

Momentum Campus Ministries



Our Mission

Be an incredible community where people experience Jesus and His transformation

Our Strategy

Build Community
Build Disciples
Build Leaders



We have just finished another semester and we had an amazing time living out our mission on our campuses this term! God has been doing so much and we have been blown away at His goodness, His faithfulness and His power to transform lives. This has definitely been our most fruitful ministry season ever, and we are reaching more young people than ever before. We are excited to share with you some of what God has been doing as well as some testimonies from our students and some pictures of our incredible community. Thanks for taking time to read this update and for all you do to support us in our mission!



Ministry Activity

FALL SEMESTER (SEPT-DEC 2022)

Here is a quick snapshot of our mission work on campus this semester. Numbers refer to the amount of groups unless noted as people.

- Huddle Discipleship Groups (25)
- The Well Worship (40-60 people)
- The Well Small Groups (3)
- Sunday Socials @ Geneva (20-35 people)
- Grad and Beyond Life Groups (3)
- Ministry Houses (3)
- Baptisms (2)
- FIT Team (Ministry to First Years)
- Prayer Groups
- International Ministry
- SLC Kingston Support Groups (11)
- 1-1 Mentoring and Discipleship
- Leadership Development
- Faculty Bible Study
- Holy-ish Bookworms Book Club



A CLOSER LOOK AT SOME OF OUR BIGGER PROGRAMS

Huddles

Huddles are a big part of how we work to fulfill our mission on campus. Huddles are discipleship groups of 4-5 people who are learning to follow Jesus, to listen to the Spirit, and to live out God's mission in their everyday lives. We see so much transformation through huddles and it is always so exciting to see young adults becoming passionate followers of Jesus.

(<https://www.genevahouse.ca/huddles>)

The Well

The Well is our young adult worship and small group gathering every Wednesday night during the semester at Bethel Church. We have 3 main young adult worship teams and they are shepherded by two amazing worship pastors - Will Walker and Rachel Mallory. Our small groups are designed to reach both Christian and non-Christians and this semester they included: The Big Question Discussion Series, The Thinking Series, Psalm 23: Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table, How to Unhurry, and our international ministry's English Conversation Club ,

(<https://www.genevahouse.ca/events>)

Sunday Socials

One of our biggest community building events before Covid was Soup Supper. As we adapted to health guidelines during the pandemic, Soup went down the drain and it flowed into 2 separate programs - The Well (Worship and Small Groups on Wednesdays) and Sunday Socials. Sunday Socials are community building events every weekend where students come to have fun and build relationships. They are a great place for students to make friends and to bring their non-Christian friends to a space where they can experience how fun and amazing Christian community can be.

Grad and Beyond

Grad and Beyond (G&B) is another major part of our ministry and it includes over 60 grad students and young professionals from the Kingston area. G&B is run in partnership with Bay Park and Bethel churches and members are part of 3 lifegroups, the Well, Huddles, and Houses.

(<https://www.genevahouse.ca/grad-students>)

Mentoring/1-1 Discipleship/Counselling

We invest deeply in the next generation. Our staff spend a lot of our time caring for and shepherding young adults through all sorts of challenges and experiences. And we love it. It is where we feel like we really make a difference. Seeing God transform lives brings us so much joy and gives us so much hope for the future.

Leadership

We have over 50 leaders on 5 campuses serving as team members, team leaders, student interns, staff interns, and staff. They are an incredible group of students, young professionals, and a few slightly older folk who are so gifted, and so passionate about God's mission.

Kingston Campuses Christmas Party



When we decided to bring back our tradition of having a Christmas party for our Kingston campuses, we had no idea it would be such a big event! More and more people kept signing up and in the end we had over 90 people come out. Students invited their friends and it became an amazing outreach event where we sang Christmas songs, shared the Gospel, and experienced incredible Christian community.



One person who came was a Muslim student. He was invited by a friend but at the last minute the friend couldn't make it. Julia noticed this student sitting alone at a table, so she sat with him and had a great conversation. It was small talk at first, but then he asked her about church and Christianity. He was very curious and had lots of questions. They talked for a long time and he told her that he is very interested in Christianity and he is looking for community, and he found that our community was so nice and so welcoming. We are excited to journey with this student and so many others who are discovering Jesus and His incredible community for the first time. God is always sending us amazing people to invest in and we love living out His love and His mission.



St Lawrence College (SLC)

New and exciting things continue to take place at SLC.

This semester we started a student club at our Kingston campus and it is led by an amazing leadership team of highly qualified students and staff who are all from India! You can see their picture to the top right. This team is both gifted in ministry and highly educated. Ashlesha and Jocelyn were dentists in India, and Melissa was a physiotherapist. This group of leaders make me feel physically and spiritually healthy whenever I am around them and we are so grateful God sent them to us!

In addition to running discipleship huddles at SLC, we have also created support groups designed to help students find caring community. Three of these groups are providing spaces for international students from Iran, the Ukraine, and Russia to find hope and healing. Here is what one student said about her experience:

I want to express my deep gratitude to you and St. Lawrence College for everything you have done for me and all Russian students.

You protected, supported us, and did not turn away from us at a time when the whole world was and continues to be against us. Meeting with you gave great support and hope that everything will be good again.

Thank you for what you did for us.

I'm very appreciated.

God is really blessing our ministry at SLC and we continue to have the favour of the administration. SLC Team leader Kathy serves as the Spiritual Care Facilitator of the 3 campuses and her position and program at SLC was nominated for the 2023 CICan Awards of Excellence, which recognize and promote excellence within Canadian colleges and institutes. The school is also providing more funding and staffing for Kathy's work, which is greatly valued on campus.

And we now have an on campus presence at SLC Brockville! Team leader Michelle Poelman has been meeting students and building relationships with staff at the school, and we are also working on developing partnerships with local churches so that we can have a shared campus mission for Brockville SLC! We are so excited to see how God is moving at SLC and are hoping to develop the Cornwall SLC campus one day soon.



SLC Ministry #'s

- 6 Huddles
- 11 support groups
 - (1 Iranian, 1 Ukrainian, 1 Russian)
- 95 Mentoring/Counselling Sessions
- 8 Class Presentations
- 5 Orientation events
- 59% of groups are international students

Loyalist College



In September we returned to on campus ministry at Loyalist and it was so exciting to be back! We have been meeting Friday afternoons for a huddle, Tuesday nights for a young adult ministry night with Maranatha Church, holding monthly young adult worship nights with local churches (called Within the Veil) and reaching out to students to provide pastoral care and mentoring (which is so desperately needed).



One of our biggest challenges is getting the word out about our ministry at Loyalist, as we are still unable to advertise on campus. But that is beginning to change, as is a bit of our focus. God has been opening a lot of doors for us with international students, most of whom are from India and we are sensing a call to invest more deeply into this group. So we decided to finish the semester with a Christmas banquet for international students, and behold, an exciting thing happened! The college let us advertise! And not only that, but we had an amazing dinner for 30 people.



The students who came were so grateful for our kindness. They told us that they don't have family here and this would be their only Christmas gathering. Some said, it is the first time they had experienced our community reaching out to them. And one of the Indian students who is a Hindu, reached out the next day to our team leader Wanda. This student ran into trouble with her landlord and no longer had a place to stay. Wanda took her in, cared for her and invited her to an event that night. This student was blown away by Wanda's love for her and at one point she asked Wanda why she was showing her kindness. Wanda told this student that she was a follower of Jesus and that is how Jesus treats people. The student was taken aback and said: what would have happened if I had not gone to the dinner last night? I don't know what God is doing in my life but I feel warmth and such kindness from you.



Isn't that an incredible story?! God is doing amazing things and we love being part of His mission to students.

One of the highlights of our ministry at Loyalist is the leadership team. We have an amazing group of leaders who are shepherding our mission to reach out to students. Unfortunately, two of this great team have recently stepped down because of job transitions. Pauline Kaldeway (huddle leader) is now working at a local Christian school and Mike Mathewson has become senior pastor at Trenton Wesleyan. Both are both big losses, and we want to thank them for their excellent service and leadership. But as we have learned in campus ministry, leadership transitions are to be expected, and God always sends us more phenomenal leaders. And so we are excited that Rev Mike Nanninga (Pastor of Discipleship at Maranatha CRC Belleville) has joined our team! Mike has been a long time supporter of campus ministry and it is exciting to see him on the front lines. But that is not all! SLC Kingston Staff Intern Ashlesha Gaur has also joined the Loyalist team to help us develop our ministry to Indian students. These are two strong additions that have really bolstered our team and we are excited to see how God will use them to build our ministry!

New Ministry Initiatives

Peterborough Campus Mission

This semester we welcomed Mike Broersma onto our staff team as our Peterborough campus mission team leader! Mike is the pastor of outreach and worship at Living Hope CRC in Peterborough and he and I have been investing in each other and dreaming of enhancing campus ministry in his city for a couple of years. We are excited to have Mike officially join our team and his role is to develop the mission to university and college students in Peterborough. He will be networking and partnering with churches and ministries to build a shared campus mission for this city which is home to Trent University and Fleming College. We are currently working toward starting a missional house for students and we are hoping this idea will be a home run! If you know of anyone who might be interested you can send them our way!

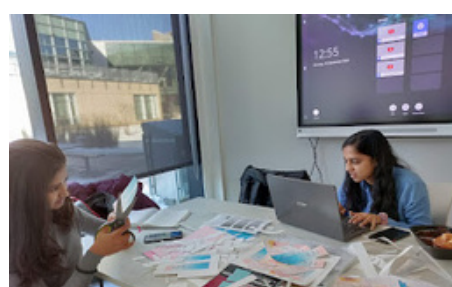


Mike Broersma, Dave Jones (Peterborough YFC), Ben Peltz (Trent Chaplain) and Steve Kooy

Ministry to Students from India

Just before covid, we started to notice something about the make up of our colleges - there seemed to be more and more international students coming. Our experience was backed up the Stats Canada which showed that in 2019/2020, international students made up about 30% of college campuses in Ontario (you can read more here: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/211124/dq211124d-eng.htm>).

Our projections are showing that this year at SLC, that number might be as high as 40% for the college in general, and in our huddles, about 60% are international students. We don't have specific numbers as to the breakdown of nationalities represented, but our experience is showing us that the majority of these students are from India. Our entire SLC student leadership team is made up of Indian students, and we are being exposed to a whole new culture and a new area of ministry. We are excited about this new areas of ministry and we are hoping to develop an effective model for reaching Indian students.



What our young adults are saying...

How did God shape you this semester?

- This fall I've started praying and reading the Bible more often. I've been trying to turn to God for strength and guidance, rather than relying only on my own strength. I have been trying to develop a more intimate relationship with God.
- God definitely reignited my passion for theology as well as reminded me of the importance of solid community.
- God has been teaching me a lot about how important it is to trust him. Trusting God even when life makes no sense helps me not to be as anxious about things. God has also been teaching me how to love others the way that 1 Corinthians 13 says to love.
- I really saw myself coming out of my shell. Last year I used to say that "I am awkward and shy" I put these labels on myself and I started to believe I was. I am so much more confident in my own skin because I believe in what God says about me. #GodConfidence over #Selfconfidence.
- I learned how to keep God in the centre of my marriage, and to lean on him and trust him during difficult times. When I was going through a lot of anxiety, my relationship with God grew because I was able to hear him and watch him give me peace.
- God gave me many new friends at Geneva and showed me that sometimes, going outside of your comfort zone is the best thing that you can do. I grew substantially in my confidence and learned to trust God more than I ever have before.
- God is constant during the changes of life
- Christian community is so important and there are so many people who care about students like myself at Queen's
- I think I've learned to open up more about my thoughts and feelings. It's often easier to process them with someone else.
- I think I saw where I can grow and it reminded me how hard leading is. I don't think I did enough to build a personal relationship with each guy in my group, and that convicts me. To be a Christ follower is hard, and you must consistently pick up your cross, deny yourself, and follow Him
- I learned that it is super important to stay connected with God even when you are busy
- This year God is teaching me to trust and rely on him I have been growing by casting my cares onto the lord.
- God taught me more about patience for others and where they are in their walk. I think sometimes I was expecting God to move in a certain way in others because he had moved in my life in that way. It was always so humbling and exciting to see how God continues to move in new and different ways. He is always so generous and so good, and often in ways that I wouldn't expect.



What our young adults are saying...

What went well with the groups you were involved in this semester?

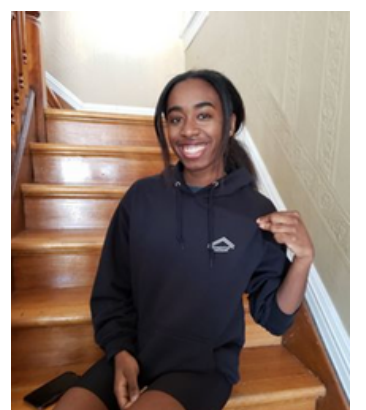
- I loved everything! The Well does exactly what it was intended to (midweek refreshment!) and I always appreciated having something to look forward to partway through my week. My grad and beyond group was amazing and I was so grateful to be surrounded by people my age.
- I love the well. The community in the small groups and the worship were both such a great mid week refocusing on Jesus.
- I love my huddle groups.
- All of the groups at Geneva are really good at fostering a caring and loving community. The Well and Sunday Social really helped me get involved and I felt very loved by everyone at those groups.
- Huddle: my group had a spot in the geneva house we could meet up every week which was helpful.
- FIT team: the document we had that explained how to ease into a conversation with your first year was helpful.
- SUNDAY SOCIALS: Having a chill time with great people to unwind and have fun
- People were open and honest, and very easy to talk to and share feelings with. I felt very comfortable in sharing and learning more about Christ.
- Everything! The discussions were smooth and everyone was incredibly welcoming.
- Great huddle group, became close with some really great guys who were able to support me in my journey this semester. They offered wisdom and guidance as I worked to grow in my relationship with God.
- I really enjoyed the Huddles. They are a great way to meet people and build Christian community while at university. One-on-one mentorship was really nice this semester too. I feel like I always had someone to hear me out while going through a lot of changes in first year. The Well small groups are very diverse and challenge people at all levels of faith to grow with God. I really like the topics offered in both semesters this year.
- It was a welcome and open space to talk with other Christians
- Attendance was excellent, the guys share well (considering they were guys), solid LAMP model, lots of encouragement and loving one another
- Huddle - we had some really good discussions!
- The Well: Great video, Steve and Julia were fantastic at introducing concepts and helping to facilitate conversation. I was welcomed with open arms immediately. Gorgeous singing and great band programming.
- Sunday Social: Immediately felt welcomed and loved in the environment. People so nice. Activities are very fun and perfect for engaging people with each other. It is an open environment which is amazing, I feel like everyone is happy to chat.
- Apologetics groups allowed for good conversations and were inviting for seekers.
- Missional house residents at Beverley house grew closer together and grew in our missional living together.
- The Well grew in size and reach, with lots of retention as well as new people joining each week.
- The well was wonderful to attend. I'm really grateful to have the option to go every week without a binding commitment



What our young adults are saying...

How did our campus ministry help you this year?

- I was completely blown away by the community I was able to join through Geneva and Momentum.
- Geneva has provided me with many people who have been a great support in my spiritual life.
- It helped me stay connected to other Christians while at school and helped me grow in my faith!
- Helped me to have an outlet and a group great people.
- My husband and I felt a good sense of community whenever we were involved in the campus ministry. We felt welcomed and listened to, and cared for.
- It helped me become connected with people outside of RMC in a positive community. I also grew substantially in my faith and was able to find a church to attend in Kingston.
- Get connected to Christian community
- Mentorship/accountability in good and hard seasons at university
- A nice exam care package (the cookie reminded me of home)
- Blessing of not having to pay for food/drinks during small gatherings
- It helped me connect! As someone who had few friends in Kingston entering the year, I now feel a bit more involved in the community
- COMMUNITY. Can't emphasize this enough, I love being around other Christians.
- The ministry surrounded me with amazing people who make me feel like I belong. There are many people in this community who call me out on my sin and encourage me using bible verses on how to improve and be a better image bearer of Christ.
- Helped me grow in my leadership and in my communication.
- I appreciated the connections I was able to make through the bonfire early on in the semester. Survivor night afforded me a safe and wholesome space to have fun and make friends



Words of Appreciation

Here are some more nice things our students and young professionals are saying about our community:

"I have been a member of the Geneva house community for three years. Due to COVID I was an online student for two of those years, which at times could be very isolating. Having Geneva House's weekly meeting where I could see friends and spend time with God helped me feel less isolated. In my second and third years, I started doing mentorship with Julia and living in one of the missional houses. My housemates became my best friends and some of my most cherished memories come from my interactions with them. I also love having Julia as my mentor, she is kind and wise and I always feel heard by her. She celebrates with me when things are going well and helps me when things are hard. I have found that one of the hardest parts of being a student is living away from home but being a part of Geneva House has made me feel at home right here in Kingston."

"Going into second year this year gave me the opportunity to serve more with Geneva, more specifically in a student intern roll. Through mentorship with Julia, leadership development with Steve, and support from the whole community I really felt like I was in a grace-filled environment that helped me grow and develop as a person and leader. My relationship with God has also continued to deepen this year, a result of being surrounded by likeminded Christians who support me, hold me accountable, answer questions openly, and live out their faith daily. Living in a missional house has given me deep friendships with people that I know will spur me on in my faith, and has encouraged me to live more missionally in my life by practicing our "house mission" together and serving our neighbours. I am so grateful for the loving community that I have in Geneva."

"Thank you so much for your kind and patient leadership this year. I am so grateful for your continuous wisdom in situations, but also for how well you empower students and hold us to a high standard of excellence. Thank you for investing so much time into me. I really have grown so much spiritually and emotionally. I hope you have a wonderful Christmas with your family!"

"This semester has been life changing for me, and it's not the first time that God has used SLC Momentum in my life. 2 years and one month ago was when you gave me my first ever Bible!! This semester, I gave a student his first bible. And you have truly shown me what it means to be a prayerful, faithful servant of the Lord, in really following through the love and caring that you share. You are more than a role model to me! This semester, you have just raised the bar of resilience and responsibility; and your leadership has been the constant motivation for me to keep going!"

"I don't know how I can thank you for the beautiful moments you created for me today; your patience, empathy, and that warm hug mean a lot to me. You are an angel, Kathy. You are more than an ordinary human. You were listening to me for almost one hour, and I know you carry all those negative words and stress just because you wanted me to get rid of them. Today you gave me a sense of talking to my mom. I felt better after talking with you. I could feel your pure emotion and you sent those good feelings from your kind heart to me. I have to thank you more than 100 times. every person has an angel in their life; you are an angel of my life."

"On behalf of our class, I would like to formally thank you for taking the time off from your busy schedule to come to the class and speak about the services available to the students thru the Spiritual Care Facilitator. I want you to know that I really appreciate you helping and supporting the students here in SLC. I believe most of my students have already reached out, joined a huddle, and booked an appointment with you. Believe me, I know because they would not stop raving about you. In fact, they sent me emails about it. As an Alumni, I can relate to some of the things they are going through, so I am thankful that you are here for them, as their well-being is very important to me. A lot of them have sent me emails about their predicament or circumstances, so I am truly grateful for your presentation about spiritual resilience and mental healing, and personal growth. "

Prayer Requests

Thank you for remembering us in your prayers. It means so much to us! If you would like to receive regular emails with specifics that you can pray about just sign up here: <https://forms.gle/h5YyNGAaThbj8vHm8>.

And here are some ways you can pray for us right now:

- Pray that we live out our mission effectively every day to be an incredible community where people experience Jesus and His transformation.
- Pray that students would become passionate followers of Jesus and effective Kingdom leaders.
- Pray for students struggling with emotional and mental health challenges.
- Pray for our ministry with international students - Indian, Ukrainian and Russian students.
- Pray for transformation, innovation, and multiplication.
- Pray that God would multiply huddles, houses, leaders, staff, funding.
- Pray for a house so we can start a men's missional house at Queen's.



Thank you!

Thank you so much for all you do to support us in our mission. So many lives are being changed, and as we close the semester, we thank God for His incredible work, and we thank you for being part of it! Thank you for your partnership in our mission to disciple the next generation! Your investment in us is having an eternal impact, and it is such an encouragement to us. If you would like to know more about what we do you can go to www.genevahouse.ca or www.momentumcampus.ca. And please help us by spreading the word about our ministry!

Steve Kooy
Momentum Campus Ministries Executive Director
182 Frontenac St Kingston ON K7L 3S6
www.genevahouse.ca
stevekooy@momentumcampus.ca



Our Team



Top row from left: Andrew Fryer, Michelle Poelman, Kathy Doering, Nancy Smith, Rachel Fletcher, Ashlesha Gaur
Bottom row from left: Julia Kooy, Wanda Thompson, Steve Kooy



Executive Leadership Team

Steve Kooy	Director - MCM
Julia Kooy	Women's Ministry Director - Queen's
Kathy Doering	Chaplain - SLC, MCM SLC Team Leader
Nancy Smith	International Ministry Director - MCM
Wanda Thompson	Team Leader - Loyalist Christian Life
Michelle Poelman	Team Leader - SLC Brockville
Mike Broersma	Team Leader - Peterborough Campus Mission
Rachel Fletcher	Staff Intern - MCM
Ashlesha Gaur	Staff Intern - MCM
Cassie Douglas	Student Intern - Queen's
Megan Hill	Student Intern - Queen's
Andrew Fryer	Student Intern - Queen's

Momentum Board of Directors

Brian Bylsma	Chair
Ilka Luyt	Queen's Staff and Westside CRC Representative
Ryan Braam	Classis Quinte Representative
Adam Veenstra	Classis Quinte Home Missions Representative
Bill Groot-Nibbelink	Classis Quinte CMC Representative
Miranda Boven	Treasurer
Steve Kooy	Executive Director