

OCTOBER 2011

the

# Harvester

LIFELINES, the outdoor & experiential learning ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ



## Halloween Party

What do a present, a boxer, a lumberjack, and a rock star all have in common? They were all riveted by the stories of friend and Anglican priest, Alex Cameron, on Friday night. Alex spoke of his encounters with the spiritual world, sharing the gravity of the demonic and the joyful triumph of Christ, who “always wins.” He warned our students to neither take too lightly nor obsess over the unseen spiritual realm, but to trust God who has the victory. In the power of the Holy Spirit, the costumed audience wrapped up the night with cheese ball catching contests, Lifelines style.

### Upcoming events

#### Preview weekend Nov 4-6

Emily & Amy will attend a conference in Albany casting vision for a lifetime of ministry

#### Pancake breakfast Nov 12

Dan cooks up pancakes while we urge students to use their gifts to serve Christ on campus

#### Staff conference Nov 19-22

A time of refreshment for all Crusade staff in the northeast.

### Making a splash

“It was fabulous,” Jenn gushed amidst giggles when retelling the story of Lifelines’ latest canoe trip. Apparently the girls stayed afloat, but four out of five men went swimming in the cold waters of the Lamoille two weekends ago.

Though most of our trips are directed toward the lost, this was a trip just for believers. “This is exactly what I need more of in my life,” Hugh said in response to the conversation about being more intentional in talking about their spiritual lives. He and the others agreed to be more purposeful in sharing what God is teaching them, beginning right there on the bank of the river, exchanging verses they have been processing about and how those connect with their lives. We are praying that the Christian students at UVM would spur one another on toward love and good deeds... for their own benefit and for the glory of God.

***“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.”***

***Proverbs 27:17***



## Why do we do outdoor ministry? Reason #1 because Jesus did.

We know that 50% of Jesus's teaching was done in the outdoors! Why did Jesus spend so much time teaching in creation? You might just say, "that was the time period, Dan." But I believe there is a lot more to it than that. Jerusalem was a city of almost 300,000 people yet Jesus often went into the wilderness to connect with God and teach his disciples.

We see Jesus using illustrations from creation all the time. He points to the lilies of the field and birds of the air as he teaches about worry. Creation was His classroom for teaching spiritual truths.

As Lifelines, we try to model this style of

teaching. How can we point to creation to make our points? What are the benefits of teaching outdoors?

Creation is our co-witness! In Psalm 19 it says, "The heavens **declare** the glory of God; the skies **proclaim** the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth **speech**; night after night they display **knowledge**." From my own experience I have seen that it is a lot easier for students to say there is no God while playing video games in their dorm rooms. However, most will admit that their arguments fall flat on top of a mountain looking at creation.

## Embracing the role

Hopeful... and discouraging...



That is how we would describe our recent conversation with our national team concerning finances. We are encouraged by the truth they gave us and by their admonition to retreat from campus in order to pursue full time support raising, as it has been a need we have avoided or done half-heartedly for far too long. At the same time, it is discouraging to have to do the part of the job that is least fun. However, God gave us clear direction when our truck's transmission died this past week, resulting in an even heftier financial strain. We realize that part of the problem is that we've never considered how to make money in ministry as a *job*. However, until our support is more stable, we will be on campus very part time. We seek your prayers more than ever as this is where our faith is tested and we don't want to give the enemy a foothold. Please pray that we would be fervent and would trust God in this crucial part of our ministry.