

# The Harvester

## Lifelines

The outdoor and experiential  
learning ministry of Campus  
Crusade for Christ

Aug-Sept, 2010



## Please Pray With Us:

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Wednesday<br>nights    | Lifegroups, small groups<br>designed for all students to<br>offer Christ and His plan     |
| October 1              | Our first monthly meeting to<br>bring Lifelines students<br>together in vision & identity |
| Oct 6-7                | World Awareness Days to<br>involve students in what God<br>is doing about social justice. |
| Oct 9-10,<br>Oct 16-18 | Women's overnight and Men's<br>weekend: sharing the Word                                  |
| October,<br>all month  | Rock climbing, raft, kayak,<br>canoe, and hiking trips                                    |



## Expedition

The throw bag sailed over my shoulder and landed beautifully in the water behind me. Kat, a senior and one of our new raft guides, hollered, "Heather, grab the rope!" I looked at it, then ducked under it and swam upstream as far out of reach as I could. The faces of the students in the raft were priceless. This was the fourth time they had to rescue me and they were tired, and they were disgusted that I had become increasingly antagonistic toward being saved. It was obvious that some of them were ready to leave me in the white water for good. In fact, at the end of the trip during our debrief, that is exactly what they admitted to. "I was ready to just leave you there!" said Julia. Our five-day expedition had been about faith, hope and love, and the rafting program really hit the message home. "Wow- that is just like in life. Some people are easy to love, some are indifferent, and some are totally hard to love. And I just want to write those people off..." Kat exclaimed, making the connection. This was one of many programs that happened during our back-to-school expedition in August. Since then, these four women leaders have been demonstrating love in new ways – truly living as a light, being known by their love.

## Survey Says...

Over 107 students attended a Lifelines trip in the first three weeks of school at UVM. Over 80% of these students were non-believers. Of those, EVERY student responded in their post-trip evaluation that they wanted to come on another trip. Only 1 in 107 responded negatively to being part of a lifegroup that discusses life issues from a Biblical perspective.



## A picnic, a bonfire, a meeting, a trip.

So how does Lifelines work? Here is an example from the life of a freshman student named Zack. During the freshman orientation picnic on campus, Zack stopped by the Lifelines booth and met some of the staff and students. He was one of more than 300 that signed up for a Lifelines trip that day. A few days later he attended the Lifelines informational meeting where he participated in some fun Lifelines-esque outdoor learning activities on the green and then listened to students share about Lifelines

while he ate free pizza. *So far, so good.* Soon after he received an email to join one of the upcoming rock climbing trips. Zack invited five new friends from his dorm to join him on the trip where he climbed, sometimes blindfolded, and joined in a discussion at the end about faith. *Interesting...* He also met with staff guy, Gabe, during the week to bike ride and discuss life. Then he jumped in on a rafting trip where he learned about healthy boundaries. *A lot of input so far!* The following week he attended the Lifelines fall get-

away, which was a two night camping trip focused on virtues. That was when, around the fire, they were addressing the concept of love and belonging. "Yeah, it's like Lifelines is *my* group. You know, these are my people, right?" He explained, looking to the staff for affirmation. Dan grinned and nodded, because, that is so what we want. We want to **bless** these young adults, then give them a chance to **belong** so that they will one day come to **believe**. Please pray that for Zack that day will be soon.

## Known for LOVE

As Christians, we highly value faith, sometimes, above all else. However, Paul asserts that "these three remain: faith, hope and love. And the greatest of these is love." That is what we want to be known for: our love. On a college campus where affluent students seem to have everything at their disposal,

the one thing they need is love. And, in a society that boasts about diversity and tolerance, that is strewn with one night stands and broken relationships, a true demonstration of love stands out as something unique, special, and at its best, godly. We aim to show Christ-like love and teach our students



how to love, just as God first loved us. Love is a hard thing to argue with and an easy thing to desire, and God is both its means and its end. May we each be filled with the love of Christ.