



MESSIAH UNIVERSITY MINISTRIES

2020-2021

MISSION & OUTCOMES

The mission of Messiah University Ministries (MUM) is to reveal the glory of Christ and his kingdom, to enjoy and embody the lavish love of the Redeemer, and to nurture multi-faceted faithfulness. We address this mission through a range of programs that are designed to help participants to:

1. Reflect deeply and dig into the biblical story
2. Articulate a growing knowledge of God and self
3. Articulate a theology of culture and appreciate cultural differences
4. Display compassion for others and collaborate with the kingdom in view
5. Develop authentic interpersonal relationships
6. Display Christian character and gifted leadership

We pursue these outcomes in collaboration with students, colleagues, and friends of the university, and together we strive to live as a vital community of trust and learning. Relationship formation, deep discipleship, and student empowerment are key strategies that mark the work of MUM.

INVOLVEMENT

Whether you are most likely to connect with God through quiet prayer or exuberant worship, through community service or through purposeful study, life at Messiah offers a whole array of opportunities for pursuing spiritual growth in the way that best fits you.

Intentional Formational Relationships

We can't do the spiritual life alone. We strongly encourage students to find a group of people with whom they can pursue God. This might take the form of a small discipleship group or it might be your flag football team. The important thing is that you find a group of people with whom you are going below the surface to ask each other the hard questions, where you feel safe enough to let your guard down, and where you encourage each other to apply your faith to your lives. Many educators function as faith mentors for students and student groups.

Student Ministries Council

The Student Ministries Council has a unique opportunity to serve Messiah University's campus through various student-led ministry initiatives. They seek to enrich the spiritual lives of students, encouraging them to passionately pursue the Lord through discipleship ministries, prayer ministries, worship ministries, and ministry training events.

Worship Community

The Worship Community is a team of educators and students that are dedicated to learning more about the nature and leadership of Christian worship. This team coordinates the liturgies and music for campus worship services as well as other retreats, conferences, and events.

Powerhouse

Powerhouse is a student-initiated service of worship held in Hostetter Chapel on Thursday nights at 8:30 pm. Students flood to Hostetter every week to join together in worship through song, prayer, and reflection in a powerful experience of corporate fellowship and praise.

More Ministry Options

This page only begins to describe the rich array of groups and programs that attend to Christian nurture and service on Messiah's campus. Visit our website to discover more about AROMA, Acclamation, and the Agape Center for Service and Learning.

Local Churches

Students are encouraged to be involved in a local church during their time at Messiah. Information on a number of local churches is available through the University Ministries website at <http://www.messiah.edu/info/20056/church>. Various churches provide van service from Eisenhower Circle. The "Transport" column in the church database provides information on the churches that provide van service. The Grantham Church has a long relationship with the University and its location is near the main entrance.

CHAPEL

The chapel program of Messiah University is also designed to build community and foster Christian growth. On Tuesday mornings, many members of the Messiah community gather in Brubaker Auditorium for a worship service that is designed to exalt the Lord Jesus and to pursue biblical literacy through the preaching of the Word. On Tuesday evenings in Hostetter Chapel or Parmer Hall, a smaller service, often developed in collaboration with campus partners, is offered to explore the implications of Christian faith for life and society. On Thursday mornings, in addition to a student- led chapel, various educator-led small groups, convene in smaller venues for Bible studies, book studies, the practice of spiritual disciplines, as well as an array of discussions regarding Christian life and culture.

CHAPEL ATTENDANCE POLICY

NOTE: During the COVID-19 Pandemic, we are committed to nurturing and growing your Christian faith through chapel and other opportunities, however, attendance will not be monitored for the 2020-2021 school year.

Chapel attendance is an educational requirement for all full-time Messiah University undergraduate students. It is designed to foster biblical literacy and faith formation. Residential students are expected to attend 14 approved chapel opportunities each semester. Services and gatherings will be offered in various venues on most Tuesday mornings and evenings as well as on Thursday mornings.

1. Students must swipe their cards at the various chapel venues. Doors on most venues will be locked ten minutes after the scheduled start time. After that, students will not be admitted, and they cannot claim chapel credit. Students can track their chapel attendance on FALCONLink.
2. If a student is a full-time commuting student carrying at least 12 credits, the student's chapel requirement is 7 chapels per semester.
3. If the following conditions apply, a student may request chapel exemption for a semester:
 - a. The student is engaged in a semester-long internship, clinical, or student teaching experience that conflicts with chapel attendance.
 - b. The student is employed off campus for 25 or more hours per week.
 - c. The student has parenting obligations for their own children that prohibit chapel attendance.
 - d. The student is ill or absent from the university for two (2) weeks or more (exemption must be accompanied with an excuse from doctor or Engle Center.)
4. The request for exemption must be completed within the first four weeks of each semester. Offices that coordinate student internships, nursing clinicals, and teacher education may submit a list of students for a semester-long exemption. Exemption is automatically granted to students who are studying with off-campus programs for the semester. No chapel exemption is necessary or available for missing a particular chapel opportunity (e.g. sickness, field trip, on or off-campus obligation).

5. If a student has not completed the chapel requirements as stated above, the student will receive notification that he/she has been placed on chapel probation for the following semester with the following consequences:
 - a. For each attendance short of the required 14, a fine of \$15.
 - b. An active chapel probation status may negatively impact one's eligibility for service in a student leadership position.
6. A student involved in deception regarding any of the chapel attendance policies (e.g. friend swiping, illegitimate exemption request) will incur a fine of \$210 (\$15 for each of that semester's 14 required chapels). The student will also be required to meet with a representative of the MUM office and will be placed on chapel probation for the following semester.
7. Appeals regarding a student's chapel attendance deficiency or chapel probation status should be made in writing and may be submitted to MUM within 10 business days of receipt of the relevant notification from MUM. Decisions of MUM may be appealed in writing to the Vice Provost.