

A PLACE TO CALL HOME

SL BROWN  
FOUNDATION

FORMING PEOPLE.  
SHAPING IDEAS.

## SOME QUESTIONS

# DO NOT FIT NEATLY INTO A SYLLABUS

You came here to learn. But somewhere between the lecture hall and the walk home, questions surface about who you are, what you believe, and why any of this matters. If you are asking these questions, we offer a community ready to explore them with you.

The SL Brown Foundation exists at the intersection of historic Christian faith and the contemporary university, not to resolve the tension, but to offer you a place to sit, a community to join, and a tradition rich enough to carry the weight of your academic and personal development.





"You will seek me and  
find me when you seek me  
with all your heart."

— Jeremiah 29:13



**OVER A DECADE**

## IN THE HEART OF UW-MADISON

There is a place on East Campus Mall that  
is alive all day and well into the evening.

Since 2015, Upper House has been  
the SL Brown Foundation's home at the  
University of Wisconsin-Madison. It is  
a place that fosters generous hospitality,  
serious intellectual engagement, and  
life-lasting friendships.



# UPPER|HOUSE FELLOWS

Upper House Fellows Program  
offers a community for  
UW—Madison students to explore  
big questions about life, faith,  
calling, and following Jesus in  
today's world.



"Being part of the Fellows Program gave me a deeper understanding of how serving Jesus Christ is reflected through my career and vocation."

— Helen, Graduate Student, Pharmacy

**GO FURTHER. GO DEEPER.**

## FORMATION, NOT JUST INFORMATION

Every other Monday, a diverse group of graduate, undergraduate, and international students gathers at Upper House to address the big questions of life, faith, and calling. They share a meal. They opt in to one of several tracks. They ask hard questions together. Then, over the course of the year, something changes in them.

Rooted in Christian traditions and practices, experienced program instructors guide Fellows as they explore what it means to follow Jesus in a complex, pluralistic world. While maintaining core emphases on biblical theology, vocation, and spiritual formation, this program creates opportunities for students to develop a Christian lens through which they can approach their academic disciplines and bring their faith to bear on every area of life.

# NEW COLLEGE MADISON

New College Madison offers  
University of Wisconsin–Madison  
students access to the Christian  
story in a way that is  
intellectually formative.

## TAKE IT INTO THE CLASSROOM

## FAITH AND THE LIFE OF THE MIND

In partnership with UW–Madison, New College Madison offers academically rigorous courses rooted in the Christian tradition. Not a parallel education, a complementary one. Beyond its primary partnership with UW–Madison, New College seeks to collaborate with other leading colleges and universities across Wisconsin in an endeavor that not only serves students but also institutions in the broader higher education system.



# LUMEN CENTER

The Lumen Center is a community of scholars reconnecting Christian thought and the academic disciplines through writing, teaching, and public engagement.

"The unfolding of your words gives light.  
It gives understanding to the simple."

— Psalm 119:130

## THE SCHOLARSHIP BEHIND IT ALL

## LIGHT IN THE ACADEMY



The Lumen Center supports a team of Christian scholars with the mission to bridge the academic disciplines and the life of the church. Lumen Fellows—experts in disciplines from the arts to biblical studies—research, write, and collaborate to address vital questions at the intersection of culture, scholarship, and Christian thought.

Fellows regularly publish and speak at venues across the country, shedding light on critical issues facing the church. We advance our work

in Madison through teaching and hosting, and with broader audiences through publishing, podcasting, and other written and digital media. The Lumen Center succeeds when Christians understand the complex ways in which culture and Christianity intersect and are equipped to live more faithfully in light of that knowledge.

Our name, Lumen, means 'light' in Latin. The University of Wisconsin's founding motto is Numen Lumen, "God, our light."

# UPPER|HOUSE COMMONS

Upper House Commons gathers  
the university community for  
spiritual, intellectual, and  
vocational formation.

**HONEST AND HOPEFUL**

OUR DOORS ARE OPEN FOR ALL



Upper House Commons is dynamically connected to the life of UW–Madison. We help students, faculty, and our broader community think seriously about faith by fostering intellectual depth and Christian formation through thoughtful conversations, lectures, courses, and shared experiences.

Graduation changes a lot. Your relationship with the SL Brown Foundation and Upper House does not have to. For the entire Madison community, Upper House Commons offers lectures, reading groups, and conferences that keep the questions alive.

# STUDIO

SLBF Studio produces content  
from events, podcasts, and  
creative media for individuals and  
faith communities for a deeply  
formed life.

"How beautiful are the feet of  
those who bring good news!"

— Romans 10:15



## THE CONVERSATION CONTINUES

## WHEREVER YOU ARE

Not everyone can visit Upper House, but SLBF STUDIO carries the conversation far beyond campus to curious minds everywhere.

We produce and curate podcasts, video series, and recorded events to provide listeners and viewers with unique programs that blend human interest, academic rigor, and spiritual depth. STUDIO's greater goal is to foster meaningful engagement with life's big questions illuminated by the shaping power of the Christian gospel.



## THE MISSION

Leading Christian thought and formation to shape the University of Wisconsin community and beyond.

## THE VISION

Renewed Christian presence in the pluralistic university where all are learning and serving to create a more virtuous world.

## CORE VALUES

### We Embody Lavish Hospitality

Reflecting God's boundless love, we extend heartfelt hospitality in all we do. We treat everyone as a neighbor and attend to their needs as if attending to Christ himself. We desire guests to experience our offerings as memorable for their intellectual and spiritual content and their aesthetic and relational attributes.

### We Practice Purposeful Weaving

We bring our authentic selves to our project in a spirit of collaboration under the direction of the Holy Spirit. Together, we create a tapestry more beautiful, valuable, and stronger than any of us could weave on our own.

This creates a healthy culture, a vibrant spiritual ecosystem, and a thick public witness to the university community.

### We Spit-Shine Everything We Do

Humility and excellence anchor our approach to work. No one person is above pitching in with the humblest task. Through diligence and attention to detail, we bring extra polish and shine to each aspect of our project.



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365 East Campus Mall, Suite 200 | Madison, WI 53715 | 608.237.2929 | [info@slbrownfoundation.org](mailto:info@slbrownfoundation.org) | [slbf.org](http://slbf.org)