

OCTOBER 2010

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NEWS FROM MIKE AND BARBARA OLEJARZ  
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## \*Still Plugging Away\*

Since February I have been traveling to meet with all of our 150 support partners to communicate appreciation for their prayer and financial partnership, as well as inform them of our new mission assignment. Once we raise our budget (now at 80% re-committed) and our home sells, we will relocate to Charlottesville, VA to join the National Chi Alpha Training Team, led by Dr. Harvey Herman. You should have received one of our promotional brochures by now (with the caricature of Barbara and me on the cover), and read about our exciting opportunity in **missionary training, mentoring leaders, and resource development.**

In addition to meeting with our current partners, I have met with many individuals, couples, and church leaders about joining our team as new support partners. I am glad to welcome a lot of new folks to our adventure in campus missions. The last two months have not yielded many new monthly pledges, so we ask you to join us in prayer and fasting for God's provision. We have not had much interest in our home, so we took it off the housing market at the end of September and will re-list it in the spring and start over. We cannot move until our budget is fully raised at 100% and our home sells. Therefore, we will remain in Boston until the Lord provides those two items for us.

If you want to help me secure more monthly pledges and get to the finish line with, please consider asking a friend of yours to match what you give and join our support team as a monthly partner; A second option would be to consider hosting a dessert party and inviting 4-8 of your friends to meet me and hear about our mission. Please contact me if you are interested in assisting with either of those options.

**A few family highlights worth mentioning again:** Barbara and I celebrated our 28th anniversary on the 28th of August. I started my 29th year of service with Chi Alpha Campus Ministries. Our daughter Sarah, was laid off of her job at a hospice in Roanoke VA last month. She is still looking for new full-time employment. Our Josh is doing well living in Brooklyn and working in Manhattan at Penguin Press. Check out what Northeastern University had to say about Josh at [http://www.northeastern.edu/englishcoop/student\\_spotlights/test/](http://www.northeastern.edu/englishcoop/student_spotlights/test/)

**If you enjoy the Monday Motivator,** feel free to pass it on to your friends. If you have high school or college students at home or in your church, encourage them to go to [www.chialpha.com](http://www.chialpha.com) and sign up to receive MM's each week in their email box. The MM's you get from me are posted at our web site - listed at the top of this page. If you are not receiving the MM's, let me know and I will add you to the list.

*Thank you for your prayer and financial gifts - both are crucial to our ministry among students and staff. Their potential is our mission, and your partnership enables us to be here to serve, care for, and minister to them.*

**Praise Corner:** Thanks to those of you who invested in the national web site for tools and resources that I need to create. The final check came in recently and the \$8500 has been raised!

*All gifts for us can be sent payable to The Assemblies of God, and mailed to them at 1445 Boonville Avenue, Springfield, MO 65802. Be sure to put our account # 2321016 on the check. On line giving options are also available at <http://lusmissions.ag.org>*

*A Few Updates on National Training Initiatives:*

- 1) Take a look at one of our pilot projects - [www.menternship.com](http://www.menternship.com). We are beta testing this on line mentoring effort this year.*
- 2) Take a look at another pilot effort - [www.xanetwork.org](http://www.xanetwork.org) - a great opportunity for Chi Alpha grad's.*

## Olejarz Attends Chi Alpha Staff Conference

600 campus missionaries and their families gathered in Phoenix, Arizona, July 12-15, for the largest Chi Alpha staff training event in the history of our ministry to university campuses. The July Campus Ministers Conference (CMC) event brought together leaders from 150 colleges and universities nationwide. I wish you could have joined me to witness firsthand the people, passion, and clear-cut missional direction of the ministry I have served with since 1982. You would be most impressed by the *people*. My fellow campus missionaries are men and women full of passion for their calling.

The conference addressed four key issues: 1) how personal evangelism looks on today's diverse campuses; 2) cross-cultural sensitivity as it relates to Muslim students and other non-Christian religious worldviews; 3) how to communicate the gospel truth to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students on campus; 4) how Christians can broaden their reach and engage ethnic minorities on campus.

"This type of training is vital for our campus leaders," says Chi Alpha National Director Dennis Gaylor. "Understanding the differences of students is the first step in reaching them for Christ on today's university campuses."

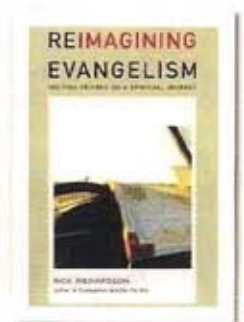
**Dr. Rick Richardson**, director of the Masters in Evangelism and Leadership degree at Wheaton College, served as featured speaker at the conference. Richardson who also is an associate evangelist with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, has authored books including *Experiencing Healing* and *Evangelism Outside the Box*.

He spoke in four dynamic plenary sessions. In "Rethinking the Postmodern Path to Faith," he described **five thresholds** a postmodern cycles through on his or her path to faith: (1) Trusting a Christian; (2) Wondering about Jesus; (3) Opening up to change; (4) Seeking after God; (5) Entering the Kingdom. "Beyond the thresholds," he says, is "living in the Kingdom."

Richardson summarized the five stages this way:

1. From distrust to trust;
2. From complacent to curious;
3. From closed to change to open to change;
4. From meandering to seeking;
5. From seeking to following.

I have read and personally recommend Rick's newest book, "Reimagining Evangelism," from which this material is taken. The book has a companion DVD (far right) and training exercises to help understand and apply the lessons.



### Books I have read the past nine months and heartily recommend:

1. *The New Shape of World Christianity*, by Mark Noll
2. *Paul and Me: 53 Years of Adventures and Misadventures with Paul Newman*, by A.E. Hotchner
3. *The Case for Servant Leadership*, by Kent Keith
4. *Flawless: Inside the Largest Diamond Heist in History*, by Scott Andrew Selby, Greg Campbell
5. *Paul*, by N.T. Wright
6. *Finding Calcutta: What Mother Teresa Taught Me About Meaningful Work and Service*, by Mary Poplin
7. *Outliers: The Story of Success*, by Malcolm Gladwell
8. *Heart of Change: Real Life Stories About How Real People Change Their Organizations*, by John P. Kotter
9. *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality*, by Peter Scazzero
10. *Love is an Orientation: Elevating the Conversation with the Gay Community*, by Andrew Marin

\*\*\* A key book just came out called "**GENERATION iY: Our Last Chance to Save Their Future**" by Dr. Tim Elmore. This is a must-read guide for parents, coaches, teachers, mentors, pastors, and leaders working with today's teens and young adults.