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THE PRESIDENT

Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD

Mission is Leaving

A Change of Plans. The Gospel reading for this past Sunday from Matthew 16 reminded us that St. Peter, and all the rest of us, must sometimes leave some of our plans, hopes and expectations behind if we want to follow Jesus. God's plan was for Jesus' death and resurrection in Jerusalem to be the definitive step toward the fullness of the Reign of God. Peter said: *"God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you."* Surely, Peter's response came from a deep and growing love for Jesus. But it was still mistaken. Jesus' response made clear that Peter was thinking "not as God does, but as human beings do." Faithful missionaries must always be ready for a change of plans.

Leaving Home. And we must always be ready to leave home.

For a long time, missionary service has been described in geographical images. It is getting on a boat with St. Paul or St. Francis Xavier, setting off on a trek through the mountains, or crossing a desert. More recently, some might think missionary service necessarily involves airports! Imagine the mountains of missionary luggage.



The truth is, we are often called to "leave home" even when we don't change address. When we befriend people of other cultures, followers of other religious traditions, people who are poor and marginalized, or those who are seeking faith, we are changed. Through these new friendships, our world is greatly expanded. Like Jesus' early followers, we leave behind the narrow world which we inhabited before.

Perhaps, missionaries may return home, but we can never return to exactly the same home. As the ancient philosopher Heraclitus observed, we can never step into the same river twice. The waters have changed—and so have we. Mission changes the missionary, but it can also change the place we once called home. Our leaving changes us, and it can change our old homes as well.

Leaving Something Behind. A bit of verse composed by Archbishop Helder Câmara of Recife, Brazil (1909-1999) keeps challenging me to leave some things behind. The Portuguese text is quite lyrical; my translation, less so. But it does push me to focus on the heart of a life of mission.

*Mission is leaving,
walking away,
abandoning everything,
going out of oneself,
breaking the shell of selfishness
which imprisons us in our "I."*

*It is to cease revolving
around our own selves
as if we were the center
of the world and of life.*

*It is refusing to be locked
into the problems
of the little world
to which we belong:
Humanity is much greater.*

*Mission is always leaving,
but not always eating up miles.*

*It is, above all,
to open ourselves to others,
as brothers and sisters,
discovering them,
encountering them.*

*And if, to discover them
and love them
it is necessary
to cross the seas
and fly through the heavens,
then, mission is leaving
for the ends of the earth.*

Câmara's Portuguese verses are now widely reproduced by the CNBB (National Conference of Brazilian Bishops) and by Câmara's former archdiocese. The text also appears in *Família Cristã* in March 2009. However, scholarly sources already cited the work in connection with Boff's *Do Lugar do Pobre*, published in 1984.

The Challenge. Perhaps what makes Câmara's words so challenging is the recognition that mission is not first about going somewhere. It is first about *leaving something behind*: our self-centeredness, our assumptions, our comfortable boundaries, and even our expectations about what God's mission should look like.

Peter wanted to protect Jesus from the road to Jerusalem. He loved Jesus, but he had not yet learned that following Jesus sometimes means leaving behind even our best intentions.

Mission **IS** leaving. Sometimes it means crossing oceans and flying through the heavens. But the greatest journey is the one that takes us out of ourselves and toward other persons.



Archbishop Helder Câmara of Recife, Brazil



Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters Celebrate Milestone

Congratulations to the Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters (SSpS)!

This year, the Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters (SSpS) celebrate a remarkable milestone—125 years of missionary service in the United States and the Caribbean.

For more than a century, these strong and committed women of God have answered the call to serve, bringing compassion, faith and hope to people through a wide variety of ministries. As members of the Arnoldus Family, the SSpS share a

special bond with the Society of the Divine Word and a common commitment to bringing God's love to people of every culture and community.

We congratulate the Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters and give thanks for the generations of Sisters who have dedicated their lives to mission.

Click the link below to watch a special video highlighting the history of the SSpS and the remarkable women whose faith and service have shaped 125 years of ministry in the United States and the Caribbean.

Watch Here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kF6FDG6NLI0>

125
YEARS





VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

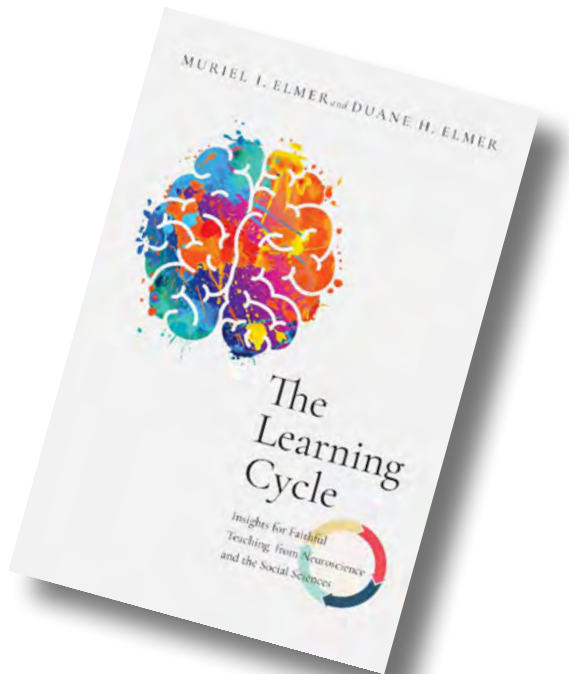
Dr. Joshua Young

The Learning Cycle: Recall

In *The Learning Cycle* by Muriel and Duane Elmer, the authors offer a framework by which they think teachers can better train missionary students. In their framework, they argue the very first part of the learning cycle is the ability to recall. This means remembering information previously gained in the learning process. While teachers often tell students to just figure out how to remember all of the content in a course, *The Learning Cycle* reminds teachers that learner recall can be boosted through two elements.

First, make learning relevant. Help learners understand why the information is practical and useful and don't make something up to make the subject seem more interesting or relevant than it is.

Second, make the information have meaning. This often means helping learners connect the skills and knowledge in the classroom to the stories they tell about their own lives.



Faculty were provided a copy of *The Learning Cycle* at the 2026-2027 Faculty Institute and will be discussing it at the Fall Faculty In-Service.

New Delta Epsilon Sigma Members

The individuals listed below were inducted into the Epsilon Theta Chapter of Delta Epsilon Sigma (DES). DES is a national academic honor society that recognizes outstanding academic achievement and service of students at Catholic colleges and universities. To be eligible, students must be categorized as juniors or seniors that achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher and are within the top 20% of their class.

- **Hiep Thi Nguyen**
- **Nga Van Le**
- **Hiep Thi Tran**
- **Phuong Xuan Thi Ngo**
- **Thoung Thi Pham**

Spring 2026 Dean's List

The following individuals were named to the Dean's List for academic achievement for the DWC Spring 2026 semester:

- **Hiep Thi Tran**
- **Lan Huyen Ngoc Hoang**
- **Thoung Thi Pham**
- **Phuong Xuan Thi Ngo**
- **Elizabeth Nyaga**
- **Ha Van Tran**
- **Trinh Tuyet Thi Nguyen**
- **Dieu Thi Vo**
- **Keke Liu**
- **Ha Hong Hoang**
- **Ha Thi Nguyen**



VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION/DEAN OF STUDENTS

Fr. Tuan Hoang, SVD

Arnoldus Family Feast

Every year, the SVD and SSsP Communities come together to celebrate the Arnoldus Family Feast marking the foundation day of the Arnoldus Family. This year, we have the privilege to celebrate the 125th year of the Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters (SSsP) doing mission in the United States.

As you know, there are familiar faces of SSsP present at Divine Word College. Sr. Aprilia Untarto, SSsP, serves as the Associate Dean of Students and Ministry Coordinator at the college; Sr. Carol Welp, SSsP serves as a formator and Spiritual Director; and we welcome Sr. Hope Albersia, SSsP to the student body.

We will also celebrate Bro. Tony Kreinus, SVD on his 60th anniversary in religious vows and Fr. Stephen Kha Nguyen, SVD on his 25th anniversary in religious vows. We thank God for their presence and service in the College.

Arnoldus Family Feast will be held on Saturday, September 5, 2026. We will have prayers, games, and a banquet. As always, the SVDs will have the privilege of serving our students and guests. All students are required to come for this special day.



Formation Matters

- **Conference for Junior Religious and Diocesan Seminarians – Study Skills**

Next Wednesday, September 9, 2026, there will be a conference on *Study Skills* for all Junior Religious (men and women religious in temporary vows) and diocesan seminarians as part of their intermediate formation. Ms. Nan

Peck, who worked as a counselor at Divine Word College prior to her retirement, will be giving the conference. Study skills are important because they help students learn more effectively and perform better academically. The conference will begin at 5:00 pm in room 107. Please be there on time.

- **Contemplative Prayer**

This year, Sr. Carol Welp, SSsP, has a weekly session on contemplative prayer. Beginning this Wednesday, September 2, 2026, she will have an introductory session to contemplative prayer for Synodality (Pre-Novitiate), St. Joseph Freinademetz, and Br. Wendelin Meyer Formation groups. All are welcome to join the contemplative prayer offered by Sr. Carol. If you are interested, please see the student bulletin board for more information.

Sports News

- **DWC Soccer Tournament**

The Annual DWC Tournament will begin this Tuesday, September 1, 2026. Please check the bulletin board to know what day your team is playing. Come out and cheer for your team.

- **Learn & Play Basketball**

Want to learn how to play basketball? Fr. Betenora Bako Liba, SVD, DWC's Sports Coordinator, is working with Fr. Keke Liu, SVD to give lessons to play basketball. For those who are interested, this is a good opportunity to learn the rules, develop skills, stay active, and have fun with fellow members of the community. Please check the bulletin board to see the dates offered.

5k Run and Walk

On Monday, September 7, 2026 we will have our annual 5k Run and Walk sponsored by the Student Senate. The event will begin at 9:30 am. Please gather in the front entrance at that time and have your DWC 5K Run and Walk t-shirts ready. There will be prizes for the winners of this event. Come join us and have some fun.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

9/2/2026.....	7:30 PM.....	Formation Group Meeting
9/3/2026.....	9:30 AM.....	Board of Administration Meeting
9/3/2026.....	12:45 PM.....	IELI Meeting
9/3/2026.....	12:45 PM.....	FSLC Meeting
9/3/2026.....	5:00 PM.....	Formation Group Meeting-Srs
9/4/2026.....	8:00 AM.....	First Friday - LC
9/5/2026.....	FAMILY FEAST	
9/5/2026.....	8:00 AM.....	Morning Prayer - LC
9/5/2026.....	9:30 AM.....	Activities/Games
9/5/2026.....	4:00 PM.....	Thanksgiving Mass
9/5/2026.....	5:30 PM.....	Banquet
9/6/2026.....	10:00 AM.....	23rd Sunday in Ord. Time
9/6/2026.....	7:30 PM.....	Vespers
9/7/2026.....	Offices Closed LABOR DAY No Classes (UG and ESL)	
9/7/2026.....	No Holy Hour	
9/8/2026.....	SVD Foundation Day	
9/8/2026.....	8:00 AM.....	Nativity of the BVM - LC
9/9/2026.....	7:30 PM.....	Formation Group Meeting
9/10/2026.....	12:45 PM.....	Tree Campus Meeting
9/10/2026.....	1:00 PM.....	Dean's Forum
9/10/2026.....	5:00 PM.....	Formation Group Meeting-Srs
9/10/2026.....	7:00 PM.....	After Dark Reception + Concert
9/11/2026.....	ESL Mid Term	
9/11/2026.....	10:30 AM.....	External Affairs Meeting
9/12/2026.....	8:30 AM.....	Teams of Our Lady Retreat
9/13/2026.....	Formation Group Charters	
9/13/2026.....	7:30 PM.....	Vespers
9/14/2026.....	7:30 PM.....	Holy Hour
9/15/2026.....	12:45 PM.....	Departmental Meetings



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSIONS

Len Uhal

Divine Word College Presidential Scholarship

Divine Word College first awarded the Presidential Scholarship in 1979. This scholarship is a recognition of and an honor for students who show promise of superior academic achievement.

The Presidential Scholarship includes an annual award of up to \$3,000 renewable each year the recipient continues to meet the established guidelines. The award may result in a further discount of tuition. A maximum of two students may receive this scholarship in a single year.

Criteria for Selection: Students in the Undergraduate Program at Divine Word College are eligible to apply for the Presidential Scholarship provided they meet the following criteria:

- Applicants entering from high school must have a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or above.
- College transfer applicants must have a cumulative college GPA of 3.50 or above.
- Applicants who have completed secondary school or college/university studies abroad must have an acceptable equivalent cumulative GPA.
- Students in the undergraduate program may apply at any time during their studies at Divine Word College provided they have a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 or higher.

If you believe you qualify for the DWC Presidential Scholarship, please complete the application form by September 11, 2025, which you can obtain from Ms. Carolyn Waechter, the Financial Aid Coordinator. Carolyn can also answer any of your questions.

**\$3,000 could be put
towards your education!**



APPLY TODAY!



VICE PRESIDENT FOR OPERATIONS

Steve Winger

Megan Hall Asphalt Project

Work on the Megan Hall asphalt project is moving forward, with paving anticipated this week, weather permitting. The new asphalt will help reduce washouts, improve drainage and durability, and enhance the overall aesthetics of the Megan Hall drive. Funded through DWC's capital expense budget, this project supports the long-term care and improvement of our campus.

Once the asphalt has been placed, the area will be coned off for up to 24 hours. The exact reopening time will depend on the weather and heat. Megan Hall residents should expect temporary parking and access restrictions and should avoid driving or parking on the new surface until the cones have been removed. Driving on it too soon could leave permanent marks.

Thank you to Randy Accola and the Maintenance Department for coordinating the project, preparing the area, and helping move this important campus improvement forward. We appreciate the patience and cooperation of Megan Hall residents while the work is completed.

If you have questions, please contact Randy Accola or Steven Winger.



**Thank you
Maintenance!**

external affairs

New Faces at DWC!



Kristin Goedken

Business Office Assistant

Kristin works in the Business Office and brings her finance and banking experience into her daily work. Kristin loves singing, karaoke, theater, and baking sweet treats

when she needs to relax after a stressful day.

She is friendly, loves meeting people, and believes everyone has an interesting story worth listening to and sharing. Did you know Kristin once wrote and performed her own song, “Does He Know,” for a school talent show? Her old classmates still remember the song and sometimes whistle it when they see her!

Bonus fun fact: She also won second place in an Iowa State horseshoe tournament!



Sara Goedken

Health Services Coordinator

Sara helps students with doctor appointments, health needs, insurance payments, and small injuries. Sara loves baking from scratch with fresh ingredients,

especially sugar cookies, homemade frosting, and pies for her father.

She enjoys meeting people, and says students can come to her for more than health concerns.

Did you know Sara’s childhood nickname was “Pooh” because she loved honey and ate it on almost everything?

Bonus fun fact: She also enjoys golfing, spending time with her grandchildren, and would happily bake every day if she had time!

Around Divine Word College

Message from the JPIC

The Season of Creation begins today and will last through the beginning of October. Here is a prayer for you to pray during this season. May we all give great care for our Common Home.

*O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned
and forgotten of this earth,
who are so precious in your eyes.
God of love, show us our place in this world
as channels of your love
for all the creatures of this earth.
God of mercy, may we receive your forgiveness
and convey your mercy throughout our
common home.
Praise be to you!
Amen.*



AFTER DARK: A Night of Music and Art at DWC

Do you love music and art? Have you heard our very own Dr. Evelyn Dias perform on the piano? Attend the upcoming **AFTER DARK Reception on September 10th, 2026, at 7:00 PM on the first floor of DWC!**

Join us at 7:00 PM for free refreshments and a new art exhibit by Erin LaBelle and Jenna Gibson. **The highlight of the night will be at 7:30 PM when Dr. Evelyn Dias performs her piano concert in the Main Chapel.**

Admission is free and the dress code is formal. Join us for a relaxing night! See the back of the LOG for the invite.



 Matthew Jacoby Library

opac.dwci.edu

The Digital Theological Library

The Matthew Jacoby Library provides access to the DTL, a comprehensive research library that brings together more than 1,000 databases, 1,000,000+ eBooks, 100,000,000+ articles, and streaming video from thousands of publishers worldwide, spanning far more than religious studies.

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2. Click Get PDF, Available Online, or Read Online. The wording varies by resource type.
3. Under View Online: full text availability, choose any listed access option.
4. On the DTL login page, start typing Divine Word and select Divine Word College.
5. Sign in with Populi using your DWC Populi username and password.

SUBMIT AN ILL REQUEST

Don't see what you need? Request it through Interlibrary Loan. Anyone can place a request. You must create an account with a personal Gmail account.

1. Use any existing Gmail address (or create a free Google account), and log in to Primo, the DTL catalog, with it.
2. To find articles the DTL doesn't hold, open the drop-down menu next to the search bar and select "Beyond my library."
3. Place your **ILL request** for the article or book chapter. PDFs are sent to your Gmail account.

New this year: One login with your Populi credentials (Single Sign-On, no separate DTL password), a DTL search box built right into the library catalog, and deeper discovery down to the chapter and article.

Questions? Stop by my office in the library, or email ewinter@dwci.edu.

ARNOLDUS FAMILY FEAST - FOUNDATION DAY -

Sunday 05 September 2026

Jubilee Celebration

Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters - 125th Anniversary
Br. Tony Kreinus, SVD - 60th of Religious Vows
Fr. Steven Kha Nguyen, SVD - 25th of Religious Vows

Schedule:

8:00 am.: Daily Mass (main chapel)

9:30 am.: Outdoor Activities/Games

12:00: Lunch

4:00 pm.: Thanksgiving Mass (main chapel)

5:30 pm.: Banquet (dining room)

All are invited.

HAPPY ARNOLDUS FAMILY FEAST!

You are formally invited to

After

DARK

✦ An Evening of Music and Art ✦

September
10, 2026

DIVINE WORD COLLEGE
102 Jacoby Dr, Epworth, IA 52045

7:00 PM - Reception

7:30 PM - Piano Concert
by Dr. Evelyn Dias

ART FEATURED TONIGHT:

'AFTER DARK' Collection by Erin LaBelle and
Jenna Gibson

'IMAGINE PEACE' Collection by Xene Abraham

- Free Admission, Food, Drinks
- Formal Dress Code

STUDENT ACTIVITIES · OPEN TO ALL

LEARN & PLAY BASKETBALL

EVERYONE IS WELCOME



LOCATION
College Gym



WHO
Open to All Students



BRING
Athletic Shoes

BASKETBALL SESSIONS

SEP	WEDNESDAY Sept 2	SATURDAY Sept 12	WEDNESDAY Sept 30
OCT	SATURDAY Oct 17	SATURDAY Oct 24	
NOV	SATURDAY Nov 14	SATURDAY Nov 21	



WEEKLY OPEN GYM – EVERY WEDNESDAY

Subject to gym availability

Come shoot hoops, practice skills, meet new friends, and enjoy an active break from your studies!

WHY JOIN?

- ✓ Learn basketball fundamentals
- ✓ Improve fitness and coordination
- ✓ Have fun in a welcoming environment
- ✓ Understand the rules of the game
- ✓ Build friendships and teamwork

HOSTED BY
Fr. Keke, svd

COME READY TO LEARN, PLAY, AND HAVE FUN!

Introduction to **CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER FOR ALL**



7:30 PM WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 2

Synodality, St. Joseph Freinademetz,
Bro. Wendelin Meyer



5 PM WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 16

St. Theresa of Child Jesus, St. Theresa of Avila,
St. Theresa Margaret of the Sacred Heart



7:30 PM WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 16

St. Arnold, St. Francis of Assisi,
St. John Paul II, St. John Vianney

MOTHER OF ASIA CHAPEL

