



O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. ~Psalm 95:1-3

Spring 2009

Dear Praying Friend:

The Lord is indeed a great God! Perhaps we need times of feeling totally out of control to realize that. Otherwise, we get to feeling like we can handle everything ourselves.

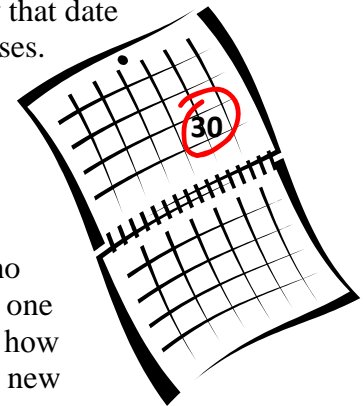
Three urgent prayer requests stand out right now—all of them reminding us that we are not in charge, but the Lord is still on His throne.

- The **NCF National Summit** is scheduled for June 25-28 in Dallas, TX. Registrations are much lower than usual. Many nurses or their spouses have been laid off. Those with jobs are often fearful of what might happen. So, although interest has been high, actual registrations have been low. We are aiming for at least 200 participants. Please pray! It will be a terrific conference, with excellent topics and speakers. It is not too late to register!



who are making decisions that require huge financial commitments.

- The **Urbana Missions Conference** is facing similar hurdles. How do you plan for a conference that usually draws about 20,000, when only half that number may actually come? Please pray for those who are making decisions that require huge financial commitments.
- **June 30 is the end of InterVarsity's fiscal year.** That means that by that date each staff member is required to have ministry income to meet expenses. The good news is that my income has been great for the last two months. The bad news is that due to several very lean months, I have about a \$25,000 deficit. Both of the staff members I supervise face similar deficits.



Since my last prayer letter, I have heard from so many faithful donors who are experiencing the effects of the economic crisis. I am praying for each one you! I'm also hearing some wonderful stories about God's provision and how He is using this situation to break through old comfort zones and provide new opportunities.

Each year, June 30 seems to loom large with threats of ending the year with a deficit. However, for the 37 years that I have been on staff, the Lord has *always* provided—usually at the last minute. Please pray with me that this fiscal year will end in the black!



Jen (on right) at Prayer Breakfast

Now for more good news. NCF Ministry in the Mid-Atlantic and Blue Ridge Regions is thriving. Jackie Iatesta in Mid-Atlantic and Robert Campbell in Blue Ridge are making lots of new contacts and new student groups are forming all up and down the East Coast. The Mentoring as Ministry Workshop in February and the Nurses Prayer Breakfast during Nurses Week NCF ministry drew lots of new nurses who are very excited about NCF.

Two new volunteers have become involved in planning the Fall conference. Jen and Caryn have a rich background in missions and applying their faith to nursing. It is a delight to welcome them to the regional leadership team. Missions was also high in the minds of students at Moravian College where I spoke on April 20. Many of them are leaving for a cross-cultural experience in Honduras next week.



Caryn (on left) with Jackie



NCF Staff conference in Atlanta (left) and InterVarsity Spring Leadership Meetings in Madison were both good times of visioning and spiritual growth.

I look forward to a very full summer and fall. Please pray with me as these events unfold. Key events and dates are listed below:

- June 25-28 – NCF National Summit, Dallas, TX (I speak on Healing Prayer)
- July 3 – Hitting the Target, Missing the Patient (spiritual care conference at Burrswood Hospital, Kent, England. I speak on Spiritual Care)
- August 14-15 – NCF Mid-Atlantic Leadership Retreat, Shickshinny, PA
- September 21-23 – InterVarsity NE Spiritual Formation Cluster Retreat
- October 2-4 – “Is Anybody Listening?” Retreat – Huffs Church, PA (I am leading this for my church, but it is open to NCF as well)
- October 10 – Mid-Mid-Atlantic Fall Conference—Caring Across Cultures, Obelisk, PA

I am so grateful for your intercession, encouragement and support!

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Judy Shelly

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