Students enjoyed pleasant weather in the weeks leading up to Fall Break. The College Physical Plant crew installed the holiday lighting down Windsor Mall several weeks early to lift spirits amid the limitations of COVID protocols.

Crimson & Gold Challenge—Support your team!

Austin College’s Fall 2020 Crimson & Gold Challenge ends Friday, October 13. ‘Roos fans can help their favorite team reach the top of the leaderboard with a gift of any size to support student-athletes, coaches and staff, facilities, and expenses. The team with the highest giving participation rate wins the challenge! Make your gift now and watch social media to see the top teams.

Sing in the Holidays with Austin College; Attend Lessons & Carols from Home

The annual Service of Lessons & Carols will be streamed Friday, December 4, at 7 p.m., on Facebook and YouTube. Music will be presented by Organist Dr. Lisa Thomas and the Austin College A Cappella Choir under the direction of Dr. Wayne Crannell, Associate Professor of Music. Viewers can sing along to the classic Christmas hymns throughout the service.

Scripture selections from the Old and New Testament will be read by students Anika Chand ’23, Nancy Pineda Gamma ’21, Talita Smith ’22, and Clairon White ’24, who will be joined by faculty and staff members Associate Professor of Religious Studies Jeremy Posadas, Professor of Biology Kelly Reed, and College President Steven P. O’Day.

Chaplain Dr. John Williams will welcome everyone and be joined by Elizabeth Parker ’21, Sallie Majors Religious Life Intern, who will deliver the invocation. Later in the service, Elizabeth’s mother, Amy Allen Parker ’95, will share the familiar Christmas story from Luke 2: 1-20.

All are invited to share in this treasured Austin College tradition, which due to COVID, is available virtually to all friends of the College wherever they are. Follow this link or connect through Facebook or YouTube on December 4 at 7 p.m.

Nominations Open for TEDxAustinCollege 2021 Speakers

Have an idea worth sharing? Preparations have begun for the sixth TEDxAustinCollege conference, scheduled for Fall Term 2021. Any Austin College graduate, student, or faculty or staff member is eligible for nomination now through November 20.

Make a nomination HERE. All selected speakers work closely with the student-led team to develop and record their talk and deliver it live on the day of the conference. See videos and photos from the most recent TEDxAustinCollege 2020 “Seeing Beyond,” which was presented live and virtually from the Sally and Jim Nation Theatre on October 3.
Historian Offers ‘A Different Manifest Destiny’
Dr. Claire M. Wolnisty, Austin College Assistant Professor of History, has written a new book, A Different Manifest Destiny: Southern Identity, Citizenship, and Survival in Nineteenth-Century South America. The book, available in hardback or e-book versions, was just published by the University of Nebraska Press. Read More…

Free Masks sponsored by the ACtivators
Austin College ACtivators are sharing face masks printed with the familiar benediction from Chaplain John Williams: "God gave us brains and expects us to use them." Anyone interested in a mask can request one from jwilliams@austincollege.edu. The masks are free, and supplies are limited.

Holiday Break is Just Around the Corner!
After 12 weeks on campus, students prepare to return home for the Thanksgiving holiday and stay for the remainder of the semester. To mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the last two weeks of classes and final exams will be delivered completely online. The on-campus community has kept safe by following COVID protocols such as hand washing, physical distancing, and wearing masks inside and outside of buildings. The healthy completion of the semester is due in large part to the efforts of everyone on campus.

‘Roo Football Training for a Spring Kickoff
The Southern Athletic Association has announced a modified schedule for its football teams to compete in Spring Term 2021, with Austin College entering its final year as an affiliate member of the conference. If the SAA Council of Presidents confirms the recommendations, the ‘Roos will play a four-game schedule in February. The confirmation of a return to play will take place in December.