



## Nurses Christian Fellowship Bringing Good News to Nursing

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### *An Alabaster Jar*

The four Gospels tell the story of a woman who anoints Jesus with a precious ointment from an alabaster jar. In her book, *The Woman with an Alabaster Jar*, Mary Elizabeth O'Brien describes how nurses are like this woman in many ways. Nurses have to break open the alabaster jars of their hearts to care for others. In her poem she writes,

*“But to rend a nurse’s alabaster jar; to pour out the  
costly ointment of caring, of concern, of tenderness;  
is not this what Jesus meant by his loving invitation:  
‘Come, follow me’?”*



**Jesus is calling nursing students and nurses to follow Him and you have helped them to hear His call and to respond...**

- ❖ **Urbana 06 Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>** InterVarsity’s 21st Student Missions Convention in St. Louis was AWESOME! Several hundred nursing students took advantage of NCF seminars and discussions to learn about opportunities to “break open their alabaster jars” and follow Him.



You can see more photos, listen to the speakers, and hear testimonies at [www.urbana.org](http://www.urbana.org). Our staff spent hours talking with nursing students and nurses and praying with them for God to reveal His will to them. We all were challenged by Rick Warren to respond to God’s call with the “**W**” hand sign for What ever, Where ever, & When ever! Thank you for praying and supporting my time there. Here’s my colleague, Skip, and I talking with a nursing student.

❖ Round Top weekend conference Feb. 2- 4<sup>th</sup>, *A Legacy of Faith and Compassion: Implications for Contemporary Nursing Practice*



Judy Shelly shared with the 84 nurses and 2 students how Christian “nurses” have been caring for unbelievers and fellow believers since the first century. We were challenged to rely on Christ to guide our care and to give us the strength and wisdom we need to follow Him in nursing. We worked in small groups to share how we can present Jesus to patients, families, and co-workers. New friendships and spiritual refreshment were on the “menu”, too!

❖ UT Tyler NCF Group Meeting on February 26<sup>th</sup> This dynamic group of faculty and students meets together on the Tyler main campus and “beams” the meeting to their distant campuses, too. I had the joy of sharing some biblical perspectives on suffering and how the Lord must fill our “alabaster jars” because the challenges of caring for those who suffer can be great. Here’s their group at Round Top where Belinda (top row, left) shared her testimony during our worship service of God’s faithfulness through her life-threatening car accident, multiple surgeries, and recovery.



❖ NCF Staff Leadership, National Director Search Advisory Committee, and National Advisory Committee meetings- Chicago, March 21-25<sup>th</sup>.



God was so very gracious to keep me “filled” for these consecutive meetings. He poured out His blessings as we listened to Him for guidance and praised Him for giving us specific directions for NCF’s future.

❖ **Next days...**

Visit to Austin Community College in April to visit with faculty leader, Jeannie, and students.

NCF's First National Conference: June 28-July 1<sup>st</sup>, and Faculty Conference July 2<sup>nd</sup> in St. Paul MN. I'll be sharing with participants how they can allow God to fill their alabaster jars through involvement in NCF and how they can serve Him by presenting Jesus to their nursing world. Here's the link to the conference webpage: <http://ncf.intersity.org/conferences/71mn.html>

**Please continue to pray that I will respond to God's call to expand my role and time with NCF** in the near future as He leads and provides \$1300.00 more in monthly support.

InterVarsity has a service on its website to assist ministry partners. Please see this secure site, "My InterVarsity", at [www.my.intersity.org](http://www.my.intersity.org) if you are interested in knowing more.

Also, several NCF volunteer leaders are experiencing difficult times- they are mourning the loss of family members and are dealing with serious personal or family illnesses and crises. Please pray with me that the Lord will be with them in their suffering and that He will use their experiences to help create a unique bond with those they care for. May they trust that their hearts will be refilled to overflowing with the love and compassion of their ever-present Lord.

*Jane*

If you would like to be removed from this list, please let me know.

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