



Reconnect:
ILCM Alumni
Association
Newsletter

July/August 2015

A TIME TO SCATTER STONES AND A TIME TO GATHER THEM ECCLESIASTES 3:5

IN THIS ISSUE

ILCM Alumni Reunion

The ILCM Alumni Board, Reunion Team, and members have been working very hard to make the reunion bigger and better this year. We thank you for all your hard work and feedback throughout the last year.

You should have received your invite for the reunion in the mail this last week. Please take the time and return in the preaddressed envelope by August 14th.

Just a reminder, if you are traveling out of town and need a hotel room, there is a block of rooms reserved. ILCM Alumni Association has

reserved rooms at the Unique Suites, 920 West Lincoln Avenue. Please call 217-348-8161 to reserve your room at \$84.99 a night, plus taxes. This rate expires August 25th, so don't delay!

We look forward to seeing you and your family September 25-27th. If you have any questions, please email ilcmalumni@gmail.com.

Important Dates:

- August 14th**—RSVP are due
- August 25th**—Reserved rates at Unique Suites are released
- September 25-27th**—ILCM Alumni Reunion in Charleston

Reunion Invitation

Please return by August 14th.

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All in the Family

Reminiscing over the last 21 years of campus ministry.

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All in the Family

By: Greg Witto

Some of you know that my family recently moved to a new house in Charleston. It was just over a year ago but I have just lately been going through a few boxes including many pictures from the past. I've really enjoyed reminiscing... and as I do, I am reminded how so many students have become such an important part of my life, the life of my family and the life of Immanuel Lutheran Church! Thank you.

Twenty one years ago, I arrived in Charleston not really knowing what to expect. Although I was committed to continuing my mission here, I was not quite sure how it would proceed. Even though I was a little nervous and apprehensive, I was still very much excited, confident and eager to continue the journey to which God called me and upon the path where He placed me. There were those things for which I was sure, of course; I had a job, I had a place to stay and people willing and able to assist and guide me as partners in mission/ ministry. My future was ready to unfold right before my eyes.

Perhaps you can relate? You may recall the nervous excitement you experienced when arriving in Charleston for the first time. You too may have been a little anxious but eagerly looked forward to a bright future that would begin to take shape at Eastern right before your eyes. You too had "a job" (learning, classes, an education...), a place to stay, and people willing and able to assist and guide you on your educational mission.

You and I have a lot in common. We arrived in Charleston, having planned and prepared for the experience, ready to chart a course on which God placed us and through which He would equip us for the future. By God's plan, we were brought together in ministry at Immanuel – another thing that we have in common. And, God has given us the gift of faith and united us in His Son to continue along the path that He places us as the journey continues. 😊

I am pleased that the Alumni Association has been working hard to reconnect Immanuel Lutheran Campus Ministry alumni. I greatly appreciate their renewed commitment and enthusiasm to the campus ministry known by many as our "Christian Family Away from Home." I am blessed to have worked and served with you and so many members of the campus community over the years! I am also convinced that this association and the upcoming reunion are great opportunities to reconnect with each other, celebrate what wonderful things God did among us and support one another as we continue to grow and mature in Christ.

I pray you too, will benefit from these opportunities and perhaps even help develop them.

God bless you,

Your brother in Christ,

Greg



FAR LEFT. Group of students gather at Greg and Cindy's wedding outside the Grand Ballroom at Eastern Illinois University.

LEFT. Pictures from Greg and Cindy's wedding.

All in the Family (continued)



Graduation time at ILCM is a time of mixed feelings for everyone. For the graduates, moments of excitement are coupled with nerves as a new chapter is soon to begin. Here, Joy and Paul came out to celebrate some graduates as they start the next chapter in their lives.



Remember those late nights of pumping? Here, students gather in fellowship at Greg and Cindy's house to work on the upcoming float. It looks like Joy and Paul are starting off young, learning how to pump!



The Wittos hosted the ILCM leaders for a Christmas gathering. Look at those warm, cozy sweatshirts! The day was filled with stories, laughter and even some piano playing.

Immanuel Lutheran Campus Ministry Reunion

Friday, September 25th - Sunday, September 27th

Weekend Itinerary

Friday, September 25th

Come to the Student Center to enjoy some pizza, bonfire, and reminiscing! Stop by whenever you get into town, we will be there from 6pm - 10pm or later!

Saturday, September 26th

On Your Own Breakfast @ What's Cookin' - 9am

Campus Ministry Sunday Practice - 11am

Student-Led Campus Tours - 1pm (meet at the Library)

Alumni Banquet - University Ballroom, 2nd Floor of the EIU Student Union - 5pm-8pm

- Cocktails and Appetizers at 5pm
- Dinner at 6:15pm

Sunday, September 27th

Campus Ministry Assisted Worship Services- 8am and 10:45am Services

ILCM Alumni & Church Family Picnic - following the 10:45am Service