He Makes Everything Beautiful In It's Time.... Summer 2011 Ecc 3:11

John and Ellen Fleming 19 Glenwood Street Albany, NY 12208

What a Summer of changes it has been!



We welcomed Madeline Mae Fleming into the world on 7/28/11 at 12:51 am, weighing in at 9 lbs, 4 oz and 21 inches long. She is a wonderful blessing that we have been getting to know every day and thanking God for! So far everyone is doing well and healthy. Not only have we been blessed with a new baby, but John's sister, Mary, was married to her fiance, Jordan, a day before our anniversary in July. This month's letter is packed with news about changed lives from our students on the Boston Ops Summer Project (page 3+4) but also a new name coming to our national organization. Details can be found on page 2. We thank you for your partnership and love we are grateful and we hope you enjoy this update!



Some "Artsy" pictures of Boston, MA from various students on our project !!!

What is the Boston Operations Summer Project?

This year a group of 10 students gathered from all over the a States to work downtown at the Northeast Regional Head Quarters. They worked on projects for the local, regional and national level of Campus Crusade for Christ to create products and solutions that help reach more students with the grace and truth of the gospel. The students learn how their gifts and abilities (graphic design, event planning, photography, videography and more) can be used to glorify God and build his Kingdom. We had the privilege of training and coaching students both in the office (with John doing web design) and going out on campus (as Ellen trained in some evangelistic styles and strategies!)

Check out JohnAndEllenFleming.com for links to students' video projects reaching the Deaf Community and more!



Campus Crusade for Christ

Praises:

- We thoroughly enjoyed our summer project in Boston, MA this year and had many opportunities to use our unique talents and gifts!
- We arrived safely back in Albany and Ellen made it through the summer project at 37.5 weeks pregnant... no surprises, praise God!
- Our baby was born safely for both child and mother (with no induction and a week late)!
- We're grateful for those individuals and Churches that have recently stepped out in faith with us prayerfully and financially!

Prayer Requests:

- For our staff team to go back to campus refreshed and rested after a national conference in Colorado at the US staff conference. (we missed it due to the arrival of our new baby, Madeline!- but are thankful for some of the live web casts!)
- PLEASE PRAY FOR DIVINE APPOINTMENTS AND OPEN HEARTS as we do outreaches in the NEXT FEW DAYS on local campuses with the arrival of many Freshmen and transfers.
- Pray for our financial support as our family grows, that the Lord would provide for the ministry as well as our individual needs.
- Pray for us to love each other well in our marriage and to transition well as a new family of 3!
- Pray for us to really seek the Lord together for what Ellen's new role on Campus Could look like after baby's arrival. Also that she would take the time she needs to adjust in her new role as a mom while continuing to contribute in different valuable ways to the ladies she already has relationships with on Campus!

REAL LIFE in the Capital Region!

Still Changing Lives With a Great New Name



is becoming



I hope you are well and experiencing God's grace. You may have heard recently that Campus Crusade for Christ is changing its name to Cru. We're excited about the name and the opportunities it offers to tell the world about Jesus. Many of our ministry partners have also shared their enthusiasm.

Unfortunately, you may have heard some misinformation in the media about the motivation behind the name change. Just in case these reports have caused any concern I want to let you know, first hand, what is true.

If, by chance you've wondered about what you've heard in the media let me share a few thoughts:

- 1. Campus Crusade for Christ is unswervingly committed to lifting up and proclaiming the name of Jesus. We were founded with a commitment to the centrality of the cross, the truth of the word, the power of the Holy Spirit and the global scope of the Great Commission. Nothing has changed.
- 2. The problematic words in the name were Campus and Crusade. The term "Campus" has not represented the full scope of our mission for many years. The word "Crusade" carries negative connotations that serve as barriers to connecting people with the heart of Jesus.
- 3. The majority of Christian missions organizations and most local churches do not have the name Jesus or Christ in their name. This doesn't lessen their devotion to Christ or their effectiveness.
- 4. Our mission remains the same: To help fulfill the Great Commission by winning, building and sending Christ-centered multiplying disciples and to give every person a chance to say YES to Jesus. It's the same mission that God gave to Bill and Vonette Bright in 1951. We believe that our new name will help us more effectively accomplish that mission.

You may be encouraged to hear what our Vice President, Steve Sellers, had to say while appearing on Fox and Friends recently [you can find a link at www.ccci.org/cru]. It's just one more way God has provided for us to lift up the name of Jesus.

Finally let me just say thanks for linking arms to lift up the name of Jesus. I thank God for you and pray for you. Because of you the gospel is being proclaimed and people are coming to Christ. Your partnership is appreciated more than you know.

If you have any questions or would like clarification, I'd love to talk. Drop me an email, give me a call or let me know a number where you can be reached. I welcome the chance to connect for a few minutes.



Four by plane. Three by car. One by bus. This was the start to our Summer Project, Boston style. On June 1st, eight wide-eyed college students joined six staff members to begin our two-month internship/missions trip in this historic city. We were divided into two houses and became quickly accustomed to our new routine working full-time at the downtown Campus Crusade for Christ (CCC) headquarters. All of us are currently majoring in creative fields, such as graphic design, illustration, photo journalism, video production, web design, and event planning, so everyone had the opportunity to use their skills to create highly demanded tools for CCC chapters all over the Northeast region. Because we are already aware of what design strategies attract our age group, it was our goal to make relevant promotional materials for our peers, as well as proclaim God's truth in our work. Several of us had the task of making a whole new name, logo, introduction video, and website to suit The Epicenter Experience, a new winter conference in Albany. Others of us planned upcoming campus events and designed brochures, posters, banners, and new logos to be used this fall.

During summertime in a city, however, you can't keep college students cooped up inside all the time! In addition to our time spent in the office, we focused on outreach to three different campuses in Boston, where there were many local and international students taking summer classes. We used picture surveys as one of our techniques to start spiritual conversations with them while they were waiting in between classes. By listening to what the students had to say and telling them about how we have personally experienced God's love in our own lives, we were blessed to be able to share the Gospel with many people from different states, countries, religious backgrounds, and walks of life. It is our hope that these intentional conversations both softened hearts towards God's Word and taught us to be more effective Christian witnesses in our everyday lives.





Learning to Listen

"It was our very first outreach in the Boston Commons park and I looking for someone to talk to. The staff instructed us to go out with the intention of asking people spiritual questions and truly listening to what Bostonians had to say about God. I introduced myself to three, friendly girls and asked if I could sit down with them. After getting to know them a little, I asked, "What would you say to a Christian if they approached you[to discuss spiritual things]?"

The girls said they were Buddhists and they didn't know much about Christianity. This left the door wide open for me to ask questions about their faith and, in turn, they asked questions about my faith. Up until this point, they had only observed Christians who believed in the wrath of God, so I got to explain that God is just, but He's also loving and personally cares for everyone. of the trust and respect established early in the conversation, I was able to share the Gospel with them. I am confident God used that conversation to soften the girl's hearts toward spiritual matters, as it was probably the first positive experience they'd ever had talking to a Christian. Before I left, the girls actually thanked me for listening, which showed me that letting others speak first can make a big difference."

-Laura Wells







Go Back to Family with the Gospel

"One afternoon at Northeastern University I asked a Chinese student if she had time to take a picture survey and she accepted. I handed her a stack of artistic pictures and asked her questions, such as, "What picture describes your life right now?" and "What pictures describes who you think God is?" She was very open to talking with me and she gradually told me about her life back in China and her struggle to fit in in America. Then to my surprise, she started talking about God without even knowing I was a Christian! She said she started believing in God when she came to the U.S and she was so excited about what He had done in her life over the past year. Her family back home doesn't know God, but she really desires to share the Gospel with them. She is going back to China this winter, but is nervous about talking to them about her new faith. I was happy to give her a "Knowing God Personally" booklet, which explains the Gospel in a clear, simple format, so her family could understand it. We prayed together over the whole situation and I left the conversation feeling very encouraged to hear how God was working in her life. Meeting her felt like a divine appointment because God used me to give her a resource to share her beliefs with people around the world."

-Tara Van Handel









In terms of community, God truly blessed us with all the staff and students He led to this Project and gave us the ability to work well together as a team. Outside of work we also built authentic community and grew together through small groups, morning devotions, prayer time, discipleship with a staff member, personal reflection time, fun community events, and group worship.

This summer has been an incredible experience for all of us as we learned how to use our natural abilities behind-the-scenes to further God's kingdom. As students, we developed genuine friendships, grew in our faith, planted seeds in the hearts of the people we met, and created important promotional materials that will help CCC ministries and conferences move forward in our ultimate goal: reaching more students for Christ. We are so grateful the Lord put it on your heart to help make this project possible. Your prayers, financial support, and encouragement played a vital role in everything we were able to accomplish this summer! Thank you!



From Tara, Laura, Kayla, Elle, Emily, Mandie, Peter, David, Ben, and Ed (Fleming, yes they are brothers!) to the partners and supporters of John and Ellen Fleming!

John and Eller

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