

Gateway Student Mission Manual

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Contact Information

Web pages:

www.gatewaylondon.org/livewire

www.gatewaylondon.org/commonground

www.gatewaylondon.org/exstream

(you can download and print the permission form from these web pages)

Facebook:

Fusion: Common Ground and Livewire
untitled young adults

Office:

Email: blair@gatewaylondon.org Cell: 519.281.8189 Church: 519.473.2804

Gateway Church, 890 Sarnia Road, London, Ontario, N6H 5K1

Gateway Student Mission Philosophy

Mission statement:

- Gateway student mission is here to help students believe in Jesus by belonging to each other.
- The Livewire group is targeted to students ages 11-13, or is in grades 6 through 8.
- The Common Ground group is targeted to students ages 14-19, or grades 9 through to college or university.
- The Untitled young adults group is targeted to students ages 18 and up.

Strategy:

- **Fusion** (LW and CG) is a place where I laugh with people who are seeking after God. And the more I learn about God and the bible, the more I realize that my life is meant to live for God in a personal relationship with Him. As I continue on this journey with God, I know that I need to share it with others by leading them down this path along with me by loving wherever and whatever I am doing.
- Overall we want to fulfill our role in the Great Commission (Mark 16:15) and the Great Commandment (Luke 10:27) by having these 5 purposes in our programs:
 - Laughing
 - Learning
 - Living
 - Leading
 - Loving
 - Fellowship
 - Discipleship
 - Worship
 - Evangelism
 - Ministry

Signs of success:

- Strong committed leadership team of adults. Regular meetings for accountability, encouragement, evaluation, proper communication, teaching and support.
- Equipping Gateway parents to meet with their students regularly to talk, pray, read and discuss their spiritual lives by providing community with other parents, materials and accountability.
- Seeing students spend time together outside of the programmed scheduled events.
- To transition students from Livewire into Common Ground, and from Common Ground into other programs of our church.
- As the youth group grows larger in numbers that it will grow small at the same time. A youth group that reaches out to newcomers and also have relationships that keep them accountable.
- To have students grow spiritually, beginning with a relationship with Jesus Christ and be water and spirit baptized, discovering and using their spiritual gifts, and a desire to share their faith.
- Students given the opportunity to go on a short term mission trip while in high school.
- Students learn to give sacrificially both in time in different ministries and money.
- Be better known in the community: through acts of service, community events and promotion.

Values:

- Biblically true and culturally interesting talks and discussions
- Evidence of the Holy Spirit
- Spiritually accountable relationships
- Great social youth atmosphere
- Teach them how to think on their own
- Have fun

Program guidelines (rules):

- Unity
 - o Sit together during services
 - o Full participation
 - o No wandering around
- Safe place
 - o Be careful with physical contact with the opposite sex
 - o No talking or teasing with sexual implications
 - o No teasing, swearing, gossiping, or fighting
- Couples stuff
 - o Do not lie down next to each other
 - o Do not be covered by a blanket
 - o Do not sit on each other
 - o Do not straddle each other: Front/ Back
 - o Head on knee ok, not: Lap or chest
 - o Do not be found out of eyesight of someone else at youth: Rooms/ Dark hallways/ Tents
- Dress code
 - o Modesty is a key
 - o No underwear showing for guys or girls
 - o No bikinis, Long 2 piece bathing suits are accepted
 - o Tell your friends when you bring them out to events
- Possessions
 - o No weapons
 - o No Drugs
 - o No Alcohol on property
 - o No sexual explicit material. magazines etc
 - o Check all cigarettes and tobacco products with the leadership

Gateway Student Mission Leadership Team

Pastor Blair and Angela Mercer oversee all ministries and programs under the Gateway student mission portfolio.

Adult leadership:

Untitled:

Blair and Angela Mercer
Richard and Stephanie Joseph
Kelly Gare
John MacDonald

Stephanie Ross
Adam and Larisa Duguay
Dave Cameron

Common Ground:

Kelly Gare
Andrea Bartholomew
Miranda Smithyman
Lisa Chung
Jordan Butler
Kris Krawiec
Joe Long

Spencer Schultz
François Parent
Leigh-Anne Harris
Stephanie Luck
Sarah Mycio
Sarah Feehan
Stephan Hamlin

Livewire:

Angela Mercer
Joy Cameron
Caleb Tucker
Bonnie Matthisen
Grace Edwards
Chris Charrette

Thyson Marcellin
Tim Richards
Dan Richards
Kerri Campbell-Graham
Sarah Schwindt

Student council:

- meet weekly after school on Tuesdays
 - o Justyn Schwindt, Gabby Boyes, Sam Fergusson, Caleb Matheson

Leadership roles:

- P. Blair's role:
 - o To equip (discipleship, training, accountability) a team of adults to lead and assist the students in our programs
- Salt (Student Adult Leadership Team):
 - o Hear: God call them to make a difference in today's teenage generation
 - o Pray: daily and come to pre service prayer meetings
 - o Example: a good example of Christian life for students, police check, Gateway member
 - o Relationship: with teens and their families, to call and connect during the week
 - o Program: play a part in running the programs, attend monthly meetings
- Student council role:
 - o To meet weekly with P. Blair and discuss CG and share ideas about student culture

Parent's Role In Gateway Student Missions

"Research continues to show that for better or for worse, a teen's family represents the most influential network of earthly relationships in his or her life. For this simple reason, we believe that the most effective youth ministry always takes place in the context of the family." (101 ways to be family-Friendly in youth ministry)

What can parents do?

1. Work at having a daily close relationships with your children and disciple them everyday, through family prayers, bible reading, discipleship, discipline, chores and by setting a great example. To help with this I wish to meet with all the parents for 2 hours three times a year Sunday afternoons for lunch and discussion. This meeting is set to help you;
 - stay informed on the student programs
 - be apart of a parent community
 - have accountability as part of the **Ground zero discipleship program**
 - learn about students
2. **Ground Zero** discipleship program is designed to strengthen families and students through twice-weekly parent taught discipleship meetings in the home in about 30 minutes. Each meeting has elements of learning about each others lives, prayer, bible reading and discussion. I believe this program has the potential to bring families close together and build a strong foundation in faith in the students' lives that will last a life time.
3. Pray. We desperately need your prayers over this ministry and intercessory prayer being done during our programs each week. We are not fighting against things of the flesh but of the things of the spirit and our greatest victory can be won through prayer. I am expecting each parent to pray during the week for their children and all of the students in the programs they attend.
4. Volunteer; be a leader and on the leadership team, run a small group, use your house for a social event, your van or car and possibly you as a driver to help transport youth around for events, and to financially support the youth group when it comes to fundraisers and trips. If you could volunteer in any of these areas it would greatly be appreciated. Please let us know.
5. Help encourage and support your children to get involved and be on time for student program events, activities and programs and to pick them up on time.
6. Become a mentor to some teens that need extra guidance and spiritual direction.
7. Learn. Please do not assume that we as parents know everything about this generation by our conversations over the dinner table. We encourage you to read books, magazines and attending conferences for parenting teens.

Livewire Program

Livewire Thursday nights:

- Meet from 7:00-9:00PM every week from September through April.
- Doors open from 6:30-9:00PM at the Gateway church facility

General Elements of the Program:

- Prayer:
 - o Opening and closing of the night, including prayer requests and some response
- Teams:
 - o Each child is split up into teams typically based on their grade or gender
 - o Teams will collect points in competition against the other teams
 - o There are team discussions and prayer times
 - o Team names, cheers, mascots etc.
- Giving:
 - o Collection of money for our compassion child
- Tuck shop:
 - o Sells candy to students for LW resources
- Barf bags:
 - o Bag of candy given to a student that has never come to Livewire before
- LW of the month box:
 - o If you bring a brand new friend to LW, you fill out a ballot for a monthly draw to win a prize
- Announcements:
- Games:
 - o From gross to sweaty to crafty to the questionability legal, we do it all, but don't worry your kids are safe
- Points system: a student gets points for:
 1. Attendance
 2. Participation
 3. Bringing friends
 4. Winning games and competitions
 5. Loss of points if found breaking the rules
 6. Bible
 7. Giving
- Some of the different themed nights at Livewire
 - o **Fusion:**
 - Live and learn focused
 - Together with the Common Ground students
 - Worship music, videos, discussion, talk given by P Blair
 - o **Fuse box:**
 - Laugh and learn focused
 - Group discussion on a case study
 - Question and answer time, kids write questions about life and faith and P. Blair responds to them
 - o **Star wars:**
 - Laugh and lead focused
 - A night full of games and competitions
 - An storey illustrating good choices is told at the end of the night

- **Starburst:**
 - Laugh and Learn focused
 - Group project is added to the team time to complete by the end of the semester
 - Talk given by P Blair
- **Night Rider:**
 - Love focused
 - We invest into the community with random acts of kindness
- **Electric splash:**
 - Laugh and lead focused
 - Something completely fun to invite friends to be apart of our community

Fundraisers:

- From time to time we would like to raise money for large events and trips, primarily for the retreats, conventions, mission trips and camps
- Usually personal requests to have them done, so if you would like one, come talk to me
- Money will be raised from the church congregation and from the community
- Examples of fundraisers that we have already done are: Servant auction, pizza fundraiser, binder sales, car washes, banquets, selling a book of coupons, buckets of candy

Retreats, Conventions and Camps:

- Intense learn and live focused
- These trips have significant value in a student's life. We have seen exponential spiritual growth in students who take a whole weekend or week to focus on God and to be with their Christian friends. We believe these events are really important in their walk with Jesus
- The goal would be to have each student go on three trips a year:
 - a convention during the fall
 - a retreat during the spring
 - a camp in the summer or a mission trip
- The convention (Momentum) is generally at the beginning of November. It is an overnight trip where we meet up with students from all the other Pentecostal Churches in Western Ontario.
- The retreat in the winter-spring is an overnight trip for our LW students only. Generally a speaker will be invited to come to challenge our students spiritually, at the same time bring the youth group closer together through activities and games during the day.
- As of December 2003, I sit on the board of the youth ministries of Western Ontario District of the PAOC, which makes all creative and spiritual direction for our camps, convention and leadership training events.

Shockwave:

- Learn focused
- This program functions during the weekend services at Gateway
- Junior highs are dismissed just before the sermon is delivered
- There is emphasis on prayer, bringing your own bible to look up and read, memorizing scripture and thought provoking discussions

Summer program:

- 2 events every month from May through August
- Anything from Canada's Wonderland to Christian camp services
- Gives opportunity for leaders to rest and be ready for their leadership commitment in the fall

Common Ground Student Missions Program

Common Ground Thursday nights:

- Meet from 7:00-9:00PM every week from September through May.
- Doors open from 6:30-9:00PM in the church facility or peoples homes

General Elements of the Program:

- Prayer:
 - o Opening and response times
- Worship:
 - o CG praise team consisting of our own team of youth and youth leaders, singing, keyboard, guitars, drums, power point, sound technician, practice weekly when in a church facility
- Top ten list, jokes, kick the can, storey's all presented by students
- Crowd breaker:
 - o fellowship and fun during the service, it allows to break the barriers and helps youth to feel comfortable (often prizes)
- Testimonies:
 - o the adult leaders, council and students- to see what God is doing in their life, to build faith and to get to know the background of our leaders
- Small groups, each student that attends Common Ground is in a small group which will consist of the following:
 - o At least one adult leader
 - o Same leaders and group every week
 - o Meet and introduce the new people
 - o Collecting of contact information from newer people
 - o Announcements
 - o Rules
 - o Calendars
 - o Discussion on theme of the night or fun get to know you questions
 - o Prayer
- Teaching:
 - o Time of sharing, preaching or teaching, which may include drama, videos, music, debate or discussion
- Christian music for the games and popular Christian videos to open up the night
- Giving:
 - o Collection of money for our compassion child of 15 years
- Follow up:
 - o may include alone prayer time or even small discussion groups, which include one leader to a few students
- During any given month each of the following nights may occur on Thursday nights
 - o **Fusion Thursdays:**
 - Live and learn focused
 - All together with Livewire junior highs
 - Worship music, videos, discussion, games, giving, talk
 - o **Night Rider:**
 - Love focused
 - We invest into the community with random acts of kindness
 - o **Electric splash:**
 - Laugh and lead focused
 - Something completely fun to invite friends to
 - o **3 by 4 or Alpha table groups:**
 - Learn and laugh focused

- Lead by adult leaders
- Small groups can provide an environment where students can learn and discuss, have accountability, and form deeper relationships with others

Events:

- Lead and laugh focused
- Sometimes it is a games night, study night, movie night, a trip, a banquet, rock show
- May cost money
- Little agenda and hang out atmosphere
- Leaders are encouraged to sit and talk to students as they hang out

Section Youth Rallies:

- Fellowship with other churches and learn focused
- A combined youth service with other youth groups in the London area
- Consist of a typical youth service: worship, games, giving, fellowship, preaching and prayer time
- Focus is to encourage our students and others across London that they are not alone

Retreats, Conventions, Camps, Mission trips:

- Learn and live focused
- These trips have significant value in a student's life. We have seen exponential spiritual growth in students who take a whole weekend or week to focus on God and to be with their Christian friends. We believe these events are really important in their walk with Jesus
- The goal would be to have each student go on three trips a year:
 - a retreat during the fall
 - a convention during the spring
 - a camp in the summer or a short term mission trip
- The retreat in the fall (Rendezvous) is an out of town, 2 night trip for our CG students only. Generally a speaker will be asked to come and challenge them spiritually, at the same time bring the youth group closer together through activities and games during the day.
- The convention (Overflow) is held in May. It is a 2 night trip where we meet up with students from all the other Pentecostal Churches in Western Ontario.
- As of December 2003, I sit on the board of the youth ministries of Western Ontario District of the PAOC, which makes all decision for our camps, convention and leadership training events

Fundraisers:

- From time to time we would like to raise money for large events and trips, primarily the retreats, conventions, mission trips and camps
- Money will be raised from the church congregation and from the community
- Fundraisers are initiated upon request
- Examples of fundraisers that we have already done are: Servant auction, pizza fundraiser, binder sales, car washes, and banquets

Summer program:

- 2 events and 2 discussion nights every month from June through August
- Events can be anything from Canada's Wonderland to Christian camp services
- Gives opportunity for leaders to rest and be ready for their leadership commitment in the fall

CG praise team:

- Love focused
- Lead by Lisa Chung and Spencer Schultz
- This team involves those who are singers, on instruments, in the sound booth, and power point
- Practice weekly on Monday nights

Untitled Young Adults

Mission statement:

- Untitled young adult's goal is to create environments where people can have real relationships that will help them live out their commitment to be more like Jesus.

Home groups:

- Learn focused
- Groups meet weekly for approximately 2hrs
- Each group has a different specific demographic
- Biblical discussions and accountability
- Curriculum is decided by each group

After hours:

- Laugh focused
- 9:30 PM most Thursday nights
- Meet Gateway to go out and do whatever, wherever

Events:

- Laugh and lead focused
- To bring all the home groups together and invite those who do not attend a home group
- Goal is help people find a home group that works for them
- Monthly coffee house, hosted in the atrium at Gateway church, supporting local talent

Campus for Christ: Friday Nite Live

- Worship and discipleship focused
- Weekly worship services
- Held on Friday nights at 630PM at UWO
- Other churches are invited
- Service will have a full band of music, small groups, speaker and response time

Through The Roof at UWO's "The Wave" UCC 2nd floor

- Monthly on Sunday nights
- Through The Roof is dedicated to providing a unique opportunity for young adults to encounter the life-changing message of Jesus Christ, thereby releasing them to pursue their intended meaning and purpose in life. Visit www.throughtheroof.ca for dates and details