

UNIVERSITY OF JAMESTOWN REPORT TO PRESBYTERY

Spring 2023

It is clear that God is moving on our campus. Campus Ministry and the students involved in CM are living, loving and learning faith out loud.

Faith Out Loud means using our God-given gifts, talents and passions to pursue God and to serve God and our community.

In the Department of Campus Ministries' Religious and Spiritual Life Center, we encourage all Jimmies to take advantage of the many resources that UJ provides for our students, faculty, and staff. We take a whole-person approach to the needs of our community.

Care in the form of emotional, social, and spiritual support is provided by the Director of Campus Ministries, Kirstie Dobson.

Peer support and discipleship opportunities are provided by student mentors and ministry team members.

Group, private and anonymous prayer is available, as well as the opportunity for you to pray for others.

Spiritual Growth is fostered in many ways:

Chapel Worship Services are at the heart of our faith life opportunities. When we worship God together, we not only grow our relationships with our Creator, we grow our relationships with one another, as well. We strive to build strong, healthy, Christ-centered connections.

Campus Ministry Teams are vibrant and thriving. Joining a team is a great way to get involved and dive deep into what you believe and what it means to be a Christian college student.

Large group, small group, and team Bible Studies are happening all over campus. Service projects and fellowship events are also vital pieces of our faith growth experience.

For UJ employees, the Christian, Faith and Life Committee is a group made up of committed and caring UJ faculty and staff. This group is focused on supporting our UJ community through prayer, service, outreach, and fellowship.

Campus Ministry currently consists of 10 ministry teams. Each team has a student Team Leader and all teams meet weekly with Kirstie for vision and planning sessions, events and check-ins.

Care Team : To intentionally express compassion and concern to students, staff and faculty who are experiencing struggles of any kind

Cru Team: Win, build, send disciples for Christ through weekly gatherings and special events (Tuesday evenings in the Chapel)

Cru Music Team: to provide contemporary music for Cru events

Faith in Athletics: To provide a connection between faith and athletics through group Bible Studies

To support student-athletes as they strive to live out their faith on their teams

To serve as ambassadors for campus ministry within their sport

To lead and serve area elementary school students through a faith-based sports day camp.

Foundations of Faith: To lead potential campus ministry members through a group Bible Study that provides the foundational basis for Christ centered relationship and growth.

Missional Outreach Team: To practice discipleship, the journey of spiritual growth

To come along side one another in prayer, Bible Study and fellowship

Music Ministry Team: To lead music for our chapel worship service that gives glory to God

To create an environment through music that supports the worshipper's experience.

Social Media Team: To promote CM opportunities on various social media platforms

To create social media content that conveys a biblical message

Spiritual Formation Team: To create engaging service opportunities for students

To plan and execute experiences and events that are welcoming to all students

Worship Design Team: To enhance the worship experience through the development and participation in various worship elements

To complement the aesthetics of the worship space using décor, fabric and other details

We are discussing the needs and possibilities of adding two additional teams to CM.

The first is a Faith and Fellowship Team that focuses on planning and hosting additional CM activities and events that offer opportunities for healthy, fun gatherings across campus

The second is Light Works – a team that intentionally promotes and publicizes Campus Ministry events throughout campus and the Jamestown area (when appropriate). The Light Works team can make and distribute flyers for CM events, including but not limited to, Chapel Worship, fellowship and faith building events. They may make pamphlets for new and incoming students, and/ or small promotional items, prayer or Bible study/ devotional accessories, etc

We currently have 86 active campus ministry members with hundreds more attending and participating in the events we host and plan.

During Welcome Weekend there were 300+ students in attendance for Welcome Worship with average Chapel attendance hovering at about 112 for the year.

There are many small groups and Bible Studies happening all across campus, several being student led.

J4J (Jimmies for Jesus) is an all athletes Bible Study that brings Christian athletes from many different sports together to spend time with God and with one another, learning and building Christian community.

Defend is a student led apologetics group.

Foundations Bible Study is for freshmen and/ or students new to their faith to help them explore the Bible, faith and God.

There are both a **Women's and Men's Bible Study** on Wednesday nights.

Every other week, a **Prayer Station** is set up and hosted outside the cafeteria, so that students have access to guided prayer, and can submit prayer requests for themselves or others.

Once every semester our Faith in Athletics Team hosts a **Skills and Drills** mini day-camp, for the elementary school aged students of Jamestown. Students are welcomed into the Larsen Center to learn from UJ Christian athletes and at the end of the day, do a short age appropriate devotional together. All money earned from the camp goes to the Community Action Food Pantry.

Also, once every semester many of our CM teams collaborate to host **Praise and Prayer Night**. Praise and Prayer is an interactive night of praise and worship. There are prayer stations set up around the chapel with our Music Ministry and Cru Music teams playing live worship music. It is always a moving and powerful night of encountering the Holy Spirit.

In February, CM held **Unity Chapel**. As a country, in January, we collectively remembered the contributions of Dr Martin Luther King Jr and because February is Black History Month and also holds an International Student's Week, we wanted and felt called to recognize and honor those things. It is so important that we bring attention to diversity by honoring and celebrating all people of every race, nation and tribe and the God that created and loves us all.

During the Lenten Season, CM leads a campus wide **Lenten Project**. Again, multiple teams work together to make this big project happen. All students, faculty and staff are invited to take part and this year over 150 Jimmies participated. Together we created a Paper Chain Mosaic. Every participant assembled paper chains (similar to the way we did in elementary school). 4000+ paper chain links were attached to one another, creating a 16ft x 8ft mosaic that was completed for Easter worship and is now hanging in the chapel.