



Nurses Christian Fellowship

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Texas and Louisiana

“infectious” (in fek’shus) adj. communicated by, or bearing, germs; tending to spread; catching (Webster’s New Concise Dictionary).

As a nurse I’ve used my knowledge and skills to prevent or stop infections from spreading, but recently I heard that C.S. Lewis described Christianity or Christians as the **“good infection”**. Contrary to best nursing practices, NCF nurses and students are being **“infectious”** as they are spreading the **“good infection”** of Jesus’ love. **Here’s how!**

Austin Community College NCF

A former student and teaching colleague of mine, Jeannie, is now teaching at Austin Community College. Because of her perseverance and guidance an NCF group started this spring. God has brought gifted and committed students to be group leaders. Jeannie told me that several nonbelieving



students came to their first two meetings to be a part of the fellowship. At their 3rd meeting in April, Lori, the president, told how God has given her a desire to share His love with others and how she wants them to know Jesus as Savior and friend. She said, “You’ll hear me talk about Jesus a lot, and I’ll ask people if they know Him.” **Lori is “infectious”**, and her classmates are “catching” her faith. After the meeting was over, Jeannie and I met a pre-nursing student, Jessica, who was reading the NCF announcement in the hallway. She was so excited to learn that there were Christian nursing students meeting together. Jessica expressed how God had led her to this school and now was answering her prayer to find a fellowship group. We can praise God that our faith is “contagious”!

Other stories of “infections”...

Vickie and her students at **Shenandoah Univ. in VA** have been faithfully caring for the students at their school—sponsoring fun times of bowling and cookouts, giving them “care packages” during test times and offering Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. This past year Vickie taught an elective course on spiritual care in nursing, and she presented biblical truths and the love of Jesus. **Four students became Christians this year through Vickie’s teaching and the NCF outreach.** This **“infection”** started in December of 2000 when one student got **“infected”** at URBANA, InterVarsity’s Student Missions Convention. Carrie and I met at the NCF exhibit where we talked about how to start a group, and we prayed together. I told her I had a Christian nursing friend who was teaching somewhere in VA. Guess what? My friend, Vickie, was on her faculty! After URBANA when Vickie and I talked, she readily agreed to shepherd Carrie as she started the group. And then the **“infection”** spread...

At **El Paso Com. College**, the faculty and RN leaders wanted to do something special beyond their ongoing prayer ministry before exams, so they had a Saturday luncheon program. **Two students accepted Christ.** This

past year the “displaced” **LSU** students from New Orleans had free lunches, gave the faculty “care packages”, and **three students became “infected” with Christ as Savior**. In East Texas at **UT Tyler**, the faculty-sponsored pizza lunches, worship, encouragement from Scripture, and prayer ministered to both students and faculty. When students made hygiene packets for needy folks in Guatemala, the **university vice president for community affairs got “infected”** and now wants all incoming freshmen to help with this project this next year! In **Carthage TX**, Shelbea, RN and 5 of her hospital co-workers met for the first time for prayer and devotions. Thank God for these “infections”!

Staff and Volunteer Leaders June Meeting in Chicago

NCF “infection” experts analyzed how NCF is ministering to people via the web, conferences, small groups, etc... This last year the NCF email network has grown by 14% and student campus participation by 10%! The Lord helped us see how we can “infect” more nurses and students by expanding our



staff, creating new resources, and developing new roles for volunteers. I’ll be



meeting again in September with other staff and volunteer leaders to continue to respond to this growth and to be ready when the NCF “infection” spreads as Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins begins publishing and marketing the *Journal of Christian Nursing*. We’ll also be planning a ’07 conference.

While on NCF staff, I’ve been greatly blessed by the “infectiousness” of my fellow staff member, **Sharon Barker**. After serving in Pakistan as a nurse midwife missionary, Sharon ministered to international nursing graduate students in Chicago and Austin, and for the last several years she has mentored the student leaders at Texas Tech in Lubbock. This spring Sharon retired from her “official” ministry roles. Please join me in thanking God for Sharon and her life of service to Jesus.

Opportunities for me to be “infectious”...

- * Planning with the Texas Council and Judy Shelly, former *JCN* editor and coauthor of *Called to Care: A Christian Worldview for Nursing*, for the annual Round Top conference on Feb. 2-4, 2007. Pray that God will guide our every decision re: the program, and that He will be preparing nurses and students to attend.
- * Ministering to nurses and students. Thank God for faithful “partners” (YOU!) who contribute to this work and who help me care for nurses and students. Ask Him to raise up more faculty advisors, student leaders, and nurses who want to lead their colleagues in prayer to “infect” their patients, their practice, and their workplaces.
- * Serving on the Staff Leadership Team. Ask God to give our team His wisdom as we prioritize, plan, and implement new strategies to build and sustain NCF ministry.
- * Serving on the Search Advisory Committee for the next National Director of NCF. Pray that the Lord will bring us the right person to lead this dynamic ministry and thank Him for Mary Thompson’s 24 years of “infectious” service in this position.

In His love, *Jane* (a “germ” for Jesus!)

If you would like to be removed from this list, please let me know, and be sure to check out www.urbana.org!

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