

## Lutheran Volunteer Corps Highlight

### Meet Constance Mithelman

Hometown: Des Moines, Iowa

College & Majors: Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. Double major: Religion and Women's & Gender Studies.

Placement in Atlanta: Teacher's Assistant at the International Community School in Decatur. I'm with 2nd grade during the school day and then 1st Grade for afterschool programming.

### Living Simply and in Community:

Living Simply is about deciphering what I really need vs. what I might want, in terms of how to live out my call to serve this year in particular and for the rest of my life as a Child of God. Our lives are so full of noise and distractions that we often have trouble hearing, seeing, and acting upon our God-given vocations. I am using this year and LVC's principle of Living Simply to listen and decipher where, how, and in what capacity God is calling me, Constance Mithelman, Child of God.

When it comes to living in community, there is both a micro and macro notion to it. I am living in community with 4 to 10 other people (i.e. the fellow Atlanta LVC members in my house and the Hosea Williams house) all of whom see and feel a need to love and serve our neighbors. However, I am also in community with the Reynoldstown neighborhood where we live, as well as with the students and families I serve as a part of the staff at the International Community School. I also use the principle of Living Simply to be in community with all of God's creation, and to see how my thoughts, words, and actions can affect the people and world around me.

### Dreams & Goals:

I have yet to decipher where and in what specific capacity God is calling me, but my goal is this: To love and serve my neighbor wherever, whenever, and however the Spirit so moves me. I hope and pray to work in the non-profit world in any capacity for the rest of my life in order that God's justice and peace might manifest itself on this earth. For as my favorite bumper sticker says: "God loves the whole world, no exceptions."

A special "thank you" from the LVC volunteers written on December 12:

"Thank you, Redeemer! A couple of weeks ago, someone at Redeemer donated two boxes of food to the Lutheran Volunteer Corps members. We are very grateful to whoever gave us this food. It saved us a lot of money and a few trips to the store (which are a big deal without a car). We also appreciate the congregation's continued support, allowing us to come for dinner on Wednesday nights and share in the church's activities. Knowing that we have folks at a local church who are looking out for us has strengthened and comforted us throughout the last four months. Thank you!"

--The LVC volunteers