

## A Statement of Perspective

Chapel/convocation attendance is an integral part of what it means to be a student in the Anderson University community. Chapel/convocation meets every Tuesday and Thursday at 11 a.m. and is one setting in which individuals from the campus community gather regularly for worship, enrichment, and community building. Speakers include campus personalities and outstanding guests from around the world. Students regularly participate in music and other worship leadership through the reading of Scripture, sharing of ministry experiences (through Campus Ministries and Tri-S, for example), and being involved through dance, drama, and other artistic expressions in our VisionRevision and “Experiencing our Campus Theme” chapels. Required chapel/convocation attendance for students is an Anderson University tradition that has been maintained over the entire history of the university. It is one of the experiences that sets us apart from secular schools and many private church-related colleges. We maintain this tradition as a sign of our devotion to be a worshipping community dedicated to the integration of faith and learning.

## Chapel Mission Statement

Anderson University chapel/convocation embodies the mission of the university by providing opportunities for the campus community to join together in worship and to discover how God’s word informs the various facets of individual and corporate life.

## A Word from Our Campus Pastor

It is my prayer that chapel becomes, more and more, a place where we will experience God in our midst — calling us to trust and follow Christ, equipping and encouraging us to serve one another in love, and empowering us to make a difference in this world. May chapel remind us that our lives are part of a larger story and that our vocations are part of a larger mission. May chapel become a place where we will come to know God more intimately, God’s story more accurately, and God’s mission more compellingly. May God use chapel as a place where all of who we are becomes transformed into all that God wants us to be and do — for the glory of God and the good of this world God loves!

## Anderson University Chapel/Convocation Information



Department of Student Life  
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## Chapel/Convocation Information

### Expectations

Because of the special nature of our gathering together, most often for worship, respect and reverence are expected. Distracting or discourteous behavior is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Cell phones, laptop computers, and i-pods should be turned off. Talking or any other distracting noise should be avoided. Food or beverages are not permitted in the auditorium. Feet are not to be placed on the seats. Failure to abide by these expectations could result in collection of the student's chapel/convocation card with no attendance credit granted.

### Attendance Policy

All full-time students (12 semester hours or more) are to meet the chapel/convocation requirements unless granted an exception.

### Exceptions

Exceptions for employment, practicums, or other extenuating circumstances are considered each semester on a case-by-case basis. A written petition must be submitted by the student to the Office of Chapel Attendance (Decker 203, ext. 4070) for **each semester** being considered. Though written petitions for exception to the chapel/convocation attendance policy may be submitted any time, requests will be considered using only the date the petition is received in the Office of Chapel Attendance. **Exceptions will be made for future chapel dates but not applied retroactively.** Chapel/Convocation waiver forms are available in the Office of Chapel Attendance for this purpose.



### Guidelines

- 1. All full-time students (12 hours or more) are to meet the chapel attendance requirement.** Students who drop to part time during the semester will have attendance calculated based on attendance up to the date part-time enrollment begins (based on registrar's date). Attendance to two-thirds of eligible chapels is required.
- 2. A student meets the chapel/convocation attendance requirement each semester by accumulating a total of 18 credits.** A credit is earned by attending and being counted present (by use of an attendance card) at a Tuesday or Thursday chapel/convocation session. Attendance cards will not be issued after 11 a.m., and no credit will be given for arrival after this time. Students may turn in only one card and credit will not be given when a student turns in more than one card. There are a few special evening services that also provide credit opportunity each semester.
- 3. Although faculty and staff members frequently submit students' names to the Office of Chapel Attendance when institutional requirements prohibit regular chapel/convocation attendance — such as student teaching or nursing practicums — students are responsible for their attendance records. A full-time student must either earn 18 chapel credits or have an approved waiver. Irregular absences from chapel/convocation because of participation in institutional activities are considered among the absences allowed and 18 credits must still be earned.**
- 4. Students are held responsible for being aware of their chapel/convocation attendance credits earned.** However, the cumulative attendance credits recorded in the Office of Chapel Attendance will be used as the official record and will determine whether or not the attendance requirement is met. Therefore, it is advisable to check with the Office of Chapel Attendance periodically regarding official credits earned. This information

is available online through Access AU by navigating to the "Chapel Attendance" page under CHAPEL/CONVOCATION INFORMATION Self Service > Chapel. If you have additional questions after reviewing your attendance record, please send an e-mail to the Office of Chapel Attendance at ext. 4070 or at chapel@anderson.edu.

- 5. A student who fails to accumulate 18 chapel/convocation credits any given semester will be placed on chapel probation for the following full semester and assessed a disciplinary fine. The amount of the fine will relate to the number of chapels attended. Students attending 0-5 chapels in a semester will be fined in the amount of \$150. Students attending 6-12 chapels will be fined \$100. Students who attend 13-17 chapels will be fined in the amount of \$75.**
- 6. A student who chooses to appeal disciplinary action taken for violation of the chapel/convocation attendance policy may do so by following the standard appeals process as outlined in the Anderson University Student Handbook (see Judicial Code, section 8).**
- 7. A student who fails to fulfill the chapel/convocation attendance requirement (18 credits) the following semester (meaning two consecutive semesters) after being placed on chapel probation will be suspended from the university for one semester unless a written appeal is submitted and approved. Parents will be notified.**
- 8. Students who choose to appeal their suspended status and are granted approval will be reinstated in a probationary status, assessed a disciplinary fine of \$150, and will be required to attend 10 of the first 14 chapel programs of the next semester as a means of encouraging fulfillment of the attendance requirement. Failure to fulfill the attendance requirement three consecutive semesters could result in suspension for one year without appeal.**