

All the Children of the World

Stephanie Ng

I just spent six weeks of my life living in a black community on the West Side of Chicago. And I would definitely say that it was not long enough. I participated in an InterVarsity missions internship called the Chicago Urban Project (CUP). When people ask me what I did over the summer I usually tell them that I taught 15 kindergartners in a black day camp, but it's so much more than that.

For starters, I lived in a community with 9 other people, which was an adventure in itself. We learned how to live in community and deal with conflict while deepening our relationships with each other. It was wonderful living with those people and knowing they would be there to listen to your struggles and cheer you up whenever you needed it.

Our group was pretty diverse: 2 Asians (including me), 3 blacks, and 5 whites. It was wonderful seeing the different communication, working and worship styles as well as the gifts that each culture brought to the table. We engaged in a lot of ethnic identity and racial reconciliation dialogue, which was the main focus of the program. Even now I'm a little unsure of where I fit into racial reconciliation since it seems very much like a black and white issue. But it isn't, because I do know that I harbor prejudices that I need to deal with. You can't escape race issues. You can't escape your skin color. (Hint: A really good book to read is *Following Jesus Without Dishonoring Parents* by several Asian IV staff workers, including Susan Cho Van Riesen from Urbana and Paul Tokunaga, who visited our school last year.) A good way to start dealing with racial reconciliation is to understand your own ethnic identity.

The service part of CUP was the teaching part. We taught alongside teachers and teachers' aids who were students from the community. In this way, the day camp raised up leaders from among the community in the teachers and it also kept younger kids off the streets while giving them an education. We spent Fridays developing our relationships with each other and learning more about how to build up the black community and how blessed we were to have the chance to reach out to the kids. God also taught me a lot as I was teaching those kids and working with my teacher and teacher's aid. There was a lot of frustration and after the first week of the day camp

I didn't know how I would survive, but looking back on it now, I would definitely do it over again. I love those children so much and I really pray that they will grow up in Christ. I also love the people that I worked with and found that I really am amazed by black culture and the things they struggle through.

God showed me much about myself and the world around me. I learned that I am a raindrop and that being Chinese greatly influences who I am and how I react to things. He opened my eyes to issues of social injustice and poverty, which were things that I had never really thought about. I learned how precious diversity is and how wonderful a gift it is to have a close friendship with a person of another color. I would encourage each one of you to seriously consider going on a short term missions trip because it is an invaluable time when God can reveal your heart to you while He reveals His heart for His people.

Stephanie Ng is one of several students who pursued a missions-oriented summer internship after attending Urbana 2000.

Retreat Reflections

Eugene Lim

The ACF Leaders' Retreat was on the 24th and 25th of August. This year, it was held at the McKnight Road Holiday Inn. Cell group leaders, Bible study leaders, Large group leaders, Worship leaders, Prayer leaders and others who wanted to take a more active part in ACF for Christ came to hear the Word of God on leadership, fellowship with each other and most importantly, seek God's will in their life on leading in ACF.

It was over all too soon.

Now as we approach the middle of the semester, we should all take stock of where we are in our Christian walk, leaders and members alike. Are we beginning to feel the burden of our course-load? Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matt 11:28). Let us draw ever closer to God and take faith in Jesus' words that we will experience a refreshing from Him.

Eugene Lim reminded us, during a Leader's Retreat activity asking us where we see ourselves serving in ACF, that one area in which every Christian should be is prayer.

Let's Play!

Bryan Wang

Volleyball [every Sunday night]!

8:00pm sharp! UC gym [CMU]!

Invite your friends! Meet other ACF brothers and sisters!
Get some exercise!

Bryan Wang organizes ACF sports activities. Contact him at bsw@andrew.cmu.edu for information about Pick-up Volleyball and Football and IM Volleyball and Outdoor Soccer.

Let's Pray!

Danny Bang

ACF prayer meetings are back! We're having them in the Wright Rogal Chapel (UC chapel [CMU]) on Mondays and Thursdays, 5:30-6:30.

Danny Bang is, among many other things, the Prayer Ministry Leader.

October Calendar of Events

<http://www.andrew.cmu.edu/~acf/schedule.htm>

- 5 – Cell Night: Photoscavenger Hunt
Meet in Doherty Hall 2315 (CMU)
- 12 – Bible Study 3: Galatians 3:26 – 4:31
- 19 – PCC Missions / Mid-Semester Break (no ACF)
- 26 – Topical Study: Service in the Body

Events begin at 7 p.m. on the specified Friday. Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are at the First Baptist Church. Rides, as appropriate, leave from the UC Circle (CMU) and Wm. Pitt Union (Pitt) at 6:30 p.m.

October Birthdays

- 17 – Amy Hu
- 21 – Reona Lor
- 23 – Lia Mandiro
- 24 – David Matsumoto
- 25 – Melvin Wilhelm

We want to celebrate your birthday! Please let Angeline Wong know when your birthday is. Her email address is alwong@andrew.cmu.edu.

A big "Thank You!" goes out to everyone who contributed!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Cell Group Central

<http://www.andrew.cmu.edu/~acf/schedule.htm>

Check the ACF schedule to find out when your group is on welcome or clean-up duty for Friday night meetings.

Each group's first monthly Servant Evangelism activity report is due to Jon Nedel by October 12.

Get the scoop on cell groups and other ACF ministries at <http://www.andrew.cmu.edu/~acf/ministries.htm>.

Partners in Christ

Former 15-211 "partners in crime" Elias del Real and Peter Hu interview each other.

What are your favorite video games?

Elias: nethack, Earthbound, Super Mario Brothers 3, Quake III:A, jet fighter sims, Windows Tetris

Peter: the original Mario Brothers

What would you like for Christmas?

Elias: I would like \$1,600 so I could build my dream computer. I would also like a high-speed Internet connection and a 10-speed bike.

Peter: Airline tickets (i.e. to go home). Can't think of anything right now.

Name something unusual about yourself:

Elias: I have a license plate collection

Peter: I keep an antique skeleton key on my key chain

What is your role in ACF/What would you like your role in ACF to be?

Elias: I attend/attend

Peter: same.

In what ways has ACF helped you grow?

Elias: Cell groups in particular have helped

Peter: When I first came to ACF, I didn't particularly know much about the Bible and really not that much about Christianity in general (and I still have a lot to learn, of course). But since then, not only have I learned more, but the material seems relevant and absorbing. I find I want to attend - not just come and sit for a while, but actually attend - listen, read, & walk away with something.

What are you expecting out of ACF?

Elias: For everybody to get to know everybody, solid Bible teaching, and great music

Peter: Elias pretty much summed it up there.

Elias del Real likes vi. Peter Hu often provides snacks for ACF. ☺