



## **Campus Christian Fellowship**

Box 1038  
Ames, Iowa 50014

Now Serving the Universities of Iowa State, Iowa and Northern Iowa

October 24, 2001

Dear Friends and Alumni,

Greetings from the home front! We hope you are well and in God's care, especially during these troubled and difficult times.

Let me begin by being honest with all of you. This has been one of the hardest and most challenging year in my sixteen years of ministry with CCF. This whole year has been filled with of deep sorrow, and the students seem to simply be tired from all that life continues to throw at them. This has allowed ministries like CCF to be a source of strength and encouragement for so many students who are looking for something to give them hope and answers. Never has our ministries on our campuses here in Iowa been so urgent.

But in the midst of all this, daily I feel more my age! Keeping up with these young and energetic college students with their increasing needs and concerns, becomes harder every year. Though I try to keep pace (I am presently meeting with about 20 students each week in six discipleship groups, leading a men's Bible study and speaking almost weekly, and dealing with the weekly crisis that are never scheduled...all of which brings for me joy and tiredness). Yes, there are days I am truly over-whelmed (especially now as we are starting to prepare for our 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Ski Trip, a return Spring Break Trip to Arizona, and a summer trip to Romania, and with my dismal attempts to keep up with the alumni and supporters). There literally isn't time to stay on top of all that is going on! Mostly I am feeling the effects of a second year without a co-worker here in Ames.

For all these reasons, I am thrill to announce to you that coming this January **Shane McMahon** and his lovely fiancée **Valerie Gudgel** will be joining our ministry here in Ames. For many of you, Shane is no stranger. He graduated 2 1/2 years ago from Iowa State after 4 years of dedicated involvement in CCF. He has a love for God and has felt God working on his heart over the past year to get involved in campus ministry. He felt especially called to come back to Iowa from California to work with us. The Board of Directors enthusiastically hired Shane earlier this month, and now looks forward to his beginning his work at Iowa State.



For me and the work in Ames, Shane's coming brings only joy and benefits. Shane and I have worked closely for many years, and we work well together. Further, Shane is knowledgeable of our philosophy of ministry, and knows how we work, so training will be minimal. And Shane brings a lot of enthusiasm to the work. This is especially important as I feel more my age, to have someone willing to stay up late with the students and who is closer to their college age. Mostly, Shane and Valerie both have hearts for ministry, and they desire to share the love of Jesus with college students. That alone will make a tremendous difference in what we are doing at ISU.

I hope and pray that this news brings you joy as well! The hiring of Shane brings our staff up to five men: Dan and Jeff at Iowa City, Chris at Cedar Falls and Shane and myself here in Ames. **Jeff Kuhne**, who has been a tremendous blessing to the work at U of I was brought on part-time in the fall, knowing that our first priority was to fill Chris's vacancy here in Ames quickly. But, our goal is that Jeff would be full-time by this coming summer. Dan and Jeff are experiencing one of their best years ever, which reflects the important help that Jeff is now bringing to that ministry.

What this means is that we are looking at a tremendous leap forward in our ministry, as well as a big leap forward in our budget! But, to meet the needs of our ministries and to continue to grow in the way we have been in the last few years, we believe this leap is both necessary and wise. But, of course, we can't do it without you!

It is my deepest hope, that you, the alumni of CCF, will understand how important it is to have working with me someone with Shane's youthfulness, heart, and ministry skills, as well as the importance of Jeff's partnership in the successes and victories that Dan has had having in Iowa City, and how these additions will allow us to more effectively reach and minister to students (both Christian and non-Christian) on our campuses. Further, I hope that you will also understand the sacrifices that Jeff and Shane are making to be a part of our ministry (Jeff presently is working full-time for a part-time salary, and Shane will be taking a huge cut in his salary to work for us). I know Dan, Chris and I believe strongly in this ministry that we are all dedicated givers. That is why it is my highest hope that you will understand why now is the best time for you to also become sacrificial givers to our work.

To make possible for CCF to reach the goals we have, we will need to see a tremendous increase in our giving! We need to see an increase of approximately \$2,000 a month. With a list of alumni (many, who are friends of Jeff and Shane) at about 200 people, if only half would contribute \$20 a month we could easily reach our goal. That is why I would ask that you pray about helping this ministry through your financial support.

Yes, CCF is going through some very major and dramatic changes! But, we believe that we are on track for where God wants us to be! We hope that in the past you were blessed by this ministry, that you grew, you were challenged and you experienced friendships that are still in existence today. You once had the love and support of CCF (or ISUCF) and its staff. Why? Because someone else cared enough give to make sure we were there. It is as simple as that. Today there are over 100 students on three campuses (those numbers are growing each year), who are being up-

lifted and encouraged in Christ because someone is giving to make this ministry possible. I hope you will decide that is now your turn to make sure we are here for today's students (as many of you already do).

Finally, we would ask that you pray. Pray for each one of ministries and especially for our campus ministers. We remember daily that it is not by our strength or ability, but by the work of God in our lives that we are effective in the ministries that we do! As Shane and Valerie move to Ames, pray that God would prepare them for the work ahead. Pray for our finances, that we would not be burdened with worry and fear of where our next pay check will come from, but can instead focus our energy on ministering to students. And finally, pray that God would lead you to be a partner in the financial well-being of CCF.

Thanks so much for your prayers, your support, and (most importantly for us "old" campus ministers) your friendship and encouragement. God bless you in your work and your ministries.

In His Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W.", written over a large, loopy flourish.

John F. Woodward  
Old CCF Campus Minister

P.S. Check-out the alumni information on our website and leave a message in our guest book at <http://www.ccfiowa.com>

\*Giving Made easy: We can make your giving so easy, as we now offer you automatic withdrawal from your bank account, so you don't even have to worry about mailing in your gifts each month. Simply fill out the enclosed form and return it to CCF with a voided check.