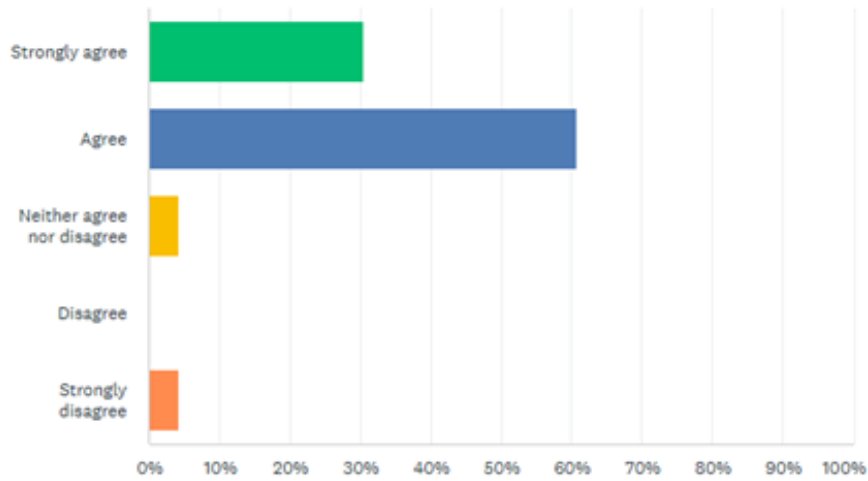
As part of the NetVUE Professional Development Grant awarded to DWC, faculty recently completed a survey on their understanding of vocation and how to support student discernment. The preliminary results of the survey demonstrate that the faculty have a strong commitment to vocation, the college, and to students in discerning vocation. They also indicate areas of opportunity, particularly in providing additional professional development and engagement opportunities for faculty to learn more about vocation within the Arnoldus Family educational mission and tools for supporting students. A detailed report with results and analysis will be published soon.



Preliminary Survey Results

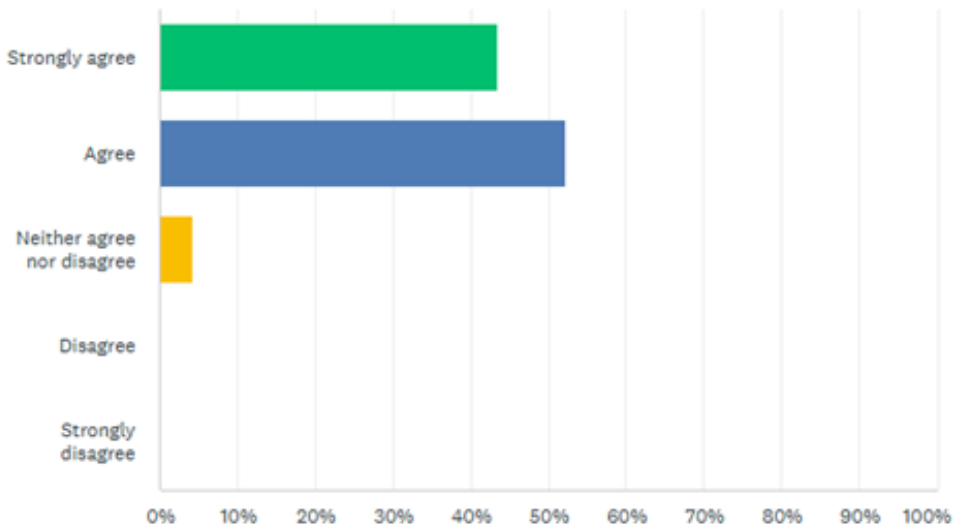
I can articulate the connection between DWC's institutional mission and the concept of vocation

Answered: 23 Skipped: 0



I believe that education is foundational to the missionary vocation.

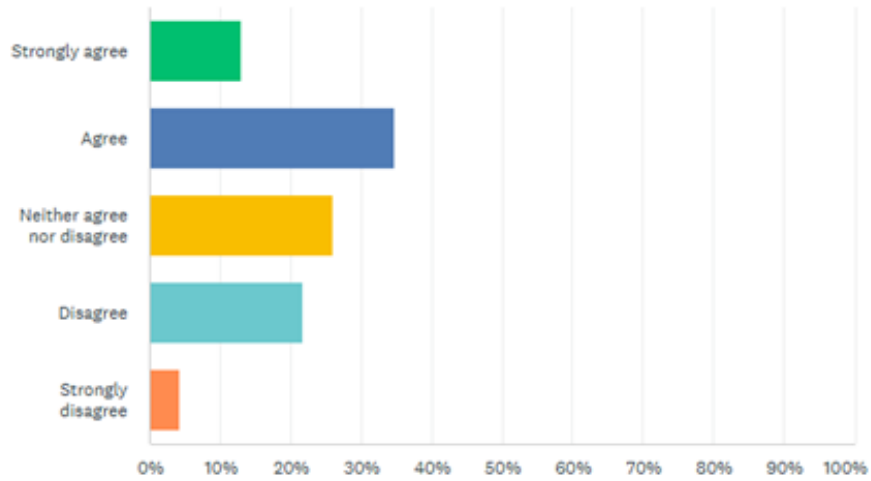
Answered: 23 Skipped: 0



Preliminary Survey Results

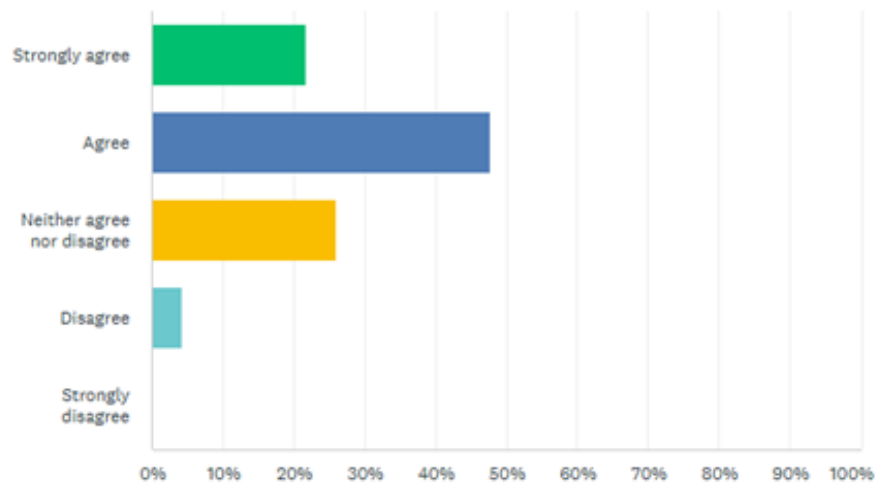
I feel equipped to advise students on their vocational path as a missionary.

Answered: 23 Skipped: 0



I would be interested in professional development opportunities aimed at developing a shared understanding of vocation within the Arnoldus Family educational mission.

Answered: 23 Skipped: 0



ASSESSMENT LOOP

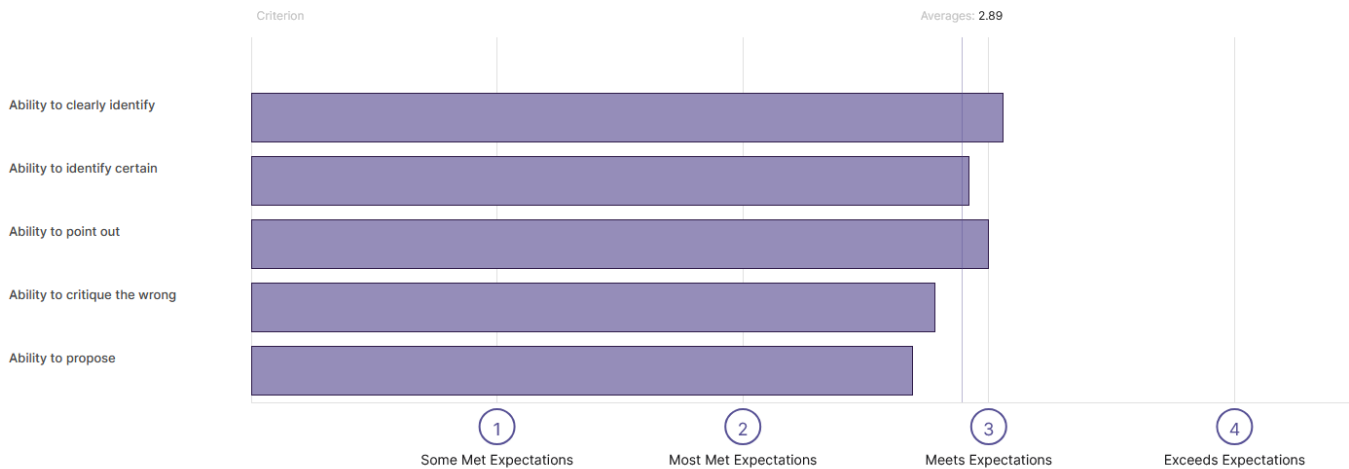
Ms. Kimberly Burnett-Hackbarth

Assessment Success: Core Competency 4 & Philosophy Capstones

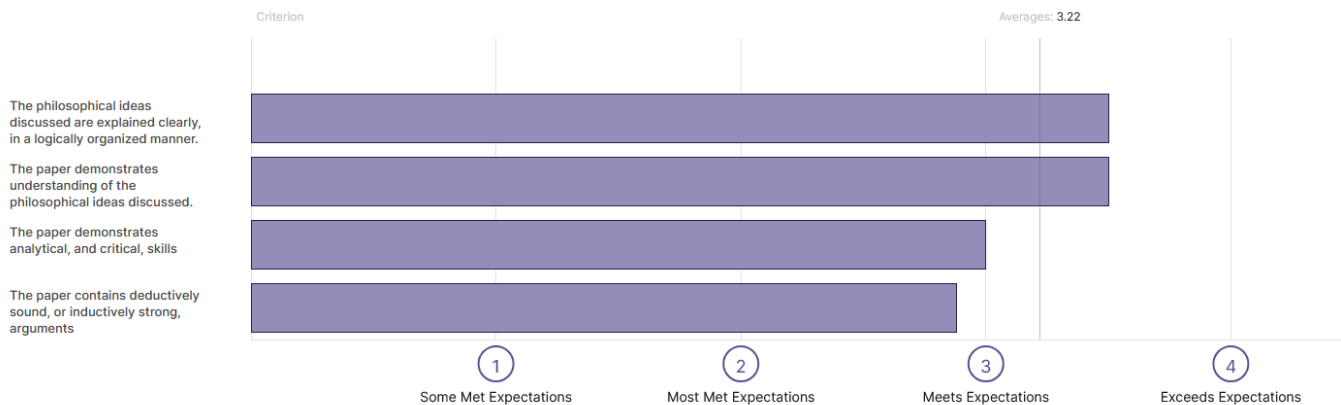
Congratulations to all faculty and students! The Spring 2025 evaluations of both the Social & Global Responsibility signature assignment, and Philosophy Capstones demonstrated outstanding results. Faculty evaluation confirmed that expectations for Core Competency 4 were met and mostly met, specifically in the ability to clearly identify and critique wrong in the THM 277: Catholic Social Teaching course.

This achievement directly fulfills Objective 3 of the Strategic Plan—Advance commitment to Social & Global Responsibility grounded in Catholic Social Teaching—and underscores our collective success in ensuring excellent student learning outcomes. Thank you for your rigorous commitment to our high-quality assessment procedures.

AVERAGE BY CRITERION



AVERAGE BY CRITERION





VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION/DEAN OF STUDENTS
Fr. Tuan Hoang, SVD



Conference for Men and Women Religious in Temporary Vows – Time Management

This Wednesday, October 8, 2025, Sr. Virginia Jung, OSB, will be doing a conference for the men and women religious in temporary vows, and diocesan seminarians. The conference will be on *Time Management*. This conference is important because with the busy lives that we have at the college (studies, activities, events, prayers, etc.), all of us need to manage our time well so that we can get things accomplished. It is required for men and women religious in temporary vows and diocesan seminarians to be at this conference. It is also open to anyone else who wants to come and learn. The conference will begin at 5:15 p.m. in room 107.

Annual Retreat – Br. Wendelin Meyer Formation Group

This weekend, from October 10 to October 12, 2025, Br. Wendelin Meyer formation group will be making

their retreat at East Troy, WI. A retreat is a time for students to put everything aside and encounter the love of God through prayers and meditation.

Please pray for the members of Br. Wendelin Meyer this weekend.



Taste of DWC Menu

I have completed the menu for this year’s *Taste of DWC* food festival. This year, we have 44 dishes to serve to our guests. I thank all of those who have signed up to prepare the dishes for the celebration. All of us are looking forward to eating the delicious food.

I will put up the menu on the bulletin board, and I would like to ask all of those who are preparing the dishes to please check it over. If there are any mistakes, please mark it on the paper. We will print out the name of the food to let our guest know what they will be eating.





VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSIONS

Len Uhal

Admissions Office Closed Friday

Carolyn Waechter, Patti McDermott and Len Uhal will be away from the College on Friday, October 10 attending a workshop at Techny.

Therefore, the Admissions Office will be closed for the day. Please visit the office early in the week if you need something.

Thank you.



VICE PRESIDENT FOR OPERATIONS

Steve Winger

Western Dubuque Schools Emergency Evacuation Drill – October 9

On Thursday, October 9, Western Dubuque Schools will conduct an emergency evacuation drill from 8:45 to 10:00 a.m. During this time, school buses will pass through the Divine Word College parking lot and exit through the back gate as part of the drill.

Please note that students will not assemble in the gym this year, as procedures have changed. Faculty, staff, and students are asked to use caution and be aware of increased traffic in the parking lot during the drill.

Thank you!



Around Divine Word College

Remembering Our Faithful Departed on All Souls' Day

As we prepare to honor All Souls' Day on Sunday, November 2, the Divine Word College community will gather in prayerful remembrance of those who have gone before us. During the Mass that day, our friends and benefactors will join faculty, staff, and students to remember all who have passed away in the past year.

You are invited to take part in this commemoration by **submitting a photo of a loved one who has died since October 31, 2024**. Please include the name of the deceased with the photo. The images will be included in a special slideshow shown during the All Souls' Day celebration.

Please send your photo to Sandy Wilgenbusch (wilgenbu@dwci.edu) by Thursday, October 30. Together, let us give thanks for the lives of our loved ones and pray for their eternal peace.



Be Aware of Phishing Emails — Think Before You Click!

Phishing is when someone tries to trick or deceive you into revealing personal information, like your passwords, banking and credit card details, or social security number.



Phishing is a **cybercrime** in which a target or targets are contacted by email, telephone, text message or other online platforms by someone posing as a legitimate institution to lure individuals into providing sensitive data such as personally identifiable information that can then be used for ill intent.

Think before you click! Divine Word College is not exempt from phishing attempts. Protect yourself and your personal information.

DWC Blood Drive


Bro. Mike has posted a sign up list on the main bulletin board for the **DWC Blood Drive on Tuesday, October 28th, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the gym.**

Please sign up by October 23rd. Those who **sign up and donate** will receive a **\$20 gift card from "Impact Life."**

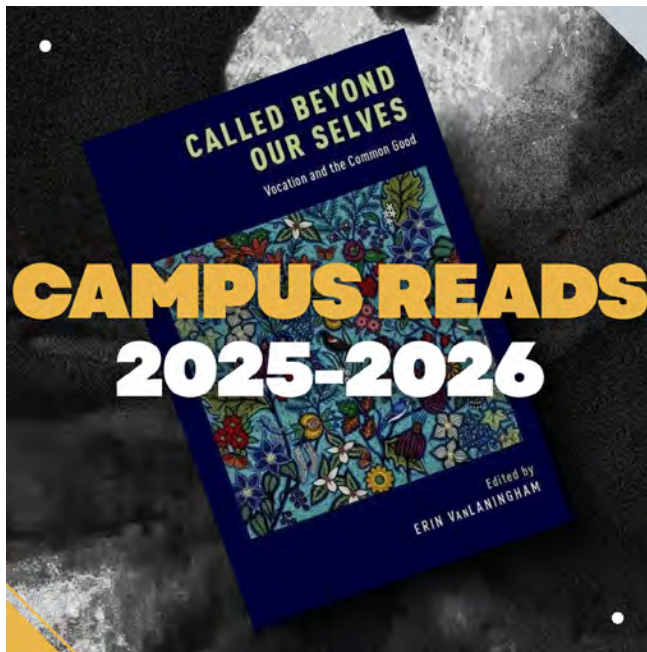
By donating, you can save the lives of people with cancer and other diseases.



*Thank you,
Bro. Mike*

 Matthew Jacoby Library

opac.dwci.edu



Campus Reads Program Events Start This Week

The Campus Reads program starts this week with two engaging events centered on *Called Beyond Ourselves: Vocation and the Common Good*. All members of the Divine Word College community are invited to attend—no prior reading is required to attend!

Program Schedule

Presidential Forum -- Tuesday, October 7, 2025

- **Presenter:** Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD
- **Reading:** *Introduction and Chapter 1: Our Call as Response*
- **Time and Location:** 12:45 P.M. in Room 107

Book Discussion 1 -- Friday, October 10, 2025

- **Presenter:** Dr. Joshua Young

- **Reading:** *Chapter 3: Overturning for the Common Good*
- **Time and Location:** 12:15 P.M. in the Academic Resource Center (ARC)

Whether you're deeply engaged with the book or just curious to learn more, these events offer a welcoming space for reflection. You're welcome to attend as many—or as few—Campus Reads events as you'd like. Each event stands on its own, so no prior attendance is required to participate. Join whenever it works for you!

Learn more about the local area at the Dubuque Area History Expo!

Preserving Yesterday for Tomorrow

- **Date:** Sunday, October 12
- **Time:** 1:00 – 4:00 P.M.
- **Location:** Loras College Alumni Campus Center Ballroom

The **Dubuque Area History Expo** features exhibits from over 18 cultural and historical organizations from across the region—including Divine Word College. This event is a great opportunity to learn more about the history of region and to meet the people who preserve and share the Dubuque area's rich history.



Event Schedule

1:00-4:00 P.M. Exhibit Hall Open

2:00 P.M. Presentation 1

- **Topic:** Beyond Disease and Death: Everyday Life in Dubuque as Documented in Funeral Home and County Records
- **Speaker:** Kristin Anderson-Bricker, Professor of History, Loras College

3:00 P.M. Presentation 2

- **Topic:** Iowa Historic Property Study of the Olde Worthington Road Bridge over Durion Creek
- **Speaker:** Ray Werner, M.A., Architectural Historian, Tallgrass Archaeology



Banned Books Week Library Display – October 5-11, 2025

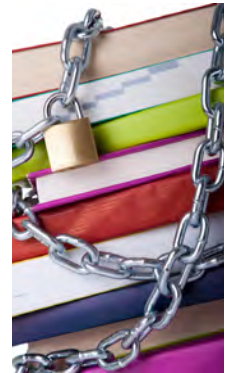
The Library has many books that have been challenged or banned for various reasons, *including the Bible*. Stop by the library and check out the banned books display!

Banned Books Week was launched in 1982 in response to a sudden surge in the number of challenges to books in libraries, bookstores, and schools. Held in the last week of September or first week of October, the annual event highlights the value of free and open access to information and brings together the entire book community — librarians, educators, authors, publishers, booksellers, and readers of all types — in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas (<https://bannedbooksweek.org/>).

Why does book banning occur?

Book bans occur for a variety of reasons, including moral or religious objections, political or ideological concerns, controversial portrayals of race or culture, depictions of sexuality, graphic violence or trauma, LGBTQ+ themes, offensive language or profanity, and even misunderstandings or mistaken identities.

The Roman Catholic Church had its own “banned books list” known as the [Index Librorum Prohibitorum](#) (Index of Forbidden Books). It was maintained by from 1559 until it was officially abolished in 1966 by Pope Paul VI, reflecting the Church’s evolving approach to engaging with the modern world following the reforms of the Second Vatican Council.



In a 2024 letter on the role of literature in human formation, Pope Francis affirmed the enduring value of reading—not just for personal growth, but for cultural dialogue. He wrote:

“Literature also proves essential for believers who sincerely seek to enter into dialogue with the culture of their time, or simply with the lives and experiences of other people. With good reason, the Second Vatican Council observed that, “literature and art... seek to penetrate our nature” and “throw light on our suffering and joy, our needs and potentialities.””

- LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS ON THE ROLE OF LITERATURE IN FORMATION, 2024



Upcoming Events

Fall

2025

OCT
8

Conference - Time Management

For Men & Women Religious in Temporary Vows

OCT
9

Emergency Evacuation Drill

For Western Dubuque Schools in DWC parking lot

OCT
10

Book Discussion 1

Presenter: Dr. Joshua Young

OCT
19

Mission Sunday

Theme: Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples

OCT
28

DWC Blood Drive

11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. in gym

OCT
31

Halloween at DWC

Wear a costume!

NOV
2

All Souls Day

Day of Remembrance



Join us...

DIVINE WORD COLLEGE:

MISSION SUNDAY

Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19TH, 2025

102 Jacoby Dr SW, Epworth, IA 52045

Multicultural Liturgy at 1:00 P.M.

Taste of DWC at 3:00 P.M.

Family friendly event | Free-will donations appreciated!