

Dear friends,

After a very flat year last year, we began this year very strongly! We have a group made up almost entirely of freshmen this year, which is a great foundation for next year. There are some very fine students among this group!

Several changes have been made to our programming this year. We have moved lunches from Monday and Wednesday to Monday and Thursday. Thursdays are less demanding for our students academically than Wednesdays and we felt this would be a good change. Thursday has become more discussion oriented, focusing on the topic that was presented on Monday.

We have also implemented a new weekly aspect. Lunch & Conversation with Lonnie & Chris takes place each Wednesday. One student each week goes out to eat somewhere with Lonnie & Chris. This gives us a chance to get to know each student a bit better.

Several of our traditional road trips have taken place once again this year as we gradually gain momentum from the hit that COVID took on our programming and our students. We look forward to adding more of them back in for the coming year.

A Plan for the Future

We (Lonnie and Anthony) began talking some time ago about the long-range future of the ministry. Both of us work other jobs in order to be able to support our families adequately. It is our view that it will likely be easier in the future to hire one person full-time than to replicate the team concept that we now have in place.



The Watt home

Anthony has indicated that when Lonnie retires, he will plan to resign as well. There is no timetable set for that, but we desire to be proactive in planning. The idea of providing potential housing for a future campus minister was brought up in the discussion. It didn't take long to decide where the ideal place to begin looking for a house would be. Just a couple of blocks away is the former home of Paul and Claudie Watt.

Paul and Claudie were long-time supporters in many ways to the ministry of CSF. Not only did they support financially, they were active for many years in other ways. They were the "resident grandparents" to our students at least from the late 1980's until after the turn of the century. They were regularly found helping out in the kitchen, visiting with students, and cleaning up afterward. Claudie went to be with Jesus in 2011 and Paul followed her in 2018. Their oldest son, David, joined them on March 2.

CSF has agreed to purchase the home from the Watts below the market value. There will be some renovations and updates needing to be made as well. We anticipate a total need somewhere near \$50,000. Can you help us to make this purchase and prepare the home for the future of CSF? Perhaps you would even like to physically help with some of the labor.

The future financial stability of CSF will continue to be strong with your help and the completion of this home for future use.

The Rhythm of the Years

In the ever-changing world of campus ministry on a two-year campus where faces change frequently, we have developed a pattern of things that happen on a regular basis. This rhythm helps to bring some sense of continuity that we appreciate more and more as we age. The faces and lives that travel with us on this journey are fresh each year or two, but many of the paces we go and the things that we do are similar from year-to-year.

What was once known as the National Student Conference is now the Southeast Student Leadership Conference. The focus remains the same: equipping students for leadership in their campus ministries. The location has changed over the years. After nearly two decades in Evansville, IN, we were forced to make a move to Milligan College in east Tennessee. This past year we had two students attend with us and they soaked up every ounce from the conference.

Now, in order to maintain having the conference held in early August, the journey will be longer this year. Laurel Springs, NC is over 900 miles from us, but the time with students and the equipping that they receive is worth the expense and the travel.

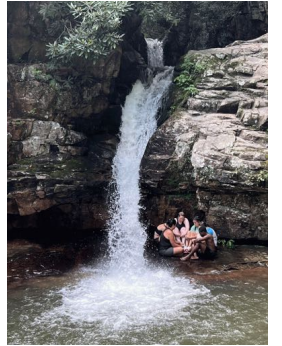
If you would like to help us to cover some of the cost of this trip and make it more affordable for students, we welcome your help. Registration is \$250. Add to that the cost of fuel and a night (or two) in motels as we travel and the expenses add up quickly. You can give via our website or send a contribution in the enclosed envelope.



Around the Branson campfire

This past fall we enjoyed our annual camping trip to Branson over Labor Day weekend. We made a trip to Nebraska in October over Fall Break and shared with the Wymore Church of Christ where Lonnie's parents are. A trip to Fritz's Union Station, Waubonsie State Park, Valentino's, the Henry Doorly Zoo, Runza, Mahoney State Park, and Baker's Candies were also enjoyed by the group and made for a full weekend.

We just returned from our ninth trip to Mountain Mission School in Grundy, VA. After missing the last three years due to ongoing covid issues, it was certainly good to be back. There were 19 who made the journey this year. We worked on a variety of different projects and spent time with the kids at MMS. Our team received such a great blessing from our time with the MMS family. We look forward to returning once again next March.



Students praying under waterfall in Tennessee



Orlando leading devotions at MMS

It would be difficult to count the number of trips that CSF has made to Mexico over the decades. Our roots are deep there and we have had the privilege of working alongside some spiritual giants beginning with Freeman and Carolyn Bump, their children, their grandchildren, and many people who have been influenced by them. Our eighth trip to work with Fidel Mancinas and the church at Casas Grandes will be taking place May 26-June 3.



The CSF apartment is a great place for students to live off campus, but right across the street. We take applications each year for the three bedrooms. One gender will be selected and applicants are generally notified by June 30. Rent is cheaper than living on campus. Find the application on our website www.csfneo.com



The International Conference on Missions (ICOM) will be held in Oklahoma City November 16-18. Look for the CSF display with the ACM (Association of Collegiate Ministries) booth area. If you have never been to ICOM and you live anywhere close enough to come, you won't regret it. We have traveled 700 miles to attend this conference and are so excited to have it this close to us again.

Catching up with CSF alums is always a pleasure. Lonnie and Chris have been able to connect with several on recent travels to Oklahoma City, Kansas City, and in Sullivan, MO on the way home from Virginia. We'd love to catch more of you.



Megan Nading Campbell with Breklyn and Judah



Michael & Dani (Boone) Miller with Maddie



Tyler Ceconis with Emily, Cameron & Cayleigh



Tiffany Nelson

CSF is still collecting ink and toner cartridges. If you have any used cartridges at home or work, we'd be glad to take them, recycle them, and use the funds for office supplies.

Staff Contact Information:

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You are cordially invited to our
Annual Banquet
 Saturday, April 29 @ 6 pm

Please RSVP by calling or texting Lonnie at
 918-533-3404 or via email at
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