



Fall 2006

Dear Friends:

The Psalmist proclaims in Psalm 145:3,9,10 (NIV):

*Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;
his greatness no one can fathom.
The LORD is good to all;
he has compassion on all he has made.
All you have made will praise you, O LORD;
your saints will extol you.*

The past six months have been so full of the greatness and compassion of the Lord that I have not been able to take time out to let you know how He is answering your prayers. Please forgive me!



The summer began with an intense focus on prayer ministry. My husband Jim and I completed the Level II training at the MacNutt School of Healing Prayer in early June, and within a week I was joining the teaching team at InterVarsity's National Institute of Staff Education and Training (Niset) course to prepare Urbana Prayer Ministers. JCN Editor Kathy Schoonover-Shoffner

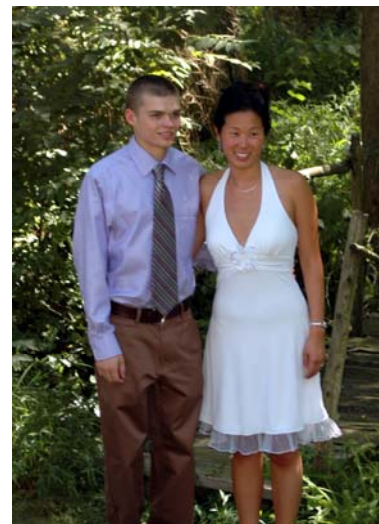
and NCF Volunteer Staff member, Audrey Hay also joined the class (above). We saw God at work in amazing ways as we "practiced" on each other and other InterVarsity Staff.

Prayer Ministry is simply inviting Jesus into painful experiences, relationships or physical problems and asking Him to direct the healing process through His Spirit. It involves learning to listen to God, forgiving and being forgiven, reconciling relationships and expecting God to act. In this process, we have seen marvelous things happen in our relationships as a staff team—as well as in those we serve in NCF, and in our churches and communities. Last month, Jim and I completed the Level III training at the MacNutt School of Healing Prayer.



However, summer was not all work. Jim and I spent another wonderful week on Holy Island, Lindisfarne, England. We again stayed at the Open Gate Retreat Center and enjoyed the atmosphere of worship, fellowship and "Holy Loitering" (aka contact evangelism), as well as leisurely walks around the island.

We also celebrated our daughter Janell's marriage to Jason Hoffecker on August 12. It's a delight to welcome Jason into our family. They are living in an apartment in nearby Boyertown.



The work of the NCF Director Search Advisory Committee (SAC) and the NCF Staff Leadership Team continues as we prepare for the transition in national leadership. Mary Thompson will step down as NCF Director on March 1, but continue working on InterVarsity special projects until at least June 30. An interim director will begin orientation February 1 and lead NCF beginning March 1 until a new Director can be appointed. The SAC has been reviewing candidates for the position and we are feeling very hopeful.



In the meantime, a strong National Advisory Group is developing excellent plans for reorganizing NCF regional ministry (at left, two members of this team, Joyce Young and Peg Wigton with me). We are also working toward getting the Institute of Christian Nursing up and running, building on the excellent foundation previously developed.

We celebrate the successful transition of JCN to its production by Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins. If you haven't seen the Fall issue, you are in for a treat!

Please pray for upcoming events:

October 13 – MidAtlantic NCF Seminar with Verna Carson in Valley Forge, PA

October 13 evening-14 – NCF Retreat (I am speaking)

November 11 – Healing Prayer Workshop, Obelisk, PA (I am speaking)

December 26-January 1 – IVCF Urbana Missions Convention, St. Louis

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judy Shelly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Judy Shelly

