

The Class of 2010, and a call to Prayer

An update from
Faye

November 5, 2006

Hello my dear friends,

It has been so fun in thinking about writing this letter to encounter the problem of having too much to tell you! This has been a wonderful and exhilarating fall for our ministry, and there have been so many great things going on that I don't have space to say!

One of the things I have been most thrilled to see happening has been our upperclass students taking initiative with younger students. There is a culture here (as in many places) of self-absorption and busyness which tends to keep people wrapped up in their own lives and concerns, and isolated from others. Our older students have been fighting against the tide of that this fall and have been reaching out to each other and to the new freshmen. It has been beautiful to see. Largely because of that we have probably four times the number of freshmen involved with our group as there were last year... maybe more. I have been so proud of these students, grateful to the Lord for working in them, and deeply encouraged to see the gospel impacting their lives to the degree that they want to give themselves away for the people around them. It has been *awesome*!

Another thing that has been wonderful and challenging this fall has been the freshmen (the class of 2010), themselves! There are a group of Christian students here this fall who are passionate about knowing God and about making Him known. A group headed up by two freshmen just started an academic journal at Dartmouth from a Christian perspective (the Dartmouth *Apologia*) to attempt to engage other students on deep issues. Each week in a Bible study I'm leading, freshmen ask me to pray for their roommates and friends, especially that they would have an opportunity to share the love of Christ with them. And one student, Laura, has been tirelessly working administrative routes to find a room on campus where we can have 24 hours/day of prayer. Currently she and a group of other students (mostly freshmen) are meeting every weeknight at 10pm to pray for the Dartmouth campus, for God to change lives here.

I would love to ask you to continue to join with them (and us) in asking God to change the lives of Dartmouth students, staff, faculty. Some specific things we're trying that you could pray for are:

- A spirituality discussion group I'm starting with another religious life employee (in the residence halls)
- EveryDartmouthStudent.com, an evangelistic website we've set up but have yet to publicize
- Continued follow-up from the spiritual interest surveys we took at the beginning of the fall
- Bible Give-away right after Thanksgiving, offered to every student on campus
- Our students who are on the front-lines, trying to be a witness for their Savior with friends and roommates



Blessings,

Faye

O Lord God Almighty,

Well-Spring of Wisdom, Master of Power, Guide of all Growth, Giver of all Gain, We make our prayer to Thee, this Day, For Dartmouth College, for its work, and for all its life. Let Thy hand be upon its officers of administration to make them strong and wise, and let Thy Word make known to them the hiding place of Power. Give to its teachers the gift of teaching, and make them to be men [and women] right-minded and high-hearted. Give to its students the Spirit of Vision, and fill them with a just ambition to be strong and well-furnished and to have understanding of the times in which they live. Save the men of Dartmouth [and the women of Dartmouth] from the allurements of self-indulgence, from the assaults of evil foes, from pride of success, from carelessness of opportunity, and from ingratitude for sacrifices out of which their opportunity has grown. Make, we beseech Thee, this Society of Scholars to be a Fountain of true knowledge, a Temple of sacred service, a Fortress for the defense of things just and right, and fill the Dartmouth Spirit with Thy Spirit, to make it a Name and a Praise that shall not fail, but stand before Thee forever. We ask in the name in which alone is salvation, even through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

This prayer, from an earlier day in Dartmouth's history, is inscribed on a plaque and hanging in the College's main administration building.