

COMMON GROUND

Newsletter of United Campus Ministry
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"Little by Little"

Yesterday I was looking through old newsletter articles and I came across a couple that talk about our daughter Eryn, one when she was just a baby, one when she was maybe three or four and then another when she was in grade school. Last night I drove to Delta Junction to watch her first Junior Varsity Volleyball game, which they won. As we rode back together she rode in the front seat, for years she had to ride in the back because she was lighter than 90lbs. We had a great conversation about religion, about politics and about pop music. We laughed hard about our funny family and goofy dog! People tell you they grow up fast but it is hard to believe that just a few years ago she was in grade school and now she is in High School. And though she has come a long way there is still a long way to go. I feel the same way about myself. I have grown a lot over her almost 15 years but I still have a lot of growing left to do. I know that all of you have come a long way in life but it is important to remember that we must keep moving forward taking steps in a positive direction. Sometimes we think of ourselves as all grown up but life is a never ending sequence of challenges and growth. I encourage you to surround yourself with people who are going to help you expand your life in a positive direction. Challenge yourself so that you have an opportunity to mature in

faith, hope and love. Commit to staying close to God and the guidance and the people that he gives to you. My daughter, as a freshman is not done growing, nor are the freshman here at UAF, nor are any of us. It is only when we realize that we still need growth that we are truly emerging into what God wants us to be. Take time this semester to "Be still and know that God is God" and understand that by God's grace you will increase your faith.

One of the ways you can develop your faith this semester is by being involved in a campus ministry. There are lots of great groups on campus. We hope that you will give United Campus Ministry a try. I believe that we have a wonderful group where you can make friends that will last lifetime. I encourage you to find a place where you feel comfortable, a place where you will be challenge and a spot where you can call home. Have a tremendous year!

David Moore
Director
United Campus Ministry



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UPCOMING UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY EVENTS

Vespers: We meet Tuesdays at 7:30pm in the lounge above Lola Tilly for an "Evening of worship." Come join us for singing, prayer, a message, and time with friends! (**Starts September 7th**)

Dinner & Bible Study: Thursdays meet at the UCM office 306 Constitution Hall at 5:30pm. We will go to our Director's home for a home cooked meal and Bible Study. This semester we will be learning from the book of Exodus. (**Starts September 9th**)

Music Ministry: If you play an instrument or like to sing, come join us on Monday afternoons. We meet **at 4pm** (if this time does not work for you let David know) in the UCM office to sing through our songs for Tuesday Evening Worship. (**Starts September 6th**)

Kickoff Dinner: **Friday, September 3rd**, we will meet in the **UCM office at 5:30 pm** to go to the Moore's house for sub sandwiches, games and laughter. Come reconnect with friends and make new ones as we get ready for the semester.

Fall Hike: **Saturday, September 11th**, we will meet in the UCM office at 10:30 am to go hiking in the White Mountains just north of Fairbanks. Bring a sack lunch to eat at the top of Wickersham Dome. We will also stop at Hilltop Truck stop on the way home for pie; bring \$5 if you wish to order dessert.

Fall Retreat: **Friday, September 24th**, we will meet in the UCM office at 5:45pm to head out to Globe Creek camp for our fall retreat. Join us for games, food, and time away from campus. Our speakers will be former UCMers Nathan and Betsy Vonnahme, who will inspire us with there words of wisdom and encouragement. We will return to campus around 4pm on Saturday. **Cost is \$25.**

