

the gillespies and

the Good News

July 25, 2011

Our Dear Friends,

Hello from Colorado! We are here for the biannual US Staff Conference of Campus Crusade for Christ, and so enjoying the sunshine, blue skies and Rocky Mountains. We've been here all summer, most of it taking seminary courses on theology, how to study and teach the Bible, and how to more effectively explain the gospel with others. It has been good for us to both be delving into thinking about God more deeply and spending time outside in such a beautiful place. This summer has been both invigorating and healing for us!



Amy and Hannah in Yellowstone National Park

There have been many, many things that we've wanted to write to you about this summer and to ask you to pray for. Faye has been coaching some new CCC staff women in raising their financial support, and we'd covet your prayers for them. Three of them have a deadline of August 15th to finish raising all of their funding, and while one of them is just about done, two still have a long way to go. Please thank God with us for raising up Charlene's funding as she heads to Cornell University, and pray for Rebecca (a Dartmouth grad going to University of Maine) and Sarah (going to Brown University). Please be praying, too, for Deb who is raising support to work at Keene State College in southern New Hampshire. Deb will be working part—time there as an extension of our Dartmouth team, and while God has been using her mightily as a volunteer, she and her husband really need God to provide financial support so that Deb can continue to have the time and financial resources to minister to Keene State students. *More about her next month*.

Another really exciting thing this summer is that we have SIX DARTMOUTH STUDENTS AND ONE KEENE STATE STUDENT ON A SUMMER MISSIONS PROJECT IN YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK (which, if you recall, is where we first met!). Amy, Hannah, Mary Scott, Drew, Scott, Josh and Jessie have been learning how to love non-Christians and share the gospel with new friends and co-workers this summer as they've served as staff of the

Jaye & Jason

Old Faithful Inn. If you take a vacation to Yellowstone this summer, keep your eyes out—many of the staff you see in the park may well be Christian college students who are there to share about life in Christ with the other staff of the park!

A timely and important matter we wanted to address with you is the recent announcement (made while we've been here at the Staff Conference) that CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST WILL BE CHANGING ITS NAME IN 2012 TO

CRU. As you may know, most of the college ministries in the US (and all of them in New England) changed their name locally a number of years ago because we have found the name "Campus Crusade for Christ" to be a hindrance to our actually being able to engage students with the gospel. (At Dartmouth we go by the name "Christian Impact".) We are very grateful that the US ministry, as a whole, has decided to address this challenge by finally changing the name of the organization in the US.

On the back of this letter we've included for you a statement from our organization on why we're changing the name. We personally want to reassure you that our name change *in no way* reflects a desire to distance ourselves from the person or work of Jesus. Our mission—to bring the gospel of Christ within arm's reach of every person—*has not changed*, locally or nationally. Our statement of faith has not changed. We still cling to and proclaim that God loves people, that people are desperately lost because of sin, and that accepting Jesus' payment for our sin is the only way to be reconciled with God. We are hopeful that the name CRU will give us a better chance of being able to engage more people with the life—transforming message of the gospel.

If you have concerns or even just questions about this name change, we would love to hear from you and talk about it with you. Please don't hesitate to call or email us. We deeply value your partnership with us in this ministry and want you to have full confidence in us and in what we are doing.

With love and gratitude,

Still Changing Lives with a Great New Name



is becoming



That's right! In the U.S., Campus Crusade for Christ is becoming Cru. We know you care about this ministry and we want you to be among the first know. We're announcing it now. We'll adopt the new name early in 2012.

This change is being made in order to be more effective in sharing the gospel and to see even more people come to faith in Christ. It's been a two-year process, but ultimately we have come to this decision through much prayer and with a deep sense of dependence on God.

Words Matter

Although our name for the last 60 years is well respected in Christian ministry and missions, the word "Crusade" now carries serious negative associations. Also, the word "Campus" actually hinders people who are not students from engaging in our broad range of ministries. Research has shown that 20% of the people in the U.S. willing to have a conversation about Jesus are less interested when they hear the name Campus Crusade for Christ. Words may take on new meaning over time, but our calling never changes. We are committed to give every person around the world an opportunity to hear the gospel and a chance to say YES to Jesus. That's what makes a name change necessary.

Field Tested

Cru has been used for over 15 years by a number of our local college ministries. It has a track record of success in evangelism and discipleship. To those who are familiar with us, it connects with our past and yet is forward looking. For those that we will connect with in the future, the name will be filled with all of the experiences and meaning of who we are and what we have to offer.

Changing Our Name Will Help...

- Increase evangelism as more people are willing to engage with us in discussions about Christ.
- Involve more people who want to make a difference in their world for Christ.
- Improve synergy between all our ministries. They will benefit from a more cohesive connection while still maintaining their individual ministry's identity.

In the months ahead, there will be a period of transition where you will see both names used. For more information, please visit www.ccci.org/cru to see a brief video, graphics and answers to the most frequently asked questions.

You can be sure that our calling and mission have not changed. Our heart remains the same— to help fulfill the Great Commission by winning people to Christ, building them in their faith to see their lives transformed, and sending them out to reach others for Christ. Thank you again for your partnership in this ministry. Please pray with us that many more people will come to Christ as we take this step of faith together.