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The Point of Grace

3

Milwaukee Area Campus Ministry

4

-Christ on Campus-

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2013-2014 Ministry Plan

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TPOG Leadership Team - leadership@tpog.net

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Draft 8

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May 7, 2013

1 **Executive Summary**

2 The Mission of the Point of Grace is to serve university and college students with the Word of Jesus
3 Christ, both law and gospel; provide Christian fellowship; and equip believers for service in God’s
4 kingdom.

5
6 Why

7 Years ago it could be expected that students who went off to college would fall away from the
8 faith, but then eventually return to their church roots. That is no longer the case. Current research
9 indicates that those students who fall away from the faith during their college years and are often lost. At
10 college, students are often forgotten by their home congregations, sent on their way with little more than a
11 “Good luck and God bless!” The 18-25 age bracket is often the forgotten generation, out of sight, out of
12 mind by many local congregations and other ministries. It is more imperative than ever that we have a
13 vibrant campus ministry so that

- 14 • We serve students on campus by offering Bible study and Christian fellowship
- 15 • We reach out to students in high school to introduce them to campus ministry before graduation
- 16 • We begin to build a bridge between our congregations and college students to prevent lost sheep
- 17 • We awaken in others the desire to serve this often forgotten demographic

18
19 Our Goals

- 20 • To help believing students strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ
- 21 • To help other students discover a faith in Jesus Christ
- 22 • To help students own their faith in Jesus Christ
- 23 • To help equip students for service to Jesus Christ
- 24 • To help promote a culture of ministry to college students within the local congregation

25
26 How

- 27 • Hold regular Bible studies on the campuses we serve
- 28 • Have monthly fellowship and Bible study through *The Gathering* open to students from all
29 campuses
- 30 • Create a Collegiate Council made up of students who will help organize events and promote the
31 above
- 32 • Connect students to local congregations for public worship and belonging
- 33 • Seek mentors from local congregations who are passionate about helping with college ministry
34 and walking with college students

35
36 Where

- 37 • Currently at Marquette (MU), Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE), and the University of
38 Wisconsin – Milwaukee (UWM)
- 39 • In the future at Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC), Alverno, Mt. Mary, Milwaukee
40 Institute of Art and Design (MIAD), etc.

41
42 This Ministry Plan will serve as our roadmap for the 2013-2014 academic year. This plan has been
43 developed over the past few years with input from students, partners, and staff. It is intended as a guide
44 for what we are trying to do and how we will go about doing it.

1 **Our Ministry Serves**

2 Our campus ministry is focused on serving undergraduate and graduate students primarily attending
3 UWM, MSOE, and MU who are

- 4 1. WELS (both churched & unchurched)
- 5 2. Students not connected to a Christian church
- 6 3. International students attending our campuses

7 We target our recruitment efforts on students who are

- 8 1. Juniors and Seniors attending WELS ALHS in eastern Wisconsin (possibly in conjunction with
9 other WELS Campus Ministries)
- 10 2. Members of WELS youth groups in southeast Wisconsin
- 11 3. Current WELS students enrolled at UWM, MSOE, and MU

12 **Goals for 2013-2014**

13 During this year, our ministry will:

- 14 1. Support and mentor three (3) functioning student organizations that
 - 15 a. are officially recognized by their host campus
 - 16 b. have the required student officers
 - 17 c. and sponsor at least two (2) service events in the academic year
- 18 2. Sponsor eight (8) Gatherings/Speaker events
- 19 3. Establish a Collegiate Council that
 - 20 a. meets monthly during the academic year
 - 21 b. is active with The Gathering
 - 22 c. is active in Bible Studies
 - 23 d. its members make nine (9) written reports to congregations
 - 24 e. its members make two (2) presentations to congregations about campus ministry
 - 25 f. its members make one (1) high school presentation about campus ministry
- 26 4. Lead semimonthly Bible Studies at MSOE, MU, and UWM during the academic year
- 27 5. Sponsor a monthly social event at MSOE, MU, and UWM
- 28 6. Personally introduce all identified WELS student attending Milwaukee area colleges to our
29 campus ministry
- 30 7. Produce a monthly newsletter updates for partners and supporters
- 31 8. Produce weekly email updates for student
- 32 9. Offer adult instruction class to college student(s), as needed
- 33 10. Hold an annual meeting in June

34

1 **Our Ministry Focus**

2 Our ministry does the following to achieve our desired outcome and fulfill our purpose:

3 **1) The Gathering**

4 Once each month during the academic year, students are encouraged to have an encounter with Jesus like
5 the woman at the well (John 4) in a spiritual gathering through Bible study with the heartbeat of Psalm 89
6 (making God’s faithfulness known and through prayer to make Him known on campus). Fellowship time
7 with refreshments will help encourage students to develop personal connections to fellow believers. The
8 site for The Gathering will rotate between the campuses we serve to promote fellowship across campuses.
9 The topics covered in The Gathering will be further explored in campus Bible Studies during the month.

10 **2) Campus Bible Studies**

11 Twice a month, the Campus Pastor will lead Bible Studies that will explore what God says in scripture
12 about the topic presented at The Gathering. We strive to create a safe place at these studies and invite
13 students to grow together in God’s Word. These studies are held on the local campuses to meet students
14 where they are at.

15 **3) Connecting for Worship**

16 Because our ministry does not offer weekly worship, we connect students to area WELS congregations
17 and provide support for their regular attendance. Partnering with area congregations, rides can be
18 provided from campus for students to facilitate their regular attendance in worship.

19 Because students are away from home, we encourage them to attend worship together to build Christian
20 fellowship. We are in partnership with our WELS churches; together we ensure our students received the
21 Word and Sacraments regularly to strengthen their faith.

22 **Service & Outreach**

23 “...for a tree is recognized by its fruit.” (Matthew 12:33b)

24 Each campus is encouraged to sponsor one service or outreach event each year. Students from all
25 campuses will be invited to participate in these events. These opportunities allow students to put their
26 faith into action and serve others out of love for God. TPOG will assist our student organizations with
27 guidance and funding to support these events, service opportunities, or outreach activities. Other
28 suggested activities include, but are not limited to:

- 29 ○ Travel Canvas Witness (TCW) trips
- 30 ○ Campus volunteer / service events

31

1 **Fellowship**

2 While our primary focus is to connect students in a relationship with God, they also need to form
3 relationships with fellow students and believers to support their faith. Our campus ministry and student
4 organizations offer several activities focused on building relationships between students and God.

5 The student organizations are encouraged to host at least one fellowship event each month and invite
6 other students to participate. Suggested events include, but are not limited to

- 7 ○ Fall Camping Trip
- 8 ○ Movie Night
- 9 ○ Game Night
- 10 ○ Murder Mystery
- 11 ○ Camp Phillip Retreat

12 **Student Leadership Retreat**

13 TPOG will sponsor a student leadership retreat in August. At this retreat, the student leadership will help
14 plan events and activities for the year.

15 **Supporting Activities**

16 **Recruiting**

17 **High School Visits**

18 Each year, in partnership with Area Lutheran High Schools, TPOG makes presentations to upperclassmen
19 about the campus ministry in Milwaukee. These presentations are used to connect students with the
20 campus ministry at the universities they hope to attend.

21 **Personal Welcomes to Campus**

22 Incoming students are contacted via telephone or email by current students over the summer. These
23 contacts are used to gather/confirm information about the student and invite them to lunch for a
24 discussion about campus ministry.

25 **Congregational Presentations**

26 The Pastor, assisted by students and/or staff, will make regular presentations to local congregations.
27 These could be in the form of leading Worship and Bible Study with a specific focus on Campus
28 Ministry.

29 **Communication**

30 Each week, students will receive an email update about campus ministry events and activities. To
31 communicate with partners and supporters, TPOG will produce and distribute monthly newsletters. In
32 addition, the following communication products will be developed and maintained:

- 33 1. Brochure on campus ministry in Milwaukee
- 34 2. Information packets about TPOG
- 35 3. Flyers promoting campus ministry for in WELS schools and congregations

- 1 4. Social Media sites on Facebook and Twitter
- 2 5. Website (www.tpog.net)

3 **Resources**

4 **Staff**

5 **Campus Pastor**

6 Our campus ministry is served by a part-time pastor, Pastor Don Thompson, who will:

- 7 1. Lead regular Bible studies on campuses during the academic year
- 8 2. Teach adult instruction courses, as needed
- 9 3. Provide Christian counseling to students
- 10 4. Oversee the doctrine and practice of TPOG
- 11 5. Provide coaching and guidance to TPOG staff to implement ministry plan
- 12 6. Provide training and support to the student leaders and mentors partners
- 13 7. Promote TPOG campus ministry to pastoral circuits, pastoral conferences, churches, ministries,
- 14 etc., when invited
- 15 8. Preach at area congregations to promote TPOG, when invited

16 **Outreach Coordinator**

17 Our campus is assisted by Mike Westendorf who will:

- 18 1. Area Lutheran High School In reach
- 19 a) Lead chapel or school discussions to promote campus ministry
- 20 b) Connect administration to our campus ministry
- 21 c) Provide high school students with a taste of the ministry to campus
- 22 2. Coordinate student leadership opportunities by identifying, nurturing, and encouraging students to
- 23 serve
- 24 3. Coordinate mentorship opportunities for partners
- 25 4. The Gathering
- 26 a) Further development of The Gathering
- 27 b) Help students and mentors guide and execute
- 28 c) Connect participants of The Gathering to campus Bible studies

29 **Administrative Assistant**

30 Paula Herbst keeps our campus ministry running by:

- 31 1. Administrative Support
- 32 a) Provide administrative assistance to pastor, staff, and Leadership Team
- 33 b) Maintain attendance records of events and activities to support reporting requirements of ministry
- 34 c) Complete and submit required reports to WELS Campus Ministry Committee
- 35 d) Receive, process, and/or route mail and/or e-mails received
- 36 e) Send out weekly e-mail updates to students and partners to communicate ministry activities
- 37 f) Maintain records of student, partners, and donors in Shepherd's Staff.
- 38 g) Maintain email distribution list membership to support electronic communication

- 1 h) Ordering/purchasing supplies
- 2 i) Filing
- 3 j) Printing flyers, etc.
- 4 k) Produce three (3) mailings per year to communicate with supporters
- 5 2. Financial Administration
- 6 a. Receive and record all contributions and income in Shepherd's Staff
- 7 b. Acknowledge contributions promptly with thank you letters
- 8 c. Make weekly deposits of all funds received
- 9 d. Prepare and distribute annual giving statements to all contributors
- 10 e. Assist with other financial duties, as requested by the treasurer
- 11 3. Student Life Coordinator
- 12 a. Oversee open hours of student center
- 13 b. Encourage students to pray

14 **Resident Assistants**

15 Resident Assistants (RAs) are responsible for demonstrating servant leadership in campus ministry. They
16 serve in the ministry by operating the Student Center and facilitating fellowship, outreach, and service
17 events at UW-Milwaukee. They also ensure the facilities are presentable and in a condition to conduct
18 campus ministry.

19 **Facilities**

20 The current site for our ministry offices is located at 2215 E. Kenwood Blvd, Milwaukee, WI.

21 **Organizational Structure**

22 The Point of Grace – Milwaukee Area Campus Ministry, (TPOG) is a member of the Wisconsin
23 Evangelical Lutheran Synod whose focus is exclusively on campus ministry. The organization is led by a
24 Board of Directors composed of five men whose duties are defined in the Bylaws.

25 **Collegiate Council**

26 This group of student leaders is made up of one or two motivated students from each campus. This group
27 will assist in the selection of Gathering/Bible Study topics, the selection of a location for the Gatherings
28 and the running of the local student organization on the campuses.

29 **Mentorship Team**

30 This group of committed adults from supporting congregations will mentor and assist the students and
31 promote the importance of campus ministry at their home congregations.