



# OTTAWA CAMPUS CHAPLAINCY

ENGAGING CHRIST, COMMUNITY & CULTURE



## *WHO IS THE OCC?*

SID YPMA - CHAPLAIN/CAMPUS MINISTER

In the spring of 2019, the Ottawa Christian Reformed Campus Chaplaincy board, past board members, many of its alumni leaders, and current student leaders, gathered together for a conversation about the identity, vision and mission of the OCRCC. After 7 years of existence, there was a desire to ponder where we've been and discuss where we're going. That conversation started a process that continues today in which we desire to further clarify our presence and role on campuses in Ottawa.

Out of this discussion, we narrowed our focus into 4 core values: *care, belonging, discipleship & leadership*.

The first core value of 'care' speaks to the nature of chaplaincy. We want to care for students, staff and faculty and love them regardless of who they are or what they believe. The second core value of belonging speaks to our desire to create hospitable spaces of belonging. We want students to be enfolded into community and find friendships that help them feel as though they belong. The third core value of discipleship speaks to our desire to invite students, faculty and staff to follow Jesus. We want to create opportunities to journey with God and grow into his calling on their lives. The fourth core value of leadership speaks to our desire to encourage our constituency to become Christian

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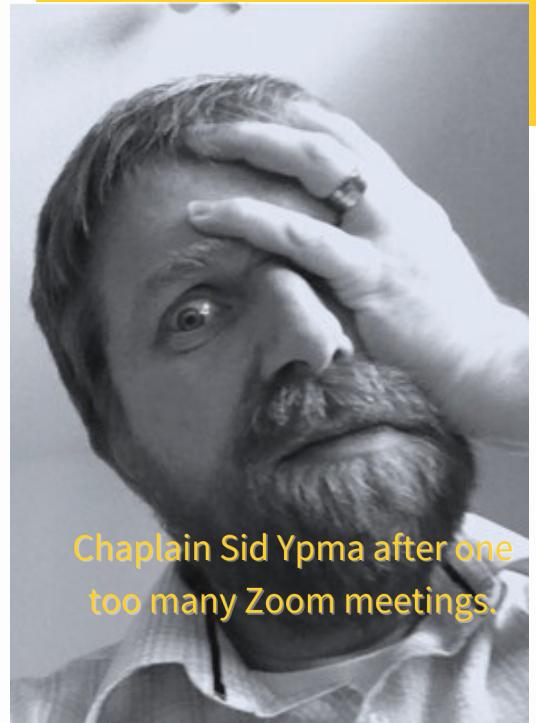
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**Chaplain Sid Ypma after one too many Zoom meetings.**

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leaders. Not only do we want them to lead on campus, we also want them to grow and mature into leaders for the church and society

Along with a discussion of our core values was a discussion about our name. There were two primary reasons for discussing a name change. The first reason has to do with growing partnerships. While the ministry falls under the umbrella of Resonate Global Missions, the missions agency of the Christian Reformed Church, over the years we have developed partnerships with other denominations and churches who support our work. To better reflect our diverse supporters, we wanted the name to be something less specific to the denomination. We are proud to be a ministry of the CRC, but we are also blessed to serve a larger constituency.

The second reason involved giving better clarity as to how our name represents our ministry. For years students have stumbled over our long name and acronym. Not only did folks wonder if the ministry was only for Christian Reformed students, but they would get the words mixed up. We felt we needed to make a change. When discussing what makes us a unique campus ministry, the work of chaplaincy stood out. A unique part of what we do is connected to pastoral care, advocating for spiritual wellness in a public setting and creating space for people to consider how their faith impacts their calling. The location 'Ottawa,' the setting, 'campus,' and the service, 'chaplaincy,' were prioritized in our considerations. After much discussion, we decided that we would simply go with the name 'Ottawa Campus Chaplaincy.'

We had some concerns that the name might lose some of its Christian specificity. We don't want to hide our Christian identity, but we also didn't want the name and acronym to grow longer than three words. We agreed that it's the job of the OCC to continue to build a reputation that leaves no question of its desire to be a Christian witness in all that it does. That being said, we decided upon the tagline, "Engaging Christ, Community and Culture" as way of communicating our focus.

By not straying far from the original name, it makes for an easy connection to the reputation we've built among all our stakeholders - be it students, university admin or donors. We hope our new name will serve us well into the future of campus ministry in Ottawa.



## THE OCC LOGO

Our logo centres on the image of the cross and also contains a historical nod to the use of the Greek letter 'chi' which the early church used as a subtle identifier as a follower of Christ.

The arrow entering the image represents beginning and trajectory, while the intersections of the surrounding path speaks to the uniqueness of one's faith journey.

The 4 quadrants represent our core values: care, belonging, discipleship, and leadership. Their arrangement within the surrounding path represent the cyclical nature of these values; one leading into and supporting the next.

We are thankful for the work of Zack Ingles, a longtime friend of the OCC, for this design.

# RESOUNDING TRUTH

SAM NADURAK - 4TH YEAR MUSIC

Although my life has been filled with musical activities, along with faith being very important in my life, I had never taken the time to deeply consider the connections between those two pillars in my life. Having the opportunity to read Jeremy Begbie's 'Resounding Truth' this semester gave me space to think about how music and faith intersect. It also helped me ponder the possible implications that God has for me to in my own journey as a Christian and a musician.

Begbie explored some technical music ideas that I had already come across in my musical studies over the years. However, because it was presented in a theological way, I found a renewed fascination in the technical aspects of music. Begbie also looked into leaders



of different Christian traditions and how they approached music in the church throughout history. I have learned about the history of music and different tradition's theologies, but never different tradition's theologies of music. It was valuable and interesting to be encouraged and challenged in my views

of music by some of the biggest theologian names in history.

Looking back on the book after completing it, there are useful personal applications for my faith and my music. Begbie provoked many questions of how music can be beneficial/harmful to a Christian and to the world, ways that people can experience God in music, value of authenticity and expressing that in music, and much more. These questions help me posture myself as a music creator and performer to think about what I create and why. How can I glorify God best in my music? I will go forward in my life with a new appreciation for the role of music in the church and I will continue to ponder these questions that arise in the intersection of music and faith.

# THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO EVE

MIM FARKAS - 3RD YEAR - LINGUISTICS

During the winter semester, a group of students and Chaplain Sid met biweekly to discuss the book "The Gospel According to Eve," by Amanda W. Benckhuysen. The book is a unique collection of women's perspectives throughout history on the gospel and God's purpose for women in the Church. I have mostly seen perspectives from male theologians, and while there is a lot to gain from these male theologians, it was refreshing and encouraging to gain the perspective from females. I could better see where I

fit into God's big story, not only as a human, but as a woman. Benckhuysen introduced me to amazing women who used their positions and personalities to further God's kingdom on earth. Women's voices have often been ignored in the Church, but this book gave these historical voices a platform to speak to the church today. Their significant offerings are there for us to listen to, reflect and grow from. Our group discussions were really important because they allowed us to engage deeper with the ideas brought



A Zoom Conversation with Dr. Amanda Benckhuysen

forth in the book. We could criticize and question the perspectives, and we could make connections to our own lives. Being able to meet Amanda was incredible as well—I was inspired at how she never tried arguing a point or perspective, but instead emphasized the importance of understanding different perspectives. She showed how passionate she is about having Christian women's voices heard and she encouraged me to look to the women before me to learn more about Christ's purpose for my life.

# LOOKING TO CONNECT?

AIDAN ELLIOT- 4TH YEAR - HISTORY



Hi, My name is Aidan Elliot and I am fourth year Undergraduate student at uOttawa and a long time attendee of the Ottawa

Campus Chaplaincy events. We have decided to extend our programming over the summer months which will include a mixture of evenings devoted to different activities like games, baking, and spiritual discussions. (Don't worry, I don't bake at all either, but I'm up for trying!) If restrictions open up, we look forward to some picnics and hikes as well. No matter where you are in your faith, you are welcome to wonder with us. We will have faith discussions peppered in

throughout the activities to help us explore God's call on young adults in a University context. We are a Christian group, but welcome **ALL** who would like to explore faith, vocation, and what it means to care for a community. The "**OCC Summer Hangouts**" are hospitable spaces to ask questions with a community that can ponder alongside you. Our evenings are for university age (18-25) students from across Ottawa or abroad, so feel free to invite your friends if you feel like they would be interested! If you're starting university in Ottawa in the fall, we'd love to meet you and maybe our hangouts will help the transition feel less daunting. Personally, the summer of 2020 was a rough one, and I recognize the importance of how a community (even one through a

**Tuesdays 7pm**  
@SummerhangoutsOCC

screen) can go along way to knowing that you aren't alone! Join us on **Tuesday evenings at 7pm** all summer long. You can find us and the zoom link on Facebook by searching **OCC Summer Hangouts** or go to the OCC website for more info. We look forward to meeting you.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The OCC has a YouTube channel where you can view many of the talks and discussions we had with our weekly Feast & Faith Guests this past year. Some Guests included:

**Dr. John Sumara** - Retired Psychology Professor Acadia University

**Dr. Benita Wolters-Fredlund** - Dean of Arts at Calvin University

**Luke Wilson** - President of A Rocha Canada

**Search: Ottawa Campus Chaplaincy to View**

## FRIENDS OF THE CHAPLAINCY BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

Our work is supported through churches and regional ministry organizations, but those funds only cover two-thirds of our budget. Each year we rely on Friends of the Chaplaincy to partner with us out of their desire to see students flourish in their Christian vision and calling. We'd love for you to consider becoming a monthly donor. The easiest way to set up your monthly donations (or give a once-a-year gift) is by going to our website and clicking on the link that says **Donate Now**. We thank-you for your prayers and financial support!

**OCRCAMPUSCHAPLAINCY.ORG**

ALL CHEQUES AND OTHER GIFTS CAN BE SENT TO:  
OCC – 1475 MERIVALE RD.  
OTTAWA, ON – K2E 5N9