

Campus Ministry @ the University of Northern BC

Fall 2011 • Neil and Virginia Lettinga, job-sharing the role of University Chaplain under the direction of the Christian Reformed Church

The fall Semester is a vibrant time: students arrive, classes begin, old contacts are renewed, new friends are made, and projects and programs start up once more. **It is easy to keep busy.**



In September, we...

- helped move students into the residence halls
- organized residence hall orientation events
- welcomed Alan van der Woerd, the incoming chaplain, who came and worked with us for 10 days
- taught a Comparative Religions class to 85 students
- reconnected with returning students
- met dozens of new students
- hosted students in the drop-in Chapel Space
- participated in gatherings with the students of International Student Ministries and IVCF
- met with students and partners for regular prayer

In October, we...

- continued to teach the Comparative Religions class
- advised students making plans to lead worship
- cooked a humongous turkey for a Thanksgiving feast with a student crowd and InterVarsity friends
- prayed each week with several young believers
- preached in several Prince George churches
- hosted students in the drop-in Chapel Space
- discussed Canadian attitudes toward faith and religion with Christian and Muslim students



In November, we expect to...

- feed crowds at our house: students and their friends, faculty and their families.
- invite “practioners” into the Comparative Religions class
- challenge Christian students to invite non-believing friends to the chapel
- encourage students to dive seriously into the Bible
- train a set of local pastors to serve as volunteer chaplains

But ministry is not about being busy. *“Unless the Lord is in the project, time on campus is useless. Unless the Lord is guiding your plans, thinking of every possibility will be pointless. It is useless for you to slave away with breakfast meetings and evening student groups; for God gives rest to his loved ones and does miracles in hearts and minds when you are not watching.”*

Psalm 127:1-2 revised for campus ministry

We have been thrilled to see God’s Spirit at work at UNBC! To watch questioners turn into Jesus-followers; to see ministry expand among the students involved with us, with IVCF and with International Student Ministries; to make friends with those who once resented all Christians. **Pray with us that God will continue to bless the witness at UNBC!**

Meet the next chaplain (Arriving in Prince George in December)



UNBC President George Iwama standing between Neil & Alan on move-in day

Alan van der Woerd served as a missionary in Mexico for more than a dozen years and most recently has worked for Open Doors Canada. He has a PhD in Intercultural Studies as well as several seminary degrees. He's looking forward to getting involved with the "Green" focus on UNBC's campus. We welcome him!



Alan and his wife Eileen plan to move to Prince George with their 3 kids

Please pray with us for God to bless UNBC's new chaplain:

- that the Van der Woerd family's planned move at the end of November will go smoothly
- that Calvin, Luke, and Eva - the Van der Woerd children - will quickly find friends and adjust to their new schools
- for UNBC faculty, students and staff to welcome Alan and open opportunities for him
- for Eileen to find warm-hearted friends to make up for the cool climate in Prince George
- for wisdom for Alan as he picks up the organizational direction of the InterFaith Chaplaincy at UNBC and leads the Christian campus ministry into new directions.



What's next for the Lettingas? We don't really know. We are relishing this last semester at UNBC, but feel it is time for someone else to shape the ministry. In the mean time, we expect to spend a couple of months with family out east and then will downsize and rent an apartment in Prince George to give us greater flexibility for whatever good adventures God opens up for us.

Partner in Missions at UNBC: reach around the globe through international students, reach "the Green University" through a heart for creation-care, and reach a generation of texters and tweeters through the witness of concern, conversation, and Scripture.

We need your prayers, your encouraging words, and your financial support. Denominational finances are running very tight, and we increasingly rely on the generosity of individuals. We appreciate every gift, small and large alike and pray that this ministry will continue to flourish.

Please sent your gifts....

In Canada, please send your contributions directly to the CR Campus Ministry at UNBC, PO Box 1906, Prince George, BC, V2L 5E3.

In the U.S. please send your cheque to Faith CR Church, 1600 Silver Lake Rd, New Brighton, MN 55112 Attn: Accountant - and write "UNBC campus ministry" on the cheque's memo line.

Tax deductible receipts will be sent for all contributions over \$20. Please be sure to include your address.