

RUF REPORT

News of Reformed University Fellowship in the Northeast and Plains

Volume 1, Number 1

October, 2008

We're Off!

RUF in the Northeast and Plains states got off to a great start this fall. Of the 14 campus ministers in my area, six are just beginning their ministry. Two of our groups are new this fall. The new ministers are juggling a formidable array of responsibilities: moving to a new city, raising funds, learning a new campus, and taking ordination exams. Where there is no RUF group, they face the challenge of finding students who might be interested in our ministry and gathering them into a group. Where there is an RUF group, the challenge is picking up a ministry with little time to adapt to a new set of people. Without exception, these men have risen to the challenge.

- Derek Bates needed to remain in St. Louis during August to complete his fund-raising. Although he arrived in Pittsburgh after the students, he has been able to form two Bible studies.
- Kevin Nelson is our new minister at Yale University. The previous man left in the middle of the spring semester. This was not a smooth transition, but Kevin has gathered two Bible studies and is getting out the word that RUF is at Yale.
- Chad Brewer is on his third RUF! He began at University of Missouri. Then he started the ministry at Penn State. Now he is starting another at University of Minnesota. He also has pulled together a Bible study.



Ross Dixon (4th from left)
and the RUF Nebraska intramural soccer team

My area has changed a few more times since I last wrote. Here are my responsibilities at present. The primary difference is the addition of Missouri and Minnesota, and the arrival of Kevin Nelson at Yale.

RUF Ministries David Oversees

<u>Campus</u>	<u>Began</u>	<u>Campus Minister</u>
Harvard University	1996	Bradley Barnes
Brown University	2001	Eddie Park
Univ. of Connecticut	2004	Joey Pensak
Trinity College	2004	Joey Pensak
Yale University	2000	Kevin Nelson
Lehigh University	1998	Scott Mitchell
Penn State University	2003	Alex Watlington
Millersville University	2000	Rob Ilderton
Univ. of Pittsburgh	2008	Derek Bates
Johns Hopkins Univ.	2007	Steven Badorf
Univ. of Maryland	1999	Chris Garriott
University of Missouri		Ross Dixon
University of Iowa	2005	Josh Vahle
Univ. of Nebraska	1999	Steve Allen
Univ. of Minnesota	2009	Chad Brewer

Lehigh News

RUF at Lehigh is prospering under the leadership of Scott Mitchell. I was closely involved in advising Scott on freshman outreach, but since then I have tried to keep from peering over his shoulder. For that reason I have not been on campus yet this year. I plan to visit the large group meeting later in October. But rumors have been leaking out indicate his messages are right on target.

The usual suspects are still playing a vital role. Hans is leading two Bible studies, Kristen is working with women, and Jim Femister took over my grad student study. Jim is enjoying this role, and the grad study has been steadily growing as they study Romans.

Coming Up

The heart of my new position is serving the staff on these 15 campuses. Along with that I am responsible for help-

ing the committees that oversee them. That means travel essentially every week. It's a good thing I enjoy it! I hope to visit each campus twice a semester. I also plan to attend the fall conferences. Then there are monthly meetings of all the coordinators, in Atlanta or Charlotte. Now that I have a clearer picture of the campuses, my goal in the remaining part of the semester is to identify growth areas at each ministry.



Testudo, mascot of University of Maryland.
What sort of university has a turtle for its symbol?

Thanks and Funds

Funds have been a concern during my transition to a new position and the arrival of Scott Mitchell at Lehigh. So far so good. For the most part giving has kept pace with our expectations. Please pray that RUF receive the funds to meet all our needs through the end of the year.

I am still getting questions about how to support us, so here is a reminder. Both Scott as the minister at Lehigh and I as Area Coordinator depend upon your financial support. Which of us you support is up to you and the Lord. Support for both of us should be sent to our Atlanta office. Checks should be made out to "Reformed University Fellowship," or just "RUF." If you wish to support me, indicate that the gift is for "David Green." If you wish to support Scott, indicate that the gift is for "Lehigh University." Send contributions to:

Reformed University Fellowship
1700 North Brown Road, Suite 104
Lawrenceville, GA 30043-8143

Thanks so much for your prayers and your donations! You are vital partners in bringing Christ to students all over the Northeast and Great Plains.

The Homefront

Daniel turned 27 in August and is still working for Naval Intelligence. Christopher spent the summer studying Chinese in Beijing. He is now in his senior year at Swarthmore College and is leaving his mark there. Stephen is a freshman at Moravian College here in Bethlehem, studying business – or something like that. He is a

stalwart member of the fellowship there led by Scott Harvey from our church. Benjamin is the only kid at home. He is in seventh grade this year. We decided to get an early start on Latin with him, and he is doing very well. Ruth continues to teach her online AP English class, as well as care for the rest of us. She's amazing!



Megan Cook and Peter Green

The really big family news is from Peter. He called last month and asked to speak to both Ruth and me, together. I guessed there could only be one reason for that, and sure enough, he announced his engagement to Megan Cook. Megan is from Alaska. She went to college in Washington state, and is now studying at Covenant Theological Seminary, where they met. Peter is never one to hesitate when his mind is made up, so a wedding is planned for Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Personal Reflections

"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."
John 14:18

RUF is a wonderful place to work, but no matter how you do it, ministry is hard. Chris Garriott at the University of Maryland had a big response to his outreach efforts, but few of those people showed up to meetings. But then the large group meeting I visited was his largest ever. Should he be encouraged, or discouraged?

What we all must remember is to live by the gospel. Jesus came to us when we were helpless rebels, died for us, saved us from our sin, and gave us new life in the Spirit. Now, everyday, He still loves us, accepts us, empowers us, and cares for us – even through our weaknesses and failings. The gospel is the power for salvation from beginning to end, and Jesus is our companion even when life is hard or confusing. What a wonderful way to live! What a wonderful message to preach!

David Green