

STANFORD

college ministers cohort

CATALYST

college ministers cohort

Welcome to Catalyst!

After first attending the Catalyst Conference a few years ago, I knew this was one event that college ministers could benefit from. So this year I thought, How can we *increase* that benefit? Are there ways simply to provide “added value” for college ministers?

Long story short, those questions led to this year’s Casual Catalyst Conference College Ministers Cohort... a mouthful to say, indeed.

Although Catalyst is an intense and FULL conference, I figured we could at least work on getting some free lunches (and avoid the crazy restaurant scene during Catalyst). We could find some great giveaways. And we could provide some space to start building relationships. Thanks to some very cool sponsors, we’re doing just that! So I hope you’ll use our (limited!) time together to meet a few fellow college ministers—and perhaps springboard to intentional time together throughout Catalyst and beyond.

But what’s even better is that we’re going to spend Saturday fleshing out what we’ve learned at Catalyst *for college ministry*. If you’ve never sat in a room collaborating with college ministers from all over the country about powerful topics... well now’s your chance.

Finally, I hope you’ll use this week to help advance the field of College Ministry itself! After all, we are at the biggest leadership training event in the country. So I encourage you to stop at the booths—and ask what opportunities exist for college ministers and/or students. I encourage you to get to know others at the conference, and let them know that you’re proud to be a college minister! And I encourage you to let Catalyst know that you appreciate their help with this Cohort—after all, they didn’t have to offer us the support they have.

With that in mind, I want to thank Ashley Williams, our “girl on the inside” at Catalyst. She has been a phenomenal help, and hopefully she’ll get to join us this weekend... while in the midst of helping run this gigantic conference.

Welcome to Catalyst; welcome to the Cohort. I hope you’re impacted in cool ways.

—Benson Hines

our major sponsors



OneLife from IMB Students
(unveiling this week!)
onelifematters.com

Dave Ramsey's

Financial Peace
SCHOOL CURRICULUM

Financial Peace: Foundations for Life & Money
daveramsey.com/school/foundations-college



**Focus on the Family:
Young Adults & Boundless**
boundless.org

FUTURE MARRIAGE UNIVERSITY

preparing smart singles for success

futuremarriageuniversity.org



NEWCHAPTER
ournewchapter.com

a few things of note

Need a ticket for Thursday or Friday?

We may have a few meal spots available for the lunches on a first-come, first-serve basis. Further, one booth at Catalyst has additional tickets available for Friday's lunch. Ask Benson about it if you know a college minister who needs one.

Other hangouts Friday night?

Hopefully, college minister hangouts will develop "organically" during the conference. If Friday night opportunities get planned, we'll announce 'em. (So let me know!)

College Ministers Collaboration, Debriefing, & Free Lunch Saturday from 9:30am—2:30pm (No tickets required!)

THIS will be an awesome time. College ministers from lots of places will be collaborating on how we can - or already are - applying the Catalyst themes to our individual ministries. This event just might be the first of its kind...

Even if you haven't been planning to join us for Saturday, I want to encourage you to consider it! It's going to be the "meat" of the College Ministers Cohort, for sure.

We'll be at 12Stone Church at 1322 Buford Drive in Lawrenceville. Give yourself enough time to get there, to maximize our collaboration time! Directions at 12stone.com.

About Benson (the organizer of the Cohort)

I'm focused on advancing the field of College Ministry in every way I can. As part of that, I've worked hard to get to know our broad and diverse field. I've spent the last three years road-tripping around the country, spending time on about 300 campuses, visiting lots of college ministries, and interviewing several hundred college ministers. So I'm (hopefully) able to bring a needed perspective on what *is* happening, what *could* happen, and what *should* happen in our field. I don't want to recreate what anybody else is doing; instead, I want to help spread the great stuff, increase collaboration, fill in any "gaps," and make our field even better. As part of all that, I blog daily about college ministry at exploringcollegeministry.com, and I wrote a free book that's available at reachingthecampustribes.com. Find me on Facebook (I think I'm still the only Benson Hines) or email me at bensonhines@hotmail.com.



two articles for your reading pleasure

One of the major purposes for organizing the College Ministers' Cohort has been to give us all a chance to practice the principle I describe in this article—a principle it's easy to forget in the midst of such a strong conference. On Saturday, we'll be doing this together—but hopefully we can all do it throughout the Catalyst Conference.

Looking through College Ministry Lenses

The widely-recognized lack of college ministry training resources doesn't let us off the hook when it comes to advancing our understanding of our calling. We can still learn from plenty of sources, if we choose to.

For as long as I'm a college minister, I hope I'll always work to apply great ideas and great training *to my work as a college minister*. It's not enough simply to learn great "general ministry" thoughts that are cool to blog about but don't affect my day-to-day work.

I want to challenge all of us... to a little more one-track-mindedness. When you attend a ministry conference, consider analyzing its value *for your present work*. When you read a book, why not read it with college-ministry-colored glasses? When you have extra time, don't just read "cool Christian blogs," but look for blogs and articles and other sources that might be applied—however tangentially—to college ministry. This won't always feel natural and certainly isn't always easy. But it keeps each of us from being "a jack of all trades, and master of none."

Very often
we dabble in every area in which we have an *interest*

rather than
especially focusing on the area that already has our *investment*.

And more importantly, it's the area to which we are called.

A while back, a Campus Crusade friend described how he had learned some college ministry principles... from a church-planting conference. In that same conversation, I described a major college ministry brainstorming tool I gained from Seth Godin's secular book, *Free Prize Inside*. And I'll never forget how one church-based college minister described using the ads and articles in ESPN Magazine to find design ideas.



If you follow my blog, you know I've found college ministry principles in Jimmy Fallon's show, the musical *Wicked*, the teaching at the Catalyst Conference and other non-college ministry conferences, secular and Christian books, and on and on.

Certainly, God has other things to teach us that apply to other parts of our lives. But if our vocation—our calling—is college ministry, it's very possible that God wants to teach us lots more about our field. Even when He ships that wisdom in odd-looking packages.

After visiting with hundreds of college ministries around the country, one of my clearest conclusions has been that we are indeed a diverse field. This article pokes at a common myth in our field, in hopes of helping our collaboration be the best it can be—and in hopes of encouraging all of us to collaborate as much as we can!

The Myth of the “Best Practice” in College Ministry

Popularly, we use the term “Best Practice” to indicate a method that has proven to be *best* in a high percentage of situations. It doesn't mean it's the *only* good way; it doesn't mean there couldn't be exceptions. But as a general rule, a Best Practice should be a go-to method unless you've got a good reason to try something else.

And so, of course, college ministers are always looking for Best Practices. I can't blame us: It *seems like* there should be many big methods that are worth highlighting as Best Practices as we work among the campus tribes. It *seems like* we've each observed some *obviously great methods* that would be just as great – and just as obvious – on campuses across the country. It *seems like* establishing a successful college ministry could be largely cut-and-paste, as long as we're willing to learn the right “college ministry plays” as used by the most successful college ministries.

But it's a myth.

Maybe the title of this article is a bit hyperbolic. There are indeed *some* Best Practices in college ministry. But they're surprisingly rare. There are far more methods that are “great ideas” but which don't meet the threshold of being “Best Practices.”

These great ideas are useful for some, but they're certainly not “default,” go-to methods.



They're not *clearly* most effective in most situations.

They're just great ideas, and they may or may not be *best* on my campus, at this time, for our particular purposes. So I need to keep looking, keep collaborating—all while I'm getting to know my campus and seeking the Lord's guidance for reaching it *best*.

Before I took my yearlong road trip a few years ago, I had no idea how insufficient my own understanding was, despite the fact that I had served several campuses in three very different cities and attended perhaps a dozen college ministry training conferences. I had seen a lot. But there was plenty more to see.

Now, I can speak with some authority on the diversity out there. For instance, I recently wrote a post on my blog with *forty-nine* variations I've seen in college ministries' Large Group Meetings. Forty-nine! If there are that many ways to "adjust" one of college ministry's classic methods, certainly we should be very careful about assuming that any single experience, any one ministry, or even any one region will give us all we need to know.

I do believe that as our field grows, identifying Best Practices will be a part of it. But claiming "Best Practices" or forming other "How-to" lists too quickly actually *harms* us. It keeps us from seeking the methods that will actually lead to our own college ministries' greatest effectiveness.

So when we're in a few-Best-Practices field of ministry, how shall we now learn?

- We should learn broadly
- We should learn humbly
- We should learn continually

And of course, we should share with others what we've learned. Because we never know when our own practices might be *best* for another college ministry!



everyone's a speaker

With limited time to connect, I wanted to provide a sort of "directory" to facilitate community during our time together. Hopefully you'll find some people on this list who share similar contexts, similar interests, or even very different contexts. Hang out, go to dinner, whatever. Everyone here is someone worth learning from!

Rahul & Annie Agarwal

Baptist Collegiate Ministry · University of South Florida,
University of Tampa, Hillsborough Community College

The Agarwals minister to students in the Tampa Bay area. God has been doing some incredible things with some amazing students on their campus, and they are able to utilize the web as well as personal relationships to reach many of the students in Tampa.

Pondering: Discipleship, Women's ministry

Corin Aldrich

Tennessee Regional Director, Alpha USA

In June, Corin and her husband, Ryan, relocated from Chicago to Nashville, where they both represent Alpha USA. As RD of Tennessee, one of Corin's duties is to help grow Alpha's specialty ministries, such as Campus Alpha, a modified version of the alpha course specifically designed to reach out to the college generation.

Curious about: Connecting with collegiate culture well

Kristen Allcorn

Missions Team Leader, Baptist Student Union · University of Missouri

Kristen is the leader of the missions team at the Mizzou BSU. The team encourages students to be the hands and feet of Christ as they integrate into campus and are immersed in service.

Lisa Anderson (SPONSOR!)

Director of Young Adults, Focus on the Family

Lisa is director of young adults for Focus on the Family and manages Boundless (www.boundless.org), Focus's outreach to those in college and beyond. She hosts *The Boundless Show*, Focus on the Family's popular podcast for college students and young adults, where she leads discussions on relevant issues, interviews authors, artists and other newsmakers, facilitates Q&A, and volunteers far too much information from her personal life. Formerly the director of media and public relations for Focus, Lisa has appeared on numerous radio and TV programs, and she's been known to speak at national conferences wearing tall boots and a skull T-shirt. She graduated from Trinity International University in Chicago and has lived and worked everywhere from

Paraguay to Capitol Hill. Lisa knows a disproportionate amount of hip-hop lyrics for a white girl, and she loves Jesus, people, ideas, and guacamole (in that order).

Mike Armstrong

Director, Christ on Campus · University of Arkansas

Mike is in his 29th year of college ministry at the University of Arkansas and currently serves as vice-president of the Association of Collegiate Ministries. The group offers a Sunday morning student worship service next to campus, and staff from about a dozen ministries have been praying together weekly (during the school year) for the past 16 years. This has created a uniquely unified spiritual atmosphere on Mike's campus.

Joe & Denise Banderman

Christian Student Union · Mineral Area College, Farmington, MO

The Bandermans have been serving as Campus Missionaries with the Missouri Baptist Convention for just over a year now. They serve through our local Baptist Association at a community college, where their organization is the only Christian club allowed on campus. Prior to that, they spent ten years in Residential Life at Hannibal-LaGrange College in Hannibal, MO, where they lived in a dorm full of guys and led the college ministry at their church.

Eric Barb

Baptist Student Union · Southeast Missouri State University

Eric is a campus missionary at Southeast Missouri State University with the Baptist Student Union. He's just beginning his second year of collegiate ministry, and he's looking forward to marrying his best friend in November – and beginning their ministry together!

Chris Bean

Campus Minister, Coalition for Christian Outreach and the Nazarene denomination · University of Cincinnati

Chris was hired by the Nazarene Church & the CCO in May 2009 to serve at the University of Cincinnati, after serving in various church staff positions for about 15 years. He and his wife, Deb, have been in Cincinnati for about 4 years now and have two daughters and a son due this December. A unique component of Chris's ministry at UC is a hospitality piece, built around his passion for coffee/espresso. He

shares some ministry space at the “Edge House” with Lutheran & Episcopal campus ministers, where they do a lot of hospitality-based ministry to students.

Donna Blackburn

Baptist Collegiate Ministry · Georgia Southern University

Donna has been in collegiate ministry for 32 years. She served as the Missions Coordinator for the Baptist Collegiate Ministry Department for the Georgia Baptist Convention for 12 1/2 years before moving to Statesboro to serve as one of the campus ministers at Georgia Southern University.

Dan Boles

Celtic Cross / Presbyterian Campus Ministry · Kennesaw State University

Since June 2006, Dan has served as the Director & Campus Minister of CELTIC CROSS, the Presbyterian Campus Ministry at Kennesaw State University. KSU is the 3rd-largest university in Georgia and one of the fastest growing Universities in the U.S.. Dan and his wife Amanda have three young children: Drew, Charlie, and Lindsay Leigh. Prior to joining CELTIC CROSS, Dan spent 3 years as the Director of Youth Ministries at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Marietta, GA.

Interested in: Commuter Context ministry; identifying, recruiting, and enlisting student leaders; fundraising strategies

Chuck Bomar

Director of CollegeLeader; Lead Pastor, Colossae Church, Portland, OR · five Portland Community Colleges, Portland State, & George Fox University

Chuck is the author of *College Ministry From Scratch*, *College Ministry 101*, and co-author of *The Slow Fade*.

Austin Brown

Christ on Campus · University of Arkansas

This is Austin’s fifth year serving the University of Arkansas. Prior to working with Christ on Campus, he helped in a ministry at Missouri Western State University, and as a student at Northwest Missouri State University. Austin has had a lot of experience in the area of music and worship leading.

Interested in: connecting with the “dechurched” and the “unchurched”

Mitch Burk

Purdue Christian Campus House · Purdue University

Mitch recently graduated from Purdue and just started an internship with Purdue Christian Campus House. He meets regularly with many of their student leaders, oversees PCCH’s social media presence, and directs the drama ministry. Most of his time is spent writing, acting, and brainstorming – and he gets to teach occasionally, too.

Nathan Byrd

Baptist Collegiate Ministry · University of Georgia

Nathan has spent his whole life involved in BCM work, having a campus minister for a Dad. He’s been on staff at the University of GA for 10+ years and has also served at Middle Georgia College and as the Collegiate Ministries consultant at the Georgia Baptist Convention. He’s a graduate of Southern Seminary.

Scott Calgare

National Resource and Program Director, Coalition for Christian Outreach

Scott develops the content of the CCO’s annual Jubilee conference and works with their Training and Professional Development Department to equip CCO staff people to do their jobs well.

Jerry Carmichael

Director, Baptist Student Union · University of Missouri

Jerry has been in Collegiate Ministry since 1982 and at the University of Missouri since 1989. He has a passion for creating a multiple staff model of ministry that empowers and equips young leaders while leveraging their strengths. He’s also focused on helping transition collegiate ministries toward a future where sustained funding and survival are no longer dependent on traditional source models.

Lauren Carruthers

Sea Turtle Ministries · College of Charleston, SC

Lauren is currently working to develop Sea Turtle Ministries, a ministry focused on building innovative late night coffeehouses.

Chris Carson

National Assistant Director of Events, Coalition for Christian Outreach

Chris helps to manage the Jubilee conference, the Ocean City Beach Project, and CCO’s staff training events throughout the year. He has an affinity for new media and marketing, and a passion for implementing innovative strategies throughout our conferences and events. Chris received his bachelor’s degree in Sociology in 2006 from Geneva College. He continued on to receive his master’s in Higher Education in 2008.

Cody Chaloner

College & LifeGroups Pastor, Lifechurch.tv, Stillwater, OK, campus · Oklahoma State University

Cody has been at Lifechurch.tv for nearly 4 years. He’s passionate about the potential for college students to impact the world for Christ. Cody is a husband and dad to 2 boys, shows up as an ENFP on Myers-Briggs. His top five Strengthsfinder strengths are Woo, Positivity, Includer, In-

dividualization, and Maximizer.

Daniel Champagne

Director of College / Young Professionals worship service and Assistant Director of Creative Ministries, First Baptist Church Temple Terrace, FL · University of South Florida

Daniel is currently on staff in Creative Ministries at FBC Temple Terrace. But last summer God began to spark a passion in his heart to reach the campus of USF, which is close to the church and is largely unreached. FBC does not currently have a pastor to college students, and they hold a service but not much more. So Daniel is working to grow a ministry within the context of that worship service.

Pondering: Discipleship, Recruiting Leaders

Janice Chang

Onelife College Ministry of City Church for All Nations, Bloomington, IL · University of Indiana

Janice's involvement in the college ministry consists of co-leading life groups/bible studies.

Interested in: outreach, attracting students

Ian Clark (SPONSOR!)

Director of Business Development, Newchapter

Newchapter is a developer and manager of Student Living Communities with one objective: to help build strong student organizations. Ian has spent much time getting to know and coming to love the field of college ministry, and he gets the opportunity to connect with the staff and leadership of college ministries across the country. He is a husband, father of two, and elder of Crossroads Church, Monticello, IL.

Garrett Curry

Purdue Christian Campus House · Purdue University

Garrett comes from a campus ministry and house church planting background, and he's worked on several campuses, such as the Illinois State University and University of South Carolina. He currently serves with Purdue Christian Campus House as Director of Outreach. Much of his time is spent helping coordinate vision trips, managing several areas of PCCH's coffee shop, helping with design and communications, assisting in teaching and planning, and exploring new outreach and mobilization opportunities through grassroots movements and non-profit start-ups.

Paul Damery

Director, Baptist Student Union and Director of Young Adult Ministry, Frederick Boulevard Baptist Church, St. Joseph, MO · Missouri Western State University

Paul is in his sixth year leading BSU ministry at MWSU. He and his wife are the proud parents of three little boys who absolutely love college students. The BSU is one of

just a couple of ministries with a building near campus, but they're trying to focus their energy on missional living outside of the BSU.

Kirstyn Day

Christ on Campus · University of Arkansas

Kirstyn is a first year intern with Christ on Campus, having just graduated from U of A in May. Her work with students includes hanging out, mentoring, interceding and the like.

Rachael Douglas

Baptist Student Union · University of Missouri

Rachael just graduated from Truman State University in May and began working for the Mizzou BSU in June. She was involved in campus ministry through college and even grew up in a college town, so her interest in the college experience has been a lifelong one. She also loves developing mentorship and discipleship programs for female students, as well as connecting with students who don't come from a Christian background. In the future, Rachael would love to work with students in the Pacific Northwest.

Tyler Ellis

Blue Hens for Christ · University of Delaware

Tyler just took a new position at the University of Delaware, after planting a campus ministry at Northern Arizona University and serving there for five years. His greatest passion is reaching the nations through ministry to international students.

Interested in: Student Leadership, International Student Ministry

Sarah Farley

Baptist Collegiate Ministry · University of Georgia

A graduate of North GA College and NOBTS, Sarah is serving this year as the campus ministry intern at the University of GA. She has a love for college students and experience with international missions and international students. She formerly served five years in the Collegiate Ministries department of the Georgia Baptist Convention, working with Send Me Now missions.

Drew Felts

Baptist Collegiate Ministry · University of Georgia

Amanda & Jr. Forasteros

The Bridge Café of Beavercreek Church of the Nazarene, Dayton, OH · Wright State University

The Forasteroses' present ministry is going on its sixth year of operation. It is a coffeeshop business that is funded by the church and run by a staff of students/church workers all with the purpose of helping students at Wright State discover Christ both by the relationships they build and the

environment they provide to help them discover themselves in college. The Café hosts events like open mic-nights, poetry slams, “Free Wiener Wednesday on Tuesday,” social justice nights, etc. They are one of few Christian ministries on campus, because Wright State was a commuter campus until about 10 years ago.

Pondering: freshman ministry, increasing student concerns about world issues, helping students discover themselves and their identity in Christ, preparing students for the future.

Have recently explored: discussing sexuality with students

Cory Garren

Christ on Campus · University of Arkansas

Cory graduated from Christ on Campus and the University of Arkansas last May. He’s now interning in the college ministry, serving with International students, small groups, freshmen and various other aspects of the ministry.

Dennis Gaylor

National Director, Chi Alpha Campus Ministries

Dennis has served as the National Director of Chi Alpha since 1978. His 32 years have included helping Chi Alpha shift from the Youth Ministry department to the Missions department within the Assemblies of God and serving as editor and one author of *Reach the U: A Handbook for Effective Campus Ministry*. XA is organized on 280 U.S. campuses, with 600 staff involving 23,000 students.

Joe Graham

State Director, Baptist Collegiate Ministries, Georgia

Jason Hatch

College Minister, First Baptist Church, Irving, TX · Dallas Baptist University, Northlake Community College

Jason was formerly on staff at Dallas Baptist University as the director of the school’s on-campus ministry. When God called him back to ministry in the local church, He brought Jason to First Irving, just 15 minutes up the road from DBU, where he was blessed to serve many of the same students. For the past 2 1/2 years, he has served there: discipling, sharing the gospel, baptizing, preaching, drinking lots of coffee, having a baby (actually his wife did that), and pulling college students up around the cross. He’s blessed that Jesus found him worthy to be used in His ministry.

Benson Hines

College Ministry author, speaker, and consultant. And College Ministry Cohort organizer.

Benson has served in college ministry for 11 years total, and he’s focused on helping advance the field in every way possible. He has spent time on a few hundred campuses and with several hundred college ministers in the last year, published a free ebook called *Reaching the Campus Tribes* last

year, and blogs daily at www.exploringcollegeministry.com. He brings a unique perspective to both individual college ministries, broader organizations, and other ministries that would like to connect to our field. When he’s in Dallas, he also volunteers in the college ministry of his church!

Brad Hodges

Collegiate Minister, First Redeemer Church, Cumming, GA · North Georgia College & State University, Kennesaw State, Georgia Tech, Gainesville College, Georgia Perimeter College

Brad has led a church-based college ministry for the last 6 years in an area where college campuses abound – but there’s not anything close to their church. He does a lot small group stuff and ministry to commuters.

Pondering: Getting older adults involved, mentoring, reaching commuter students, building relationships with on-campus ministries and other college ministers, transitioning high school students

Amanda Iman

Associate Campus Minister, Baptist Student Union · University of Missouri

After attending the Mizzou BSU through her undergrad years, Amanda is now in her third year on staff. She’s in charge of graphic design, promotions & marketing, alumni relations and fundraising, and technical arts coordinating. But she also gets to minister to and build relationships with students!

Kyle Jackson

Baptist Student Union · University of Missouri

When Kyle came to college, he was rather distracted from the Christian life, but the BSU “saved his spiritual life.” There are few places he would call his second home, but the BSU is one of them.

Jeff Jackson

National Director of Partnership Development, Impact Campus Ministries

Jeff graduated from BGSU in Ohio and was active in a campus ministry there. After seminary, he started a campus ministry at Bloomsburg University (Pennsylvania) and spent 9 years there. The next 6 years were spent as an Associate Pastor in a local church, and the last 7 years he has been with Impact, a college ministry planting organization presently on several campuses.

Michael “MJ” Johnson (SPONSOR!)

Speaker / Writer, Future Marriage University

MJ founded Future Marriage University to equip the church to empower smart singles to prepare for marriage like a successful career: intentionally, intelligently and in advance!

MJ's current focus is college students. More than helping them learn healthy relationship skills and set the right relationship priorities, he wants to change their entire outlook on relationships – romantic or otherwise.

Interested in: Better understanding the heart, soul and mind of the college student

Jeff Jones

Baptist Collegiate Ministry · University of Memphis

During and after college and seminary, Jeff served as a youth minister for 15 years before moving to Topeka, KS, to plant a church. During his time as a church planter, he was connected with an fledgling FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) group at a Washburn University. He fell in love with college ministry and moved to the University of Memphis in 2004 to direct the Baptist Collegiate Ministry. He and his wife Jan have 4 children.

Matt Kearns

Student Ministry Director, Missouri Baptist Convention

Kelly King

Collegiate Ministry, Missouri Baptist Convention

Kelly currently works at the MBC, where she serves in a direct role with campus ministers all over the state and helps plan state collegiate conferences. She's getting married next month and will then join her husband to-be in college ministry at Southeast Missouri State University.

David & Cait Kissinger

Baptist Student Union · University of Missouri

David is a Campus Ministry Intern with the Mizzou BSU, overseeing 3 of their student-led ministry teams and developing relationships with collegians.

Cait serves on one of the teams that organizes the BSU's weekly services.

Josh & Katie Kitchin

Young Life, Springfield, MO · draw leaders from Missouri State University, Drury University

The Kitchins are passionate about the difference college students can make in the lives of others.

Ken Liechty

Purdue Christian Campus House · Purdue University

Ken is part of a large staff team and serves as the Director of Community at Campus House. He manages their student housing, community groups, and student leaders. He also teaches at the PCCH midweek and Sunday gatherings.

Greg Ligon

Vice President and Publisher, Leadership Network

Guy Lombardo

Executive Pastor, Potter's House, Camdenton, MO · Columbia College

Guy is a ministry and leadership learner who's always looking for the best ways to lead others in pursuing their God given purpose for life.

Mike Lopez (SPONSOR!)

Director, IMB Students, International Mission Board

IMB Students works to mobilize high school, college, graduate, seminary, and medical students from campuses throughout North America. Each year, the organization facilitates thousands of students serving in locations across the globe. They also work closely with any IMB missionaries who are reaching students in their countries of service. Mike previously served for 10 years with the IMB as a student ministry missionary in Taiwan.

Steve Lutz

Coalition for Christian Outreach: Calvary College Connection; Director of Life Groups, Calvary Baptist Church, State College, PA · Penn State University

Steve works with missional communities of students reaching out to their relational networks. Before returning to his alma mater for ministry, Steve helped plant Liberty Church (PCA) in Philadelphia, PA. He blogs about college ministry at stevelutz.wordpress.com, and he's also the director of Commonary.com, a ministry which provides free biblical resources to Christians around the world. He has an M.Div from Westminster Theological Seminary. Steve's interests include reaching college students, starting churches, innovation and entrepreneurship, and Penn State and Philly sports. He and his wife Jessica have three children.

Pondering: missional campus ministry, church-based ministry, the future of campus ministry (including sustainability)

Tiffany & Jake Malloy

Asbury Theological Seminary and Asbury University

Tiffany is pursuing M.A. at Asbury Seminary (for the sake of college ministry), and while there she volunteers in ministry to students at both the seminary and Asbury University. After graduating college in 2005, she went on staff at the Mizzou Baptist Student Union for 3 years. At the University, Tiffany mentors women and helps organize and train small group leaders.

Interested in: the two Transitions (HS to college and college to young adult), discipleship materials for college students

Brian Marshall

The Christian Studies Center; Christian Student Fellowship · University of Kentucky (although Studies Center draws students from elsewhere, too)

Christian Student Fellowship is a “typical” campus ministry. But Brian also leads an educational outreach, The Christian Studies Center. This ministry effort allows students to take for-credit classes guaranteed to transfer to the home school of participating students.

Interested in: Collaboration among college ministers

Kylie McCracken

Tampa Area Baptist Collegiate Ministries · University of South Florida, Hillsborough Community College, University of Tampa

Kylie is the administrative assistant at the BCM. She also focuses on the women's ministry side of the student leadership team and has led small groups in the past.

Pondering: Discipleship of students, building consistent ministry to the students God brings

Lauren McElhaney

Baptist Student Union · University of Missouri

Lauren is a Junior at Mizzou, majoring in Fine Arts with an emphasis in Graphic Design. She serves as the Illuminators team leader at the BSU, which focuses on creatively expressing the gospel to their campus. The team writes skits, creates media presentations and videos, and generates an atmosphere conducive to corporate and personal worship during the weekly worship services.

Matthew Miller

Baptist Collegiate Ministries · University of South Florida

Through the BCM, Matthew is able to build relationships through evangelism. While their ministry mainly uses Soularium, Matthew is actually a magician and shares the Gospel through sleight of hand presentations!

Pondering: Evangelism, Short-term Missions, Discipleship

Morgan Owen

Baptist Campus Minister · University of Tennessee at Martin

Morgan has served as the UTM BCM Campus Minister for 7 years. Before that, he served as a Youth Pastor for 11 years in KY. Morgan is a graduate of Murray State University and Southern Seminary.

Eli & Kendra Pagel

Christ on Campus · University of Oklahoma

Eli is one of about 25 campus ministers at the University of Oklahoma. As a newer college minister, he has a lot to learn about leading and serving college students, and he wants to continue to learn those things until he can't anymore!

Interested in: Rebranding a college ministry; student leader-

ship (development and training)

Danial Rahmankhah

Baptist Collegiate Ministry · University of South Florida

Danial previously served as a college ministry intern at the USF BCM, where he ministered to students through several coffee house/ music ministry events. He was also able to serve through foreign and domestic mission trips. As a student ministry intern, he gained valuable experience in ministering to fellow students as well as international students and faculty. Using his job at Starbucks as a catalyst, Danial was able to use his resources to reach the lost and surrounding college community.

Christy Ridings

Associate University Minister and Director of Spiritual Formation · Belmont University, Nashville, TN

Christy has lived in Nashville for almost 20 years but finds home somewhere between TN, Scotland, and Cape Town, South Africa (depending on the time of year). She has been serving college students, in some form, for nearly 14 years.

Derik & Kristin Roberts

Campus Ministers, Cougars for Christ · Columbus State University, Columbus, GA

Derik came to this ministry as a student in 2004 and began working as campus minister in 2006. The organization is the second largest on campus and is larger than most of the Greek chapters. The university only boasts about 8000 students, but in many ways it allows for many evangelistic and outreach opportunities that organizations at larger campuses just don't have. The ministry is supported by an incredible group of students, gifted and passionate student leaders, and a local church family.

Matt Robertson

Rolling Hills Community Church, Franklin, TN · Belmont University, Vanderbilt University, Middle Tennessee State University, Columbia State Community College, O'More College of Design

Matt has been serving as the College Pastor at RHCC for 3 years. Previously, he served as the director of student ministries at Anderson University (SC), the Baptist Collegiate Minister at Frostburg State University (MD), and as the youth minister at Welsh Memorial Baptist Church.

Bob & Teresa Royall

Bob serves with the Baptist Collegiate Ministries at Georgia Gwinnett College and is also the pastor of Horizon Baptist Church, Suwanee, GA. Teresa serves with the Baptist Collegiate Ministries at Georgia State University and Mercer University Atlanta.

Shaunquia Ryle

Onelife College Ministry of City Church for All Nations,

Bloomington, IN · University of Indiana

Shaunquia has been leading ONELife Ministry for almost a year, after connecting with the ministry throughout her undergraduate years, including as a small group leader for 4 years. ONELife's focus is grassroots expressions of the love, power & freedom of Jesus Christ. The ministry is supported by City Church for All Nations. The core leadership team of ONELife is made up of students and recent graduates who are trained & mentored by the pastors at City Church. Personally, Shaunquia is learning how to lead a college ministry as she goes; while the vision comes naturally, the hard part is the execution and know-how to achieve results on campus.

Kurt Schaer

Student Ministry Director, First Baptist Church Temple Terrace, FL

Kurt used to be the director of recreational ministries at FBC Temple Terrace, but about a year ago he stepped into the role of Director of Student Ministries.

Josh Schuler

College-age ministry, Christian Fellowship Church, Evansville, IN · University of Southern Indiana, University of Evansville, Ivy Tech, Oakland City University

This is Josh's sixth year in college-age ministry at CFC. He's passionate about helping college-age young adults thrive in their faith now and as they transition into the adult life of the church.

Interested in: Transitioning into the young adult world; Discussing ecclesiology with students

Franklin Scott

Baptist Collegiate Ministry · University of Georgia

Franklin is the senior campus minister at University of GA BCM, having served on this campus for 20+ years. He has also served at Brewton Parker College and University of AR, Pine Bluff. Franklin is a graduate of Southern Seminary, has a love for sports, and enjoys seeing students find mates and live happily ever after!

David Short

U.S. Director, Campus Alpha, Alpha USA, and the Alpha Course

David is responsible for the overall development and operation of Alpha among students and young adults here in the United States. His passion is to reach as many students and young adults with the Gospel as possible.

Karen Shumaker

Baptist Collegiate Ministry · University of Georgia

This is Karen's 6th year at the University of GA BCM, and

she earlier served in BCM in Texas. She has a background in nursing and enjoys being able to mobilize medically-majored students in medical missions and through discipleship.

Warren Skinner

Consultant for Collegiate Ministries, Georgia Baptist Convention; Baptist Collegiate Ministries

Warren coordinates mission opportunities and conferences for university students. He also serves on the BCM campus ministry staff at Georgia State University.

Tim & Gretchen Stewart

Baptist Collegiate Ministry · University of South Carolina

Tim has served as a collegiate minister since 1992 in Louisiana, Arkansas, and South Carolina, and he's been at USC since 2007. He enjoys developing leaders, creating worship experiences, and investing his life into college students. He and Gretchen have been married for 13 years, have 2 boys, and are waiting for a call to be matched for adoption.

Gretchen is able to be at home with their boys and also serves part-time as a Speech Therapist.

Katie Tarara

National Director of Events, Coalition for Christian Outreach

After being deeply impacted by Coalition for Christian Outreach ministry as a college student, Katie joined staff in 2002 and served at Wheeling Jesuit University for three years. She then became a CCO Area Director, overseeing college ministers in SW Pennsylvania and WV. After being a HUGE fan of CCO's Jubilee Conference, she has taken a new job as Director of Events, working with a team to coordinate Jubilee as well as the Ocean City Beach Project and staff training events. Her years in ministry with the CCO have taught her the strategic value of college campuses for Kingdom work, the need that students have for Jesus and His authority in every area of life, and that giving our ministry away to student leaders isn't just good for our work on campus now, it is vital for the future of the church.

Pondering: What is discipleship? What is leadership? Is leadership development the same thing as discipleship? Why was my campus ministry course made up entirely of men? Are campus ministers the new youth pastors? Is that good? Do you have to be an extroverted man to be an effective campus minister? What are the keys to ministry that leads to lasting transformation?

Jeffrey VanderLaan

Director of Staff Development, Impact Campus Ministries

Jeffrey graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in Marketing, and he was involved in a campus ministry there. He later spent 15 years as lead campus minister at the University at Albany in Albany, NY. Now he works

with new campus minister recruits, helping them with fundraising, campus culture mapping, and ministry planning.

Piper West

Baptist Student Union · University of Missouri

Piper is the worship leader at the BSU, and she loves music and loves leading others to worship the Lord. Their ministry is slowly growing and becoming a stronger foundation in the college scene.

Bill Westfall

Director of Development, Impact Campus Ministries

Bill has been working in campus ministry for 6 years at Boise State University. I recently took the position of Director of Ministry Development with Impact Campus Ministries. This has included leading a restructuring of Impact Ministries International. Our desire is to serve as a national campus ministry planting organization, and they have ministries on several U.S. campuses.

Mike Whelan

Baptist Campus Minister · Georgia Tech

Mike has been hanging out with college students for longer than some here have been around. Some would say he is in "extended adolescence," and he's still working on his honorary doctorate! But the bottom line is that he discovered there is no greater place than to impact lives and be part of God's building His kingdom than with students.

Kajsa White (SPONSOR!)

Curriculum Advisor, Dave Ramsey's Office, The Lampo Group

Working at Dave Ramsey's Office in Nashville, TN, Kajsa works exclusively with colleges and universities to help them implement Foundations for Life and Money, a biblically-based financial literacy curriculum. She is passionate about today's students and helping others develop innovative, engaging strategies to impact the collegiate generation.

Laurie & Tom White

Cape First REMIX (church) · Southeast Missouri State University

Laurie is a licensed minister with the Assemblies of God and has been mentoring college students and young adults for the last five years. God most often connects her with non-traditional students who need a second chance at life and see me as a "mom" figure for a specific season of transition. She assists with small groups and campus outreaches.

Tom is a broadcast engineer for SEMO University's Mass Communications department. He serves in the background with Laurie in outreaches, and he mentors young adults through small groups.

Chris Willard

Director, Leadership Network's University Ministry Leadership Community

For 18 years, Chris Willard served as a campus minister and ministry leader in Virginia, Connecticut, and in Florida. He now serves with Leadership Network.

Ashley Williams

Intern, Catalyst and a major part of organizing this College Ministers Cohort

After serving for a few years in college ministry at the University of Missouri, Ashley has had the awesome chance to help build this year's Catalyst Conference. But she continues to have a definite passion for advancing the field of College Ministry, and her work has been integral in the formation of the College Ministers Cohort.

Dan Wintemute

Student Pastor, Horizon Baptist Church, Suwanee, GA

Eric Wright

Campus Minister, Refuge Ministries · University of Idaho, Washington State University

Eric has been a campus minister at the U of Idaho and Washington State for seven years. He works with Impact Campus Ministries and has been partnering with a church plant, Real Life Ministries, for the last three years. Before moving to the Northwest, Eric was a youth minister in Oklahoma for 12 years.

Pondering: local church partnerships, moving students from being consumers to being missional

Jason Yarnell

Baptist Student Union · Northwest Missouri State University

Jason grew up in church and came to Christ at a young age, but it was through college ministry that he was first disciplined and truly began to grow. He loves working with students in this formative time, when people stop being who someone else told them they were and start figuring out who they actually are.

Kris Zerbonia

Christ on Campus · University of Arkansas

Kris has participated in ministry as a vocation since 1997, first with a parachurch organization that hosts conferences and trips globally, then for 4 years in Youth Ministry. Currently she's in her third year of campus ministry at the U of A. She is passionate about helping students connect and move in God's Spirit and inspiring them to have the boldness to act accordingly – the crazier the better!

FAST

college ministers cohort

