

How LCMS Campus Ministry makes a difference for college students and the church:



LCMS Campus Ministry

Why campus ministry?

To sustain the Church. Research has shown us that about 8 out of every 10 young adults who were active in church during their high school years put their faith lives on hold when they go off to college; and many choose to remain unconnected after college. A dedicated campus ministry offers an important option for students to stay connected and to grow in faith.

To reach beyond the Church. More than 18 million students, faculty, and staff comprise the greater campus community in the United States. This includes nearly 700,000 students from at least 188 countries. Many of these people know Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord—but perhaps even more do not! The Lord who sent His followers out to "make disciples of all nations" calls Christians to be His witnesses in campus communities.

Why LCMS Campus Ministry?

The purpose of LCMS Campus Ministry is to help build up the body of Christ (that is, the Church) by encouraging and equipping students and local campus ministry workers in both continued spiritual development and in reaching out to people on campus who need Jesus. We focus on **building Christian community, developing leaders**, and providing opportunities both to **serve** and to **reach out with the Gospel**.

- **Connecting students.** LCMS Campus Ministry's no-cost, no-obligation **StudentConnect** service puts a student in direct contact with a campus ministry worker in the student's college town. Any pastor, youth worker, parent, student or friend can complete the **StudentConnect** online form; we'll share the student's contact information with the campus ministry worker—who will then get in touch, explain how the student can become involved, and invite him or her to visit and learn more.



- **Supporting new and resurgent campus ministries.** Working together with districts, congregations, ministry partners and small groups, we help to establish new campus ministries and revitalize existing ministries. Every year, we provide advice and assistance to 6 to 10 startup ministries and help 4 to 6 inactive ministries get back up and running.
- **Raising up leaders.** Leader development has long been a vital component of LCMS Campus Ministry's service to the Church. LCMS Campus Ministry's **Student Mission Challenge, Campus Ministry Volunteer, and Underground** programs offer hands-on, real-life training in Christian leadership. Our online education offerings provide intensive knowledge about young adult culture as well as practical insights for day-to-day ministry.



- **Building up community in the body of Christ.** We understand how important togetherness and unity of purpose are to the life of the church (Ephesians 4:12-16). Both campus ministry leaders and Christian students need a sense of community—of what being together in the body of Christ is all about. Community-building (or "body-building"!) is an essential component every time we come together—whether for a conference or one of our **Underground** servant gathering events.
- **Service.** Together with our partners in ministry and mission, we provide opportunities for practical service—service that fosters genuine relationships, builds up the people we serve, and impacts neighborhoods and communities with the love of God. Events such as our **Underground** gatherings are designed for sustainable ministry—adding real, lasting value through long-term service and outreach.



"Campus ministry provides a place of home and belonging, where I am nourished and strengthened, where God teaches me how to love His people in real and meaningful ways, because there I am loved in real and meaningful ways."
—student Sara H., Washington State University



"Sometimes a student will come to campus with little more than a glimmer about the identity of Christ they were baptized into. As they encounter Christ in our campus communities, many will see their own identities as His disciples; and, like the two disciples Jesus met on the road to Emmaus, their hearts will 'burn within them.' And they will do as those two disciples did—they will run to tell their friends, 'The Lord has risen indeed.'"

—Rev. Winters, Florida State



"The campus ministries of the LCMS, together with the national organization, are vital links in the chain that keeps young adults connected with their faith - and puts that faith into action in service and faith-sharing. With 18 million students in the U.S., 100,000 from the LCMS, the opportunity and benefit of our efforts on campus are evident every day."

—Rev. Dressel, Michigan State



You can help us make a difference!

LCMS Campus Ministry relies on donations provided by Christian congregations and individuals with hearts for young adult ministry and for the future of the Church. Your support is vital to what we do!

Please join with us; together we can help build up the body of Christ for today and for generations to come. To support LCMS Campus Ministry, please make your check out to **Lutheran Campus Mission Association** and send your donation to:

LCMS Campus Ministry
Rev. Richard Boring, Treasurer
P.O. Box 407
Seward, NE 68434-0407.

You may also make a secure donation online using PayPal at:

<http://lcmscampusministry.org/PayPal-Options.php>

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LCMS Campus Ministry



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