



**2013 Annual  
Report  
Murray Christian  
Fellowship  
“One Matters”**

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# MCF 2013 Annual Report

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## A Year in Review

### Unity in the Body

4 Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. 2 Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. 3 Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. 4 For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. 5 There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 and one God and Father, who is over all and in all and living through all.

7 However, he has given each one of us a special gift through the generosity of Christ. 8 That is why the Scriptures say, "When he ascended to the heights, he led a crowd of captives and gave gifts to his people." 9 Notice that it says "he ascended." This clearly means that Christ also descended to our lowly world. 10 And the same one who descended is the one who ascended higher than all the heavens, so that he might fill the entire universe with himself.

11 Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. 12 Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. 13 This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

Ephesians 4 (NLT)

Our culture is obsessed with numbers, statistics, records, quantity (sometimes, most times, over quality). Ministry can fall into the numbers trap as a means to measure success or growth. This year the students of MCF, the Servant Team and I focused on the number ONE; specifically, THE ONE that MATTERS most, JESUS, and also how each ONE of US matters to Jesus. As Paul wrote in the above scripture, our ONE faith in the ONE Lord is many layered. The same is true for the roles and dynamic of the ONE body, the church. So, if we are to be obsessed with any number, then it should be the number ONE, and especially if it is a descriptor of our faith, of our community, of our God.

## Highlights of the Year

Our T-shirt design gives the overall dynamic of our teaching and worship this year; it also was our filter in the planning for events and spiritual formation experiences, like Fall Retreat. The students of MCF make up the dwelling place of God (the House) for we are united in 1 body 1 Spirit, etc. This house is built upon the foundation “to each 1 of us grace is given”. God’s grace is being worked out by the Spirit in the many roles of the church (Paul describes them as Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Shepherds and Teachers); we focused some of our time introspectively considering our roles and also communally seeing how the Spirit is manifesting these descriptors in our life together.



To sum it all up: ONE MATTERS – you matter

the ONE church MATTERS – your role/part in the church matters

### Here are some of the ways our students lived out ONE MATTERS:

MCF’s involvement with the Youth-Nonprofit-Leadership (YNL) department continued to build a great reputation for the ministry among students and faculty. There were several more student participants and projects for the YNL 290, 350 & 351 classes fulfilled through MCF: a cooperative food drive and fellowship event with the Baptist Campus Ministry called the “Parking Lot Party”; a Biscuits and Gravy sale for our World Vision Child in association with the Vet-Tech club’s Doggy Day Spa; several MCF fund raising events for our Spring 2014 Mission experience to Mexico.



Our students also participated in a new event toward the city of Murray in partnership with several local Christian congregations – **Community Impact Day**; we started the renovation of the Calloway County Library Annex. At the end of the day of service, we shared a meal with all the participants. It was a great intergenerational community event!

MCF also had the opportunity to partner with the Southern Baptist College Missions in providing housing for their **ACTS 1:8** mission team during the summer. The partnership allowed MCF to do some much needed renovation and cleaning to the Girls' House. It was such a great experience that we will have future opportunities to partner with this Cross-Cultural Mission experience for college students nation wide through the BCM (Baptist Campus Missions).

The **MSU Chinese Student Fellowship** is meeting weekly at MCF for a time of fellowship, food and spiritual formation – evangelism, teaching and worship. This new partnership holds great potential for MCF's relationship with a growing population among MSU's International Students.

Each semester, the students pick a focus group for **Outreach**: prayer, relationship building, sharing the Gospel/being the Gospel. This year we focused on the **MSU Rodeo group**. From sponsoring an ad to giving out water and horse feed, we were able to invest in several students lives in a very real and positive way. We even kicked off the Fall Retreat with getting a group to go to MSU's Rodeo event – it was a great time!!!



Finally, MCF board of directors and Mike are pleased to announce the approval and search for an **Associate Minister to Women!** With the long standing demographic of female to male student ratio being 3:1, every one involved sees the need of calling someone to minister to these women in a personal deep way.

## Numbers at a Glance

Wednesday night Synergy held steady in the 30's while Sunday night went from an average of 5 in the Spring semester to 7 in the Fall semester. Friday Night Events were consistent this year in the 20's. Our Fall Retreat attendance was a close group of 12 while 6 attended the Winter Retreat. We are proud to say that MCF graduated 8 students this year.

# Campus Minister

2013 has been a great year for MCF taking steps ... into other areas of service in the Murray community, extending invitations to the YNL program, hosting International Students, and joining with other MSU campus ministries. The students have been more intentional in their relationships on campus – **being** the gospel to others in many different ways.

One important step has been the Board's recognition and action toward bringing in an Associate Minister for Women. Due to the 3:1 ration of female to male students at MSU (and MCF) the numbers support the need. MCF has reached a plateau of sorts because of the imbalance. This is typical within most campus ministries; the second staff person called to serve is a minister for Women's discipleship. Finally, and most importantly, OUR MCF students want and need an adult female in their life's journey.

I have also taken some steps professionally. This year I committed to being on the board of officers for Murray States' United Campus Ministry Association as well as the Association of College Ministries. I look forward to facilitating our monthly UCMA meetings here on campus as well as taking lead on planning the ACM Campus Ministers' Retreat and National Student Conference.

## Mike's ministry goals for 2013:

1. Work on my pastoral listening skills, so that I truly hear not only what the students are sharing but what God is saying in the midst of the life situations.
2. Become more involved in the greater organizations in which MCF is associated.

Oh, and by the way, I'm also excited to share that Sarah and I will be having a baby girl in April of 2014.

# Ministry Model

Each year, we realize that *having a campus house* is not only one of our major ongoing blessings and places to experience life, but it is also a place that can keep up off campus. What this means is that we use our campus house very well to build community, provide safety, and create ownership and connection with the ministry of MCF. This fits really well into the Murray State Residential Colleges model. It also means that we have to “*get out of the House and go do something!*” We meet students in the Front Yard and then invite them to our Front Porch events, walk with them into the Living Room and meet at the Kitchen. Students return to places throughout the house and out on campus to continue the flow. This dynamic emulates what Jesus did when He dwelt/tabernacles/moved-into-the-neighborhood” (cf. JN 1. 14) in order to give us hope and teach us how to share that hope.

## The Four Areas

### 1. *Front Yard*

This is our area of overlap with the larger community of MSU. Our on-campus presence exists here in our partnership with other campus ministries through United Campus Ministry Association (UCMA) and Outreach events that take place on campus- ex. food giveaways, couch on campus, etc. This is where we work together with MESS and other student organizations and with MSU events (Great beginnings, MLK , Jr. Day of Service, etc.)



### 2. *Front Porch*

This is the place where we meet other students in the community of Murray State. Front Porch activities might include cookouts, game nights, or any other Outreach event where those who don't know us get to meet us.

### 3. *Living Room*

Here students become a part of and share in fellowship- as a group of Christ followers. Living Room activities include Sunday and Wednesday times of worship and study, hanging out at the campus house, a place to gather for road trips, and a place to plan social events by and for MCF students.

### 4. *Kitchen Table*

Intimate stuff happens around the Kitchen Table. These activities include Roundtable, Small Groups, accountability, counseling, prayer sessions, etc.

## ***Large Group Meetings***

Our goals are:

- To provide students with in-depth, relevant Biblical teaching about The Christian faith and life as a follower of Jesus within a fellowship of believers.
- To provide students with the opportunities to partner with the Spirit in their own growth and ministry to Murray State University.
- To provide students with the means and motivation to continue their development within and toward the Church by cultivating character, providing models/techniques for education, and service training for leadership roles in the Church.

With all this in mind, MCF works hard to make sure that our large group meetings are God-centered, scripturally sound, relevant and interactive so that the students can live out the Christian faith in their daily lives at MSU and in future settings.

Our rhythm is to introduce a verse/topic/concept on Wednesday night in a corporate worship setting and then study/discuss that passage in depth on Sunday night. Sunday nights are also the time we consistently celebrate Communion as a fellowship. But throughout the semester, we celebrate and participate in some moving experiences around the Lord's Table on Wednesday nights as well.

## ***Synergy***

*Defined:* (from the Greek *syn-ergos*- meaning working together) is the term used to describe a situation where different entities cooperate advantageously for a final outcome. Simply put, it means that the whole is greater than the *sum* of the individual parts. This is what happens on Wednesday nights when the times of worship with song, worship in the Word, and worship through relationships come together and partner with God in making Life Happen in the Spirit.

## ***Sunday Night Service***

While *Synergy* focuses on the “spiritual milk” that keeps us healthy, *Sunday Night Service* takes a deeper look into scripture and provides good healthy discussion or spiritual formation events that correspond with the focus of that week. On a typical night we look at the text from the first century culture and language, using historical literary criticism by the church. We also discuss how the text intersects with our lives here and now and for the future and encourages us to get practical with what we are learning.

# Student Service Team

Student Servant Team members serve for one year (January – December with the summer off!) in a volunteer servant-leadership position. Each member is responsible for one zone of the ministry: OutReach, InReach, Service.



**Our Goals for 2013!**  
(the “NEW” four E’s)

- **Enlist**
- **Enable**
- **Enact**
- **Engage**

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*“It is my hope that  
I will continue to  
be used by him.”*

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## *Outreach*

The outreach servant focuses on coordinating events that provide an opportunity to go out and bring in non-Christian students into life here at MCF. This area of ministry is in charge of the “front porch” life..

### **Amber Phillips (‘15)**

There have been many encouraging and discouraging moments while serving this past year. Positively, the semesters were full of fun activities during our Friday night events: movie nights, game nights, even a karaoke night, and many others. There was a specific outreach to the members of the MSU Rodeo Team – giving out water at practice and a gift card drawing for horse feed; several team members attended these events and led people to MCF, and from there we were able to spend time with friends, both old and new.

My main focus for outreach was simply to love people as Christ has called us to. Most of the time we fail to do this because we are too busy to notice the hurting people all around us. Overall, MCF as a whole has grown in many ways; I am very excited to see what else God has in store for us.

## *In-reach*

The in-reach servant's job is to make every student who comes into MCF feel welcome and included. Some areas of concentration include coordinating worship for Wednesdays, working with the adoption program (an intentional matching of older students with new students), and making sure people feel like a part of the community. **Sean James ('15)** accepted this servant position.

As lead servant of the In-reach ministry zone this past year, Sean was able to be a part of a lot of things that helped our Fellowship grow in their relationship with God. One major thing was making a Prayer room, attached to the sanctuary; this has given students a quiet place to pray, leave praise reports and prayer requests for others.

We had several worship teams, in which I was able to delegate responsibilities. Some of the relationship dynamics were tough, but we made it through, with genuine hearts of praise and repentance. Practically speaking, the music closet has been cleaned out and reorganized – now that is something worth praising God for.

## *Service*

This position entwines the other two. If anyone else on the servant team needs help on projects or events, those extra hands are filled by the Service position either personally or by enabling other people in the Fellowship to serve. By this very nature, the Service position, filled by Robert Tortorelli, is busy with meetings- Round Table (the weekly Servant Team time with the Campus Minister), board meetings (serving as the student representative), and any other ministry meeting that takes place.

### **Robert Tortorelli ('13)**

It has been my hope that during my time on the 2013 MCF servant team, service team, I would help inspire others to serve through my own service to them. By doing my best to help out at MCF events and being ready to offer help any time someone needs it, I hope I have accomplished this goal, even if just a little. This fall semester in particular, my focus as service team was to, "Serve others so that they might serve." I do not know how God has, or will use me in the lives of others, but it is my hope that I will continue to be used by Him.

# Missions

***By: Hailey Buth ('13)***

If you want to get to Murray's downtown, a local would tell you to head down 641 like you are heading to Tennessee. You would be told to turn left at "Pharmacy Corner," that is, the corner with CVS, Walgreens and Rite Aid placed so conveniently for the indecisive. You would continue on that road, past the middle school until you hit the stop light, at which time you would have reached downtown. On this short trek, you would pass multiple cute old-style homes that look like the model for every girl's dream doll house. It was in one of these



houses that MCF came to serve for "Mission to Murray." The house had been donated to the city of Murray and needed a complete interior overhaul. The students came together with the majority of the people Christian Community church to rip up disgusting carpet, carry out multiple pieces of ancient termite-ridden furniture and pull up the nails left in the hardwood for unsuspecting bare feet. Nearly the entire ministry came out to serve that day, working with the members of a church that started at MCF. The experience was very encouraging, showing everyone what a little manpower could do as well as bringing together a group of people to serve the community while building community!

## MCF Personnel

### ***From Jac's Desk***

In an effort to return to full-time teaching, I spent most of the semester long-term subbing in third grade and fifth grade. So, my desk was not my own. MCFer Amber Phillips took over some of my administrative responsibilities such as taking care of the mail, receipts, and checks. MCFer Molly Thompson fulfilled her internship hours for her Youth Non-profit Leadership major by working on some administrative projects, such as this annual report. Many thanks go out to those who helped keep things running smoothly while I was subbing. I've taken back over my desk these days while I wait for more work in the school system with my goal being to be back in the classroom full-time again. I'm so grateful to work with and have the support of the MCF Board, Mike, and the students at MCF.

# Alumni Relations Committee (ARC)

The purpose of this committee is to maintain and enhance relationships between MCF and alumni through communication, involvement, and challenges.

The committee consists of:

- Board Representative 1 year term: Joel Cates ('09, '11)
- Jaclyn Tompkins
- Amanda Pennington

The responsibilities include:

- Communicating in MCF newsletter and other publication updates on the life status of alumni: personal news, employment, location, and ministry happenings.
- Organizing and implementing specific alumni events: Homecoming, retreats, prayer vigils, etc.
- Organizing and implementing alumni projects: fundraisers, service days, MCF house improvements, etc.

## Joel Cates ('09, '11)

2013 was a big year for the Alumni Relations Committee. We saw progress at every turn. 2013 was the year we solidified our role as the connection between alumni and MCF. We crafted our vision for our future role with MCF. We established a social media presence. We branched out and innovated with our approach to the Alumni Gathering. 2013 pushed us forward and we will continue with that same momentum in 2014.

## 2013 Board of Directors and Trustees

### *Directors*

#### *Terms Expire in 2013*

Janet Foster (Community Christian Church- Metropolis, IL)

William Call (Christian Community Church- Murray, KY)

#### *Terms Expire in 2014*

Marie Taylor (Aurora Christian Church- Aurora, KY)

Doug VanderMolen ( First Christian Church- Murray, KY)

## ***Terms Expire in 2015***

Tom Green ( Christian Community Church- Murray, KY)

Zack Browning (Reidland Christian Church- Reidland, KY)

## ***Terms Expire in 2016***

Larry Call (Brookport First Christian Church-Brookport, IL)

Dr. Ruth Ragovin (First Christian Church- Murray, KY)

## ***Directors-At-Large***

### ***Terms Expire in 2013***

Joel Cates (Relevant Church- Paducah, KY)

Kevin Qualls (Christian Community Church- Murray, KY)

### ***Terms Expire in 2014***

Lissa Gibson (Henshaw Christian Church –Morganfield, KY)

## ***Trustees***

William Call- term expires in 2013

Marie Taylor- term expires in 2014

Tom Green- term expires in 2015

## ***Officers for 2013***

Chairman- William Call

Vice-Chair- Larry Call

Treasurer- Doug VanderMolen and Lissa Gibson

Financial Sec.- Tom Green

Recording Sec.- Janet Foster

## ***Campus Minister***

Mike Kerrick (August 2008- present)

## ***Student Representatives***

Robert Tortorelli (Servant Leadership Team- Service Coordinator)

Stand-ins

Courtney Carlton and Molly Thompson (2013 Intern)

# A Word From The Board

**By: Marie Taylor**

Serving on the Murray Christian Fellowship Board is a great blessing not only because our mission is so important to the function of this ministry but because my fellow Board members are so dedicated to MCF.

*“If we put Jesus first in our lives, joy is a natural byproduct which empowers us to really love others and ourselves.”*

Our desire is to make effective decisions that not only impact today’s students, but future generations, as well.

It’s easy for us to get caught up in immediate demands of budget restraints to the point that having a vision for where this ministry might go could just as easily be neglected. That is not the case with this Board.

As a child, I remember a Sunday school class in my home church, called J-O-Y. When I asked my parents why those “old” people called themselves the joy class (when I knew they weren’t having as much fun in life as I was) the answer was a simple “J” is for having Jesus first in your life. “O” is for placing Others second; and “Y” is for placing Yourself last. Now that I am old enough to be in that class, I realize MCF is shaping our students to live a life of JOY. By the way, we are all “old enough” to be in that class! If we put Jesus first in our lives, joy is a natural byproduct which empowers us to really love others and love ourselves. At MSU, we have a joyful campus minister, who has a joyful family, who belong to a joyful Christian community in Murray and beyond! I am honored to be a part of a JOYFUL Board of Directors for MCF. May all of you experience a joyful New Year!

## MCF Facilities

The GAP fund provided a phenomenal base support for the many different House Projects this year. Most visibly, was the front porch renovations of assistance ramp, deck area and porch.

The highlight of the summer came from a cooperative effort between MCF and the BCM (Baptist Campus Mission) in conjunction with the ACTS 1:8 Missions Project. Between the two ministries, we were able to clean several years of inattentiveness to the basement of the Girls’ House and improve the first floor bathroom!

A picture is worth a thousand words ...but there aren’t enough words to say “thanks” to Joey Johnson of Christian Community Church in Murray for building our new porch!



# Finances

<b>FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT</b>		<b>Jan-Dec 2013</b>
Churches		18,206.05
Individuals		46,894.00
Student Rent		12,323.00
Missions Donations		664.50
Other		1,462.00
	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$79,549.55</b>

<b>SUPPORT FROM CHURCHES</b>		<b>Jan-Dec 2013</b>
Aurora Christian Church		\$368.05
Brookport First Christian Church		325.00
Carmi First Christian Church		1,300.00
Grapevine Christian Church		480.00
Henshaw Christian Church		1,800.00
Metropolis Community Christian Church		2,100.00
Murray Christian Community Church		1,500.00
Murray First Christian Church		38.00
Murray First Christian Church CWF		100.00
Owensboro Christian Church		4,500.00
Reidland Christian Church		2,520.00
Sturgis First Christian Church		600.00
Union Christian Church		2,575.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18,206.05</b>

<b>Jan-Dec 2013</b>	
<b>Disbursements</b>	
Alumni Gathering	188.89
Bank Service Charges	74.00
Bills: Recycling	270.00
Conferences and Meetings	208.67
Conference Attendance Fees	1255.00
Evangelism and Special Events	100.00
Great Beginnings	82.04
House supplies	101.06
Insurance Expense	1531.77
Insurance Expense: Building/Liability	2670.17
Insurance Expense: Earthquake	565.40
Insurance Expense: Workman's Comp	326.25
Intern Honorarium	225.00
Landscaping	50.95
Mileage	663.67
Miscellaneous	1881.79
Mission Trip	4.24
Office Supplies	1416.98
Outside Services	78.80
Payroll Taxes	10281.66
Payroll Taxes: KY State Income Tax	1026.91
Postage	389.65
Printing	99.58

Professional Fees	345.00
Program	3720.46
Repairs and Maintenance	827.55
Retreats	1287.15
Salary: Admin Asst	6751.80
Salary: Cleaning	1300.00
Salary: Minister	43800.00
Telephone	442.80
Utilities	8929.29
Website	120.55
TOTAL	91017.08