

UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SEATTLE, WA

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A MODEL FOR  
CHURCH-BASED  
CAMPUS MINISTRY

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REAL LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST

# A VISION FOR UNIVERSITY MINISTRIES

BUILDING BRIDGES TO THE GLORY OF GOD

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## THE GOAL OF THIS MODEL

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For over 100 years God has brought glory to himself at University Presbyterian Church (UPC) through its commitment to investing in the lives of college-age individuals. This manual briefly explains how God is accomplishing his glory in University Ministries (UMin) today. Our hope is that this will be a tool for inspiring vision and practical ministry.

As UMin leadership contemplated the means by which God is achieving his goal, the image of bridge building came to mind. As you know, students are often outsiders when they come to college; leaving four years later, just as we really begin to see spiritual fruit in their lives. Thus, the very nature of work with students resembles building bridges. We seek to construct bridges into students' lives that enable them to glorify God during and beyond their college years.

We have four bridges that we try to build:

- 1) *Bridging Christ and student*
- 2) *Bridging student and student*
- 3) *Bridging student and Christ's church*
- 4) *Bridging student and world.*

The destination of these connecting bridges is the glory of God in Christ Jesus.

This manual begins with the Mission Statement that UMin has worked from over the past three decades. We feel this gets at the heart of the gospel and provides a centering for our tasks. We lay out our programs and people as tools and workers to construct the bridges that point students to Christ. We believe that the desired bridging is timeless, however the components of each bridge are perpetually renovated and reinforced. We offer this manual to illustrate what UMin is currently doing to help students build their bridges by experiencing real life in Jesus Christ.

If you desire any further information such as the applications we use, specific promotional pieces or other questions please feel free to contact us. We pray this will assist you in building bridges to God's glory through your student ministry.

Building for his kingdom,

The staff of UMin and the leadership of UPC

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## MISSION STATEMENT

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***TO THE GLORY OF GOD...***Our purpose is to “Go and make disciples of all nations” beginning with college-age individuals and young adults in the greater Seattle area. We aspire to:

- Introduce them to Jesus Christ and urge them to commit their lives to him as Savior and Lord
- Help them develop an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ

***WE “PREPARE GOD’S PEOPLE FOR WORKS OF SERVICE SO THAT THE BODY OF CHRIST MAY BE BUILT UP” BY...***

- Teaching and equipping them to better understand and communicate their faith
- Helping them experience Christian community and intimate, honest relationships with each other
- Providing opportunities and a vision for a life of mission in their communities and around the world
- Beginning the process of helping believers discover and use their spiritual and leadership gifts

As part of God’s call to us, we seek to understand the various needs of college-aged individuals and young adults and to creatively minister to those needs. Our desire is that their faith established today will stand firm tomorrow.

***OUR THEME: PURSUING REAL LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST***

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## SOME NUTS AND BOLTS OF THE BRIDGES

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- We always want to ask, “What is God already doing?,” then get on board with those things.
- We not only want to prepare students for life-long obedience, but integration of all aspects of life into the Kingdom of God. No separation of sacred and secular
- We stress *people* over programs and production. Thus vision is always necessary, wise and beneficial.
- We seek to maintain a full-body ministry, meaning that staff, students and associates all play key roles. We do not want to be staff dominated.
- We seek to discover the vision of the student and help it thrive. We believe God is at work in the student for the student.

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## BRIDGING CHRIST AND STUDENT

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The programs listed here serve to connect Christ to the student and the student to Christ. Thus, we go forth to bring Christ to them and we invite them to come to us to meet Christ at UMin.

In all these opportunities we desire to model Acts 2:42—to be devoted to Scripture, to prayer, to worship and fellowship that is reverent and personal, as well as to grace and holiness. By being the community of believers devoted to these elements, we then believe that evangelism, discipleship, correct theology, unity of believers and many other great things will occur.

Often we are asked about our method or philosophy of evangelism. We seldom, if ever, stage an "outreach event." Instead, we use our time and resources to equip students to be evangelists in the context of their daily lives. As a result, if a non-believer was to attend one of our events, chances are they have been invited by one of our students who then follows-up with that individual.

In evangelism we...

- build upon existing proximity
- create new proximity
- develop lasting relationships with unbelievers without compromising Christ
- show Christ and share Christ
- seek out those who are close and/or already claim Christ but are not living abundantly.

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## THE INN

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*The Question: "What are students seeking in a regular large group fellowship?"*

*The Answer: "An authentic encounter with God, a worship experience. Truth."*

The INN is the event for which we are most well known. Beginning 40 years ago with about 30 students in a little old building known as the Inn, it has since moved into a gymnasium at UPC and draws between 500-600 students per week (however, we did not change the name to The Gym). The INN draws college students from all over the Seattle area but mainly from the University of Washington. The best way to describe it is to say it is a Weekly Service of Celebration. It is not necessarily a seeker-oriented event, though many seekers come and many have discovered Jesus for the first time at The INN. It is not merely a worship service for believers either, though we do celebrate the Lord's Supper every third week. We seek to celebrate real life in Jesus through humor, song, prayer, teaching and socializing. The INN is high in energy, low on Christian cliché, centered on making Jesus relevant regardless of where students might be in their faith journey. Typically, it is the first point of contact that a student will have with UMin and UPC.

Here is a list of some sample INN talk series. In most circumstances, a series will correspond in length to a school year quarter (10 weeks).

### *Talk Series*

"Thy Kingdom Come (Attitudes and Relationships)" – Luke

"The Life of Jesus" – Mark

"God and Romance, What's He got to Say About it" – assorted texts

"Knowing God Through the Questions He Asks"

"Disputable Matters" – assorted texts

"A Matter of Life and Death" – Genesis

"What in the World Am I Supposed To Do" – Acts, Philippians, Genesis

"What Does it Mean to Have a Personal Relationship With Christ" – assorted

"Just Jesus" – "I am" statements from the Gospel of John

"Are You Hot?" – Revelation 3 with other texts

"The Disciple's Journey of Faith" -- Matthew

See [www.theinnseattle.org](http://www.theinnseattle.org) for more detailed information about a given series, including talk samples.

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## THE INN

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On the following pages are samples of outlines of the order of worship at The INN, and below are some explanations of elements on the outlines (inn-gredients). There are subtle changes from week to week, especially when we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Most of what happens with these inn-gredients and at the INN from week to week is done by students involved in UMin, many of whom are on the UMin Student Leadership Team.

### *Inn-gredients*

Worship band – One team of students who are mentored by associates. In the past, The INN has had two bands that split time leading worship.

Hospitality Team – makes sure that everyone who comes through the door has a name tag and feels welcome at the INN.

Sight and Sound Ministry – group of students that takes care of issues such as sound, powerpoints, videos and projection.

Speaking Team – students who assist the director in preparing messages, which is sometimes The INN planning team (comprised of all these people being described).

INNkeeper – a position held by a staff intern to organize and coordinate The INN each week, with the assistance of students.

Speaker – director assumes at least 60% of this responsibility with other staff and numerous guests filling the remaining spots.

Ministry Tables – a place for information on how to become more involved with UMin as well as info about ministry opportunities to the local community outside of UMin and UPC; this info is offered through staffed information tables around The INN.

# THE INN PLAN

NOVEMBER 14, 2006

<b>Speaker:</b>	Mike Gaffney	<b>Communion:</b>	NO
<b>Worship Leader:</b>	Jon Vaux	<b>Office Cleanup:</b>	Nolan Giesbers
<b>Powerpoint:</b>	INN Team/Errol	<b>Lockdown:</b>	Allie Teague
<b>Lights:</b>	INN Team/Riggers	<b>Prayer:</b>	P. Team/Korver

<b>5:00 p.m.</b>	Set-Up	Mckenzie, Errol, Jeff
<b>7:50</b>	Mic Check	Sound Guys
<b>8:30</b>	Prayer	All
<b>8:59.5</b>	Intro Video	(off)
<b>9:00</b>	Opening Song (1)	Vaux & Band (Worship)
<b>9:04</b>	Welcome / Who Are You? / Announcements Welcome! Greek Ministry Greek Coffee House Thanksgiving Cards International Conversation Partners	Nick Smith/Vancil (Speaker)
<b>9:09</b>	Witness and Call to Worship	Nicole Adams/Vancil (Speaker)
<b>9:14</b>	Worship songs (3)	Vaux (Worship)
<b>9:26</b>	Student Prayer	Ashlee Choi (Speaker)
<b>9:28</b>	Apple Cup Challenge	Mike (Speaker)
<b>9:30</b>	“Family Issues”	Mike (Speaker)
<b>10:00</b>	Worship songs (3)	Vaux (Worship)
<b>10:12</b>	Announcement Reminder / Benediction	Pommer (All Up)

**Notes:** Dep Apps Available, Spring Break Mission Sign-ups

# THE INN PLAN

APRIL 24, 2007

<b>Speaker:</b>	Ryan Church	<b>Communion:</b>	YES
<b>Worship Leader:</b>	Jess Alldredge	<b>Office Cleanup:</b>	Emily Flemming
<b>Powerpoint:</b>	INN Team/Errol	<b>Lockdown:</b>	Dave Pommer
<b>Lights:</b>	INN Team/Stuart	<b>Prayer:</b>	P. Team/Riggers

5:00 p.m.	Set-Up	Mckenzie, Errol, Katie
7:50	Mic Check	Sound Guys
8:00	Pizza Party!	All (All up)
8:30	Prayer	All
9:00	Opening Song (1)	Alldredge & Band (Worship)
9:04	Welcome / Who Are You? / Announcements (with <b>Video</b> ) Welcome! Film, Faith, and Justice Festival Healthy Relationships Conference Alaska Summer Mission	Yates / Stead (Speaker) (off)
9:12	Witness and Call to Worship	Jen Orr/Stuart (Speaker)
9:17	Worship songs (2)	Alldredge (Worship)
9:25	Student Prayer	Rachel Stone (Speaker)
9:26	“Created for Redemption”	Ryan (Speaker)
10:00	Words of Institution/Communion <b>5 service stations:</b> 1 staff member/1 student leader at each	Mike (Communion)
10:05	Worship songs (3)	Alldredge (Communion)
10:17	Announcement Reminder / Benediction	Annalise Watson (All Up)

**Notes:** video announcements/Pizza party before and after the INN  
**Breakdown:** Student Ministry Team and Interns

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## DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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*The Question: "How do you truly make disciples in such a huge context?"*

*The Answer: "Knowing as a staff we can't connect with every student, we're intentional with those who can..."*

UMin seeks to connect Christ and students at a deeper level than what The INN alone can accomplish. Thus we have developed teaching and training opportunities for students and Associates to grow deeper in Christ, all the while forming a sense of team with those who make UMin happen. While these programs are open to anyone, there is an emphasis to attend toward those who are or are planning on serving within the context of UMin.

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### GREEK MINISTRY

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This is one of the dominant aspects of our ministry due to UPC's close proximity to the UW's sorority and fraternity Greek System. Bringing Christ into this living environment is the focus upon Greek ministries. A majority of our students live in this community while attending school; therefore we place an emphasis upon this group of students. The UMin Greek Ministry Coordinator, an intern, and several Student Leaders currently living in the Greek System head up this ministry. In turn, the student leaders coordinate a committee of students who help facilitate ministry to the Greek community. The committee's programs include weekly prayer meetings that are hosted by a fraternity and a sorority and Greek social events to draw Christians in the Greek system into community with each other. One primary goal of Greek Ministry is to have a small group Bible study in every Greek house. The committee's mission statement reads, "...we commit ourselves to encourage, seek out and equip Greeks to share the good news of Jesus Christ in fraternities and sororities. We will do this, first and foremost through prayer, providing resources, planning events, and building relationships in the Greek System."

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### RETREAT MINISTRY

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In a ministry where sometimes the number of students involved can be a little intimidating, it becomes important that we provide bridges of the somewhat smaller variety – foot bridges as it were. Twice during the course of the year (winter and summer) UMin offers two-day retreats for the students. These retreats begin on a Friday evening and conclude on Sunday afternoon. The purpose is to provide a place where students can encounter Christ in a more individual sense while remaining within the context of community. Due to the fewer number of people at the retreat, we are able to conduct small groups after each message throughout the weekend. These small groups allow students to engage the information they have just heard with their own thoughts and questions. In addition, there are also seminars during the weekend (two separate times with four different options). Topics are generally ones that either students have indicated would be of interest to them or we as a ministry see as meeting some particular need within the body. Each retreat also includes a significant amount of free time for students to do with as they please: Study, quiet time, connect with each other, connect with staff, or just escape the hustle/ bustle of college life.

### *Annual Retreats*

**Staff Retreat** – A four-day gathering of the year’s staff & interns to share stories and hang out.

**Fall Leadership Summit** –A retreat to gather all student leadership & interns together to encourage them in leadership and to develop vision for ministry in the upcoming school year, as well as to grow closer as a team.

**Freshman Retreat** – A gathering for first-year students to get plugged in, get to know student leaders and UMin staff.

**Men’s & Women’s Retreat** – Separate gatherings to engage issues specific to each gender and to fellowship as men and women.

**Prayer Retreat** – Small gathering of students seeking to be stretched in their prayer life.

**Winter Retreat** – The year’s biggest retreat (300 students), highest on program centered around a particular theme. This retreat is also done in cooperation with other ministries from different colleges around the region area, including University of Puget Sound, Central Washington University, and Washington State University.

**Senior Ski Retreat** – An opportunity for students in their final year to spend a weekend away with staff and Core Groups. Held at Whistler, B.C..

**Deputation Retreats** – Marks the beginning of training for our summer mission program and a debriefing retreat after returning to the US.

**Summer Retreat** – Similar to the Winter Retreat for the students involved during the summer ministry.

**INN Adventure** – Various outdoor retreats organized entirely by students throughout the year.

**Greek Retreat** – A gathering of students from the fraternities and sororities of UW to build community and discuss topics specific to their population.

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### **MEN’S MINISTRY**

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***Men’s Breakfast:*** A bi-annual gathering that seeks to bring men of all generations together. We believe it is important for younger and older men to have contact with each other. College is a critical time in the lives of men as they leave their homes and parents for the first time. Older men/mentors in college mens’ lives are a critical part of their discipleship journey in college and beyond. Both the planning and actual event of these breakfasts foster these relationships.

***Man-up:*** An informal gathering and discussion group designed for men to come together and talk about faith as well as engaging topics specific to men’s struggles.

***Thursday morning Bible study:*** A weekly Bible study and fellowship group open to anyone who wants to attend. Led by UMin and UPC staff members, studies have included II Timothy and II Corinthians and various Biblical character studies.

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### **WOMEN’S MINISTRY**

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***Women’s Retreat:*** An annual gathering in the fall that seeks to bring women together for a time of fellowship and teaching. Associate women speak on different topics that relate specifically to college age women, sharing from their personal life experience. The retreat is a great way to foster relationship amongst women involved in the different capacities at UMin.

***Wednesday Night Women's Gathering:*** A gathering for women once a quarter with a special guest speaker on a topic specifically designed to address issues college women may be struggling with.

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### **LOCAL OUTREACH GROUP**

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The social justice group is committed to increasing awareness of the need for social justice in the world today. It is a group of students seeking to challenge others to put their faith into action in their everyday lives, and to take notice of how prevalent social justice is in Scripture and in Christ's call to his followers. The social justice group does this in a number of different capacities, including (but not limited to) organizing regular fundraising events for relief efforts, promoting fair trade, scheduling regular volunteer opportunities in the local community, and raising awareness about global poverty and issues surrounding it, promoting missional living in day-to-day life, as well as how to join the fight and take action to bring about social justice.

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### **HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS CONFERENCE**

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Hosted by Mike and Shari Gaffney (Former Director and Associate Director of UMin, respectively) for over a decade, the Healthy Relationships Conference targets couples who are dating seriously, or as we say, "exclusive". Our goal is to help couples gain a biblical understanding of marriage and assist them in asking the right questions about life and love before they become engaged. Attending couples receive projects to complete individually followed by a time to honestly share their answers together. This has proven helpful in evaluating both the strengths and areas for growth in their relationships.

In addition to Mike and Shari's presentations, spotlights are given to couples in various stages of their relationships, ranging from newlyweds sharing a "fresh perspective" to those in their golden years sharing a "wise perspective." Not only does this expose dating couples to how relationships evolve and change, it also exposes them to potential mentors and role models who are committed to marriage, lay ministry, and keeping their lives centered on Jesus.

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### **SUMMER MINISTRY**

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Summer Ministry at UPC takes on a slightly different feel. UMin's ministry coordinator(s) takes over the leadership of the programmatic aspects of ministry for the summer months. This ministry is designed to reach summer school students while also drawing students from the church body who are home for the summer. Typically, it is a very different crowd than we have during the school year. Often, however, it is the springboard for many students who come to the INN during the school year to meet staff and other students at a more personal level. There is a weekly fellowship meeting similar to the INN during the school year, with a more laid-back vibe. The Summer INN serves as a smaller, more intimate place to be involved (approximately 100 attend each week). This has been a key program in developing UMin staff for future leadership responsibilities. Other opportunities available during the summer include retreat, prayer meeting, short-term mission and social/athletic activities.

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## BRIDGING STUDENT AND STUDENT

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*The Question: "In such a large ministry, how to you foster authentic community between students?"*

*The Answer: "Providing valuable opportunities for students to connect while participating in a variety of events and groups."*

Above and beyond anything that we do in UMin, we see students as the key to impacting students. Thus we want to build bridges that facilitate students' relationships with each other. We have always felt that if students are made to feel secure first in their relationship with God and second in a community of peers on a journey of faith with them, they will be more apt to take risks for God's Kingdom. In this bridge we will talk about what we call the heart beat of UMin. As mentioned earlier, The INN gets most of the attention, but those on the involved with UMin place significant emphasis on Core Groups, student ownership and interns. All of these serve to bridge student to student and, of course, student to Christ.

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### CORE GROUPS

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A Core Group is UMin's version of a committed small group Bible study. The purpose of a Core Group is to encourage and foster spiritual growth through consistent prayer, study of the Bible, and fellowship. Core Groups are available for any college-age student. Groups gather once a week for about two hours and are led by UMin Associates (adult volunteers). In some cases, student Core Group leaders lead underclassmen. Each group is comprised of 5-6 students of the same gender and the same year in school. All members of a Core Group fill out an application and go through an informal interview with a staff member called a "rap session." We believe this cultivates community and cohesion in groups as we seek to understand where a student is spiritually. The key sign-up opportunity for students is during the Spring before the coming year and for freshmen in the Fall. Some Core Groups also form naturally out of our Bible studies. Students who are in a Core Group have three responsibilities:

- a) commitment to meeting regularly with their group
- b) having a measurable area of ministry (service)
- c) bringing others to The INN

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### BIBLE STUDIES

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Bible studies provide opportunities for students to get involved in a small group without making the commitment of a Core Group. Bible studies are led by Associates and staff and can be based on a book of the Bible, another book, or a specific topic that impacts college students. These studies are offered at various times during the week and students do not have to sign up to attend. Students hear about opportunities to join a Bible study through flyers and announcements at The INN. Our vision is that Core Groups would form naturally out of relationships built in Bible studies.

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## UMIN HOUSES

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UMin operates three properties owned by UPC that students live in year-round. The goal is to facilitate a healthy Christian community experience. Students apply each Spring to live in the houses for the next school year and are selected based primarily upon their desire to be involved in and understanding about Christian community. Each of the houses holds 8-10 students. Residents are expected to be actively involved in ministry with UPC and UMin. Houses have a house meeting and a house meal each week as a means of intentionally coming together. Students are on their own for food (no hired cook) and assume responsibility of the day-to-day maintenance of the structure.

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## STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

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To help facilitate the ministry areas of UMin we have selected a student leadership team to act as student liaisons between ministries and the leadership of UMin and help in the planning, implementing and following up with UMin events, tasks or performances. To streamline communication and better serve students, student leaders are in contact with an intern or staff person who is responsible for their particular area. Student leaders meet every other week with the Associate Director for Student Leadership for a time of fellowship and training. They are expected to attend The INN each week and be present for prayer 30 minutes before The INN starts. As a group, all the student leaders team up to plan and lead the Winter Retreat. The staff counts on this team to keep each ministry sharp; to constantly change and grow. Each of the leaders is responsible for recruiting their peers to help out with the various ministries in the places that help is needed. In addition, a team of six Student Ministry Advisors (SMA's)—who each have specific ministry areas--help “lead the leadership team” by assisting with the leadership meetings and speaking into the overall operation of UMin as a whole. UMin Senior Staff and UMin interns oversee a number of different ministries. Some of those are: Greek, Men's and Women's Ministry, Hospitality, Prayer Team, Ascent Conference, Social Justice, Sight & Sound, The INN, Freshmen, Discipleship & International, Deputation, Break Mission Trips, Sports, INN Adventure, and Visual Arts and Publicity.

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## INTERNS

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Each year we hire 4-5 college grads to serve full-time for 9.5-12 months as interns. The UMin intern program is designed to give college graduates an opportunity to gain valuable experience and training in both practical and theoretical aspects of ministry as well as have to the opportunity to be a part of UPC's staff. The internship is designed to give interns the opportunity to discover and use their spiritual gifts, to grow spiritually, to work in an atmosphere of personal and professional guidance and support, and to gain practical ministry experience. Interns work directly with a UMin senior staff member who acts as their supervisor. Interns spend most of their time meeting with students in a one-on-one setting.

As a staff person, the intern ministers to the university community and seeks to fulfill the purpose of UMin as outlined in our Mission Statement. Applications are usually available by mid-December and due mid-February. We also work in cooperation with about a dozen other college ministry internship programs around the nation.

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## BRIDGING STUDENT AND CHRIST'S CHURCH

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*The Question: "How do you get students from Tuesday night to actually connect with the church?"*

*The Answer: "Get them in front of the congregation and get the congregation in front of them."*

As a Christ-centered, biblically-based ministry our desire is to emphasize Jesus, not denominations or organizations. However, we also believe that the tradition of the church and its multi-generational nature is one of our great strengths. Thus, we seek to build a bridge to the greater community of faith. We promote other UPC functions and opportunities to students so they might benefit from the whole of the congregation. We also believe that students have much to offer the church, thus we create ways for their lives to bless the congregation.

We are often asked, "how many students go to your church on Sunday?" Our response is, "We don't really know." Our measurement for connecting students to the church is not based on attendance at a Sunday worship service. Our measurement is how many of our students are in relationship with those who make up what we call the church. If we do the "right" style of worship on Sunday we might get hundreds at church, but it won't mean they are in relationship with those of the church. Thus, getting students involved in church means getting them connected inter-generationally with older men and women and younger children.

### **Young Adult Mission and Ministries (Post-College Fellowship)**

As students graduate from universities in Seattle, many of them stay in the area as they enter the workplace. UPC will often be the faith community that they call their church home, and we seek to make the transition from UMin to the Young Adult Ministry as seamless as possible by bridging students to this ministry during their final year of school.

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## STUDENTS BEFORE THE CONGREGATION

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One of our efforts is to place students in front of the UPC congregation so that UPC maintains being a "university" church as one of its primary sources of identity as a worshipping body. We do this on several Sundays a year:

### **UMin Sunday**

On this Sunday in October the director/pastor of UMin preaches (which he does about four times a year); a student, intern and/or associate from UMin does a five minute witness; a student does the offertory music; and the congregation commissions all those who serve in ministry to students (staff, interns, associates, student leaders and all university faculty/administration/ service personnel.)

### **Deputation Sunday**

On this Sunday in May, the congregation hears about the summer mission teams traveling to the world, prays a prayer of commissioning for them, and takes a special offering to pay for their trips. Also, just as with UMin Sunday, the church's fellowship hall is filled with displays and students with whom congregants can interact. Along with the director/pastor preaching, other UMin staff assist regularly in worship, participate in the witness spot with students, and, during the Sunday worship services, prayers are regularly offered for retreats, short-term mission trips and other special events that pertain to students and UMin.

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## STUDENT SERVING THE CONGREGATION

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It is not unusual to have a student or two serving in the congregation as choir members, ushers and even sound technicians. However the strategic places we direct their services are through workdays and service to children and youth. Students play a crucial role as Sunday School teachers, day caregivers and Youth Sponsors (small group leaders) to the children and youth ministries of UPC.

### Work Days

Work Days are an effective way of not only raising money for the ministry, but also of facilitating relationships between students and church members. Four times a year, students volunteer to do yard or house work at congregants' homes in exchange for a donation to UMin. At the Fall Work Day, money goes toward individual students to cover retreat or mission trip costs. In the Spring, money raised goes toward the World Deputation program, funding students' summer missions. We ask for a suggested donation of \$100/student for an 8-hour work day. Approximately 500 students participate annually.

The greatest joy of these Work Days is that students get a chance to be in the homes of UPC congregants, sharing a meal together and interacting with a family. UPC members also look forward to the Work Days, appreciating the help with yard and house work and enjoying an opportunity to get to know some university students better.

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## CONGREGATION SERVING THE STUDENT

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The most obvious way that the congregation serves students is through their financial generosity. Between the session-designated funds and the special offering for Deputation, the congregation of UPC contributes approximately \$350,000 a year. The majority of these funds go toward personnel who are hired by the Session to be strategic in reaching out to students. In addition to their set tasks, each staff person plays a pastoral role with students as well. The **full-time paid senior staff** positions are:

- **Director** - Ryan Church  
Ryan was hired as the Director of UMin in the fall of 2008, after serving as interim for one year. His responsibilities include staff supervision, UPC staff responsibilities, serving as primary INN speaker, as well as overseeing all aspects of student leadership, spring and fall leadership retreats, and basically running UMin. Ryan also invests in students' lives relationally.
- **Associate Director** – Janie Stuart  
Janie mainly recruits, trains, coordinates and shepherds the entire adult lay ministry for UMin (Associates). Her main relational investment is to UMin Associates. She also facilitates the UMin internship program, manages the Ascent Network and organizes the bi-annual Ascent Conference at UPC, and oversees the social justice group of UMin as well as the local community mission projects.
- **Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator**- Annika Lider  
Annika is responsible for reaching out the Greek System of the UW, a neighbor of UPC. She oversees the ministry to sororities and fraternities, including helping organize student-led house Bible studies and facilitating the UMin Greek Women's Ministry. Annika also assists in much of the administrative work of Student Leadership and spends much of her time meeting one-on-one with students.

- ***Executive Assistant*** - Becky Riggers

Becky is central to the management of the UMin office, the UMin staff, and administrative responsibilities of the Director. She also works on Core Groups with the Associate Director, focusing mostly on student and administrative matters relating to Core Groups. Additionally, Becky has overall UMin administrative responsibilities and manages the UMin residential houses, and has mentor relationships with several students.

- ***Leadership Coordinator***- Chris Sherman

Mike organizes UMin's student leadership team, overseeing the 80 students who are active on this team. He invests in the lives of the current student leaders, challenges the student leadership ministry teams, and discipless student leaders as they live out their faith in service to other college students. Mike also spends time recruiting new students to get involved and be a part of the student leadership team.

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## ASSOCIATES

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*The Question: "How do you manage adult volunteers once they have come forward?"*

*The Answer: "Get them involved and care for them!"*

The Associate program is comprised of adult lay ministers in the church, ranging in age from post-college to retirement age. We seek diversity within our Associate ministry in order to expose students to the broad range of the body of Christ, thereby increasing the richness of the program. Due to the Associates' diversity, students can see life in its various forms while maintaining the common foundation of Jesus Christ.

Associates are a necessity within the framework of college ministry. Without Associates, we would fail to reach spiritual depth, diversity and growth both individually in students live and in the ministry as a whole. Associates provide cohesion within a body of believers that is in constant transition. They become a necessary extension of the staff and we see them as vital partners in ministry.

Associates are people who creatively use their unique gifts, skills, talents and resources to facilitate Christ's love to the university community. They can minister to students in ways our full-time staff cannot. Our range of experience is limited, but Associates broaden that base. They provide spiritual and practical insight to the everyday world that brings God and his Word alive.

Associates serve college students in the following ways: Core Group leaders, one-on-one mentoring roles, empowering a student-led committee (drama, worship, etc.), serving on various committees such as our Deputation committee as they interview and equip students to go on missions, or our intern selection committee that helps interview and select interns to serve in the coming year. Associates also act as host families for interns or teach seminars at retreats.

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## ELDERS

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UMin has been blessed to have a history of great Elders participating in so much more than the Session of UPC. They are expected to attend a monthly meeting with the director, quarterly meetings with all staff and other events sponsored by the ministry such as The INN or a retreat. Each elder serves a three-year team and is given a specific assignment.

### ***UMIN Elders – Five Points of Contact***

**Pray** – People who diligently pray for the ministry

**Presence/Watch** – Attending various UMin events

**Promote/Advocate** – Share what is going on and encourage others within the Session of UPC

**Participate** – Assisting staff on areas such as budget, mentoring and care team

**Process for Staff** – Help the staff navigate the direction of our ministry and process our thoughts

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## WHAT MAKES UPC SO UNIQUE AS A CONGREGATION IN ITS VISION FOR STUDENTS?

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Following are three articles that serve as a declaration for what we think makes UPC so effective in its ministry to students. UPC has not adopted this as an official document; it is just the opinion of a former student, intern, and now director.

### ***Article #1***

"Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Fixing our eyes on Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith. (Heb. 12:1-2)

We magnify God by focusing on Jesus, making his timeless truths central and directing students to him.

We reject micro-scoping generational differences, cultural issues and theological minors.

### ***Article #2***

"In the Last Days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters will prophesy, and your young men will see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. (Acts 2:17-18)

We see our youth as vital members of the church and are convinced that God is at work in and through their lives to influence his people today and tomorrow. We allow them to dream dreams and join them in the adventure of renewing God's people.

We reject the notion that they are merely the future of the church. We do not squelch their dreams nor get stuck in our old ways.

### ***Article #3***

"Jesus came and said to them, all authority in heaven and earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the father and son and Holy Spirit, and TEACHING THEM TO OBEY everything I have commanded you. And remember, I will be with you always, to the end of the age."

We commit our lives to investing in the next generation, helping them negotiate their thoughts, name their gifts, guide their zeal and defeat their enemies. We help them turn imagination into reality. We reject the old adage that God helps those that help themselves.

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## BRIDGING STUDENT AND WORLD

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*The Question: "How do you get students to connect to the world beyond themselves and UMin?"*

*The Answer: "Engaging students in service opportunities outside of their personal experience in the local community, in the US, and throughout the world."*

We not only want to bridge students to the people of UPC, but we want to connect them to God's people in the world and people's need for God in the world.

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### THE WORLD TO STUDENTS

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We desire to expand students' awareness of the many ways in which God is at work, and the extent of the need in the world for their service. Guest speakers are one way we bring the world to students. We also provide space and time for para-church and mission organizations to make their opportunities known. One INN a year we even have a "Camp Night" in which many of the West Coast summer camps come to recruit students.

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### THE WORLD IN OUR OWN BACKYARD

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UMin is strongly committed to the idea of connecting students with opportunities to be challenged and encouraged in their faith through service. We divide these different ministry areas into three different categories: Ministry to the campus, to the community, and to the city. We aim to provide any student with either the opportunity or a connection to minister in one of these contexts.

***Bridges connecting students with students within the context of UMin (campus)***

Each element of UMin is dependent upon the leadership and participation of students in order to be effective. Students have the opportunity to participate in any number of areas where they will be serving other college students. These opportunities include such elements as worship team, greeting (at The INN), INN Adventure (outdoor ministry), Men's Ministry, Women's Ministry, retreat committees, Freshmen Ministry, and many others.

***Bridges between students and the community (community)***

This second area of community refers largely to the direct community in which we operate. Here UMin serves as a point of connection for students looking to serve in a context outside college ministry. Students who choose to serve in some capacity within the community are not managed, per se, by UMin. However, there is follow up done with students to make sure that the connection is made and that the experience is a valuable one. We view this "community" element as being a significant way in which we are able to connect students with serving elsewhere in the life of the larger church. Some examples of community focused ministry areas include, but are not limited to, serving within UPC's Children and Family Ministries, Jr. or Sr. high programs, Global Mission Task Forces, or other areas within the larger body of UPC. Also included in the community classification would be similar programs in other churches, or ministries such as Seattle Area Young Life.

### ***Bridges between students and Seattle (city)***

This final classification of ministry area is designed to provide students with opportunities to serve within a more “urban” context. These opportunities would include working in shelters, soup kitchens, juvenile detention, hospices and other ministries throughout the city. These individual programs are not run by UMin, rather they are partnerships which have been established where we have been assured students are being trained and cared for within their areas of ministry. Throughout the year UMin will offer opportunities to connect students with varying ministries through week-long and weekend-long experiences.

- **City Dive and The Seattle Mission**

City Dive is a 30-hour immersion experience, offered twice a year, in which students' experience serving in several different ministries within the urban center of Seattle. During City Dive, students partner with several different ministries providing a diversity of experience including working with the urban poor, juvenile detention, homeless adults/teens/children, the mentally ill, etc. The Seattle Mission provides a very similar experience, but is offered once during Christmas break and is a full week.

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## **SENDING THE STUDENT TO THE WORLD**

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### ***Deputation***

Our mission emphasis falls mostly upon the World Deputation program, sending students worldwide to engage in cross-cultural ministry for eight weeks in the summer. Students are utilized for relational evangelism, working with children, teaching English, hospital visits, Vacation Bible School, manual labor and a variety of other ministries. Students apply to the program without foreknowledge of the locations, though they are aware of sites we have utilized in the past. After several meetings with all the applicants, reviewing their applications and an informal interview, a committee of 10 people (staff, student leaders, and members of UPC) prayerfully places the teams together and chooses the sites in which they will serve. This is accomplished by the first week of March. A ten-week training program ensues Spring quarter, with a follow-up retreat and meetings upon their return. Sites are selected by building relationships with UPC's missionaries as well as by utilizing short-term mission agencies such as Children of the Nations and SIM. Each student is required to raise a minimum of \$2500 from family and friends and the remainder of the cost is covered by their participation in Work Days (see above), where they recruit eight friends to work for them, and by Deputation Sunday (see above).

### ***Short Term Mission Trips***

Every Christmas and Spring break, UMin offers 7-10 day mission opportunities for students. While we consistently take a team of 70 to the Dominican Republic during the Spring, we have also ventured to Israel, Ireland and Central America. These trips provide a great introduction to mission and ministry for students who are not ready to commit to an entire summer. They also provide a great place for community building. Interns lead the trips, giving them ample time to build relationships with students and practical ministry experience.

### ***Alaska Summer Mission***

During the summer, we offer additional options for students to expand their worldview. One such opportunity is our Alaska Mission. Students can go for two or five weeks to be camp counselors at a Rainbow Glacier Youth Camp in Haines, Alaska. Students are encouraged as they enjoy learning from one another and growing in their ability to share the gospel with youth.

### ***Yearlong Opportunities***

Because of UMin's and UPC's extensive mission resources, students being called to serve for a longer period of time are sponsored and supported by UMin and the Post-College Mission Committee in prayer and encouragement. The mission coordinator is available to assist students who are interested in researching places to serve. For financial sponsorship, they are connected to UPC's Urban and Global Missions department.

### ***World Deputation Sites***

Haiti	Bahamas	China	Japan
Bolivia	Malawi	India	Korea
Costa Rica	North Africa	Ecuador	Pakistan
Ireland	Venezuela	Peru	Belize
Kenya	Romania	Cameroon	Turkey
Kyrgyzstan	South Africa	Thailand	North Africa
Siberia	Russia	Philippines	Croatia

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