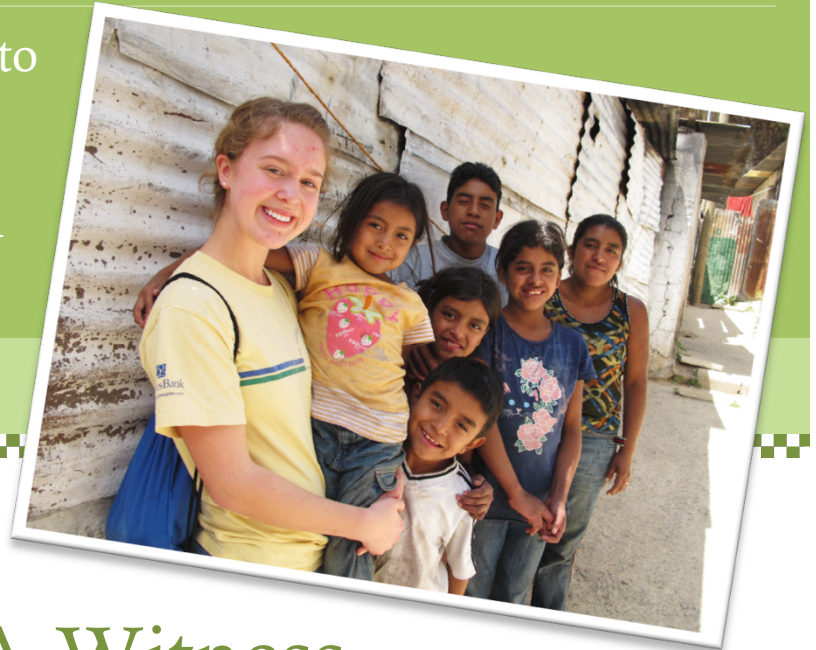


The Harvester

Using the outdoor experience to help students grow in relationship with God, with each other, in character and in leadership

April, 2011



Please Pray With Us

- For our family's health. We have all had GI issues for 2 weeks, landing Heather in the hospital on Easter day
- Praise that Katrina, a student, will stay at our house for the summer while we are in Colorado
- For Zack to go on summer project and for his faith to grow
- That we would end the semester to God's glory, preparing students to follow Him over the summer
- For perseverance and fruit for Dan and I as we continue to raise support

A Witness

"For me, serving others is serving God. I am delighted that I can live out my faith with passion in Guatemala. I am able to be a small part of God's BIG plan there." Emily proclaimed to high-schoolers at her alma mater. The honor's society had asked her to come and speak about her experience in Guatemala and Emily was eager to use the opportunity to share her love for Christ. This Emily, a junior in college, leader in Lifelines with a heart for the world, is so different from the doubting freshman who came to UVM three years ago. It is such a joy to see how God has transformed her during that time into a true light to the world. "See the impact your life can have on another, and know that you are valuable... Know that serving others does not require grand gestures. Rather, live simply and notice the needs of those around you. Serve your family. Serve your classmates. Serve strangers. Serve your friends." Emily prompted the next generation of college students. She herself will return to the Guatemala ghetto to live and serve through Christ this summer.



Dedicated to "Gram"

I write this newsletter from the hospital, at the side of my grandmother who is in her final struggle with lung disease. Gram and I have spent a lot of time together this year, born out of necessity, but resulting in blessing as we laughed, loved and cried together. Even as I long for her joyful entry into the Kingdom, I grieve my own impending loss. The world will have one less Red Sox fan, one less strong and loving woman, and one less feisty red-head. Thanks for everything, Gram.



Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!

“I love that they commit their day to God each morning. That is such a good idea. I want to do that,” announced Leslie, a new believer.

Leslie leaned in toward me and whispered, “What is a tithe?” I swallowed my food and turned to give a quick lesson on the concept of Christian giving. We were eating the main meal of our progressive dinner and listening to the Summerville’s share the story of how God has blessed them through helping others. We had visited and eaten at three homes, hearing powerful testimonies and tributes to God’s guidance: in times of trouble and fear; in leading a family and marriage; and in being a light in the

workplace. I was inspired, and the five students that accompanied me were mesmerized. It was the perfect way to cast vision to our student leaders for how God could live through them for a lifetime. It was eye-opening for Leslie, who gave her life to Christ this fall and whose entire Christian perspective has revolved around our Lifelines students and staff team. She was astounded to see other real life Christian families in action, opening their homes in welcome, and loving us and each other. Days

later she was still pondering what she learned, asking Cait and Amy (2 of our student leaders) what it meant when one of our hosts had mentioned fearing the Lord. What a way to strengthen each in their knowledge of God!

Students need to hear and see *you* in action; most have no Christian role model to learn from. They need godly heroes. Much thanks to the McGlaughlins, the Cummings, and the Summervilles for hosting and having such a profound impact on us all. Let’s do it again!

An on-campus “Fire seed”

I have asked Cait, one of our student leaders that I am mentoring, to read a book about spiritual awakening. As a result, she has called all her peers to join her in prayer for the campus Wednesday mornings at 7:00am. She told them, “The thought of having a spiritual awakening all across UVM can seem kind of

intimidating because it is such a dry, dark campus in many ways, and I think to myself, that doesn’t really happen anymore. But in James it says, ‘the prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.’ I think in order to see change here on our campus and to see God work and to have a

revival we need to commit to praying together for this campus and for the students.” Cait’s faith is like wildfire, touching others. This month she and I initiated spiritual conversations on campus and she has been surprised by the interest students have. It has sparked in her new hope for God’s hand at work at UVM.