**FAITH IN ACTION: AMBROSIANS MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

Recent St. Ambrose graduates Kate Krebs and Miriam Seitz have used their education to spread the joy of the gospel. Among other volunteer pursuits, they’ve been serving as middle-school catechists at their parish-St. Clare of Assisi, in Monroe—for the past three years. Sharing the truths of the faith with 6th and 7th graders has given both young ladies the opportunity to give back to their parish community in a meaningful way.

“For me, being a middle school catechist was so rewarding because I got to see the kids grow in their personal faith,” said Miriam, who will be a freshman at the University of North Dakota this fall. “So many have survived on the faith of their parents, but to see them slowly branch out and begin to make the faith theirs was beautiful. Middle school is the time of questions and I was thrilled to be able to direct them toward the Church.”

“I felt that because I was given such an amazing gift of a Catholic education that I needed to give back to the community and spread the knowledge I was taught,” added Kate, a soon-to-be Cornhusker at the University of Nebraska.

Congratulations to both Miriam and Kate, who are truly bringing the light of Christ to the world!
“If you love someone, cook for them!” This was the inspiration for the 2018 Summer Workshop, in which students entering grades 5-9 experienced a hands-on journey from the farm, to the kitchen, to the table, over the two weeks from June 11-22.

“From our home base at St. Ambrose, we headed out and about many days, visiting a farm, learning about plants and soil and animals, chatting with a chef, baking bread, stirring up sauces, smelling, tasting, and sampling food from around the world,” said Michael Kwas, SAA Academic Dean and workshop instructor, who said the students were “eating every day, along with exploring botany, horticulture, physics, chemistry, and global food traditions.”

Week One started with a visit to Blue Moon Community Farm, an organic vegetable farm near Stoughton, where students planted, weeded, washed, and tasted delicious fresh vegetables while learning about the beginning of the food chain. Students spent time in the lab, getting up-close with kitchen physics and chemistry. They visited the Sarbackers’ dairy farm outside of Verona to understand animal husbandry, and got busy in the kitchen preparing a special take-home Fathers’ Day breakfast.

During Week Two, the workshop focus started in the kitchen, where students prepared a healthy community meal for friends at Luke House, learning about kitchen safety and the science of taste and smell. The group toured L’Etoile/Graze on Capitol Square, working as interns for Chef Elizabeth Dahl at one of the best restaurants in the Midwest. All enjoyed a delicious taco lunch at El Pastor, where owner Lino Ruiz shared his story of running a family-owned restaurant.

Another highlight of Week Two was a Nigerian luncheon with Deacon Lawrence Oparaji, who shared the flavors of his home country along with the theology of the Last Supper. Week Two finished with a flourish, as students applied their skills to create a meal for guests at their very own pop-up restaurant, the St. A Café!

Welcome, Carolyn Averill!

The St. Ambrose Development Office is thrilled to welcome Carolyn Averill to the team! Carolyn comes to St. Ambrose from St. Paul’s at UW-Madison, where she served as Director of Advancement during their recent capital campaign. Carolyn will join Joseph Draves as a new Advancement Director, working to build and expand the St. Ambrose mission.

“I’m excited to welcome Carolyn to SAA,” says Joe, “because she’s genuine and enthusiastic about building long-term friendships—friendships that help one another become better, more generous, Christians. Carolyn also brings years of professional development and communications experience and acquired talents—and a proven track record of inspiring Catholic mission and education work.”

Originally from Milwaukee, Carolyn moved to Madison to attend UW, where she majored in History with a concentration in European History. While a freshman at UW, she attended St. Paul’s, where she fell in love with the Catholic faith and entered the church in 2003, at the end of her freshman year.

Carolyn says she “can’t even summarize in a million words how blessed I have been by the Church, and how much I have received from God” during her time at St. Paul’s as a student, after graduation as a missionary, and then as a part of the St. Paul’s Advancement Office since 2009.

“I’m excited about how much potential I see at St. Ambrose,” Carolyn says. “A lot of growth has already happened because of the efforts of so many people, and now St. Ambrose is on the cusp of an explosion of good things. I’m excited to meet the school families whom I don’t yet know, and to see firsthand the beauty of classical education impacting [the students’] young minds.”

Carolyn’s passions include enjoying Madison with friends, strategy games, and, especially, travel. She recently returned from an amazing trip through Belgium and northern France—where she found the WWII sites especially meaningful as both her grandfathers were WWII veterans.

As Joe says, Carolyn is “just what we need as we look toward a hopeful, audacious future of strengthening our annual support and creating a new school home. God is good! And we are thankful.”

Visit http://cli.re/LMNY1Q (Facebook album) to experience the workshop in pictures!