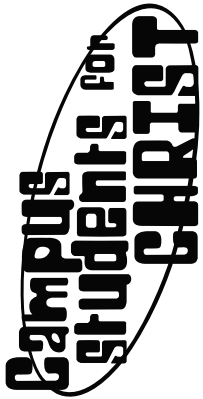


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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Looking back at this past school year, I am so thankful God led me to the ministry of CSC. I came into my junior year looking for a church community that supported me in my walk with Christ, surrounded me with others who were pursuing their faith, and who loved and led in a way that glorifies God, and that is exactly what I have found here. My time here has been spent growing in my relationship with Jesus Christ, finding friends who walk beside me in both the highs and lows of this season of life, and learning ways to connect with God and learn who I am through Him.

One of my favorite parts of being involved at CSC has been growing in both our Spiritual Disciplines discipleship group and through being a part of the leadership team here. Learning about the spiritual disciplines and practicing them as a small group was so beneficial in my walk with God this year. I have loved learning new ways to grow and spend time with Him, and have been able to directly apply what I learned in that group to my daily walk with Jesus. Being a part of the leadership team has also been such a joy in my life. I have had the pleasure of being one of the student leaders for the Women's Ministry team, and I have loved every second. Getting to connect, grow alongside, and love the women of this ministry has been a huge blessing this past semester. I am so thankful for each person God has brought into this ministry and helping to lead in this capacity has brought such a light into my life. Plus, who doesn't love getting to go Decades Roller Skating and Laser Tagging, am I right?



Hannah Akers and Courtney Longenecker at the Women's Decades Roller Skating night

The ministry of CSC has truly been one of the biggest blessings in my college career. I have found a home where I can grow and learn about God through His Word, be mentored by our staff (who are absolute blessings to our students), serve the campus of WIU, and build friendships that are rooted in faith. Coming into this year I felt truly lost, and God pursued me, found me, and led me here, and for that, I thank Him every day. I have truly found a group of Christ-centered believers that for my time here at Western, and for the years after, I will be lucky to call family.

-Hannah Akers (WIU Senior)

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

I pray that our newsletter finds you well! We have had such an exciting, and trying, school year! Operating on the campus of Western this year looked so very different than in the past. We had some ups and downs with attendance, we had live-stream-only for about 8 services in the spring, we stayed off University property almost all year, and that is about all the bad I can say about it. We look forward to the next semester potentially being one of the biggest in a long time. We only graduated a handful of students, our leadership is back to pre-COVID numbers, we have a great staff dynamic with the addition of Jesse, our house is more full, and from all appearances, the women's and men's ministries will be going into the fall with some huge momentum! While each semester will bring new challenges, and we must be ready for them, I am so excited for what God will do with us in the coming academic year. The potential is electric. Pray that God would fulfill that potential for His glory and for our good!

As exciting as all of that is, I also want to share with you about our summer plans. God has been **SO GOOD** to us this year, right on through the pandemic. We had consistent donors, we had some large donations, and we spent a year and half without a third staff member. While that time without a third staff member was hard in some ways, it has provided some extra cash on hand to accomplish some much-needed projects this summer. We have contracted with EPH to update the HVAC in the apartments, something that has been a very long time coming. We have gone with a mini-split system for each apartment, which will be far more efficient, far less maintenance, and will let in far fewer wasps on the south side...Praise be to God! While the cost is nearly \$100,000, God has already provided the funds and we are simply attempting to steward well what God has given us for serving His church! Moreover, Burnside Christian Church has committed to adopting apartment 4, which is in desperate shape. Praise be to God! We will be coordinating with Burnside and other volunteers to do the work of tearing out and renovating this summer. On top of all that, there are two mission trips and one conference. The first is a trip to Red Bird (KY) in May for Alicia, Jesse, and 11 students. The second is an exploratory mission trip in June for my wife Sarah, Alicia, and myself to Pan de Vida in Ecuador with Oscar and Lori Aguirre and Lindy Manuel. The third is a student conference at Milligan in July-August. We also have our regular summer maintenance and preparation for the academic year. We will be busy and hard-working even though most students will be home. Lastly, we are currently updating our website and planning different ways to better connect with our alumni and partners. Make sure to check out our new alumni/partners page on our website for upcoming events and ways to get involved. If you would like to partner with us by prayer, volunteering, or financial donation, make sure to reach out to any of the staff by phone or email. All this talk of building, both our people and renovations, makes me think of 1 Peter 2:4-6. May I recommend reading that passage and then listening to Rend Collective's "Build Your Kingdom Here" or perhaps the hymn, "We are God's People?" God bless!

FAME Trip in January



PICTURES FROM CSC

OTHER HAPPENINGS

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT UPDATES

Agazit Gebrehiwot: Lives in Denver, works as a Support Specialist for Arkansas State University.

Ryan Hall: Video Team Coordinator and Technical Director at College Church of the Nazarene in Bourbonnais.

Getting Married: Matthew Alwood and Hilary Dunn-July 10th. Tess Tyler and Jason Olson-July 24th. Madisen Helwig and Zachary Pratt-June 20th.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal year is July 1-June 30

	As of Apr. 2021	Budgeted
Church gifts:	\$50,190.91	\$58,000
Individual:	\$98,178.44	\$76,000
Rent Income:	\$31,892.14	\$33,000
Building Fund Accumulated Total Balance:	\$26,996.11	

STAY CONNECTED

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Alicia Dickerson - Associate Minister - alicia@wiucsc.org
Jesse Patton - Associate Minister - jesse@wiucsc.org

