

CRF news

VOLUME 1 | ISSUE 4

GREETINGS! Summer is quickly flying by. With most students out of town or busy with summer jobs, our activities have slowed down as expected. We've continued to have weekly fellowship gatherings most Friday nights, and a few small groups have continued to meet, but overall things have slowed considerably. This is a welcome change from the frantic pace of the school year—therapeutic, even.

In about a month, most students will be returning and we're eager to get things rolling again. There are a couple things I'd like to ask you to pray for specifically. We're

hoping to expand our small group activity at both UI and WSU.

We'll start the semester with one large group at each campus which will hopefully multiply into three or four more on each campus.

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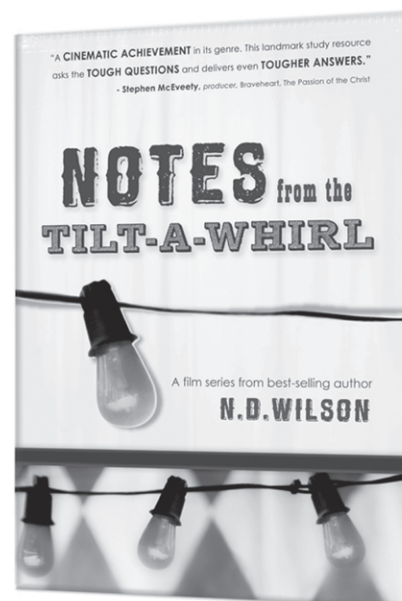
Critical to this growth is the vision and energy of our student leaders. Please pray that they would all grow in their compassion for the lost and drifting souls around them. The college campus is a vast mission field and the laborers are few.

We've prepared our weekly meeting calendar for the fall. We've got a great line-up of speakers to exhort our students to walk faithfully with the Lord. We also have several evangelistic events planned. Gordon Wilson will be doing a two-week series on Creationism, Evolution and ID. This is an important topic at the university, and it always draws a good crowd from students in the sciences. With a similar audience in mind, Mitch Stokes will be speaking on The Limits of Scientific Knowledge. (See complete calendar on back page.)



NOTES FROM THE TILT-A-WHIRL

This summer I was asked to test-drive a newly released DVD as a small group study tool. N.D. Wilson's Notes from the TILT-A-WHIRL, was originally published as a book but has now been made into a "bookumentary." The DVD is broken into 13 segments, each between three and five minutes long. This suits the small group format well. Without going into the details, this DVD deals with what philosophers call the problem of evil in a unique and very effective manner. We're hoping to use it evangelistically at the UI and WSU. The WSU Atheist Club may actually be interested in co-sponsoring it with us.



A UNIQUE COMMUNITY

This summer I've visited three different CREC churches in the northwest region. The purpose of these visits was to raise awareness and support for the CRF ministry here in Moscow. All of these churches have sent kids here to attend UI, NSA or WSU. While there's a great need for campus evangelism, there's also a great need for a shepherding ministry for Christian students, especially those who are away from home. What does CRF and our church community have to offer? Here's a quick list of what's available:

- Welcoming & vibrant Sunday morning worship
- Christ-centered preaching
- Psalm sings
- Church picnics
- CRF weekly meeting (UI, WSU, NSA, HS seniors)
- Organized church-wide student hospitality
- CRF organized social events (Fall BBQ, Christmas skating party, etc.)
- Expansive small group Bible study system
- Personal accountability & counseling
- Leadership training
- Active community-wide mercy ministries

- Visiting the elderly
- International student ministry
- Organized volunteer service (wood-cutting, snow shoveling, etc.)

There are even more opportunities for involvement than these above. But my concern is not that we don't have enough to offer, my concern is that there are still some students uninvolved and unconnected. It is possible, even with everything going on, for students to hide and isolate themselves. Please pray that our student and church culture would prove to be irresistible and that every student would find both a blessing and an opportunity to be a blessing while they are here.



FROM YOU: "I gotta tell somebody..."

During my first semester at U of I, I met a girl named Kristina in one of my classes who always spent the hour before class sitting in the hall by the door. She wasn't attractive (her eyes were especially creepy), but it looked like we both could use someone to talk to, so I started coming early to chat with her. She was a philosophy major and sometimes had really weird things to talk about. Once she started telling me how some strange Mormons were trying to evangelize her. I made it part of my schedule to spend that hour with her two or three times a week.

I noticed something was happening when, before giving a presentation in class, she would ask what I thought about what she was wearing or how she should read her speech. We weren't just a pair of friends; she was somehow looking up to me. (I really didn't understand what my role was, but I kept trying to do it well.)

When Mr. Gray did a Bible study on campus about Ecclesiastes, I invited her to come, but I don't remember how many of the weekly studies she attended. I invited her to one of Dr. Gordon Wilson's talks at CRF, but I got the topic wrong and she left before it was halfway done. Near the end of the semester, she actually asked me what Christians believe, but I was nervous and I'm sure I botched my explanation. During our conversations, I was comfortable to mostly just listen, and even if I didn't talk much about Christianity, I had at least befriended her. At the end of the semester, knowing I was not the eloquent type, I bought a Bible from the Nuart and gave it to her as a Christmas present (the first Bible she ever owned).

Then we finished the class and I didn't hear from her for 3 years.

Yesterday (April 25th of my senior year), I got a friend request on Facebook from a girl named Kristina. She sent me the following message:

"Hi Jamie! Do you remember me from Communications 101? You gave me a Bible for Christmas and I just wanted to thank you!! =)"

Last December, she was baptized at a church in Pullman, and regularly attends worship. On her Facebook profile, one of her four favorite quotations is Romans 8:38-39.

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Jamie Nance

FALL KICK-OFF ACTIVITIES

AUGUST 20

Student leadership mini-retreat

AUGUST 22

First CRF weekly meeting on UI campus

AUGUST 26

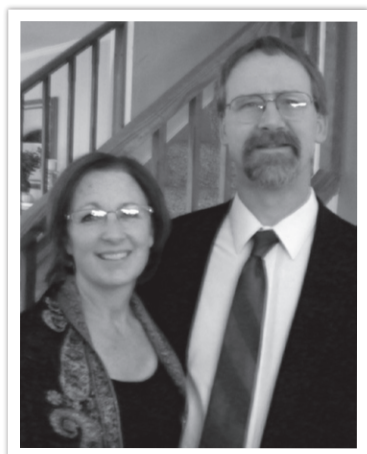
CRF fall BBQ

SEPTEMBER 5

CRF Labor Day bash at Doug & Nancy's home

WEEKLY MEETING CALENDAR

DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC/EVENT	LOCATION
AUGUST 22	DOUG WILSON	College Life Culture	Whitewater
AUGUST 29	BEN MERKLE	Evangelism at Your Doorstep	Whitewater
SEPTEMBER 5	DOUG WILSON	CRF Labor Day Bash	Wilson's
SEPTEMBER 12	RUSTY OLPS	Mercy Ministry	Whitewater
SEPTEMBER 19	NATE WILSON	"Tilt-A-Whirl" Forum	WSU
SEPTEMBER 26	MIKE LAWYER	How to Change	Whitewater
OCTOBER 3	MATT MEYER	International Student Ministry	Whitewater
OCTOBER 10	GORDON WILSON	Creation vs. Evolution	Whitewater
OCTOBER 17	GORDON WILSON	Creation vs. Evolution	Whitewater
OCTOBER 24	PATCH BLAKEY	Honoring your Parents	Whitewater
OCTOBER 31	DOUG WILSON	Entertainment Standards	Whitewater
NOVEMBER 7	TBA	TBA	WSU
NOVEMBER 14	TOBY SUMPTER	Wisdom in the Details	Whitewater
NOVEMBER 21		Thanksgiving week	
NOVEMBER 28	MITCH STOKES	The Limits of Scientific Knowledge	Whitewater
TBA		CRF Skating Party	Palouse Ice Rink
MONDAYS, 7:30 PM			



Thanks for your prayers and your involvement with us,
Matt Gray
Teaching elder & campus minister