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SERVICE REQUESTED RETURN

Evangelism Association 1545 Riverview Drive

Macomb, IL 61455



61455 PERMIT #56



Hello CSC Alumni and Friends.

My name is Joshua Stinson and I have been fortunate to attend Campus Students for Christ for three semesters now. I have been given the opportunity to serve on student leadership and it has allowed me to foster my faith in ways that I really never thought that my faith would grow. I am currently a junior, English Education major and I would like to use my degree to minister to high school aged students. I'd like to tell you a little bit about myself and the growth that I have found in Christ through this pandemic.

At the start of our extended "spring break," I was really outgoing in reaching out to people but soon found myself unmotivated and tired. I felt like I was pouring into others but realized that I wasn't taking care of myself or really focusing on resting in Christ. This

Josh is in the yellow jacket pictured in the center from the World Mission Builders trip on Oct. 1st weekend.

has honestly been the largest takeaway from the pandemic and from this semester. I had always heard about giving our issues to God and letting him lead; however, I don't think I was able to fully understand this until I was quite literally left with no other options.

Student leadership was introduced briefly to the spiritual disciplines toward the end of the spring semester and it has encouraged me to take them seriously. Through the summer, I started really taking reading and prayer far more seriously than I

had in the past. Through the mentorship of Avery and Alicia, I've been able to find peace and rest even in the midst of darkness. I've had a lot of different challenges this semester. I've had friends pass away from COVID, friends attempt to take their lives, and the shooting at Thompson Hall, the dorm that I live in. Through all of these challenges, my foundation has not been shaken because of the spiritual foundation that I have been able to build and develop through my time attending the Campus House.

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Isaiah 40:27-31. After months of prayer, discussion, and operating without a director, the board of WICEA has decided that I (Avery) should take on the role of Director of Ministries at Campus Students for Christ. For many of you this will come as a surprise, either because you thought I already was or because you thought I would never be. I am excited to begin this new chapter, and I believe this is the right decision. Let me tell you some of how God has been working at WIU this year. God is good all the time. While we knew that this year would be difficult, it was still surprising how difficult it was at first. The first 6 weeks of school has been mentally and emotionally draining on our students due to COVID-19 restrictions, there was roommate gun violence in Thompson Hall (a dorm building on campus), the city announced severe restrictions on events at residential properties (which was probably wise), and our student leadership went from 12 in the spring to 4 this semester. Still in all of this, God is good all the time. Our students have handled the different crisis exceptionally well, our services have grown over last year, we have seen more enrolled in discipleship courses, our mission activity has grown, and our student leaders have continued to be steadfast. If anything, the difficulties we have dealt with this school year only highlight to our campus and community the need for God fearing ministries and a community that supports and loves both its members and those "outside". I am convinced that the Spirit of God is at work in trials to transform and equip those whom He has called.

As I take on the responsibilities of Director, I must say that I am cautiously optimistic. Cautious because I know that I am not enough, and I need to rely on God and others to pursue the good will of our good God for CSC. Optimistic because I already know how great the ministry, community, alumni support, staff, and students are. My goals are to grow our staff to fit the needs of our community, to update aspects of our property, to care for our staff, and to increase the alumni community. If this seems like a somewhat tall and vague order to fill, it is because it is. With the help of those who are wiser than I, and with much prayer for the will of God, these and much more than I could ever imagine will be accomplished. We cherish your prayers and your support as we minister to a broken world on a lost campus. God is good all the time.

# PICTURES FROM CSC



## OTHER HAPPENINGS

#### **OPEN POSITION**

We are looking to hire a third staff member, a men's minister, to join our team here at Campus Students for Christ. We have a job description posted on our website for the men's minister position. We are looking to start the interview process on Nov. 1st, so a resume and letter of interest will need to be submitted before this date. If you know of anyone who may be a great candidate, please contact us at cs-christ@wiu.edu before Nov. 1st.

#### **RAINY DAY FUND**

WICEA Board has created a special fund called the Rainy Day Fund. The purpose of this fund is to make a perpetual stream of income to be used for scholarships, repairs and maintenance of the building and grounds, and future expansion. The principal of the fund is to remain invested providing dividends and interest to be used each year. To contribute, indicate on your check the amount you want to add to the Rainy Day Fund. This should be beyond your normal contribution to WICEA. Contact any board member, Avery, or Alicia if you have any questions.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Fiscal year is July 1-June 30

As of Sept. 2020 Budgeted Church gifts: \$12,601.50 \$58,000 Individual: \$4,883.15 \$76,000 Rent Income: \$3,714.31 \$33,000

Building Fund Accumulated Total Balance: \$26,946.11

## **STAY CONNECTED**

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