

As one of the oldest student ministries on UA's campus, Chi Alpha Campus Ministry's mission is to create a family of UA students wanting to worship, spread Christian messages, and create a community for students.

"We represent what it means to be a community that loves people, loves this campus and loves Jesus," Chi Alpha student leader Christian King said.

UA Chi Alpha started as an outreach from the Assemblies of God denomination but is welcome to all types of Christianity. "Equipping students through spirit-filled community" is Chi Alpha's mission statement.

Based on ideas of fellowship and brotherhood, their goal is to prepare students to enter new stages of their lives ready to share God's word.

Chi Alpha has opportunities for students to worship and be a part of the community, but also to lead their own small group, join the worship band or to join a small group.

Large group services are held every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. inside Farrah Hall. During services, students sing worship songs led by Chi Alpha's worship team and receive a sermon from one of Chi Alpha's leaders or student leaders.

Josh Ellen, Campus Director of Chi Alpha, joined the ministry when he was in college. After being mentored in his small group, he felt moved to continue his work with Chi Alpha.

"To me, Chi Alpha is more than an organization and more than a ministry," Ellen said. "Chi Alpha is a community of people seeking out the same thing, which is Jesus."

Ellen is not only the Campus Director but also writes and performs worship songs for the ministry. "I wouldn't be following Jesus the same way if it weren't for Chi Alpha and a small group of men who disciplined me," Ellen said.

“On our campus, one of the most felt needs is a need for relationship and community,” Ellen said. “Chi Alpha is an amazing community for many students.”

Chi Alpha’s small groups are called Discipleship Groups, or D Groups. They are run by students for students. If students are interested in being a D Group leader they can be mentored in discipleship training to later start their own.

D Group leaders Ben Kopper and Christian King started discipleship training as freshmen and now co-lead a small group.

“D Groups are small and intimate to allow students to connect and strengthen their community,” Kopper said. “D Groups much more than large groups are what make Chi Alpha into a family.”

With many out-of-state and international students on the UA campus, D Groups are an opportunity to connect students from all around.

“Discipleship Groups are a great way for students to get plugged in with students of all majors and make friends who you can continue to rely on through your academic experience,” King said.

After many years of serving UA’s campus, Chi Alpha is continuing to equip students through a “spirit filled community.” Chi Alpha connects students on the UA campus in a mission-based student ministry in hopes of creating community and preparing students to spread the word of God.

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