



Campus Ministry in Southwestern Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic

Close-up On Campus

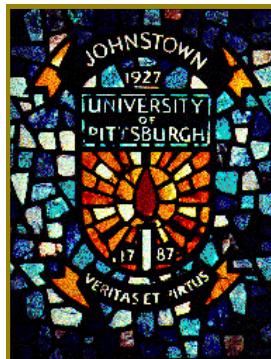
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Mar / Apr Year 3 Letter 5

Johnstown: Aflood with the Spirit

As you may remember from my last letter, I've been living in Johnstown for the past few months to finish up my personal financial support (very close to being done) and to explore ministry opportunities at Pittsburgh's branch campus in town. Here are a few fun facts about Johnstown:

- **3 major floods** have defined the town and its people: 1889, 1936 and in 1977 claiming about 2,300 lives in all. Though all infamous for their catastrophic wake, the most recent flood, dramatically affected the economy of the area.
- There is **great spiritual poverty** in the area. Though maybe not unique to Johnstown, drugs seem to pervade the public high schools. Despite this spiritual lacking, there are many grounded in Christ, who are having a tremendous impact on the city including Emmanuel Baptist, Trinity Presbyterian, Johnstown Christian School, The Gathering Church, Crucified Ministries and many others.
- **Thunder in the Valley** is among the larg-



The University of Pittsburgh
at Johnstown

est motorcycle rallies in the area taking over downtown Johnstown with its 150,000+ bikers every June. It's not just motorcycles though, food, live music, on the spot tattooing, poker tournaments and individual small business contests abound!

- There are **two colleges** side-by-side in town: the University of Pitt Johnstown (UPJ) and Penn Highlands

Community College. Between the two schools there are approximately 4,500 students there! Jim Gay is the ministry coordinator for UPJ and the leader of Timeout, a small group similar to Cru. He has been an invaluable contact for exploring college ministry opportunities in the area. The goal is to partner with him to reach these campuses!

Please be praying with me throughout the summer so that when the school starts anew in the Fall, we will be well grounded, well prepared and well prayed!



Kathy, one of the students who saw 2 people accept Christ

saw two people accept Christ!! It was even more exciting when considering that many of these students will be going to nearby colleges soon like IUP, UPJ and Mount Aloysius. They will be ready to take the message of the gospel with them wherever they go!

“..and [He] sent them in pairs..”

-Matt 10:1

I recently had the opportunity to teach 17 high school students about evangelism—just a primer and how-to on sharing our faith. It was invigorating seeing students really embrace the truth and depth of the gospel and understand (many for the first time) both what evangelism is and isn't.

While we spent much of the time talking about sharing our faith, at the end students went out and did it! Some had difficult conversations with nonbelievers and others encouraging conversations with mature believers. Two of the students

Bible Thought:

“..work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you..”

Philippians 2:12-13

Book Recommendation:

The Gospel and Personal Evangelism by Mark Dever

Please Pray

- Ministry at UPJ that will start in the Fall. The first 10 days matter the most!
- My personal support. Right now I am at about 85%. Would you pray that He brings the remaining amount in by July 1st so I can report to my summer assignment?

Praise God!

- For these high school students who are furthering His kingdom by taking the gospel with them wherever they go!
- In July I will be taking two more required classes with Crusade on Apologetics and Salvation. It will be both challenging and exciting to grow in this way.

Thank you again for your prayers and hearts for Christ!

For His glory, (Col 3:17)



David Coffey
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