

# Religious and Spiritual Life

► The University of Rochester's multifaith community and inter-faith activities contribute greatly to the rich cultural diversity on campus. By supporting all faith traditions, the religious and spiritual life programs at the Interfaith Chapel are key contributors to that diversity. The director and the various chaplains and religious community leaders here are dedicated to serving students and other members of the University community as faith issues, questions, concerns, or joys arise in the course of daily living.

When it was built in 1970, the Interfaith Chapel represented a pioneering step for the University. At that time, few schools could boast of having a facility intended to be a religious gathering place for all people, from all walks of life. Today,

the chapel continues to function as both a place for people to worship in their particular faith as well as a place where people of different faith traditions, or no religious tradition at all, may engage one another in various ways by sharing in dialogue, worship, service, and interfaith education.

The chapel is also a center of hospitality, a virtue much valued in all world religious traditions. It is a place where students can connect, create community, gather for fun and service, learn about the faith of others, deepen their own faith, discuss the "big questions," and explore their own values and identity. It is a place that hums with activity and vitality while also offering a reflective and contemplative oasis for prayer, meditation, and reflection.

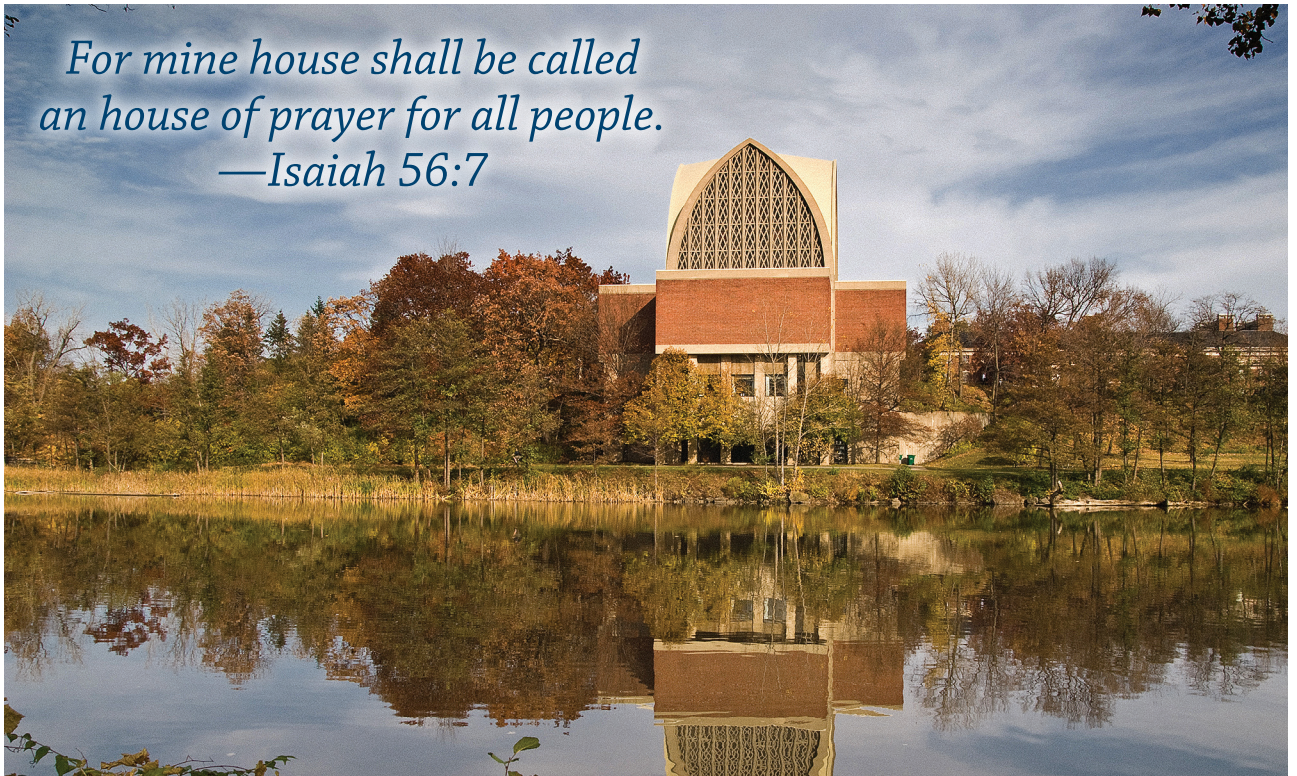
## Faith Communities

- Catholic Newman Community
- Chabad House
- CRU
- Hillel
- Korean Christian Community
- Muslim Students' Association
- Orthodox Christian Fellowship
- Protestant Chapel Community
- University of Rochester Christian Fellowship
- Zen Meditation Group

## Student-Led Programs

- Agape Christian Fellowship
- Hindu Student Association
- Rochester Chinese Christian Fellowship
- Rochester Secular Student Association
- Student Association for Interfaith Cooperation

*For mine house shall be called  
an house of prayer for all people.  
—Isaiah 56:7*





## How You Can Help

Help students explore their own beliefs and faith traditions, grow their understanding of others, and serve the greater community. Consider the following giving opportunities:

### Programming

Contribute to an existing faith-based organization on campus to help grow its programs. Or establish or grow an interfaith initiative. Other opportunities exist to support visiting scholars and spiritual leaders, fund study abroad programs and unique research programs, and establish lectureships.

### Capital Improvements

Within the chapel itself are many opportunities to name conference rooms, study areas, and meeting places. Funds will support the renovation of these spaces and the purchase of new equipment that will serve the needs of all the communities the chapel serves.



### Community Service

Students deepen their own faith commitments and develop respect for those of other faiths when they serve the larger community together. Fund a service project or a series of projects and create opportunities for students to engage in community service and outreach activities together.

### Endowments

Endowed positions help attract and retain faculty and staff of exceptional talent. They are also among the most prestigious and visible honors at the University. Endowing the position of a religious leader or the directorship of the chapel strengthens the programs here.



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“There’s a legacy here at the Interfaith Chapel of embracing people of all faiths, encouraging dialogue between faith communities, fostering understanding of diverse ideas, and creating an environment where people can deepen their faith. We have an opportunity to grow our role as a place of worship and as a place of engagement with other religions here on campus, in the community, and out into the world.”

—Denise Yarbrough, Director, Religious and Spiritual Life

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