



OTTAWA CAMPUS CHAPLAINCY

ENGAGING CHRIST, COMMUNITY & CULTURE

A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE CHAPLAIN

by Ryan Farrell, Chaplain

In this edition of the newsletter, you will walk a week in my shoes as the OCC Chaplain. You will also get to explore some exciting highlights from our student leaders. Enjoy this glimpse into what God is doing on campus!

MONDAYS

Mondays are my day to catch up on emails, craft sermons or Feast & Faith reflections, have coffee with ministry colleagues, crunch the numbers for the budget, grocery shop for Feast & Faith, and design newsletters! (Yes, I am writing this on a Monday!) Mondays also offer uninterrupted time to read, imagine, or walk around campus and pray. I know Mondays aren't popular, but I kind of like them because I can step back and listen more carefully to God.



**PRAY FOR RYAN TO LEAD
HUMBLY AND WISELY AND
TO LIVE OUT CHRIST'S LOVE
ON THE CAMPUSES**



FALL 2023 NEWSLETTER

MONDAYS AT NOON

Student
Leader
Meeting

Every two weeks the student leaders and I gather for lunch to share how we're doing and provide updates on our work or studies. These rich conversations provide opportunities to explore how the Spirit is moving in our lives. It's a highlight of my week to witness God growing these Kingdom leaders!



Once a month a small group of students meet for *Hearts Exchanged* to discuss the history of Indigenous people in Canada, colonialism, and Christianity. For more information: <https://www.crcna.org/hearts-exchanged>

MONDAY EVENINGS



HEARTS EXCHANGED



I grew up in Franklin, Tennessee, and I am currently studying International Studies and Modern Languages. This year, I am leading Christian Reformed Church's Indigenous Reconciliation program called *Hearts Exchanged* where I am learning how to take a backseat in conversations. Simultaneously, at the Pub Nights, I am growing in my ability to lead reflective dialogues. One of my favourite events this semester was our OCC meeting on Halloween: Mocktails and Mock-debates. We had a lot of fun sparking friendly dialogue on theological topics, eating food, and dressing up.



PRAY FOR THE STUDENT INTERNS

Nelani



Feast & Faith TUESDAYS

Tuesdays are a big day at OCC! Sometimes I arrive early in the day to chop veggies and throw something into the slow cooker. Other weeks I pick up food from our incredible volunteers. Around 4pm our space becomes a flurry of activity as we set the table and open the doors for our shared meal.

We feed dinner to 25-30 students, and many remain afterwards for an exploration of the Christian faith. Some weeks we interview individuals in various fields about the intersection of their faith and vocation. Other weeks we reflect on big topics/questions or facilitate a creative time of communal prayer.

uOttawa Multi-Faith Office

Thursday afternoons I can be found in the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy Office at uOttawa. Students drop by for pastoral care, prayer, or a listening ear. New this year is a small food pantry where hungry students can stock up on some snacks and basic food supplies.



THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

PRAY FOR BOTH UOTTAWA & CARLETON AS THEY MAKE SPACE FOR STUDENTS' SPIRITUAL WELLNESS & RELIGIOUS NEEDS



Kristen

"I'm an international student from Kingston, Jamaica. This is my final semester studying political science at uOttawa. I have been helping create the schedule of speakers and topics for Feast & Faith, and finding

new ways to inspire our diverse community to live out the hope of the gospel. I've been really inspired by the beauty that exists all over creation. From dying leaves displaying glorious colours before falling to the ground during autumn, to the triumph of the human spirit despite experiences of disaster and suffering. All these traces of beauty have been strengthening my faith, and reminding me of God's kindness, presence, and providence at every turn. My prayer as an intern is to be a conduit of this beauty in the lives of my peers.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

OCC at Carleton U

On Wednesday afternoons I hop on the bus to Carleton University. As a volunteer chaplain with their Spirituality Centre, I have access to an office and gathering space where I can meet with Carleton students. Late in the afternoon, a small group of students gathers for snacks, discussion about the ups and downs of student life, and a short reflection on a Bible passage. Other campus ministries are serving the Carleton campus well, so lately I've been trying to discern what OCC might have to offer the students on our neighbouring campus.

Pub & Film Nights

THURSDAY EVENINGS

Once a month we host a Pub Night featuring a theological topic or philosophical musing to mull over while enjoying some pub grub. This is a safe atmosphere for students to explore big questions in community. Every two weeks on Thursdays a new group called *Evangelion: Faith x Anime* watches a Japanese-style animated movie or TV series together and discusses the way God might be speaking through these wildly popular “secular” films. Stay tuned for a feature about this initiative and its student leader, Adrian, in our spring 2024 newsletter!



PRAY FOR A SPIRITUAL HUNGER IN THE STUDENTS TO INTEGRATE THEIR PASSIONS AND STUDIES WITH THEIR CHRISTIAN WALK AND TO SEE GOD IN ALL THINGS

PRAY FOR STUDENTS OF NO FAITH, ANOTHER FAITH, OR A STRUGGLING FAITH AND FOR US TO JOURNEY WITH THEM INTO THE GOSPEL WITH CHRIST'S COMPASSION



THE REST OF THE TIME



The time in-between all these great events is spent planning for what's ahead, preparing liturgy and preaching at partner churches on Sundays, and meeting students or school staff for coffee to chat about following Jesus. I also have a ministry mentor and a spiritual director who are regular touch points in my calendar.



“My name is Oghenefejiro Mejire but I just go by Fejiro. I am a second year in International Development and Globalization with a Minor in Economics. I'm an international student from Nigeria and I have been a member of OCC for about a year. I love being here because it gives me the opportunity to meet with likeminded people, grow in my faith and experience God in a new, ecumenical way. As a Feast and Faith intern, I am in charge of contacting volunteer cooks as well as coordinating other volunteer roles for the evening. The most important ability I have gained through OCC is how to listen. I have come to understand that you do not have to ‘fix’ anyone's problem. It is okay (and sometimes preferred) to just listen and give comfort if needed. OCC has helped me grow both as an individual and as a Christian.

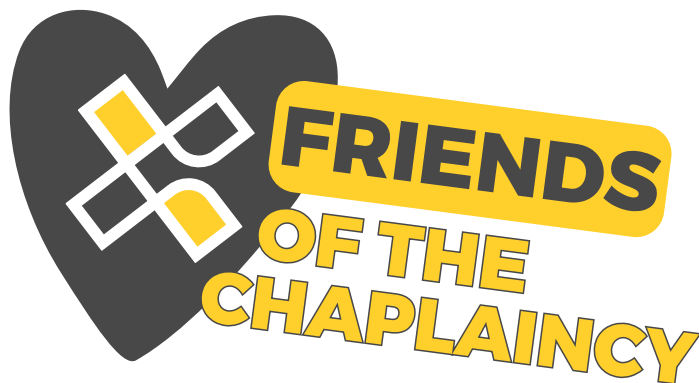
Fejiro & Eyinoju



“My name is Eyinojuoluwa Orolugbagbe, but you can call me Eyinoju. I am also an international student from Nigeria! I am currently in my 2nd year studying International Development and Globalization. I've been a part of OCC for almost a year and a half, and now I have the opportunity to serve as a Feast and Faith Intern. As an Intern, I've come to learn the different ways a leader can serve their community. Being at OCC means being surrounded by people who share a common interest of growing their relationship with God. I'm also learning from others about how to be more confident in expressing and sharing my Christian faith. This little community is an important part of my journey in Christ.

**INTERESTED IN COOKING AT FEAST & FAITH?
EMAIL FEJIRO + EYINOJU AT FEASTANDFAITH@GMAIL.COM!**

Stacey



Interested in giving?

Financial support is crucial to our presence on campus. Please consider giving. **Ways to give:**

1. **E-transfer and/or Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)** to become a monthly donor. E-transfers can be made to ocrccbookkeeping@gmail.com and you can use the same email to set up PAR.
2. **Canada Helps** via our website. Click on the "Donate" tab or the link below.
3. **Cheque** via snail mail.

OTTAWACAMPUSCHAPLAINCY.ORG/DONATE

Cheques / gifts can be sent to:
OCC - 1475 MERIVALE RD.
OTTAWA, ON, K2E 5N9



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I am from the small town of Spencerville. I've been working through an honours program in Communication. For the past couple of months I have managed the chaplaincy social media and the student newsletter. It brings me so much joy to connect with students and brighten up their week through the ridiculous jokes I'm somehow been allowed to sneak into my emails. Hospitality is something I have always cared about deeply. Participating in a community that takes their welcome seriously has not only grown my respect for the work that goes into creating a comfortable space, but has also taught me how important this work is. I look forward to meeting with other students. I love seeing how they communicate with Christ and how He speaks back.

Check out Stacey's work on our social media:



Belonging



Care



Discipleship



Leadership



We are an ecumenically-minded Christian ministry supported by the Christian Reformed and Presbyterian churches.



A **community** of friendship, faith, hospitality and imagination for **uOttawa** and **Carleton students!**

ottawacampuschaplaincy.org

