

8 HALLMARKS OF



STUDENT MINISTRY

Formation

Provide space for students to explore their understanding of God and themselves through opportunities to ask honest questions, embrace wonder, and learn practices that will strengthen, enrich, and deepen their faith in the present and for the future

WHY?
Isaiah 43

HOW - Bible studies for exploration of Scripture through conversation; Creative prayer practices; Interfaith conversation and education through partnership; Resourcing students with spiritual practice for their daily life; Inviting students to explore their deep questions.



Pastoral Care

Provide spiritual support and counsel to students during the formative life stage of emerging adulthood. Ministry leaders meet with students regularly, remain engaged with students' personal and collective community concerns, and offer resources and connection to God's love.

WHY? - 1 Corinthians 12:26

HOW - Accompany students through major life events; Hold regular "office hours" and be accessible via many modes of communication; Support students after major campus events and personal trauma; Refer students to appropriate campus and community resources, conversations about identity; accompaniment in person.



Outreach

Invite students into Christian community to experience God's inclusive love and empowers them to witness and work for God's vision of a more just world.

WHY?
Matthew 28:16-20
Luke 4:14-21

HOW - Building one-on-one relationships with student outside the organization; Tabling at Student Life Fairs, Welcome Week, large-group activities; Marketing materials that demonstrate hospitality and inclusivity with clarity; Students, campus ministers and adult volunteers sharing how God has been present with them during both joys and difficulties; Students inviting their friends and classmates to campus ministry events.

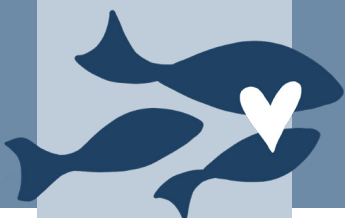


Leadership Development

Provide opportunities for students to learn while leading, a key to students' spiritual and vocational development, and to a thriving, sustainable campus ministry.

WHY?
John 13:14-15

HOW - Understanding Identity, Social Location, and Intersectionality; Interpersonal Communication for Leaders; Community Organizing as a Tool for Liberation; Thinking Theologically; Planning & Leading Worship & Events; Holding Space for Healing; Leading Small Groups; Showing Up Christian in an Interfaith World.



Community Building

Build beloved community that gathers to listen, laugh, cry, to ask questions, wonder, pray, learn, break bread, and simply be together - always welcoming and affirming.

WHY?
Acts 2:42

HOW - Build one-on-one relationship strategically to strengthen community; Weekly meals; Get to know you activities; Play Games & have fun!; Hike; Go to sporting events; Movies; Local festivals; Shows; Be creative.



Vocational Discernment

Foster space for students to explore & discern how to serve God & the world, connecting meaningful vocations & avocation to life beyond their college years

WHY?
1 Corinthians 12: 4-7

HOW - Practicing discernment techniques; Imagining possibilities Hearing stories from older adults about how their faith connects to their work and life; Seminary visits; Exploring Scripture about call; Preparing seniors for life after college.



Service & Justice

Strive to put their faith into action, engaging in their local communities and beyond to join in God's ongoing work of creating a world where people and all of creation can thrive.

WHY? - Matthew 25:37-40

HOW - Volunteering together with organizations meeting local needs; Helping students learn about important issues and legislation happening in your state or city and providing opportunities to engage with lawmakers (letter writing, etc.); Teaching students to understand the root causes of injustice & suffering, and how they & the church can offer transformative solutions; Educating students about organizations with those same goals.



Worship

Create a worshiping community to engage in practices that mark sacred times and spaces while invites students into the holy presence of God where they can experience beauty and wonder in the Divine while drawing them deep into the mysterious relationship with the Triune God and the world.

WHY? - Psalm 150

HOW - Worship can be lived out within the community or by connecting students to local congregations; Evening Vespers; Community Worship; Students creating or writing liturgy; Music; Organizing & leading worship; Creating sacred spaces & marking sacred time; Understanding the parts of worship; Sacraments.

