



# Transforming MU NEWS FROM UWE

OCTOBER—NOVEMBER 2003



**Chi Alpha Campus Ministries is a community where we love people, care for people, are passionate about Jesus Christ and the things of God.**

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The time has arrived and I am serving full-time with Chi Alpha Campus Ministries as missionary aide. This year has been incredible, God has blessed us tremendously. We were so busy and so much has happened that it delayed this newsletter. I can't even report everything in here, since space is short.

Our weekly services, prayer meetings and cell groups are stronger than ever. We average about 80 students in our weekly meeting (which is almost doubled from last year), 30 students in our prayer meeting, and we have 19 cell groups (small group Bible studies) running. Not only does the number of students grow, they also are disciplined and grow in faith.

Every day I see students who are passionate about God and are committed to a real relationship with Him. At the same time I see a great need on this campus and college students who are searching for all of the wrong answers. There is a desperation among them, and that is why I want to capture every moment and pour my life into the task at hand. Students need to know Jesus in a real and personal way. They deserve the opportunity, and we must provide that.

Thank you to all of you, who blessed me with a special offering, who are faithful in supporting me monthly, or who are my prayer warriors and intercessors in this great endeavor. Your commitment is more than you will ever know, and I know God will bless you as you continue to give financially or in prayer. I am so excited to be a part of what is happening at Mizzou and I am dedicated to give my time and energy to the cause. Now, let us stand in the gap together for the sake of Christ.

## NEW HOUSE

Chi Alpha has been blessed with a new house this year, located at 903 S. Providence. The new location is strategic and is larger than last year's. The house allows us to have leadership meetings, prayer meetings, cell group meetings (small group Bible studies), and large group activities. We also created a "cafe" room in which students can stop by to study, chat, make friends, and enjoy coffee.



**A MEETING INSIDE THE NEW HOUSE**



We also are still able to use the old place, located at 400 Matthews Street, which is ideally located for the international community. Although smaller, it is used as an alternative place to study or have cell group meetings, and to reach the internationals on campus.

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## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT FRIENDSHIP, ISF

Besides our regular Chi Alpha services we also provide a regular Friday night activity for international students. Every Friday night we build friendships with 50 internationals on average, educate them about American culture, and show them Christian love.



CHI ALPHA STUDENTS AND OTHER VOLUNTEERS AT INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION

At the beginning of the semester, Chi Alpha was one of only two student organizations that the university invited to help with the orientation of new international students. Several Chi Alpha students helped by copying all the immigration documents, serving pizza, and showing the campus to the new students. They also were able to promote upcoming ISF activities. It was very unusual for the university to ask a religious organization out of the 400 student organizations on campus to help in this venue, a welcome change from previous years.

Every Chi Alpha student and staff member builds friendships with several international students throughout the week. As a German citizen I have the opportunity to deepen my relationships with three German students who came to MU this semester. Besides



bike tours and lunches I am able to offer them rides to Walmart, etc., because my German friends Christian, Nina and Sabine do not own a car.

### TESTIMONIES

We have seen strength and growth in every area of our ministry this year. Students have accepted Christ and are pursuing a daily relationship with Him. These two testimonies are a glimpse at what God is doing at MU.

**Kellie** came to Mizzou as a transfer student. She was here only two days and was very lonely. She wanted to withdraw from MU, praying to God that He might show her a campus ministry that day if He wants her to stay. Twenty minutes later she walked by our Chi Alpha table at an ice cream give-away, and she was welcomed into Chi Alpha. **Kellie** is excited about Jesus and she is sharing her life and faith with everyone around her.

**Mike** came to the first Chi Alpha service this school year and accepted Christ. Now Mike is plugged into a cell group and Clint is discipling him in the word of God.

**Mike** is now committed and daily pursuing God. Students like him will share their new-found faith, because they experience the power of God in their life first-hand as they are changed.

## ATHLETIC MINISTRY

Division I student-athletes and graduate athletic trainers need to hear the good news like any other student. However, they cannot always come to regular Chi Alpha events, because they need to fulfill special responsibilities besides homework and classes by attending daily practices and playing one, two, or sometimes even more games a week.



I am the chaplain for the MU women's volleyball and the MU women's gymnastics teams. This way Chi Alpha can build meaningful relationships, guide athletes in their spiritual lives, and help them increase their faith in Jesus by attending practices, facilitating prayer before games, sharing Scripture, and being available for counseling and spiritual guidance.

The MU volleyball team has one of the best seasons in its 20 year history, being 16-4 overall and 9-2 in the Big XII. MU beat Nebraska (the leading volleyball team in the Big



XII) for the first time since 1982. During those successes and a few injury struggles, it is so important that the 13 players on the team learn about Biblical

Principles, and that they understand to use their experiences for the glory of God.

The MU gymnastics team's season will start in December. The 18 gymnasts are working hard to prepare their routines. Expectations are great for the upcoming 27th season of gymnastics at MU.



We always welcome and encourage athletes to be involved in regular Chi Alpha activities, if they can. This way, we have relationships with several student-athletes from other teams such as Swimming & Diving and Baseball. It is amazing to see how athletes are actively living for Christ and are using their unique platform to reach other students.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Please be led by the Spirit whenever you pray for me. I believe that God will show you my prayer needs clearer than what I can ever ask for. The main prayer requests that came to my mind are these:

- continued blessings, growth in numbers and maturity
- salvations through serving the internationals
- open doors to increase the impact on the athletic teams
- success in increasing my support team