



Reconnect: ILCM Alumni Association Newsletter

May/June 2015

SPRING HAS SPRUNG

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Reunion Update

by Julie Belatz

We are excited to be working on the details for the upcoming ILCMA Reunion Weekend.

Some of the highlights for the weekend include:

- Bonfire at the Student Center
- Breakfast at What's Cooking
- Student led Tours of the Campus
- Campus Ministry Sunday
- Family Picnic
- Immanuel Lutheran Campus Ministry Alumni Association Banquet

More information about these events and hotel accommodations will be coming to you in July.

We would love to see you at the Reunion! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Julie Belan at 815-383-0382 or corgismom2@gmail.com.



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Meet the Alumni Association Board



Carol Ann McCullom

When were you a member in Campus Ministry?

I was a member of Campus Ministry from 2004-2008.

What have you been up to since graduation?

I have been teaching high school math in Salem, IL.

What are you most excited about for the Alumni Reunion?

To see people I haven't seen in 7 years! And to reminisce about all of the great times at EIU.

What are you looking forward to the most with the ILCM Alumni Association?

I am looking forward to the opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make new ones!



Amanda Claxton

When were you a member of campus ministry?

I was a member of Campus Ministry from 2001-2005. I got my Bachelor's in 2004 and Master's in Dec. 2005, both in dietetics.

What have you been up to since graduation?

I lived near Aurora, IL and worked at WIC for a while. Then I moved to the central Oregon coast with my husband, Andrew, for his job. I worked at WIC and dialysis. Our daughter, Annabelle, was born there in 2012. In 2013, we moved to the Mississippi gulf coast where my husband is getting a Ph.D. and I am at home with our daughter for now.

What are you most excited about for the Alumni Reunion?

Since I've lived far away I've fallen out of touch with a lot of people, so I'm excited to see old friends and really catch up beyond just the Facebook posts. Also, being on the alumni association board with people from different eras has me excited to meet alumni from other years. And, I'm excited to see Charleston and be back on campus again.

What are you looking forward to the most with the ILCM Alumni Association?

I'm looking forward to being an active part of a group of people whose lives have been blessed by ILCM. It is awesome that so many people over so many years still feel fondly about ILCM and want to continue to be a part of it. I think there are a lot of things alumni can do to support current campus ministry so other students can have a great experience too. I feel like being part of the alumni association is a way of giving back.



We would like to pray for you! Whether it is a time for celebration, time for extra guidance, or a time for need, we would like to pray for you. Please send all requests for prayer to ilcmalumni@gmail.com. If you would like your request to be in the newsletter or on ILCM Alumni Association Facebook page, please include that with your email.

Relationship Story

by Cheryl Moore

I went to Eastern determined to make church a huge part of my college life. It was always a big part of my life in high school and I wanted to continue that into college. My first day on campus I saw a poster for Immanuel Lutheran for the Welcome Back Picnic. I thought it sounded like a good place to try and made it a priority to attend. I was one of the few freshmen that attended that year. I was welcomed with open arms and hearts and it felt like I had always been a part of the college group and the church.

The first bible study, and throughout the next couple of weeks, I met several more new faces. Everybody was super nice and caring and I developed many special friendships, one of which is my husband of 15 years. I am still friends with most of the friends I made in ILCM.

When I was diagnosed with cancer in 2006, Campus Ministry sent a group of amazing students to our house to help with cleaning and chores for an entire Saturday. The fact that they were willing to give up an entire Saturday to come clean my house for me was a blessing and one that I will never forget.

I have a huge support system from the friends that I made in ILCM during my college years. My cancer battle began 3

years after I graduated and has been an 8 year battle that my friends have supported from near and afar. They have helped spiritually, emotionally, physically and financially. They are the most amazing people—they have been there for my family and me through the best and worst of times.

One of the many things that I have learned from my cancer journey is "Don't be afraid to ask for help." I struggled with that for the longest time. I always thought that I was perfectly capable of doing it, and if I couldn't, then my husband and family could. That wasn't always true; they couldn't always help. Most people WANT to help, they just don't know HOW or WHAT you need to be done. Give people the chance to help—it will change both of your lives for the better!

To anybody that would like to support other ILCM Alumni: offer to help, ask what needs to be done, and ask where you can be the most help. It doesn't need to be only financially—help comes in all shapes, sizes and forms. Chances are there is a need you can fulfill. All you have to do is ask.

What am I up to these days? I have been married for 15 years. We have 2 beautiful twin

daughters that are 5 years old. Being their mom is the best job in the world.

To make actual money, I work from home full-time for a major insurance company that I have been employed with for over 8 years. I enjoy exercising several times a week at the YMCA preparing for the marathons and triathlons that I participate in.

I am also finally beating cancer in a long 8 year battle. I just finished experimental treatments through Mayo Clinic and am about to have surgery to finish up my treatment plan. This has been a long road, but one I wouldn't trade for the world.

God IS Good All the time....All the time God is Good!



Do you have a story to share about how you've reconnected with other alumni? Know someone who does? We'd love to hear from you. Please contact the Alumni Association at ilcmalumni@gmail.com. Thanks!

Campus Ministry Update

By: Hannah Osborne

In February, a few of us leaders traveled to Phoenix, Arizona for the Best Practices in Ministry Conference! It was four days filled with laughter, learning, and loving!

Over the course of the four days, we attended many breakout sessions, including sessions about religion on college campuses, how to multiply disciples, and how we can join Jesus on His mission to save the world. Although the 70 degree temperatures and palm trees were nice, the best part was worshipping our savior with over 15,00 people!

After returning to Illinois, we've been brainstorming how we can use this valuable information to further campus ministry and hope to extend that loving, Christian attitude towards others!



FAST FACTS

36

It has been 36 years since there has been a triple crown winner!

115

As of June 1st, the number of days until the ILCM Reunion on September 25-27th.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the ILCM website at www.ilcm.info and be sure to join the ILCMA-Immanuel Lutheran Campus Ministry Alumni Facebook page.

