



O taste and see that the LORD is good! ~Psalm 34:8

Summer 2009

Dear Praying Friend:

In my last prayer letter, I asked you to pray for three urgent requests. You prayed. God answered. I stand in awe!



- The NCF National Summit, June 25-28 in Dallas, TX, was amazing! Attendance was 102 (not the 200 we expected), but those who came were the ones who were supposed to be there, including several potential staff candidates, many new-to-NCF nurses, and quite a few nurses with a strong vision for seeing nursing transformed by Jesus. Also, the hotel granted us grace by not holding us to paying for all the reserved rooms, so we broke even financially.
- The Urbana “Global Connexions” Prayer Team has been a joy to co-lead with Jane Hall. We are a team of seven, praying for the missionaries and other exhibitors who will be coming to the Convention. It’s been such fun to see God answering prayer for all the details.
- **The fiscal year ended June 30 in the black**—for all of us in NCF. That was a major miracle! Thank you for praying, giving and encouraging us.

Following the Summit, my husband Jim and I left for two weeks in England. First, we visited friends, Russ and Roz Parker, in Farnham (south of London) and I spoke on Spiritual Care at a conference at Burrswood Christian Hospital in Kent, “Hitting the Target, Missing the Patient.” Participants came from all over the UK with a concern for Christian whole person care. A great deal of vision and momentum seemed to develop among the 170 nurses,



physicians and hospital chaplains who attended. It was fun to connect with former NCFI Director, Harry Loudon, at the conference.

After that, we spent a week, sharing a cottage with friends, Brian and Audrey, on Holy Island, Lindisfarne. That has become our favorite place in the whole world to go for spiritual refreshment. We participated in the “rhythms” of the island Christian community—daily

morning prayer, Holy Communion, midday, evening, and night prayer—as well and the weekly healing service. We also spent time in personal prayer, reading, “walking the pilgrim posts”—a meditative walk across the two miles of sand that connect the island with the mainland at low tide—and good conversation with God, each other and friends.

What made this time particularly significant for me was to look at the year ahead and seek the Lord’s direction and priorities. This will be my last year on NCF staff. I plan to retire on June 30, 2010, after 38 years with InterVarsity. It’s been interesting to begin the year of “last things,” beginning with my last NCF National Conference. It is a happy/sad time. In many ways, I know I will be leaving a legacy in NCF, and sense that the time is right. I’m also sensing a strong call to new forms of ministry, which I will be sharing with you as the year unfolds.



In the meantime, there is much to do. The priorities that the Lord set before me include:

- Listening carefully to the Lord and responding in obedience to Him (rather than to the “urgents” that often overwhelm me).
- Mentoring key staff and potential staff (both locally and nationally)
- Transferring what is in my head and heart about Christian nursing to faithful nurses who will continue to work toward the vision that has directed me for 38+ years

I cherish your prayers, support and encouragement throughout this time of transition. There is also one special way to participate in this process that I am asking you to consider. I do not want to leave a deficit in my staff account when I retire. In fact, I’d love to see a significant amount left to allow a new staff member to begin with some financial reserves. Would you be willing to make a one-year commitment to give significantly in this fiscal year so that I can “leave well”?

As you probably know, fund-raising is the primary barrier we face to staff recruitment. It is becoming increasingly more difficult as giving trends are going down for both churches and individuals. You can make a difference! See <http://ncf-jcn.org/donate.html>

Please pray for these upcoming events:

- August 14-15 – NCF Mid-Atlantic Leadership Retreat, Shickshinny, PA
- September 21-23 – InterVarsity North East 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 – Caring Across Cultures, continuing education event, Obelisk, PA
- December 26-January 1 – Urbana Missions Convention, St. Louis, MO

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

Yours in Christ Jesus,

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