

**2015 – 2016**  
**WILLMAR AREA UNITED**  
**CAMPUS MINISTRIES**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

**BY JEFF SCHMITZ**  
**UCM CHAPLAIN**

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## **Mission Statement:**

“Willmar Area United Campus Ministries will communicate with students of Ridgewater College, proclaiming the magnificence of God and His grace through the person and work of Jesus Christ.”

## **Our Goal:**

“On this two-year campus, we will prepare students to respond to God’s call, to live the truth of Jesus Christ, equipping them to live by faith.”

**Willmar Area United Campus Ministries**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**Monday, June 6, 2016**

1. Welcome and Prayer
2. Voting Representatives
3. Agenda Approval
4. Chairperson's Report
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Willmar United Campus Ministry  
2016 Annual Report  
Board Chairman's Report

The United Campus Ministry board oversees the UCM Chaplain while providing accountability, encouragement, as well as oversight of ministry.

The board has been very pleased with the 2015-2016 school year. It was Jeff Schmitz's fourth year as chaplain and the work he continues to do in and through this place has been wonderful. There has been tremendous growth again this year. The ministry center is seeing more and more students come out, both familiar faces as well as others who have never visited before. The weekly free meals are doing extremely well. Meals have become so popular that some days the team has to come up with unique ways to fit all the students around tables. The Food Shelf continues to be a success as well and is now staffed by students.

The relationships that are growing through this ministry are incredible. With each meal, students see the love and security that is being offered by Jeff and the wonderful volunteers who come through. Simple conversations lead to prayer requests which opens doors for God to move. The student led ministries and groups that met throughout the year were a blessing to all who attended. Students are continuing to step out of their comfort zones and are becoming more involved in the community by joining small groups, going to young adult gatherings, and some are attending churches regularly. The board would like to extend a huge thank you to all the churches in our community who have opened their doors and their hearts to these students. I can't say it any better than one student who has become a major part of the ministry, "Love brings people to God. Love brought me to God." Thank you again for showing God's love.

Currently the ministry is most financially stable it has been since Jeff arrived four years ago. As you know the ministry blesses students twice a week with a free home cooked meal. In addition, the ministry has provided mattresses and bedding for students in need as well as some clothing. This year, with all the diligent work Jeff goes through fundraising and the generous gifts and donations from churches and individuals, the ministry was able to take another step forward and give to a few students who were struggling with their finances. We believe God is calling this ministry to become even more financially able. Our trust is in the Lord to provide all the necessary resources including the wisdom and favor we need to take the proper steps in growing his ministry here. We ask that you join with us in prayer and even ask how you can be involved in helping this ministry.

We are looking forward to another great school year and, as a board, will continue to encourage and support Jeff. He is living out the call God has given him for this ministry. As Jeff continues in his efforts to preach Christ crucified and risen as the only way for salvation, pray with us that he will also continue to be a light to the students at Ridgewater College.

The board is ever grateful for the support of this ministry by individuals and churches and we would ask for that continued support of United Campus Ministry.

Trusting in Him,  
Kristen Westby  
UCM Board Chairperson

10:47 AM  
 06/06/16  
 Accrual Basis

**Willmar Area United Campus Ministry**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 June 2015 through May 2016

|                                   | <u>Jun '15 - May 16</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>    |                         |
| <b>Income</b>                     |                         |
| Contributed support               |                         |
| Churches                          | 29,085.13               |
| Individual contributions          | 7,630.00                |
| Legacies & bequests               | 88.42                   |
| Total Contributed support         | <u>36,803.55</u>        |
| Interest Income                   | 0.93                    |
| <b>Total Income</b>               | <u>36,804.48</u>        |
| <b>Expense</b>                    |                         |
| Ministry Expense                  | 266.62                  |
| Misc expenses                     |                         |
| Insurance -Liability              | 844.00                  |
| Student Retreats/Workshops/Prog   | 60.00                   |
| Misc expenses - Other             | 0.00                    |
| Total Misc expenses               | <u>904.00</u>           |
| Occupancy expenses                |                         |
| Rent, occupancy                   | 7,000.00                |
| Total Occupancy expenses          | <u>7,000.00</u>         |
| Professional Fees                 | 200.00                  |
| Salaries & related expenses       |                         |
| Payroll Expenses                  | 19,300.00               |
| Payroll taxes                     | 1,381.17                |
| Total Salaries & related expenses | <u>20,681.17</u>        |
| Student Assistance                | 1,428.51                |
| <b>Total Expense</b>              | <u>30,480.30</u>        |
| <b>Net Ordinary Income</b>        | <u>6,324.18</u>         |
| <b>Net Income</b>                 | <u><u>6,324.18</u></u>  |

A complete view of donations and expenses is available in a separate financial report with each donation and expense detailed there.

## Campus Food Shelf Report

About half way through the school year, we switched from weekly to monthly for a student's use of the food shelf. The result was that the students could find a better balance of food each month.

The PTK and Multi-Cultural clubs were integral, once again, in supplying volunteers for staffing the shelf, and they were great workers. They were blessed and blessed the students that came through to utilize the shelf.

### 2016 Ridgewater College Food Shelf Yearly Totals

| Month        | Adults | Children | 65+ | Total<br>Individuals | Total<br>House<br>Holds | Regular<br>Monthly<br>Service | Second<br>Service | 2016<br>First Visit | Unique<br>Client | Distributed<br>Food | Distributed<br>Non Food |
|--------------|--------|----------|-----|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| January      | 59     | 4        | -   | 63                   | 57                      | 57                            | -                 | 32                  | 35               | 326                 | 6                       |
| February     | 30     | -        | -   | 30                   | 30                      | 30                            | -                 | 2                   | 2                | 627                 | 1                       |
| March        | 37     | -        | -   | 37                   | 37                      | 37                            | -                 | 9                   | 9                | 680                 | 3                       |
| April        | 24     | 2        | -   | 26                   | 23                      | 23                            | -                 | -                   | -                | 407                 | 8                       |
| May          | 13     | -        | -   | 13                   | 13                      | 13                            | -                 | -                   | -                | 256                 | 9                       |
| June         |        |          |     |                      |                         |                               |                   |                     |                  |                     |                         |
| July         |        |          |     |                      |                         |                               |                   |                     |                  |                     |                         |
| August       |        |          |     |                      |                         |                               |                   |                     |                  |                     |                         |
| September    |        |          |     |                      |                         |                               |                   |                     |                  |                     |                         |
| October      |        |          |     |                      |                         |                               |                   |                     |                  |                     |                         |
| November     |        |          |     |                      |                         |                               |                   |                     |                  |                     |                         |
| December     |        |          |     |                      |                         |                               |                   |                     |                  |                     |                         |
| Year To Date |        |          |     |                      |                         |                               |                   |                     |                  |                     |                         |
| Total        | 163    | 6        | -   | 169                  | 160                     | 160                           | -                 | 43                  | 46               | 2,296               | 27                      |
| Average      | 33     | 1        | -   | 14                   | 32                      | 25                            | -                 | 9                   | 15               | 459                 | 5                       |

## **Chaplain's Report**

As chaplain for WAUCM, I get to do so many cool things with so many cool students. The ministry outreach has really made an impact on so many lives.

I would like to recognize First Presbyterian, First Covenant (specifically Heidi Ahmann and Rocky Hovda), Kerkhoven Lutheran, Vinje Lutheran Church, First Reformed Church of Willmar, Willmar Christian Reformed Church, First Presbyterian Church of Willmar, Dan Goetzman and Dairy Queen, Val Swanson, Kim Holmgren and her family, Mitch and Sara Barber, Marilyn Downs, Missy Leuthold, Bette Schmitz, Dana Arends and so many more that helped out with the meals that we served here. There are dozens of people involved in this process.

Not only did we have help at these meals from the church community, but we also had help from work-study students. The agreement with the school changed this year, but Harrison Korkor and Cole Gau were great as workers and as Christian students serving in the Center.

As far as our non-profit, 501c3 status, it's still up in the air. I gathered all of the information that the IRS was requesting, and had Cathy, our accountant, send it in last fall. It has been radio silence since then, which is incredibly disappointing and somewhat limiting as far as our finances. Despite this, we became debt free last July, and we increased my hours from 20 to 25 per week during the year. This is a great step forward. While I plan on being here for a long term, I want the position to be secure financially and structurally in case of emergency or a different calling. This allows WAUCM to seek out qualified people and to compensate their efforts in the future.

For the fourth straight year, we hosted a Thanksgiving Day meal, and around 20 students came through the building during the course of the holiday, watching football and eating turkey, mashed potatoes, pies, and the usual holiday fixings. Similar to last year, some other young adults and their families from the Joppa community came out to help, and that created a great atmosphere for the holiday. Something special happens when we can celebrate together, even when it's not our nuclear families. The students were blessed by this, and the leftovers.

As for the studies this school year, we continued our Women's Study with Auna Peck, I think that the year went really well. Auna was a great leader, and she had occasional help from Paige Romney, both being involved at Joppa. The handful of students that came through each Monday night really developed a bond as they studied scripture and did a few fun events. We also saw some of those young women attending Joppa from time to time, so they were growing and getting plugged in through multiple venues.

With the increase of students visiting the Center, and the resulting increased demand on my time, I decided not to form another study. Rather, I encouraged students to be involved with various young adult ministries in town. This saw students be involved in a group at Rocky Hovda's, the AG Church's young adult ministry, and Joppa, as well as YATEC. There was also a Bible study started by a few of the Ag Department students which was drawing nearly 14 people a week and looks to continue this year, as well. This saved valuable prep time for me, so that I could utilize my efforts better in relationship building and reaching to students who were yet to be reached. There are students out here that the local church has yet to connect with, and my focus is to help be a connection through the important element of service and relationship.

Those efforts look like waking up to bring students in to play basketball a few times a week. It looks like driving students to their job, or bringing them to church. It looks like the occasional trip to Walmart or a doctor's appointment. It looks like a trip to the airport.

It looks like prayer during the first week of class for the homesick student. It looks like church and brunch after with two or three students each week. It looks like lunch with the student who just lost his father and needs to process things through his tears. It looks like delivering a bed to the student that sleeps on the floor. It looks like skipping my own family's Thanksgiving meal to create a family environment for the out of town students. It looks like hosting Superbowl party. It looks like having the most diverse table at the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast. It looks like working with the student with schizophrenia when the school wants nothing to do with him. It looks like helping save the house of a student that was in a horrible car accident. It looks like visiting medical facilities. It looks like 3:00am mornings and occasional 3:00am evenings.

It looks like being available for whatever a need is, whenever a need is.

All in all, it was an incredible year. I love what I get to do.

Thank you for your support.

God bless,

Jeff Schmitz  
320-905-0345  
*NoTimeToBeCool.com*

*The following was a post on Facebook by a former Ridgewater student. His father was one of the students who sued the school in the 80's, which is why we're across the street today with the Ministry Center. This response was brought about after David was kind of verbally attacked on Facebook regarding his views on how Christians should respond in matters like the Target bathroom controversy.*

*The ministry we do makes a difference. It helps feed into lives like David's. I'm proud of the man he's becoming and how far he's already come. God makes new creations, many times despite our efforts. When we partner with God, like we try to do at the Ministry Center, sometimes we get to see fruit like this. He's since partnered with me and what I do, donating thousands of dollars to UCM this past year.*

*He's blessed my life with his willingness to seek God.*

*I spoke with him on the phone and have permission to share this:*

Since you asked, yes it was, and in spite of everything that was leveled against my family, I became a Christian. My father sued the community college for allowing the religion and life center because they had a rental agreement that was indefinitely free. A government building was allowing the religion and life center to rent a government building for free. It catered to Christians only. He involved the ACLU in a first amendment case against the college, which he won.

I was a child at the time, and didn't even know who Jesus was. I was raised without religion. Suddenly, people I didn't know were throwing bricks at our house in the middle of the night, vandalizing our property, calling and threatening my family's lives... Imagine being a child and receiving death threats from supposedly loving Christians; Imagine walking down the lane to get the mail, opening it, and receiving death threats. What do you think that does to a child? Imagine going to school, for my entire time in the Willmar school system, where 'good christian' parents prevented their children from playing or associating with me because of 'the sins of the father' being passed down to the son. Imagine being told and taunted every day of your adolescent life being told you are going to hell. My father still has a rather large file folder of all the threats we received.

Any wonder why as a child I had a very different idea of what it meant to be Christian? I didn't want anything to do with Christians, I had learned that they were the most judgmental and hateful people I had ever encountered.

It was only after I graduated from college and began work as a nurse and encountered the elderly facing death did I experience a more loving sense of what it meant to be Christian. Even before I was a believer I would pray with my patients, knowing the comfort it brought them. I also met some wonderful Christian co-workers who actually lived their faith, were willing to answer my questions, and help me through understanding what Christianity and Christ's coming was. I experienced God's love for the first time, after spending three decades of my life in a supposedly Christian community. How shocking is it that I could live that long in a town with thirty or more churches without knowing what Christianity really was? It took that long to learn that the people who threatened my family with death, and children who taunted me with eternal damnation were not examples of what Christianity was supposed to be.

I began volunteering for Hospice to play the piano and pray over the dying, where I met the woman who would be my wife, the daughter of the owner of a local Christian bookstore. You know when they say the Lord works in mysterious ways? Well, if you would have asked me when I was 20 if I would marry the daughter of a Christian bookstore owner I would have laughed. But God has a plan for everyone.

My God, Jesus, made it clear his first commandment is to love, and my profession and ethics demand that I help those in need regardless of their faith, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, color of their skin, or what have you.

Are you familiar with the Ridgewater campus ministry? The one that replaced the religion and life center? I am friends with the wonderful, God-fearing, kind man who runs it, who was instrumental in helping me build my faith from literally nothing. I have since helped to support his mission, because many of those college students he ministers to cannot even rely on three meals a day and he has reached so many people that have not been approached by the church. Jeffrey Alan, thank you for everything you did for me and for everything you do. You put up with my questions and taught me about God's love.

Jackie, if you insist on judging me by the sins of my father, you are welcome to. That's your choice. God's gift to you is free will. But in spite of all that hatred that was leveled at a family and a young child, God was able to break through and show me grace; and that very same God tells me to love, not judge others as unclean or unworthy.

And for what it's worth, though my father was young and headstrong at the time, decades later he has said if he had the chance to do it over, he wouldn't have done it. Not because he didn't believe it was the right thing to do, but because of the damage and ostracism it cost his children.

Fire, brimstone, and refusing service won't bring people to God. Love brings people to God. Love brought me to God.

## **Future Needs**

I will keep some of the needs similar to last year. We need board representation. The long-term sustainability of this ministry needs people to oversee it in the event that I'm no longer chaplain. I'm mortal, I'm mobile and I'm fallible. I don't want this ministry to revolve around me, and I want to see it be sustainable in the event I am called elsewhere or something happens.

As for being on a board, there are a few possibilities:

- 1) **United Campus Ministries** - We meet every month or two. We discuss the ministry and where it's at. Unfortunately, the board is often busy, and it's been really hard to get everyone together. Currently, our board meets, but I kind of have to chase after the board to set things up.
- 2) **Friends of Campus Ministry Board** - They oversee the use of the building and maintaining the property. The building is paid for, and two ministries (UCM and Lutheran Campus Ministry) occupy the space, paying rent through a monthly fee. The Friends Board consists of a few representatives of each ministry so that everyone has a say in how the building is maintained and updated. We have representation here, but the board has been inconsistent with carrying out its duties of maintaining the building and meeting.
- 3) **Connect with Youth For Christ** – This is an option I've pitched multiple times, but it's met resistance from people outside of our board, and realistically outside the decision making process. This option would allow me to have a secure 501c3, an established board, and the ability to fundraise for one source, as opposed to multiple sources. It would also allow for more input from more people involved in ministry.

## **BYLAWS OF WILLMAR AREA UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRIES PREAMBLE**

We, the Christian churches in and around Willmar and West Central Minnesota, separate from but cooperating with the Roman Catholic and Lutheran Churches, and/or other members of the Friends of Campus Ministries, Inc., at Ridgewater College, agree to the following bylaws and believe:

**II Timothy 3:16** All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness.

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

**John 3:36** Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

**Romans 10:9-10** ...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

**Acts 1:8** ...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

### **ARTICLE I – NAME**

The name of this organization is “Willmar Area United Campus Ministries.” (Hereafter referred to as “organization” or “WAUCM”)

### **ARTICLE II – PURPOSE**

The purpose of this organization is to minister to the students and faculty at Ridgewater College.

### **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

The membership of this organization shall be those Christian churches, as designated in the preamble, who choose to cooperate in the Friends of Campus Ministry, as expressed in ARTICLE II and who support the organization. Each member church shall have a maximum two votes at any business meeting. The voting representatives are to be designated at the beginning of the business meeting.

### **ARTICLE IV – WAUCM BOARD**

**Sec. 1.** The WAUCM Board shall be composed of eight elected members and the chaplain who represents this organization on campus. Other than the chaplain, not more than two may be from the same member church. They shall be elected at the Annual Business meeting and begin their term of office July 1.

**Sec. 2.** Each term shall be 4 years, with a maximum of two terms. After serving 8 years, a Board member cannot be re-nominated until one year lapses.

**Sec. 3.** The WAUCM Board shall serve as consultant to the chaplain in matters too urgent to wait for a regular or special business meeting.

**Sec. 4.** The WAUCM Board shall serve as Nominating Committee to the Annual Business meeting.

**Sec. 5.** The WAUCM Board shall present a proposed budget to the Annual Business meeting.

**Sec. 6.** Unexpired terms shall be filled by appointment of the WAUCM Board until the next annual meeting at which time the appointed member will be voted on.

### **ARTICLE V – OFFICERS**

**Sec. 1.** The officers shall be from member churches and shall be four (4) in number: a president; a vice-president; a secretary; and a treasurer. All terms of office begin July 1 and the WAUCM Board shall establish the respective positions at an organizational meeting in May following the Annual Business meeting.

**Sec. 2.** The president shall preside at all regular and special business meetings of the organization.

**Sec. 3.** The vice-president shall be responsible to serve in the absence of the president.

**Sec. 4.** The secretary shall keep a list of all member and potential member churches, as agreed upon by those present at the Annual Business Meeting. Notice of all business meetings shall be sent in writing to all member churches, by the secretary, not less than seven (7) days before such meetings. Such notice shall specify location, time, and general nature of the business to be transacted. The secretary shall keep a true and complete record of the preceding of all meetings. Potential member churches may also be notified.

**Sec. 5.** The treasurer shall keep a true and complete record of the treasury; collect funds; pay bills in accordance with the budget or as directed by the WAUCM Board. The treasurer will submit an annual financial report. It shall be from annual meeting to annual meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VI – FRIENDS OF CAMPUS MINISTRY BOARD**

**Sec. 1.** The two (2) representatives on the Friends of Campus Ministry Board shall each be from a member church, with no more than one from the same church.

**Sec. 2.** The representatives shall be members of the WAUCM and shall be designated by the WAUCM Board at their organizational meeting. The designations are for a 3-year term.

#### **ARTICLE VII – CHAPLAIN**

**Sec. 1.** The chaplain shall be appointed by the WAUCM Board and shall be approved by the member churches at the Annual Business Meeting. The chaplain shall be a person in good standing in a member church of the organization.

**Sec. 2.** The chaplain shall represent the member churches of this organization in the Friends of Campus Ministry. In ministering to students and faculty through counseling, prayer, and in all ways open to him/her, the chaplain shall pursue a truly “united ministry” that represents Jesus Christ.

**Sec. 3.** The Chaplain shall fulfill those responsibilities as defined by the WAUCM Board and submit a written ministry report to the WAUCM Board at least monthly.

**Sec. 4.** The Chaplain shall submit a written annual report.

**Sec. 5.** The Secretary shall maintain these reports.

**Sec. 6.** The Chaplain shall be employed from June 1 to May 31.

#### **ARTICLE VIII – FISCAL YEAR AND MEETINGS**

**Sec. 1.** The fiscal year shall be June 1 – May 31.

**Sec. 2.** The Annual Business Meeting shall be held in June, at a time and place selected by the WAUCM Board.

**Sec. 3.** Special meetings may be called by the WAUCM Board, being careful to give the reasons for the meeting.

**Sec. 4.** The WAUCM Board shall meet monthly to have direct input into the ministry of the organization.

#### **ARTICLE IX – QUORUM**

A quorum shall consist of those voting members present at any duly called business meeting.

#### **ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS**

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the voting members present at any duly called business meeting.

*(amended on June 15, 2014.)*

## **Board Members**

### **Chairperson**

Kristen Westby  
Litchfield, MN 55355  
(C) 320-979-1614

### **Vice Chairperson**

Jenea Lien  
11408 Jackson Ave.  
Kansas City, MO 64137  
(C): 763-218-1756

### **Treasurer/Secretary**

Jan Turner  
3781 Cty Rd 27 NW  
Willmar, MN 56201  
(C): 320-220-2214

Bill Oakleaf  
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