

## Rockwell House Episcopal Campus Ministry Report 2021

Rockwell House has weathered many significant transitions in the last year. The first of which being Beth Scriven's departure as Chaplain in March. With half a semester left for the 2020-21 school year, Deaconess Anne House core member, Maddy Bishop, and student leaders continued to carry on weekly programming for Rockwell. In June, The Rev. Hopie Welles Jernagan stepped in as Interim Chaplain for the 2021-22 school year.

With new protocols in place, Rockwell House opened back up to in-person activities at the beginning of the fall semester. Students were excited to gather face-to-face, many of them for the first time. We have a strong group of committed students representing all four classes. We gather twice weekly in person: on Sundays for Eucharist and dinner, and on Wednesdays for our much beloved Feast. We consistently have between 12 and 20 people join us for these events. For at least the first eight weeks of the semester, we have been able to gather outdoors for each of these events. Weather has cooperated for the most part, and some new equipment purchases have helped us stay cool in the heat, dry in the rain, and warm in the cool evenings of fall. At the end of August, we also welcomed Deaconess Anne House core member, Erin O'Rourke. Erin has gladly taken on many of the administrative responsibilities and especially loves preparing our twice weekly meals.

Because college campuses in the area have all opened back up to in-person classes, sports, clubs and activities, many students are overwhelmed with action. Rockwell House hopes to be a place of rest and sanctuary for students. Currently we only have events on Wednesdays and Sundays, respecting that students are now very busy with many other commitments. On Wednesdays we recently added a bible-study group which meets right before our Feast. We also plan on inviting a special guest from the St. Louis community each month to share a meal with us and also share wisdom. A few weeks ago, Rockwell House alumna, Dr. Sarah Stanage, joined us at Feast to chat about the intersection of faith and medicine and how she found her path to medicine.

Looking ahead to 2022, we are again anticipating change. Students continue to dream up what Rockwell can do and be, especially as we find our way toward more and more in-person opportunities (hopefully). We will also discern next steps for our chaplain search, as Hopie's interim time comes to an end.

Submitted by The Rev. Hopie Welles Jernagan