

The Silly Sheep Pen

finding the lost, binding the broken hearted

Fall Semester (so far so good) by Joe Chau

November 2008

As usual, as I sit down to write about what the Lord has been doing over the course of the last month or two, I am again blown away at all that has happened. We as a staff team are so excited at all that the Lord is doing and looking forward to what the Lord will bring about in the months and years to come.

Here are a list of some of the things we are praising God for.

- 1) Record number of UMass students attending our fall retreat
- 2) It seems God may have opened the door for us to begin some work at Smith College, one of the most influential universities of the feminist movement.
- 3) After 2 years of prayer, the Lord maybe opening opportunities to reach the athletes here at UMass.
- 4) God is truly developing a spirit of love among our students.
- 5) Students who are coming to know the Lord are getting connected to the body.
- 6) More students are excited to be mentored in how to share the gospel.
- 7) Students leaders are excited to plan their first outreach and invite their friends.

Each of these praise items have several stories behind them, as God weaves his plan through all of our lives. Though often Jen and I are tired from the level of activity, we are not forgetful of the honor and joy it is to serve our precious Jesus. We are moved by the many changed lives that we see.

Recently, I had breakfast with Eli, our student worship leader, and one of the men I met with weekly last year. We were sitting at Dunkin' Donuts at 8 in the morning and I got to tell Eli, how it was so wonderful to see God's joy in him. Last year when I first started meeting with Eli, he shared with me that he felt no real purpose and motivation in life and that he was probably clinically depressed. But it was so clear seeing him now that he's changed, and the Lord's joy and purpose were clearly in evidence in his life. In fact, he told me that he was considering serving God fulltime.

"Why?", I asked.

"I've just seen so many lives changed...", he began.

"Who?", I wondered.

"Well, everyone... Luke, Sarah, Ray, Chris, Geoff, Amanda... Everyone I know in Cru! (Campus Crusade for Christ)", replied Eli, laughing.



If you would like to financially partner with our ministry, give us a call or send your check to the address below. Please make checks out to "**Campus Crusade for Christ**" with our staff account number (**#0569044**) in the memo.

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7 Years! by Jenny Chau

A few weeks ago Joe and I celebrated our 7th year wedding anniversary. Seven years doesn't sound that long. But so much has happen that I feel the need to recount and give thanks.

We were married a little under a month after 9/11. We were living in Midtown Manhattan. During that time our country declared war with Afghanistan. There was grieving, anger, confusion all around us. The Holy Spirit moved us to comfort those around us, who were shaken and did not know God and we prayed for our nation.

In the pass seven years, We are blessed with three beautiful children, Lydia, Priscilla and Nathan. They truly light up our hearts daily. Our God is taking us through this journey of parenthood, so that we might know Him as our father. We learned why there should be boundary and what it means to love and discipline. I thank God for reminding me how precious life is. And that He is the creator of life and sustains our every breath.

In 2003, God called us to leave our computer work and go into fulltime mission. The call was clear He spoke to us through Romans 12 and many key people in our lives to take this step of faith. Our values was challenged and Our marriage was refined as we worked closely together in learning about God's providence. Again and again! because we are dumb like sheep.

Labor day of 2006, We moved to Amherst, MA(our mission field). It's been a little over two years now and we still feel like we are adjusting and settling. God has been protecting us everyday. the spiritual battle has been intense. There are times I feel like "we are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed." I praise God that we can live such full and meaningful lives. And we thank God for your partnership of making God's love known. 

Please continue to pray for us in these areas.

- 1) Joe and Jen will have a vital relationship with Jesus. And have a great marriage
- 3) Continued health for our family
- 4) Wisdom for how to reach Asian Americans here at UMass through Epic.
- 5) Please join us as we continue to pray that each of our student leaders, will see someone come to know the Lord, this school year.
- 6) With all that's going on, we know that we will not be able to do it all, so please pray for the Lord to bring more laborers. Especially, graduating UMass students who might prayerfully consider serving here for a year or two as a CCC or Epic intern.
- 7) We are challenging students to offer up their summers to serve the Lord on a summer missions project. (<http://www.gosummerproject.com>)