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UCM Calgary

April 2025

Yes, students are stressed and anxious. Yes, concerns about the future loom large. Yes, we had an incredible trip building a home,

learning about community development and growing in community – joyful service was experienced by our team of 24 in February. Yes, there is a desire to dig deeper daily in the midst of the grind and the obstacles that confront us. Yes, I have to keep reminding myself that struggle is good and that Jesus, for the joy set before him, suffered the shame and the scorn, and endured the cross so that we could experience His life. Such costly love. Thank you all for your partnership with us. We truly can't do this alone.











You can't see our mustached man, Art Kung, in the group hug above but he does an incredible job serving at SAIT and helped oversee a group of students who went to Costa Rica in February. My wife doesn't draw a salary but she's a big part of UCM's ministry – pictures above show her with me and our team in the Dominican – also does a LOT of hospitality in our home – final picture is hosting some Muslim friends for the end of Ramadan. Also shown above is part of our Guiding Group for SERVE Campus in Canada (we were on campus in Bellingham getting inspired about student ministry). We are blessed with so many people that we get to interact with – it would take hours to share the beautiful stories – thank you for being part of that!

Our theme of dailyness within UCM has struck a chord in me as I continue to seek to model a dependence and vitality in Christ. If you follow @ucmcalgary on Instagram you know that we are having student and friends of UCM share reflections on a portion of our daily reading during this Lenten season leading up to Easter. Over a hundred have the devotional *Seeking God's Face* and others use the online version. Seeking to prioritize Scripture before screens has been a challenge for me and also life-affirming as I commit to spending time first in the Word daily. I am asking God that you all would experience His grace and generosity in beautiful ways in the weeks to come.

For a few years I have been encouraged by the UCM Board to lean into regular rest and to consider taking a 3 month sabbatical. My team has cautioned me against working too much and my wife has been gentle in her reminders that there is a special invitation to remember or observe the Sabbath in the midst of the 10 commandments. I'm finally doing it! I am very thankful for the opportunity to rest and be refreshed from April 23-July 23rd. I covet your prayers for me, my family and our

UCM team as they continue to love, serve and seek the best for those by whom we are surrounded.

Would you pray two pieces of Scripture with us? We want to follow in Jesus' way and we long for more to join us in the needs on our campuses – thank you for joining us in prayer. We are looking forward to seeing how God provides.

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Matthew 9:36-38

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:1-2

God's peace and joy to you,

Kelly for the UCM team (Art, Daniel, Stephanie and Logan – please let me know if you'd like their personal ministry updates a couple times a year)

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