

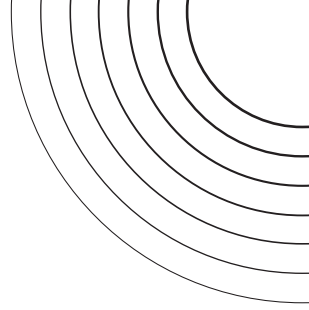


THE UCM GUIDE

2023-2024

Dailyness





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INTRO TO UCM

**KELLY JOHNSON, CHAPLAIN AT U OF C
UCM TEAM LEADER**

University Campus Ministries (UCM Calgary) is a Christian community of students, chaplains, and student leaders at the University of Calgary, Mount Royal University, and SAIT. Our reach is broader than the campuses alone and includes connecting with students and faculty from multiple Calgary post-secondary institutions. We gather to learn, serve, play, and grow in our awareness of God and in meaningful friendship with one another.

Speaking of friendship, one of our greatest desires is to foster an environment where you find belonging over the course of your studies. Finding friends and community on campus is vital to the depth and strength of your faith. We find Jesus at the place we find his friends. As you lean on and learn alongside peers seeking to know God more, you will find yourself encouraged, challenged, and strengthened in your walk with God.

He will use the university environment to form you, and he has graciously allowed us to create spaces for you to lean into this formation. Whether through prayer, community gatherings, teaching, worship, conversations, and service, you are invited to consciously and intentionally devote time to growing in your character, habits, relationships and faith.

One of the ways we do this is by asking questions of God, ourselves, and others. We encourage you to ask the hard questions this year, for it is in them that you will be drawn deeper into the mystery of God.

You will not be alone in your asking and wrestling. As you ask questions, make new friends, and study, we will come alongside you to pray, guide, listen, and love you all the way to the end of your time on campus and beyond.

Consider this your invitation to join our UCM community as we connect, learn, pray, play, eat and serve together.

Find a place with us; bring your gifts, insights, and creativity.

FYI

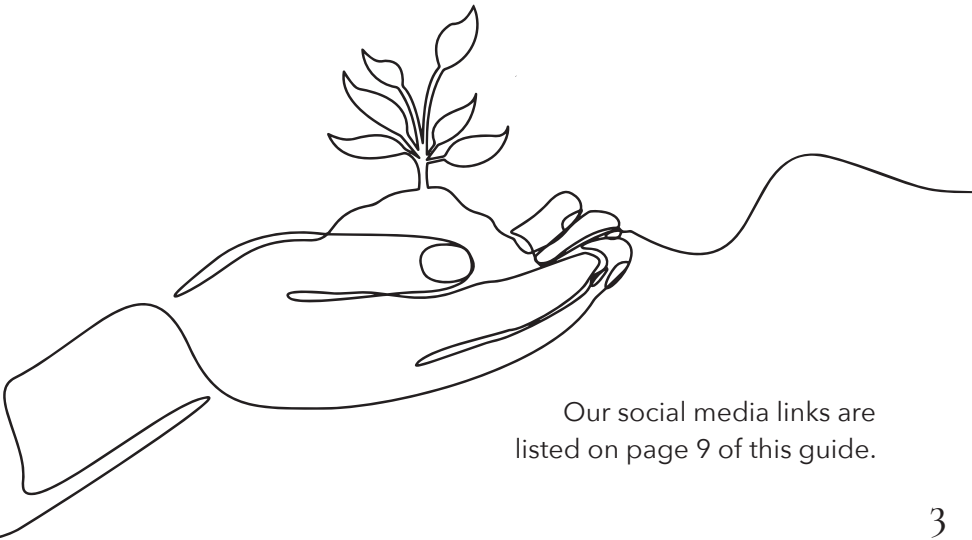
UCM has supporters and participants from over 20 denominational backgrounds. We are part of the SERVE Campus Network across Canada and the ABNWT District of the PAOC.

UCM has offices at the University of Calgary, Faith and Spirituality Center, 487 MacEwan Student Centre, SAIT in the Stan Grad Centre, MB305, and Mount Royal University I143. We would love to meet you. Drop by and say hello.

For more information on us, visit our webpage at ucmcalgary.org.

To stay informed about learning and service opportunities, as well as social gatherings, **subscribe to our Substack page: ucmcalgary.substack.com/**. Download the app, and you'll receive a weekly post from us keeping you up to date with what's going on.

Visit our linktree: <https://linktr.ee/ucmcalgary>.



Our social media links are listed on page 9 of this guide.

HOW TO CONNECT WITH US

Kelly Johnson – Kelly is our UCM team leader. He works out of the Faith and Spirituality Centre (MSC 487), where he can often be found. You can reach him at johnsok@ucalgary.ca.

Art Kung – Art is our chaplain at SAIT. His office can be found at Stan Grad Centre, MB305. You can reach him at art.kung@sait.ca, or via text at 403-542-0414.

Bob Osborne – Bob is our spiritual director and provides free spiritual direction on Mondays for the UCM community. You can make your appointment at robertosborne.info (look for the UCM option) or contact him through the same site.

Daniel Mok - Daniel Mok is our intern on all three of our campuses. You can contact him at danielmok.ucm@gmail.com.

Logan Johnson – Logan Johnson is our intern at the University of Calgary. You can contact him at logan.johnson1@ucalgary.ca.

We also have student leaders on all three campuses who desire to grow in their own development and help their peers in their formation. You will meet them at our gatherings.

**RELATIONALLY MENTORING AND EQUIPPING STUDENTS
AS THEY SERVE JESUS ON THEIR CAMPUSES,
IN THEIR CITY, AND AROUND THE WORLD.**

THREE WORDS TO ORIENT US

KNOW.

Knowledge is an obvious good. You agree – you are in university, after all. But having given knowledge its due, we need to also recognize its mystery. There is more to knowing than we know. Knowing is deeper than the holding of ideas and theories. Knowing, it turns out, is more profoundly interior and personal. For instance, “knowing” shifts its meaning when we speak of knowing a skill or knowing a person. So what does it mean to say we know God? This year we will continually ask the question: what does it mean to know and know God?

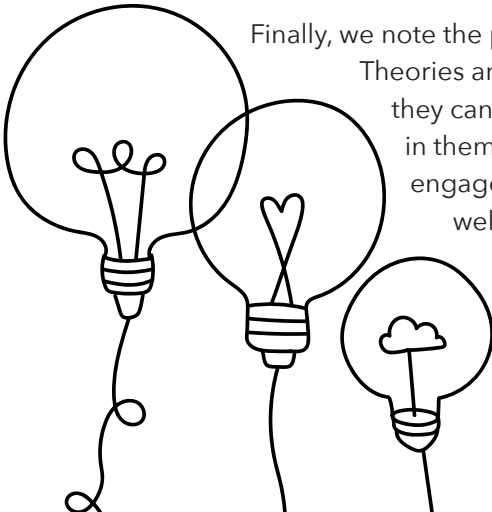
DO.

Knowledge often requires appropriate action. We might say that our “doing” puts our knowing into gear. As in the case of spiritual practices, it is the doing of the practice that teaches the wisdom of the practice. Doing enhances knowing. This also reminds us that the failure to do what we ought to do undercuts what we know. So faith is a “doing” as much as a “knowing.” This year we want to continually ask the question: what does our knowledge of God call us to do?

EXPERIENCE.

Finally, we note the primary value of experience.

Theories and ideas are certainly useful, but they can be abstractions and not the things in themselves. Experience is the direct engagement of life in all its variety as well as the engagement of God in all his wonder. This year we want to continually ask the question: what can we expect in our experience?



REMAINING IN

dailyness

dai·ly·ness | 'dā-lē-nəs | noun

The fact or condition of happening or being done on a daily basis.

Also: the quality of being ordinary, routine, or mundane; e.g. everyday character; reliable regularity.

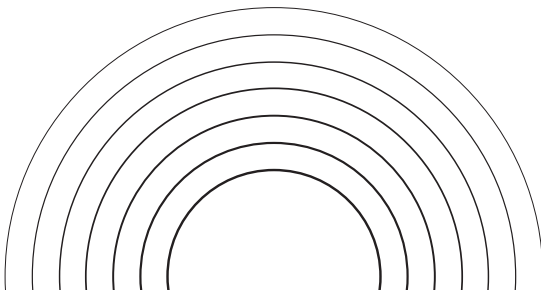
Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. (John 15:4)

Last year we introduced the idea and practice of dailyness. We continue with this theme this year.

As we communicated last year, there is tremendous significance in our small actions and daily habits. Life can be altered by little adjustments. As Annie Dillard famously said, "How we spend our days is, of course, how we spend our lives."

Just as we eat and sleep on a daily basis, we recognize that there are spiritual practices that ought to be part of our everyday routine. When we do these things regularly, even daily, we enable real change to occur in us. We make room for the Holy Spirit to transform us.

Our intention remains the same: to support the theme of dailyness at our common gatherings, to regularly share ideas, provide resources, foster discussions, and teach the beauty of dailyness.



A FEW PRACTICES OF DAILYNESS

Daily Devotion:

At the heart of dailyness is our time spent with God in Bible reading and prayer. To help this practice form in us, we are using the devotional *Seeking God's Face* by Philip Reinders (see next page for details). Get your copy and participate with us.



Daily Attention:

One of the key spiritual faculties each of us needs to develop is our ability to notice how God is with us and how he might be leading us and teaching us. We call this paying attention. We want to learn this way together, regularly reporting on what we are noticing.

Daily Connection:

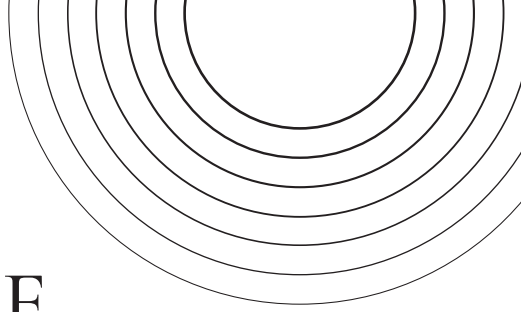
The Christian life is primarily about our connections and only secondarily about our disciplines and commitments. If righteousness is “right-relatedness,” then consider how you can best connect. Grab a coffee with a friend, show up to events and gatherings, and be with people.

Daily Service:

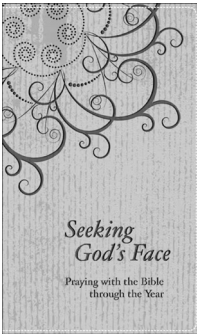
Service is more than an event you sign up for: service is a way of thinking and being, which finally becomes an identity. Paul, following his master Jesus, called himself a servant. What would it be like, then, to be conscious of daily ways of helping, assisting, and attending? Don't think first of the big things you can do but of the smaller less-noticed things.

**INTRODUCING OUR ANCHORING
RESOURCE FOR THIS YEAR:**

SEEKING GOD'S FACE



It is year two of our community's commitment to dailyness. This year we want to anchor our prayer by following the devotional resource *Seeking God's Face: Praying with the Bible Through the Year* by Philip Reinders.



This resource provides daily scripture readings, quiet listening prompts, set prayers, and a closing blessing. Additionally, the devotional follows the seasons and celebrations of the Christian calendar, which urges us to take our lives and place them in the broader story of Jesus, allowing our lives to be shaped by the rhythm of his life.

Each day of prayer contains a complete 'office' to pray and a number of elements for you to pray with, either quietly or aloud. The daily pattern of prayers includes a psalm, a bible passage, time for silence, free prayer, set prayer, and a blessing to carry with you throughout the day.

As we participate in the Seeking God's Face daily readings together, we seek to be shaped, formed, and transformed by the Holy Spirit's indwelling presence in our community and in our own lives.

We are excited about this. You can receive a hard copy from us for a discounted price of \$25. If you can't afford this resource, please talk to us. We want to get one in everyone's hands who will honestly pursue dailyness. Visit <https://seekinggodsfacel.org> for the daily devotional online. You can e-transfer UCM to donateucmcalgary@gmail.com.

We only ask that you pursue the call to dailyness with us.

LIFE TOGETHER

DAILY MORNING PRAYER

Daily Prayers at the U of C - Morning prayers Monday through Friday starting at 9 am in MacHall 317. Contact Logan.Johnson1@ucalgary.ca for more information.

Daily Prayers at MRU - Contact Kelly for more information at kpjohnson@mtroyal.ca.

WEEKLY GATHERINGS ON CAMPUS

Worship @ the U (U of C) – We meet at noon on Mondays in MacHall 317. We dismiss promptly at 12:50 pm so you can get back to class. Contact Daniel at dkkmok@ucalgary.ca or Logan at logan.johnson1@ucalgary.ca.

Worship @ the Well (Mount Royal) – We meet Wednesdays at noon in I128 (Fall) and U111 (Winter). Contact kpjohnson@mtroyal.ca.

Christian Prayer @ SAIT – We meet Tuesdays at noon in MC 311, Interfaith Meeting Space, Stan Grad. Contact Art at art.kung@sait.ca.

Interfaith Interface (SAIT) – We meet Fridays in MB305, Interfaith Centre, Stan Grad. Contact Art at art.kung@sait.ca.

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTINGS

Join our social media accounts:

 [instagram.com/ucmcalgary](https://www.instagram.com/ucmcalgary)

 [facebook.com/ucmcalgary](https://www.facebook.com/ucmcalgary)

SUBSTACK

We provide regular meaningful content here:

ucmcalgary.substack.com.

EVENTS

Visit our linktree: linktr.ee/ucmcalgary.

THE CONVERGENCE

The Convergence is a monthly gathering of students from across our three campuses (we converge). Led by the UCM team and powered by student participation, the convergence gathering is a time to worship and learn through teaching off campus. The talks are intended to engage both the mind and the heart. Our faith is worthy of serious intellectual engagement while at the same time intended to be an experience of God of each other. This is how we are changed.

THIS YEAR'S THEME: ASK A BETTER QUESTION

Location: "Chapel" at Brentview Baptist
3512 Charleswood Dr NW, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

CONVERGENT CONVERSATIONS

Convergent Conversations is our responsive follow-up to the Convergence gathering. In it, we seek to go deeper into the topic by asking follow-up questions and sharing further reflections. Held as a live conversation and facilitated by a staff person or a student lead, we invite you to bring your questions and thoughts as we discuss the topic together.

THE CONVERGENCE PODCAST

The Convergence talk is posted on our podcast. The Convergence Podcast can be found on all major listening platforms. To access it, go to <https://theconvergencepodcast.buzzsprout.com>.

2023-2024 CONVERGENCE SCHEDULE
THIS YEAR'S THEME: ASK A BETTER QUESTION

SEPTEMBER : **What is a human? Know, Do, Experience**
Convergence – September 14
Convergent Conversations – September 28

OCTOBER : **What can I know about the world?**
God and Science
Convergence – October 12
Convergent Conversations – October 26

NOVEMBER : **What Should I Do? Small Things to Big Things**
Convergence – November 9
Convergent Conversations – November 23

DECEMBER : **What Are We Waiting for?**
Convergence – December 7

JANUARY : **How Can I Do Hard Times?**
Convergence – January 11
Convergent Conversations – January 25

FEBRUARY : **What is Friendship?**
Convergence – February 8
Convergent Conversations – February 29

MARCH : **What is Wrong with the World?**
Convergence – March 14
Convergent Conversations – March 28

APRIL : **What is Right with the World?**
Convergence – April 11



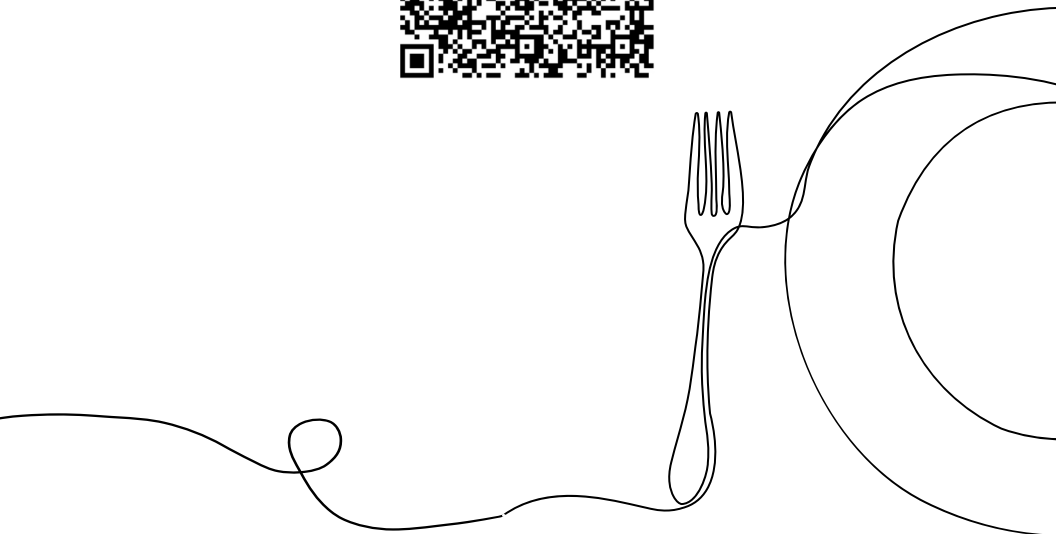
GATHERINGS, EVENTS, AND SOCIALS

Gathering is an important aspect of our life together. We take time to eat together, hike, play sports, host game nights, and so much more.

If you would like to be “in the loop” about what is happening next, connect with us through our linktree: <https://linktr.ee/ucmcalgary>

It's better with you there.

Our events may change throughout the year. To stay updated, sign up for UCM communication by scanning the QR Code below:



THE TABLE

The Table is a beautiful opportunity to share a delicious free meal (you read that right) with many international students. It is a place where you can form meaningful friendships with students from all over the world.

The Table is held monthly at Journey Church (10307 Eamon Rd NW), which is easily accessed at the northwest Red Line terminal (Tuscany Station) of the C-Train.

The event begins at 6 pm and concludes at 8 pm. It is for post-secondary students only.

Register to let us know you are coming:

www.myjourney.church/event-details/the-table

Follow us:

📷 [Instagram.com/thetableatjourneychurch](https://www.instagram.com/thetableatjourneychurch)

THIS YEAR'S DATES FOR THE TABLE ARE:

September 21

October 19

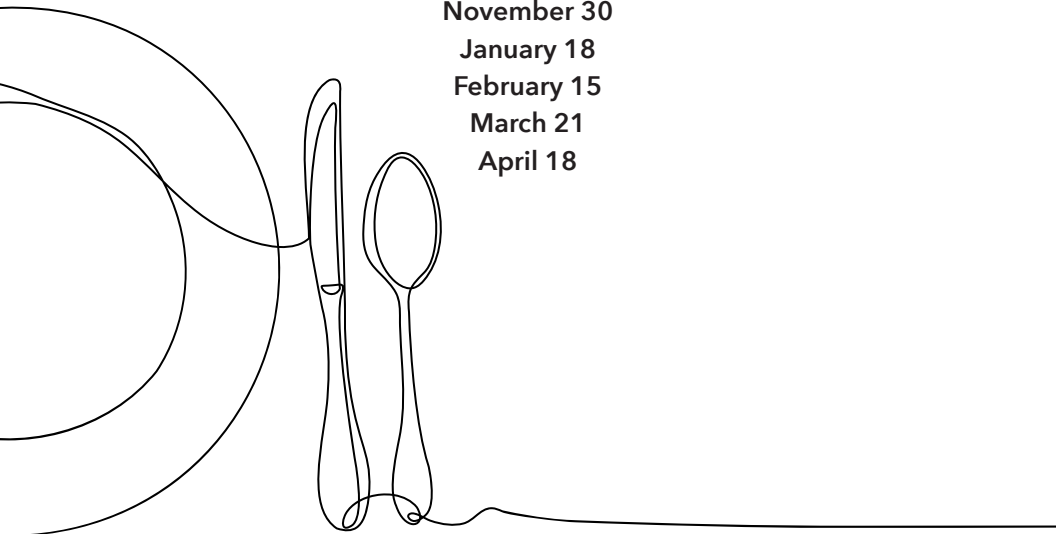
November 30

January 18

February 15

March 21

April 18





SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Perhaps you are looking for a way to engage your faith in tangible ways through serving or helping. Here are a few engagement opportunities that are led by UCM staff:

DOWNTOWN OUTREACH WITH LOGAN JOHNSON

Join us every other week to intentionally love our neighbours experiencing homelessness. We hand out granola bars and water bottles until we find someone to sit and share a meal with. Contact Logan Johnson for more details: logan.johnson1@ucalgary.ca.

PROJECT AMIGO WITH UCM

This is our regular yearly mission to build a home in a developing world context, February 16-25, 2024, in Dominican Republic. Contact Kelly to reserve your spot: kelly.johnson@ucalgary.ca.

JESUS LOVES YOU SOCIETY WITH ART KUNG

JLYS Centre for Families is a local Calgary non-profit located in the Beltline, whose purpose is to build friendships with low-income mothers and their children. Join Art every Thursday, 4-7 pm, to engage with homework club for the kids and to join the dinner table to build relationships with families. Contact Art: art.kung@sait.ca.

THE FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM

The Friendship Program is geared towards helping international students develop meaningful friendships with Canadian families. This is a beautiful opportunity to begin friendships with international students, having them over for tea, sharing a meal on Canadian holidays or inviting them to participate in family events. Contact Kelly to get involved or sign up here: <https://www.thefriendshipprogram.com/>.



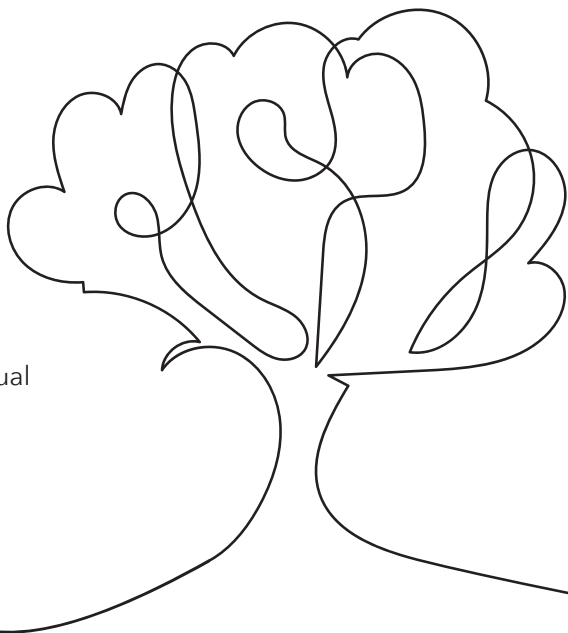
2023 UCM FALL ONE-DAY RETREAT

Here is a great way to launch our year together. On Saturday, September 16, we invite you to a one-day retreat in the city. This is a special chance to get to know other members of the UCM community, hear relevant teaching about this year's big theme (dailyness), enjoy a great meal, and find spiritual encouragement for the busy school year ahead. We promise it will be a great time.

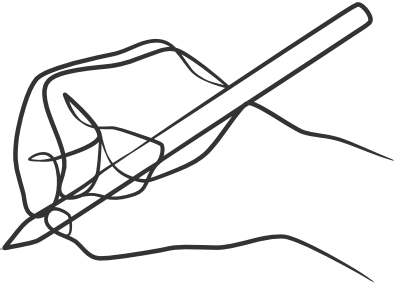
Our retreat will be held at the Jesus Loves You Society (240 - 15 Ave SW Calgary) from 9:30 am to 3 pm. The cost for the day is \$10. For more info and to register, visit our linktree: <https://linktr.ee/ucmcalgary>.

What to expect at the September 16 One-Day Retreat:

- Exposure to the JLYS society, one of this year's service opportunities
- Several sessions on the principles and practices of our 2023-24 theme: dailyness – led by UCM leaders and staff
- Lunch together
- Break-out sessions, Q and R sessions
- Meet new people, make new friends from across our various campuses
- Inspiration and spiritual encouragement



NOTES



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UCM Calgary

www.ucmcalgary.org