

InterVarsity

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The love for student ministry started in my early days as a college student. My first exposure was on the grounds of the University of NH (aka. UNH). When I was a freshman living in the dorms, I had a hall-mate who invited me to several Christian events on campus. As a way to not be invited



again (yes, you read that right), I decided to accept an invitation and go with her with the hopes of not having to say no again. Honestly, I can't even remember what activity was happening that night but what I do remember was the genuine love I felt in the room. People were kind and took an interest in getting to know me. It was an event unlike what I'd been to all semester. I definitely wanted to go back to the next thing they hosted. Needless to say, the seeds for college ministry were planted. After a few semesters at UNH, I transferred to Moody Bible Institute (MBI) in Chicago with the sole intent to learn how to answer hard question about faith. God continued to shape and transform my heart through this process, stretching my mind and deepening my love for people. It was also while at MBI that I met my husband Keith. We were married in 2001 and that winter Keith was hired by Grace Chapel to be the youth director (which is how many of you know us).

Also, that year I began to explore what God was doing in the Capital District among college students. At that point, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship had a handful of chapters on campuses such as Rensselaer, Skidmore, and Russell Sage. They were definitely seeking more staff. I eventually joined InterVarsity staff and started serving undergraduate students at Rensselaer and Vassar College. My heart deeply agreed with the purpose of InterVarsity and I found that I really had a desire to see students growing in love for God, God's Word, God's people of every ethnicity and culture, and God's purposes in the world. I served at many of the Capital District schools in one capacity or another for 5 years.

In 2007, with two very small babies in tow, we decided to move back to NH to be near family. There was a staff opening at UNH, only this position was working with graduate students and faculty. Initially intimidated, I now have grown to really love this population on campus. Graduate students are brilliant people who are doing cutting edge work and research. They will eventually influence and shape our industries, schools, health care systems all over the world!! Faculty are some of the main influencers on every campus.

What would it look like to see more of this population on campus know Jesus? What would it look like if different departments on the campuses were

influenced by committed followers of Jesus? What would it look like if Jesus or the idea of faith in general was a respected opinion at the table of research meetings, lab meetings, Chemistry classrooms, painting studios, business decisions, etc. What if? Could this be possible? Of course!! Hence, why I love student ministry and now faculty ministry. Students will ultimately change the way our world runs. If they are deeply committed to Jesus, we can trust that God will use them to influence their spheres and be world changers!!

Currently, ministry at UNH involves weekly program nights where anyone is invited. Food, fellowship, and scripture are all incorporated. Faculty and students attend. Depending on the night and the time of the semester, our numbers wax and wane. Our group is highly international; students who are from all over the world. Periodically we do outreach events that create conversations and interest in the Gospel. We often use the format of a forum and have guest speakers. We also spend time doing events that serve the graduate community by creating community... holding picnics, holiday parties, Wives Nights (for student spouses), cooking classes, etc. For faculty, we are trying to create places of intersection. We are trying to create environments where dialogue is fostered and encouraged. All of these elements are upheld by prayer.

- Create and implement one forum on the topic of Black Lives Matter in February engaging the whole campus.
- Continue to foster environments where grad students can engage in conversations on a weekly basis about faith and the practical application to life in graduate school. We will kick-start the spring semester with the book of Daniel, however there are a number of smaller groups starting across campus based on academic discipline. Please pray that these will be communities that foster sensitivity to the Holy Spirit, intellectual wisdom, and a deep sense of commit to Jesus.
- Continue to invite and welcome new students into the already existent grad group. We've had a number of seekers hanging with us this year. Asking great questions, doing life together, please pray that they will continue to press into what faith is for them. Also please pray that we continue to have more and more seekers join our group(s).

For further information about Grad and Faculty ministry at UNH, please do not hesitate to contact me at glteeter@gmail.com or 603-833-5524. I'd be glad to talk with you. Keith and I are thankful for the friendships and deep partnerships we have had and have with many of you at Grace Chapel. Thank you for all you have done to help us learn and grow in ministry over the past 15 years!!