



# the gillespies and the Good News

November 9, 2011

## Raising Up Leaders

We think about our goals in working with college students as threefold: 1) representing Christ to (and hopefully persuading to believe) students who are wrestling with spiritual questions and the person of Jesus, 2) teaching Christian students to steadfastly love God and seek Him with their whole life, and 3) training and motivating students to reach out with the love and message of the gospel to others during their time in college and for the rest of their lives.

This fall we have seen God do really significant, wonderful things in the lives of the students with whom we're working, particularly in growing Christian students' hearts to reach out to their Christian and non-Christian friends with the gospel. Many students (and groups of students) who had not previously shown much commitment to minister to others have been leading the charge in our efforts to bring the light of the gospel to Dartmouth (and beyond). We have been especially excited about this as we view their growth in commitment as a big step toward owning the call to "make disciples" (Matt 28:18-20) as a lifelong one. We hope you are encouraged by these brief snapshots of some of the ways God has been using these students!



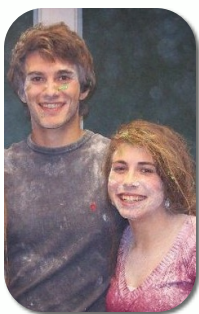
### OFFICER TEAM

*Alex* has been heading up a core team of four student leaders for our Campus Crusade group at Dartmouth. Though we have had official student leaders for the last couple of years, this group has embraced an entirely new level of ownership of the ministry. They have not only been working hard at planning events and managing the logistics to keeping the group running well, but they've been thinking hard, too—about the group's purpose at Dartmouth, about leading as servants, and about how to motivate other students to join us in being ambassadors for Christ.



### FALL RETREAT PLANNING TEAM

The last weekend of October we went away for the weekend to our annual Fall Retreat, this year at a Dartmouth-owned cabin in the woods, a 20-minute drive and 15-minute hike from campus. For the first time in recent memory a group of students stepped up to plan the retreat. It was a huge success; we had 28 people come and, far more than the numbers, it was a fantastic time of fun, bonding, and reflecting on Jesus' lordship. The picture at left is of Nathaniel (a freshman—at left) and *Kevin* (who was the biggest contributor to planning the retreat) throwing snowballs at other students as we hiked back to our cars (yes, it snowed in October).



### SUMMER MISSIONS → EVANGELISM TRAINING!

We shared with you previously that six of our students spent this past summer on a missions project in Yellowstone National Park. Not only did they grow a ton personally and share the love of Christ with many of their coworkers, but they've been applying what they learned back here on campus. *Scott and Amy* (covered in flour for some reason) have been leading a Monday evening training time for other students on how to effectively and lovingly share the gospel with friends. Jason has been meeting with them weekly, coaching them on how to communicate truths that they have learned in a way that helps other students to grow and be encouraged. It has been very exciting to have students stepping out in faith and training their peers, giving us the opportunity to coach them and support them rather than merely do the training for them.

JASON & FAYE GILLESPIE :: CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST AT DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

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### SPIRITUAL INTEREST SURVEYS



Every year at the beginning of the fall we set up tables in high-traffic areas and ask students to take our “30 Second Survey”, a very brief questionnaire about their background, level of spiritual interest, and desire to take part in our ministry offerings. One of the questions asks if the student would like to talk with someone from our group about “what it means to know God personally.” If they answer “yes” to this question and give us their contact information, we do our best to get in touch with them. This fall we have had an unprecedented number of students involved in following up these surveys (like *Wei*, at left), many of them getting together on Wednesday nights to go knock on doors to try to meet these respondents. We have been thrilled with the steps of faith that these Christian students have taken, and have been blown away by how God has blessed their efforts—three new students have professed faith in Christ!

### NEW MINISTRY LAUNCH



One of the troubling dynamics that we have noticed at Dartmouth over the past many years is that African and African American students have typically not felt comfortable in the Christian groups that currently exist on campus because of the cultural differences. Faye has been particularly concerned about this for a couple of reasons. First, most Christian black students are left to try to stay faithful to Christ *on their own* in a very challenging environment and second, most non-Christian black students do not have Christians in their social circles who are following Christ in a compelling way so that they might have an opportunity to hear about him. After years of attempts, this fall we have started coaching two black women, *Sandra*, whose parents are Nigerian, and Arielle, who is African American, to lead a Bible study for other black students; they are focusing on the Person and work of Jesus. Arielle, who is graduating this year, has even expressed interest in staying at Dartmouth next year to help us grow this new ministry. We are *thrilled* to see the gospel reaching more students in new corners of campus.

### EXPANDING TO A NEW CAMPUS



The northeastern US (New England and New York) is home to 2.3 million college students on 550 college campuses. Sadly, we at Dartmouth are one of just 14 Campus Crusade staff teams that are trying to bring the gospel to each of these 2.3 million students. Because we believe that God cares about each and every one of these students and that he’s commissioned us to be part of reaching toward them with the good news about Jesus, we have been seeking lately to expand our influence to other campuses in New Hampshire and Vermont. We have started by increasing our connection to Keene State College in southern NH, which has had a student-led CCC group for a couple of decades, but with little and inconsistent connection to older mentors and CCC staff.

Last year, in His mercy, God placed Keene State on the hearts of a local couple, *Deb and Jim Eklund*, and they started volunteering their time to mentor, coach and care for the students involved in the CCC ministry. They have had their hands full! Each week when we talk with them it seems like a new crisis has been happening in the Keene State ministry: rampant drug and alcohol abuse, sexual predation, deception from student leaders, the beginnings of a Christian cult... We have been ramping up our involvement with Keene State, visiting more regularly, coaching Deb and Jim over the phone often multiple times a week, working with student leaders to help set ministry goals and strategies, and building connections between students at Dartmouth and the students at Keene State.

In the midst of the chaos that that sounds something like the church at Corinth, God has truly been doing some great things. Deb has decided to pursue becoming part-time staff with Campus Crusade so that she can more fully devote herself to being a minister of Christ there. Many non-Christian students (especially women) have been coming to their meetings, wrestling through the claims of Christ and experiencing the love of a community for the first time. One student who became a Christian this past January is going to be applying to join the staff of CCC this spring because she wants to be an active part of bringing the message that has changed her life to other people.

*As we head into a week when we reflect on things for which we are grateful, thoughts of your faithful partnership and friendship come frequently to our mind. Thank you for standing with us in the mission to bring the life-changing message of the gospel to the world’s future leaders. Your sacrificial giving to make Christ known is such a great encouragement, to us and to the students here. We thank God for you often, and are praying that you will experience great joy as you reflect on God’s faithfulness to you this past year in both the easy and difficult circumstances He has allowed you to face.*

*Faye & Jason*



*Besides telling you about the great things  
God has been doing on campus, we also  
wanted to share with you one of the great  
things He's been doing in our family.*

*By God's grace we're expecting  
our first child - a boy!  
at the end of March.*

*Baby and Faye are both healthy.  
Jason and Faye are both scared and  
very excited!*

