

Walking Together



VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

OCTOBER 2008

MIKE & BETH MATTES
CCO MINISTRY

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

TRANSFORMING COLLEGE
STUDENTS TO
TRANSFORM THE WORLD

We Celebrate Life

Written By Mike & Beth

October Newsletter
at a Glance

- Celebrating Life, Pumpkin Carving
- Christmas Tree Fundraiser, can you help us out?
- Calling students to a deeper transparency and walk with Christ
- Donald Miller visits CCO and other ministries in Ohio
- Prayer & Praises for the Fall season
- Financial Support on the Up & Up!

What is quickly becoming a tradition in our ministry is Beth to inviting girl's over to carve pumpkins! This has become one of the ways in which community is being formed and life is celebrated in our ministry! This year we were able to invite the girls over to our house and

while the girl's enjoyed pumpkin carving, Mike enjoyed grabbing a few photos! We thought we would share a few with you and hope that you find ways to enjoy life in Christ with your friends, family and community!



Christmas Tree for Jubilee!

Written by Beth - Involvement by You

I know that it seems early to start thinking about Christmas...we have not even celebrated Thanksgiving! But we are once again doing our Christmas Tree Fundraiser for our Jubilee Conference (Feb. 13-15) and our Spring Break Trip to New Orleans (March 21-28) and we need your help!

If you live in the Columbus area and are interested in buying a real Christmas Tree, please consider purchasing your tree this year from our lot! We have ordered 250 trees and will be selling them at St. Andrews Episcopal Church close to the Polaris Mall. We are going to start selling them on Friday, November 28th through the middle of December (or until we are sold out; whichever comes first). Our weekend hours are 10am-6pm and Tuesday-Friday we are open from 4pm-8pm.

If you do not live in the Columbus area or do not want to buy a real Christmas Tree, there is another way you can help students have the ability to go to Jubilee and New Orleans. You can sponsor a student for Jubilee; the cost for the conference is \$230 (which is a lot of money to most college students). Many students would be grateful for any help you could offer in allowing them to attend this transformational conference. If you are interested in offering scholarship funds to help a student attend Jubilee, please write a check to "CCO" and put in the memo line "OSU Jubilee" and mail the check to us! We will make sure it gets into the CCO OSU Jubilee Scholarship Account.

We really appreciate each one of you who receives our newsletter through your prayers and support, and even participation in this ministry! Have a great holiday season! God Bless.

What we are Reading

BETH

ReMix:Solo Devotional

MIKE

Bible: James

TOGETHER

Harry Potter Book 5

Asking Hard Questions

Written By Beth

I now meet regularly with ten girls for one-on-one discipleship. (Some of these girls I have been meeting with for three years which has helped to get to know them quite well.) In these discipleship relationships I have been able to stretch these young women in their relationships with God, friends, boyfriends and families. This year I have been able to get to a place with each of them where I can ask some of the harder and more personal questions about how they are living out their Christian faith. I am very thankful that each girl feels safe enough to be transparent and honest with me about their sins and struggles within their walk during this chapter of life of being a college student at Ohio State.

A conversation I am having with a couple of the girls is in regards to dating/flirting. We have been talking regularly about what is the purpose of dating; what the Bible says on the topic of dating and marriage - and the ways in which

their own actions conflict with how we are called to live as Christians. In talking about dating, we also enter into conversation about identity and who they find their identity in when it is not found in Christ. It seems that many times these girls struggle with their identity and often misplace their identity in the way the boys they flirt with or date view them. The conversation on identity allows for a different angle to the relationship conversation since many of the girls struggle to see why it is wrong to date a non-Christians. And with some girls the misplaced identity can even stretch into dating relationships with Christian guys.

In asking the harder questions, I am trying to stretch these young women to learn and figure out their identity in Christ. I hope that they begin to see how the Gospel influences the way they flirt, date, live and love obediently. Please keep these young women in your prayers.



Beth (Front Left) catching up with girls on OSU's campus



"I wonder what pumpkin tastes like..."

- Lewis, Our Golden Retriever

Donald Miller visits Campuses

Written By Mike

One of the joys of my job is being able to work with some incredible CCO staff that are in strategic places on campus to use their own networks with people to serve college students by helping students to develop their faith in Christ!

Donald Miller is well known in college & young adult ministry circles for his book, "Blue like Jazz" and has written a handful of other books which offer insight into the power of story telling and practical ways in which to work out the Christian faith. Many college students have read his books and have come to admire his whimsical approach to living out the Gospel. He also spoke last year at Jubilee and so any opportunity to get him on our campuses was a delight... When Lisa, who is associate staff with the CCO at Ohio Wesleyan University, found out that Donald Miller was coming through Ohio to talk with students about faith & politics she quickly

picked up the phone and called me. Within a day, Lisa and I had managed to set up a small "circuit" for Donald Miller to visit campuses. It was incredible to watch God orchestrate the whole process! Many students came out on different campuses and engaged Donald in conversation about what it means to be a Christian in a politically charged time of our history and in this election year. Even though Donald is not a politician, he has a way of presenting his own testimony and faith views to show how they influence his approach as an "average person" to political issues. Students were able to come away from the conversations with a desire to wrestle through issues not necessarily as a Republican or Democrat, but as a Christian.



From Left to Right: Beth & I, Donald Miller, Jonathan Weyer (at the Ohio State visit)

Prayer & Praises

Written by Mike and Beth

We have both been enjoying the Fall weather this past month and seeing the leaves start to change color. It has been nice to be able to spend time outside racking leaves and doing yard work while enjoying the beautiful array of colors. Our God is a remarkable artist!

We want to praise God for...

- Protecting Beth in her accident. Praise that she was not hurt and that no one else was involved in the accident even though the car was totaled. Also for God allowing things to work smoothly in getting another car with the amount of money given to us by the insurance company!
- Being able to visit Jessica and Greg (Mike's sister & brother-in-law) in Chicago and celebrating life with them (more about this to come in our next newsletter)!
- Relationships Beth has been able to develop through her one-on-one discipleship times with girls on campus.

- The connections being made for new positions within the CCO area of Central & Southwest Ohio!

We want to pray for...

- Energy for both of us as we look ahead to the busy month of November and December with Thanksgiving Baskets, Santa Shop, Christmas Baskets, and Christmas Trees.
- Selling of Christmas Trees... that we are able to sell all of the trees within two weeks!
- One-on-one discipleship relationships Beth is having with girls... that their lives will continue to transform and Christ will be in the center of everything they do.
- Mike's travels between the Pittsburgh, Dayton and Cincinnati over the next month.

Thank you for your prayers and the blessing of your fellowship with us through joining with the Spirit in prayer! Please let us know how we can be praying for you! Take Good Care.

On the Up and Up

Written by Mike

Beth and I are very thankful to watch how God provides for the ministry through your generous giving! We are thankful for each one of you and your role as members of our support team!

Thank You!

This month we surpassed our goal and we were able to make up significant ground on our over all goal after having a low financial support month in September! We are in reach of getting caught up entirely to our year-to-date goal! God is so amazing in His providence, and we give him all the glory. Thank You!

We are extremely thankful for those that made a one time gift or were willing to give a little extra this past month. Especially during this time of our nations economic stresses. Our confidence as believers must be placed in Christ and not the state of our nation's affluence. It is clear that many of you are willing to do just that and are even willing to give sacrificially. Thank You!

What does this mean? Simply that we continue to trust in God and we need your continued support and the support of others that are not yet on our team to continue in this ministry. Your role in this ministry is vital! God is good (All the Time)!

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

October	Amount (%)	Goal
Monthly Support	\$5,702 (109%)	\$5,250
Year-to-Date Support	\$9,022 (86%)	\$10,500

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 fellowship with the Spirit,
if any tenderness and compassion,
then make my joy complete by being like-minded,
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-Philippians 2:1,2-