

## Strategic Ministry Plan

### **The Bridge: A United Methodist Campus Ministry @ UA Fort Smith Strategic Ministry Plan July 2010**

#### **Mission Statement**

The Bridge exists to reach out to the UA Fort Smith campus, to *SHARE* the love of Christ, help students *GROW* in their relationship with Him, and *SERVE* His world.

#### **Core Values**

Lifestyle of Worship  
Evangelism  
Community  
Compassionate Ministry  
Maturing Discipleship  
Leadership Development  
Local Church Involvement

#### **Vision Statement**

The Bridge United Methodist Campus Ministry at the University of Arkansas – Fort Smith seeks to accomplish this vision as we dream about our future.

- We envision a ministry to the UA Fort Smith campus that makes faithful committed disciples of Jesus Christ who through obedience to Christ reach out in Christian love to serve the “least of these” around us both locally and globally.
- We envision a ministry that equips UA Fort Smith students to serve the local church in ministry both as a student and beyond graduation.
- We envision The Bridge as a center for helping emerging adults discern their vocational calling.
- We envision The Bridge as an Arkansas Conference affiliated and supported campus ministry.
- We envision a permanent facility for The Bridge to call home with space for worship, study, fellowship, and recreation.
- We envision The Bridge as a resource tool for ministry to local churches in our region through service projects, resourcing, staffing, etc. as a way of bridging the gap between the local church and campus ministry.

#### **Goals**

1. As an overarching goal we would like to move from maintenance to mission.
2. Weekly Program Goals
  - By spring 2011 (one year) have a 100% growth in average worship attendance with 26 in attendance
  - By spring 2011 (one year) add at least one additional small group with freshmen as an affinity for that group.
  - By 2015 (5 years) have a regular worship attendance of 50 students

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- By 2015 (5 years) add two more small groups for a total of 5 small groups
3. Spring Retreat Goals
- By spring 2011 (one year) increase student participation by seven students for a total of 15 students participating in the spring retreat.
  - By 2015 (5 years) increase participation by 15 additional students for a total of 30 student participating in the spring retreat.
4. Great Day of Service Goals
- By spring 2011 (one year) increase student participation in the fall and spring Great Day of Service to a total of 13 students participating for each semester.
  - By 2015 (5 years) increase participation to 25 students for both the fall and spring Great Day of Service
5. Mission Trip Goals
- By spring 2011(one year) complete a regional mission trip with 8-10 students participating
  - By 2015 (5 years) complete a national mission trip with 8-10 students participating.
6. Leadership Goals
- By spring 2011 (one year) have student leaders work 2 hours a week in the campus ministry office
  - By spring 2011 (one year) hire a ¼ to part-time worship leader
  - By 2013 (3 years) move the part-time student intern position to one full-time graduate intern position with a two year commitment.
  - By spring 2015 have a full time campus minister as an employee of First UMC with sole responsibility for The Bridge Campus Ministry.
  - By 2015 (5 years) have a volunteer worship band assembled and lead by the worship leader.

### **Program Outline (Current Ministries)**

#### **Koinonia**

Description: Koinonia meets on Wednesday's from 6:15 – 7 PM at the student center. The purpose of Eat and Greet is to provide a time of fellowship and food for students prior to our Wednesday evening activities. It is a place to share information about the campus ministry and to gather before entering worship.

Target Audience: Campus, Commuter, Ambassador, Graduates (all students)\*

Mission Area: Share

#### **The Gathering**

Description: The Gathering is our weekly worship program it meets on Wednesday's from 7-8 PM at the student center. This worship time is designed to be participatory, multi-sensory, engaging, and relevant. We gather to worship with times of prayer, proclamation, song, drama, dance, etc. Worship is the primary entry point program of The Bridge with the teachings following the Christian year as well as being applicable relevant to the life of college students.

Target Audience: Campus, Commuter, Ambassador, Graduates (all students)

Mission Area: Share/Grow

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### **Freshbridge**

Description: Freshbridge is the freshman ministry of The Bridge. Freshbridge meets as a weekly small group for the purpose of helping freshman transition well to college and plug into a campus ministry. Hopefully through this program freshman who had good to great church relationships in high school will continue. In addition this program seeks to evangelize new converts to the Christian faith as well. The curriculum is designed to help freshman transition well by making connections with not only other freshman but upper classmen as well and it will cover topics such as financial stewardship, identity, ones giftedness for ministry, relationship issues, conflict resolution, etc.

Target Audience: Campus, Commuter, Ambassador, Graduates (freshman)

Mission Area: Share/Grow

### **Small Groups**

Description: Small groups meet weekly and are designed to foster discipleship and community growth. Each small group consists of 6-8 members total include 1-2 leaders. Topics for small groups include book studies; life issues like dating, relationships, money stress; theological topics; church history; etc.

Target Audience: Commuter, Ambassador, and Graduates

Mission Area: Grow/Share

### **Spring Retreat**

Description: Each spring The Bridge sponsors a Spring Retreat with a set theme to encourage growth as a disciple of Christ. The retreat is held at a local camp and retreat center and includes times of worship, Bible study, reflection, relationship building, and rest.

Target Audience: Ambassador and Graduates (some commuters but not typical as a whole of this classification)

Mission Area: Grow

### **Mission Trip**

Description: The mission trip is a once a year trip planned for the purpose of being on mission with our neighbors locally and globally. We will conduct missions to surrounding communities, states, or internationally to other countries in the world. The purpose of the mission trip is to give students the experience of another culture, the act of Christian service to another, and to share the love of Christ with our global and local neighbors.

Target Audience: Ambassador and Graduates

Mission Area: Serve

### **Miscellaneous Ministries**

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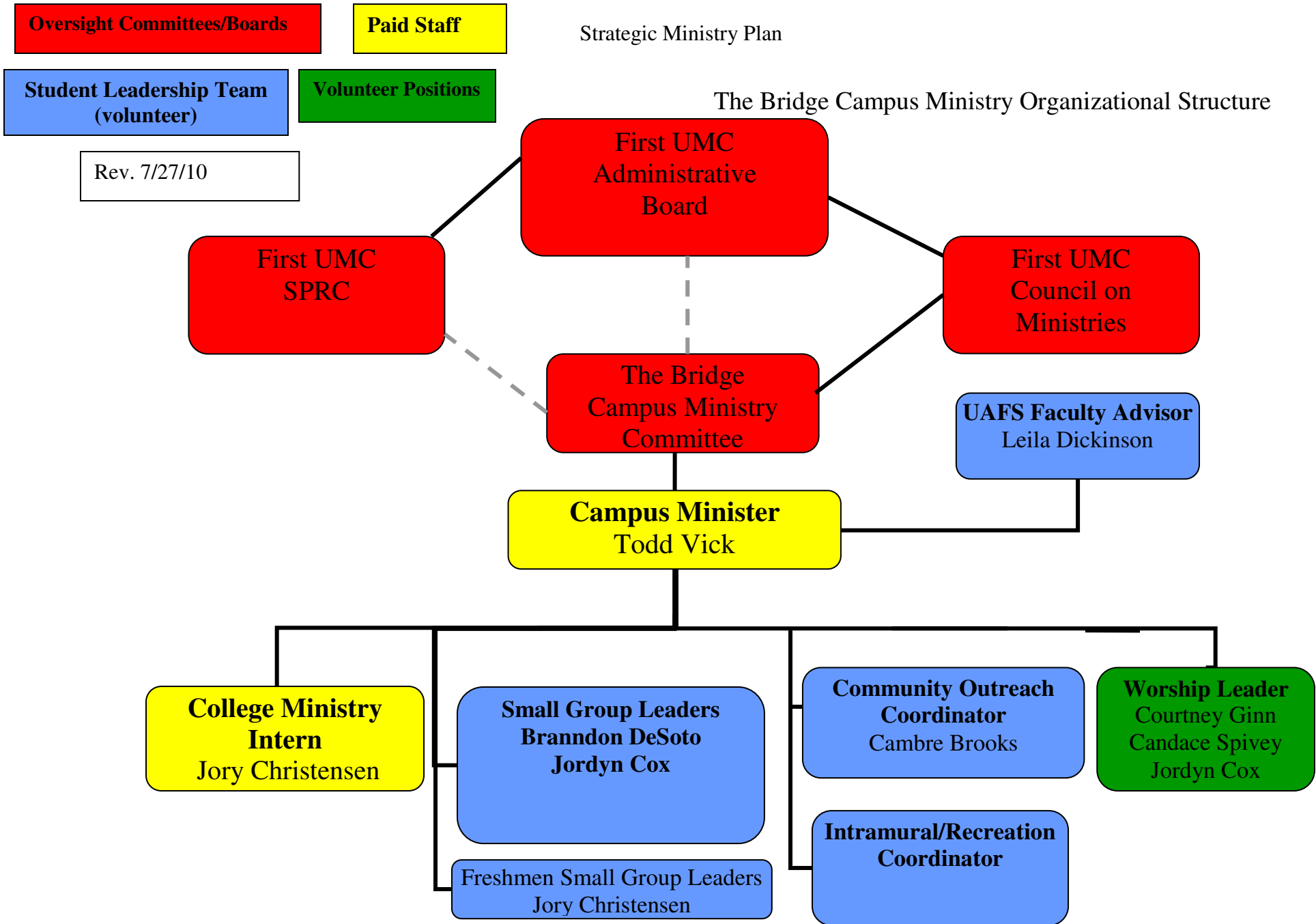
Description: The miscellaneous ministries of The Bridge include service days, Christmas party, movie nights, end of the year cook out, and college student camps and conferences when available (e.g. Passion Conference)

Target Audience: Campus, Commuter, Ambassador, Graduates (all students – really will vary based on intensity of commitment level of the activity)

Mission Area: Share/Grow/Serve

*\*Note: Target audience groups based on College Ministry Faith Formation Stages classifications by Todd Vick © 2009. Classifications indicate the level of commitment students will give to a particular program/activity/event based on this information this then becomes the audience for the program to target and the expected commitment level from the students. Goals, structure, and content of the program/activity/event should be considered based on these classifications.*

The Bridge Campus Ministry Organizational Structure



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