



Chaplains' Corner

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Reflection

I absolutely hated academic writing when I began my doctoral journey. It had been over 15 years since my master's degree and the rules and specifications were annoying. To complicate matters, the program has its own style guide complete with nuances that continue to baffle me. Over the years as I worked with the style guide, I have come to appreciate its idiosyncrasies, rhythms, and order. The specific style details for references, formatting, and pagination have become my companions, reminding me order is the perfect vehicle to convey my thoughts.

Within a month's time this year (is it only February?), my bonus mom and our fur baby died. Both had dementia, both were ill, both chose to stop eating weeks before they died, both showered me with extra love right before they passed on. While I miss each of them, I really loved our last days together. They were holy and beautiful moments.



Maybe that is just how life is. There are times of crisis and there are moments of holiness, beauty, and order. There are times when The Sacred Divine breaks into the darkness and claims the moment as holy and extraordinary, and there are times when we cannot see The Sacred Divine bearing witness to relentless love because the moment is too hard. Often the two are the same.

Whether your moments this week are crisis moments or moments of holiness, beauty, and order, know that you are not alone. Our staff is here to process with you and celebrate with you. We are located in the Spiritual Life Center, which is the off-white building on the corner of Brevard and College Streets. One final enticement... we have coffee and candy. See you soon!

Be blessed, Katrina

By Rev. Katrina Stipe Brooks
Assistant Chaplain

Concerns

Our sympathies are extended to:

- **Boyce Hamlet** (Physical Plant), his wife, Bobbi, and all of their family on the death of Boyce's father. Lynn Boyce Hamlet, Sr. died on February 2, 2020. [Link](#) to obituary.
- **Dr. Allison Jablonski** (Provost), her husband, Brian, and all of their family on the death of Brian's father, Werner Jablonski, who died on January 28th.
- **Laurel Nicks** (junior, Grafton, VA), whose brother, David Nicks, died on January 27th. [Link](#) to obituary.
- **Dr. Rusty Smith** (College of Health Sciences), his wife, Beth, and all of their family on the death of Rusty's father, Atwood Russell Smith, Sr., who died on February 2nd. [Link](#) to obituary.



Valentine's Day is February 14

Dates to Remember

Date/Time/Location	Event	Description
Thursday, February 13 6 p.m. Schewel 232	Garam Masala presents Bollywood Movie Night (Dhoom 2)	Pizza and Indian snacks will be provided! Garam Masala is a group of people who come together to share interest in Indian religions and cultures
Tuesday, February 18 7 p.m. Hopwood Auditorium	Lecture by Walker Bristol, M.Div. Tufts Humanist Chaplain	Lecture Title— "Humanism and Atheism Today: New and Old Ways of Making Meaning in a Changing World"

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

For a list of our regularly scheduled meetings during the academic year, go to the [Spiritual Life webpage](#) and click on "Spiritual Organizations on Campus."

Campus Worship Opportunities

- **Quaker Meeting** - 10:30 a.m. Sundays at the Spiritual Life Center.
- **Roman Catholic Mass** - weekly at 4:30 p.m. Sundays in Snidow Chapel.
- **Weekly Vespers** - 9 p.m. Sundays in Snidow Chapel. Vespers will resume on February 16th.

The Chaplains' Corner is a newsletter published by the Spiritual Life Center (SLC) at the University of Lynchburg to share campus concerns and updates, spiritual life events and activities, and words for the journey written by the Spiritual Life Center staff. If you have a joy or concern you'd like to share with the campus community, please e-mail the SLC office or call 434.544.8348. We only share concerns or joys, via newsletter or e-mail, with permission. Current and previous issues of the Chaplain's Corner (in PDF format) are on the SLC page of the University of Lynchburg website.

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