

Student Life and Formation

Chapel/SLO-Faith 2025 - 2026

Student Learning Outcome- Faith: *Students will demonstrate knowledge about Christian faith formation*

Outcome Measure:

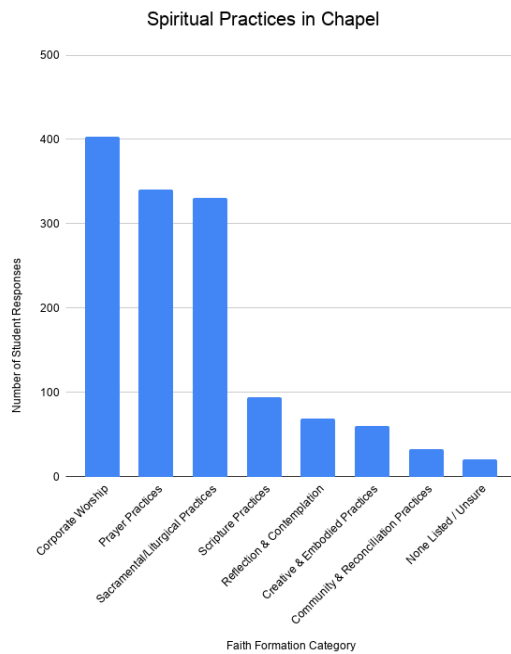
To assess student engagement and improve chapel offerings, the same survey instrument used during the previous assessment cycle was administered to traditional undergraduate students during the spring semester, allowing for direct comparison of results across academic years. Of the approximately 2,700 students enrolled, 1,201 responded to the 2025–2026 survey, compared to 1,438 respondents in 2024–2025. Although participation declined slightly from the previous year, responses continued to represent a substantial portion of the undergraduate student population. The survey was completely anonymous and evaluated various aspects of chapel, including the quality and impact of preaching and teaching, student participation in worship, and the integration of two key themes aligned with WASC/WSCUC assessment goals.

Students were also asked to identify the spiritual practices they had encountered or participated in during chapel services. Consistent with the previous year's findings, responses reflected engagement with a broad range of practices, including prayer, communal worship through music, Scripture reading, passing the peace, communion, prayer stations, call and response, *lectio divina*, breath prayer, Sabbath observance, and moments of silence and reflection. Many students identified multiple practices, demonstrating continued exposure to diverse expressions of Christian worship across chapel programming. The similarity of responses across both years indicates that Chapel and Diverse Perspectives Chapel continue to provide students with meaningful opportunities to engage in a wide variety of spiritual practices. Practices such as *lectio divina* remain a distinctive emphasis in Friday services, while communion continues to be celebrated monthly and the passing of the peace remains a regular feature of Thursday evening gatherings.

Criteria for Success: 75% of students will be able to identify a spiritual practice within the chapel setting.

Longitudinal Data:

Year	Data for Criterion
2024-2025	87% of students listed a spiritual practice
2025-2026	98% of students listed a spiritual practice



Spiritual Practices in Chapel

Here is a chart, based on student responses, of the various categories of spiritual practices. Note, some students listed more than one spiritual practice, so this has been coded to include multiple responses.

The question asked on the survey was: **In Chapel (both morning and evening) we engage in a variety of spiritual practices during our worship services. Please name one practice that you engaged in this past year.**

Faith Formation Category	Practices Included	# of Student Responses
Corporate Worship	Singing, worship music, praise, gospel choir	403
Prayer Practices	Prayer, prayer stations, breath prayer, guided prayer, praying scripture	341
Sacramental/Liturgical Practices	Communion, Eucharist, Lent, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week	331
Scripture Practices	Bible reading, Lectio Divina, Scripture reading	94
Reflection & Contemplation	Journaling, meditation, silence, reflection	69
Creative & Embodied Practices	Art stations, Created Spaces, planting seeds, yoga, prayer walks	60
Community & Reconciliation Practices	Passing the Peace, letter writing, gratitude exercises	33
None Listed / Unsure		21

Conclusions Drawn from Data:

The 2025–2026 survey results indicate that students continue to engage with a broad range of spiritual practices through chapel programming. Consistent with the previous year's findings, many students identified more than one spiritual practice, demonstrating continued exposure to a variety of historic and contemporary expressions of Christian worship. This year's chapel programming intentionally invited students not only to recognize spiritual practices but also to

actively participate in them during chapel services, creating opportunities for embodied engagement in practices such as prayer, worship, Scripture, reflection, and communion.

Looking ahead, chapel programming will continue to create meaningful opportunities for students to engage in spiritual practices both within and beyond chapel services. Our hope is to cultivate spaces where students not only recognize these practices but also develop lasting spiritual habits that deepen their relationship with Christ and shape their ongoing discipleship

Changes to be Made Based on Data:

Based on the findings from this year's assessment, chapel programming will continue to develop intentional opportunities for students to move from awareness of spiritual practices toward active participation and formation. While students identified a variety of practices present within chapel services, future planning will continue to emphasize opportunities for students to experience these practices in ways that encourage deeper engagement and personal discipleship. PLNU's chapel programming continues to be deeply rooted in its Wesleyan-Holiness heritage and its commitment to spiritual and educational development. Through intentional planning, ongoing assessment, and continued refinement of chapel experiences, chapel remains a vital space where students are invited to cultivate spiritual practices that shape their faith, community, and lifelong discipleship.

Rubric Used (if applicable): N/A

Student Life and Formation

Chapel/SLO-Diversity 2024 - 2025

Student Learning Outcome-Diversity: *Students will demonstrate the value of diverse perspectives by engaging with individuals from a variety of abilities, cultures, ethnicities, and socio-economic backgrounds.*

Outcome Measure:

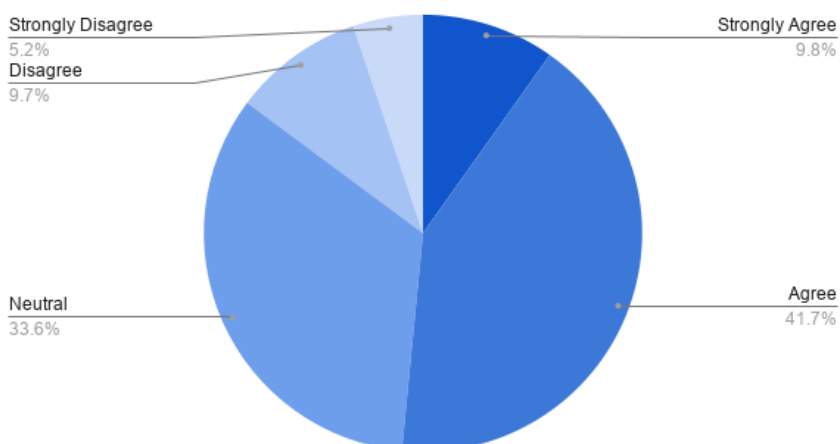
Using the same survey instrument as the previous assessment cycle allowed for comparison of student responses regarding chapel's engagement with diverse perspectives. As mentioned previously, the 2025–2026 survey received responses from 1,201 traditional undergraduate students, compared to 1,438 students in the previous year. This section of the survey addressed the extent to which students felt chapel speakers, preaching, teaching, and experiences expanded their understanding and commitment to engaging diverse perspectives. This assessment prompt evaluated the ways in which chapel provides opportunities for students to encounter a variety of voices, experiences, and perspectives through individuals from diverse abilities, cultures, ethnicities, and socio-economic backgrounds, aligning with the Student Learning Outcome for Diversity and WASC/WSCUC assessment goals.

Criteria for Success: 75% of students strongly agree and agree that chapel broadened their understanding and commitment to engaging diverse perspectives.

Longitudinal Data :

2025-26 Graph

Diverse Perspectives in Chapel



Question:

The various speakers in Chapel have broadened my understanding and commitment to engaging diverse perspectives. Please select one.

(Strongly Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree, Strong Disagree)

Year	Agree/Strongly Agree	Neutral	Disagree/Strongly
2024-2025	68%	24%	8%
2025-2026	51.5%	33.6%	14.8%

Conclusions Drawn from Data:

Criteria was not met.

The criterion for success was that 75% of students would agree or strongly agree that chapel broadened their understanding and commitment to engaging diverse perspectives. This year's results did not meet that benchmark, with 51.5% of students indicating that they agreed or strongly agreed, while 33.6% selected a neutral response and 14.8% indicated disagreement or strong disagreement. Using the same survey instrument as the previous assessment cycle allowed for comparison of student responses, with 1,201 students participating in the 2025–2026 survey compared to 1,438 students in the previous year.

However, the higher percentage of neutral responses suggests an opportunity to further explore how chapel programming can more intentionally communicate and create experiences that help students recognize the connection between chapel and engagement with diverse perspectives. Continued attention to this area aligns with the university's mission to cultivate a community where minds are challenged, character is formed, and service reflects Christian faith.

Changes to be Made Based on Data:

Based on this year's assessment results, the higher percentage of neutral responses suggests an opportunity to further explore how chapel programming can more intentionally communicate and create experiences that help students recognize the connection between chapel and engagement with diverse perspectives. Moving forward, Chapel will seek to more clearly articulate the purpose and value of diverse perspectives within chapel services while creating meaningful opportunities for students to encounter and reflect on voices and experiences from a variety of backgrounds. These intentional efforts will continue to strengthen the connection between chapel programming, student formation, and the university's mission to cultivate a community where minds are challenged, character is formed, and service reflects Christian faith. PLNU's chapel programming continues to be deeply rooted in its Wesleyan-Holiness heritage, the Nazarene denomination as a global church, and its commitment to spiritual and educational development. Through intentional planning, assessment, and inclusion, chapel remains a vital space where students engage with faith, diverse perspectives, and service in meaningful and transformative ways.

Rubric: N/A