

## Christian Ministries

The Division of Christian Ministries coordinates all university-sponsored student ministries. Cedarville views individual ministry involvement to be a vital and necessary part of each student's education and personal growth. The mindset and motivation for Christian ministries at Cedarville is reflected in the University's stated purpose and objectives.

Cedarville strives to shatter the mindset of isolating Christianity to a Sunday church experience. Students are taught that biblical Christianity demonstrates a servant's heart in all arenas of life. All are challenged to consider how their academic disciplines, athletic interests, or hobbies can be used to demonstrate their faith. Cedarville endeavors to stretch students' vision of ministry, and develop a constant awareness of God's call upon their lives, —a call to meet the needs of the individuals He providentially brings into their lives.

Directed by the vice president for Christian ministries and coordinated through 10 additional full-time staff members and several part-time staff members, the division of Christian ministries provides training and assistance to the hundreds of students who volunteer for any of the more than 150 different ministries each quarter.

### Cedarville University Fellowship

The Cedarville University Fellowship conducts services on campus Sunday and Wednesday evenings throughout the school year. Seven students elected each year by the student body direct the Fellowship under the leadership of the vice

president for Christian ministries. The Fellowship strives to meet the needs of students who are not able to travel regularly to area local churches. It also provides ministry opportunities for students in leadership: speaking, providing special music, ushering, and more. Services are planned to meet the needs of college-age students.

## Community Ministries

Cedarville University is located in a region known as the Miami Valley, an area encompassing the cities of Columbus, Dayton, and Cincinnati as well as the hundreds of smaller communities outside these major metropolitan areas. Community ministries seek to serve individuals and churches of this area by providing assistance in specialized areas, by meeting individual needs, and ultimately by demonstrating the love of Christ. Approximately 80 teams serve the local communities each week.

### AWANA

Several churches in the area surrounding Cedarville invite students to work as leaders in their AWANA programs. Students work with all age groups.

### Correctional Ministries

Students ministering in this area seek to demonstrate a consistent witness of the Gospel's transforming power in a person's life. There are many opportunities to share the hope of the gospel through listening, Bible study, and directing recreational activities.



*Sharing the Good News of the Gospel is vital to the spiritual development of Cedarville students.*

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# 20 Christian Ministries

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## **Counseling and Crisis Pregnancy Ministries**

As volunteers in local Crisis Pregnancy Centers, students provide information, support, and counsel on the sanctity of human life to women who are contemplating abortion.

## **Evangelism and Urban Outreach Ministries**

These evangelistic teams use innovative methods of communicating the Gospel to nonbelievers at college campuses, gospel missions, and area cities.

## **Hospital Ministries**

Area hospitals invite Cedarville students to encourage patients and support their staff through their willingness to serve while answering phones, stocking supplies, comforting patients and relatives, and much more.

## **Independent Ministries**

Cedarville strongly encourages students to become involved in the church or community organization of their choice and make it their personal Christian ministry. Students should contact the pastoral staff of the church or volunteer coordinator of the community organization for information concerning possible involvement.

## **Local Church Teams**

These teams go to the same church each week throughout the school year to assist in a variety of ministries ranging from nursery work to teaching and song leading.

## **Tutoring Ministries**

There are many opportunities for Cedarville students to use their academic discipline to assist children, teens, and adults through local tutoring and teaching English as a second language programs.

## **Visitation Ministries**

These ministries to the elderly and handicapped provide incredible joy to the residents as well as the students who make the effort to reach out and spend time with them. Visitation ministries can include one-on-one interaction, singing, playing musical instruments, and leading church services.

## **Youth Ministries**

A variety of opportunities await students who wish to invest in the lives of area youth. Types of ministries include a big brother and big sister type of program, latchkey children's programs, and a ministry to local foster children and their families.

## **Cross-Cultural Ministries**

The University's own Missions Involvement Services (MIS) provides unique opportunities for students to experience missions firsthand. Each year, particularly in the summer, over 200 students minister around the globe. This involvement in missions aids missionaries in their work and helps students discern God's direction in their own lives. Participants raise their own financial and prayer support prior to leaving and report on their ministries upon returning.

Nearly 70 countries have been served by MIS participants since it started in 1970. For specific information concerning potential ministries and selection procedures, students should contact the MIS director for details.

## **Individual Ministries and Internships**

Students considering missions as a lifetime vocation often use MIS to gain missions experience. Working with veteran missionaries anywhere in the world, students use and develop important ministry skills, gain cross-cultural insights, and discern God's leading concerning missions as a career. Some, by working with their academic advisors, may gain valuable experience related to their academic disciplines. Those interested should contact their academic advisors.

## **Student Teaching**

Students considering international careers in education often take advantage of the MIS program to gain cross-cultural experience while completing the student teaching segment of their education requirements. Students interested in this option should contact the education department for information and approval.

## **Teams**

The majority of students who participate in the MIS program do so as members of teams. Created to perform a particular service such as singing, drama, puppets, medical assistance, technical assistance, teaching English as a second language, or physical labor, teams are typically selected each fall. Students interested in team ministries should contact the MIS director for details.

## **Touring Ministries**

Touring teams offer an exciting opportunity to minister and represent Cedarville University. Selected on the basis of an audition, all team members receive a salary. Teams rehearse approximately six hours a week and travel up to four weekends a quarter and eight weeks during the summer. Team audition times are announced during College Week.

## **Lifeline Players**

A group comprised of men and women from a variety of majors, this team uses drama to encourage and challenge both youth and adults in their faith. Programs typically include short, often humorous, sketches depicting real-life situations where biblical truths can be applied. This group travels during the school year, spring break, and the summer for eight weeks.

## **Master's Puppets**

Students involved in the Master's Puppets use puppetry and a variety of other teaching methods to minister to children. Men and women from all majors find this to be an extremely effective and enjoyable means of sharing God's truth. These groups travel during the school year, spring break, and the summer for eight weeks.

## **Music Ensembles**

These 11-member ensembles include singers, keyboard accompanists, guitarist, and a sound technician. These groups



*Traveling with a University ministry team such as the Kingsmen Quartet provides unique opportunities to serve others.*

travel during the school year, spring break, and the summer for eight weeks.

### **Kingsmen Quartet**

A six-member group of four singers, a pianist, and a sound technician, this group travels during the school year, spring break, and the summer for eight weeks.

### **Spring Break Ministries**

A number of teams are available to give students the opportunity to minister over the school's spring break. Ministries include, but are not limited to those listed below.

The **Inner City Impact Team** ministers to children in the inner city of Chicago through tutoring, Bible clubs, and youth activities.

**Joy Ranch**, a home for disadvantaged children in Hillsville, Virginia, invites students to assist in the maintenance and improvement of ranch facilities and service of residents. In addition, Cedarville students tutor and have social and ministry times with the children.

The **Master's Mission** invites students to Robbinsville, North Carolina, to gain practical experience in physical missions work. Tasks may include clearing brush, painting, general construction, and landscaping.

The **Pacific Garden Mission** ministers to the homeless, unwed mothers, and children in the inner-city of Chicago.

**Shepherd's Home**, in Union Grove, Wisconsin, gives students the opportunity to serve by helping with mentally disabled adults.

### **Selecting a Ministry**

All students participate in Christian ministries voluntarily. As a result of the large number of ministries available, deciding which way to serve can seem overwhelming.

In selecting a ministry, students should apply the following:

- 1) Consider your interests. Select a ministry that allows you to do something you enjoy.
- 2) Consider your vocational goals. There are many ministries that are directly related to the majors offered at Cedarville University. A Christian ministry related to your chosen field can help you decide if you have made the right choice, and in some cases may lead to an internship, reference, or employment.
- 3) Talk with upperclassmen. Find someone who has experience in the ministry you are considering.
- 4) Talk with the Christian ministries staff in the Dixon Ministry Center. The staff is available to answer questions you might have.
- 5) Attend meetings. There will be traveling team auditions and organizational meetings during the first two weeks of fall quarter. Watch carefully for instructions on how to get involved.

### **Requirements**

- 1) The Christian ministries program at Cedarville University is a volunteer program. All students are encouraged to participate in Christian ministries on a regular basis during their college experience.
- 2) At the end of each quarter, students are asked to complete an "end of the quarter report" form. This form is used to record on each student's permanent file his or her current area of ministry involvement. It should be completed even if a student has not been involved in a ministry. If a student is involved in a ministry outside the Division of Christian Ministries, it should also be reported on the "end of the quarter report."
- 3) University-owned transportation or mileage reimbursement is provided for those ministries approved through the Division of Christian Ministries.



*Through various work projects, the Cedarville ministry team encourages the boys and girls at Joy Ranch in Virginia.*