

Walking Together

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 2008

MIKE & BETH MATTES
CCO MINISTRY

TRANSFORMING COLLEGE
STUDENTS TO
TRANSFORM THE WORLD

If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.

Philippians 2:1-2



September Newsletter at a Glance

- Apple Picking & the student harvest
- OSU Involvement Fair kicks off the Fall Quarter
- Lots of student interest in small groups!
- First one-on-one meetings and small group gatherings
- Mike speaks at the "Jump Off"
- Prayers & Praises
- Low support month, God's providence

What we are Reading

BETH

Celebration of Discipline

MIKE

The Shack

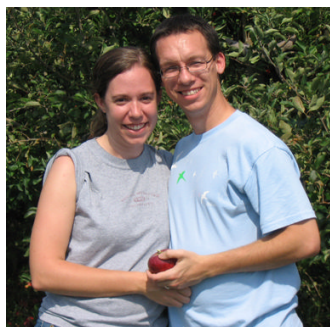
TOGETHER

Harry Potter Book 5

Apple Pickin' Fall

Written By Mike & Beth

This summer we have started to talk about what it means not only to eat healthier, but also what it means to begin supporting local farmers. We are looking into joining a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) farm with friends. In the mean time we have found new past times: visiting the local farmer's market and apple picking. We were introduced to the fun of apple picking by two friends of ours and we have started to try to make more time for visiting the orchard (and we plan to pick more



then apples in the Fall). The orchard is less than a half hour from our house and it has provided

us with some delicious apples to make homemade apple pie, apple butter and apple sauce. We have enjoyed the addition of fresh fruit in our diet as well as supporting local farmers!

We are reminded every time of how we are blessed to be able to till the soil of student's lives, see the Spirit plant the seed of faith and watch them mature and bear great fruit for the nourishment and growth of God's Kingdom!

Involvement Fair!

Written By Beth

The large grass "oval" in the middle of Ohio State's campus was a flurry of activity for the Involvement Fair (which happened the Monday before classes began for the start of another Fall Quarter at Ohio State). The Involvement Fair offers the entire student body to see what groups have to offer and find ways to connect on the largest university campus in the United States!

The CCO is a recognized student group of Ohio State and our booth was in the "religious section" along with several other ministries. Though there are many ministries at Ohio State, each has found its role in being the "body of Christ" to the campus com-

munity. As the CCO, our ministry is focused on helping students develop a Christian Worldview (through one-on-one discipleship and small groups) and challenging them to live out their faith in every area of life.

The fair was a constant stream of students that passed by our booth for about four hours! I, along with one of my student leaders, were excited to pass out over 100 flyers to young women interested in our Bible study! Please pray for student follow-up efforts, especially with first year students that are

trying to find their place at Ohio State!

For pictures and videos of the Involvement Fair, visit: www.TheMatteHome.com/OSUMinistry



Fall Quarter Begins!

Written By Beth

The Fall Quarter has now begun and the students are getting back into the swing of their academic life. There is a buzz of activity happening on campus during the first week and students are figuring out what activities they want to be involved in for the year. After the involvement fair, I spent a great deal of time contacting students, setting up one-on-one meetings and inviting them to the Bible study.

I have been able to connect with a couple of new young women, mainly freshmen, and it has been good to start to get to know their stories. Many of them are already overwhelmed with how many groups and clubs they can get involved in on campus. It is my hope that some will continue to be willing to meet with me one-on-one, as well as find calm to their group anxieties and find community within our CCO Bible studies.

I have also been busy meeting with returning

students over these first few weeks of the school year. We have been catching up on summer activities and checking in on books which we decided to read over the summer together. We have also started to work through goals for the new school year. It was helpful for me to hear from the students what goals they have for their growth in Christ, and how I can help them reach their full potential through our weekly discipleship meetings.

In our last newsletter I shared with you about Heather, a senior dental hygienist major, and how I taught her to lead and create a Bible study. At our first woman's Bible study of the quarter we enjoyed seeing many new and old faces come out. Heather did very well with leading her first Bible study on Ephesians, and it is already clear that this will be a great group!



Beth (left) meets with a few girls between classes

The "Jump Off"

Written By Mike

The "Jump Off" is a monthly gathering of the Christian African-American community of Ohio State to worship God and fellowship with one another. I enjoyed the amazing blessing of being the speaker at the first Jump Off of the 2008-09 school year! Over my years with Men of Vision, my voice has become one which is graciously respected in the Christian African-American community at Ohio State and I was honored to be invited as the first "white" person to speak at the Jump Off gathering.

Beth and I enjoyed the opportunity to be in the minority at the "Jump Off" and experience worship with the students. During the three hour fellowship gathering we enjoyed singing, testimonies, and special music prior to my exhortation to the crowd of about seventy-five students. I admit that I was a bit nervous at first to be granted this opportunity. But Christ offered me

confidence in the moment of getting to share with the students the transformative message of the Gospel. I shared how Jesus will radically change the way they study, think and live during their college years and beyond! I spoke for just over an hour; and it was clear that the Spirit used me as the students remained attentive through the entire hour, listening to my own testimony and desire to see Christ's redemption take control of every area of life. I challenged the students to consider a holistic Christian worldview and do everything in their life to the glory of God (including homework, classes and studies), and many of the students took me up on the challenge! God is good (all the time).



"Summer is over... which means less visits to the park."

- Lewis, Our Golden Retriever

Mike speaks to at the "Jump Off" fellowship



Praying into the Fall

Written by Mike & Beth

With the start of the school year we begin to settle into a much different pace of life than the summer months offered us. We give God all the praise for allowing us to have a rejuvenating and “slower paced” summer than what we have had in the past. We also pray that God will keep us strong in the months ahead as the CCO ministry gets into full swing both at Ohio State and as traveling picks up to schools in Central & Southern Ohio. We would also ask that you keep the following things in prayer:

- For us as continue to strive to not only give God all the glory - but also seek to see Christ’s joy made complete in our lives in all things
- Praise for the new girls Beth has had the opportunity to meet at Ohio State, pray that they remain “plugged in”
- Mike and his travels throughout Central and Southern Ohio to meet with and supervises CCO staff
- Mike’s work in continuing to build connections for future CCO cooperative partners in Central and Southern Ohio

- Beth & Heather’s Bible study on Ephesians at Ohio State
- Our efforts to open up our house & lives to students during the school year and grow in the practice of hospitality
- The girls that Beth meets with at the Pregnancy Decision Health Center who are “abortion minded”.
- Our support raising efforts and the continual development of our support network and team
- Praise for the ways in which God continues to lovingly & profoundly move in the midst of our lives

Please know that we would love to pray for you during this Fall season! So please do not hesitate to send your prayer requests and praises... Beth and I are personally working hard on developing our prayer life together—and it would be a great blessing to know how to lift you up in our prayers. It is a joy to grow with you in lifting prayers to Christ Jesus, our Lord & Savior.

Thank You for your prayers!

Slow Start Septembers

Written by Mike

As we watched the economy go on a bit of a crazy roller coaster ride in September, we began to wonder if we would see a similar roller coaster in our financial support development. We are thankful that many of you continue to give generously to the ministry even in these economic hard times. We take joy in the important role each of you play in our ministry with the CCO, as members of our financial support team! **Thank You!**

This month we saw what is becoming our traditional slow start in September (we only raised \$3,111 in September of 2007) and so we look forward, by God’s good grace, to you and others helping us to press forward and reach our financial goal in the coming months and year. Due to the start of the school year at Ohio State, we had a large amount of ministry related expenses due to the printing of flyers and initial meetings with students and staff... and by God’s wonderful grace and providence, we were able to meet all our expenses! **Thank You!**

We would ask the you continue to keep our financial support in your prayers, especially during a time when the economy seems to be less stable. We really appreciate all of your support and prayers! **Thank You!**

If you are interested in financially supporting our work in ministry with the CCO and at Ohio State. Here is how:

Give Online:

Visit: <https://secured.ccojubilee.org/gifts/>
 Select: Mattes, Mike & Beth

Write a Check:

Payable to: Coalition for Christian Outreach
 Check Memo: Mattes, Mike & Beth
 Address: Coalition for Christian Outreach
 5912 Penn Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15206-3805

September	Amount (%)	Goal
Monthly Support	\$3,320 (63%)	\$5,250
Year-to-Date Support	\$3,320 (63%)	\$5,250

Year (September 2008 - August 2009) goal is \$63,000

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Blog, Photos, Newsletters and Much More!



transforming college students to transform the world

www.ccojubilee.org

The CCO is an organization committed to transforming college students to transform the world. We accomplish this by partnering with churches, colleges and organizations to develop men and women who live out their Christian faith in every area of life.

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if any comfort from His love,
if any fellowship with the Spirit,
if any tenderness and compassion,
then make my joy complete by being like-minded,
having the same love,
being one in spirit and purpose.**

-Philippians 2:1, 2-