



COMMON GROUND

Newsletter of United Campus Ministry
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Vol. 09, No.. 6

March 2012

“Making Good Habits”

I Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

I was listening to the radio this morning and they were talking about companies that had products that they wanted us as consumers to purchase to make our lives better. They were discussing toothpaste and how when toothpaste first came out that advertiser promoted the tingly feeling you get in your month after you have brushed your teeth and the bright smile you would have. They wanted people to form the good habit of brushing their teeth daily.

In the same way God wants us to have Christ like habits, as we turn towards the cross over these next 40 days I hope that you will remember to pray like Daniel. When a king forbade the people from bowing to anyone but that King, Daniel continued to pray to God because that was what he did everyday, three times a day. I hope that you will take time to read the scriptures knowing the answer to the question asked in Psalms 119:9 “How can a young man or women keep their way pure? By keeping it according to Your word.”

Last Thursday at Dinner and Bible Study we made 8 loans to people in third world countries to help with their fledging businesses. Let us hold on to the habit of giving; enjoying that warm tingly feeling we get when we help to change some ones life for the better. Enjoy the habit of worship and know that it is right and good to be it the midst of fellow

believers and bow down before the God most High. Come to Jesus this Lenten season and create the habit of following Crist’s path to the Cross!

Peace,

David

“Difficult Questions”

Lent is in full swing now and for every person it means something different. For some it’s a time to give things up, or to start something new, but for many it is a season of questions. “What is lent?” “What’s the big deal anyway?” I know I asked those question myself freshman year.

Growing up my church never mentioned lent so I was caught completely off guard when David talked about it at U.C.M. I had no idea what it meant or where it came from. It took me some time before I learned what lent was about and got used to the idea surrounding it.

40 days, the same amount of time it rained during the Flood (Gen. chapter 7) and Jesus fasted in the Wilderness. (Matt. chapter 4). 40 days of relying on Gods strength to kick a bad habit or begin a new one. 40 days to remember the one who gave his life for us not out of duty, but out of love.

Love is an action, not a feeling; it’s about giving up something for others. Whether that is time, junk food, work, or anything else, we do it in Christ’s name for it is through him we have the strength to continue. As we walk together through the lent season take courage not only in God’s love but also in the support of your brothers and sisters in Christ.

- Bethany M.

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UPCOMING UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY EVENTS

Tuesday Evening Worship is at 7:30PM in the lounge above the Lola Tilly Commons. We call this worship service Vespers (meaning an evening worship service). The service consists of singing, student testimony, a short message, and a time of quite reflection. This is a great mid week pick me up

Thursday Evening Dinners occur every Thursday at 5:30PM. We meet at the United Campus Ministry office and head over to the Moore's for dinner. Afterwards we either have Bible Study, go to a UAF sporting event, or do a service project. For Bible Study this semester we are going through some of the "Golden Chapters" of the new an old testament.

Spring Break Trip: Friday March 9th -Tuesday March 13th

Every year UCM has a spring break trip, and this year we are going to Anchorage. We are staying the night at St. John's United Methodist church and will be helping out at Empty Bowls, singing at St. Johns, Skiing at Alyeska, and more. For a complete list of times, events, and items to bring, please contact the UCM office. Cost is \$225 if you are skiing and \$175 if you are not skiing

Rainbow Town: Saturday March 24 @ 5:30pm

Rainbow Town is an orphanage in Liberia. Near the end of Liberia's twenty year civil war rainbow Town was established to take care of the many children devastated by the war. This fund Raiser is to help raise money for these kids to be able to attend college so that they can lead Liberia into the Future. I hope that you will join us for this wonderful event.

