Happy Summer Student Life Friends!

After some quieter weeks, it’s nice to see some life back on campus as we welcome a new generation of Baylor Bears to orientation and Line Camp. There are so many things for these students to learn as they are invited into Baylor’s story. Among all the many stories and traditions that they will encounter, one of them represents Baylor’s most visible commitment to continuing to be an unapologetically Christian institution: University Chapel.

BAYLOR CHAPEL

Chapel has gone through many changes throughout the long history of our university, often orienting around changes brought about by historical events and continued attention to our student population. As we move out of the shadow of the global pandemic, we are once again imagining how Chapel might better meet the needs of our increasingly diverse population of students.

As we look to the future, we imagine Chapel not as a mere requirement but as an on-ramp which leads students farther up and further in to our community during their time at Baylor. Through focusing on smaller gatherings (ranging from a few dozen to a few hundred), we are hoping to find new ways for students to connect with peers, faculty, staff, and, ultimately, with God. This means that you will see new sections of chapel emerge over the next few semesters. These new sections are created out of pre-existing communities that students already find themselves so that their chapel experience is integrated with some aspect of their Baylor journey. For example, a theatre student can take a Faith & the Arts chapel that will not only include peers in theatre and the arts, but will also have content focused on how the arts are integral to our faith experience.

Whether through residence halls, academic majors, or important spiritual topics, our hope is that all students are able to find a way to join with others in worship, reflection, and spiritual growth. We also hope to find ways to integrate and increase the involvement with Chapel from the larger Baylor community. Instead of seeing Chapel as merely a requirement of two semesters, our hope is to help students find people to journey with throughout their time here at Baylor and that each Chapel would direct our students and our university into deeper relationships with God and one another.

This summer, Baylor Spiritual Life is reimagining what the Chapel programs at Baylor look like, meeting students where they are and helping them find both community and purpose in Christ.

To view past Spotlight E-mails, click HERE.

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