

# CONNECTION

## chi alpha

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 4 SPRING 2014

### 4-5 CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT

P A G E

Many Chi Alpha campuses are fighting the battle to end world hunger. Check out three of them here.

### 6 SOUTH CENTRAL SALT 2013

P A G E

Read about largest SALT conference in the country and how it changed lives.

### 7 AALC

P A G E

The new African American Leadership Conference held before Great Lakes SALT equips students to leave a legacy.



## CHI ALPHA'S COMPASSION

BY KIMI BUI



**"IF YOU CAN'T FEED A HUNDRED PEOPLE,  
THEN JUST FEED ONE."**

**~MOTHER THERESA**

It's amazing how many people have causes and charities. People wear it like a patch on a letterman jacket (remember those?), or a badge of honor. Being a mom in Los Angeles brings me into circles not familiar with a missional life, or even basic Christian principles. Unfortunately here, many choose a cause that "stirs their heart" depending on which celebrity they might get to meet along the way. One day I mentioned I had started helping a new organization that works to eradicate world hunger, feedONE. One of the moms looked at me and said, "Why would you want to do that?" I was speechless. How could anyone NOT want to do that? It was a deafening announcement of the emptiness behind the world's action towards charity, or social justice. In that moment, my mouth was having a hard time explaining all that my heart wanted to convey. It shouldn't need to be explained. I am an earthly extension of the Father; His heart is compassionate and just, and that should flow out of me.

The answer to that question is fairly simple. Why do I want to feed the hungry, give relief to the poor, give hope to the hopeless? Because I've been asked. When an organization as amazing as Convoy of Hope, or a leader as humble as Hal Donaldson approaches with a need, it's an honor and a privilege to be a part of their work. However, it's not the request from Convoy of Hope that brings me, or Chi Alpha, to action. The exhortation came long before that.

"This is what the LORD Almighty said: 'Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another. Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the foreigner or the poor'" (Zechariah 7:8-10).

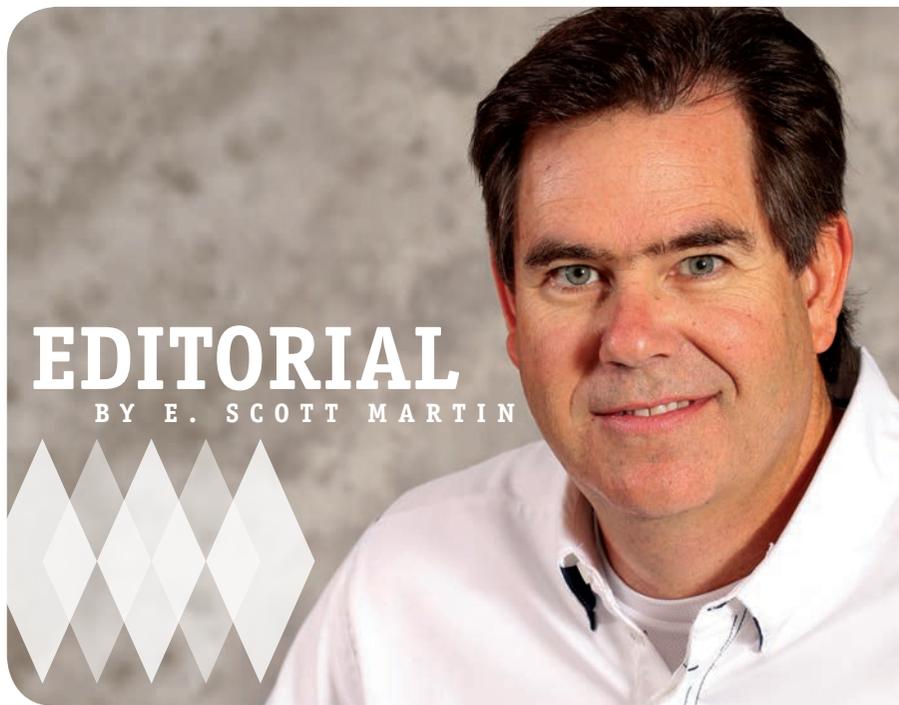
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## CAMPUSES PARTICIPATING IN THE 168 PROJECT

Indiana State University  
 Michigan State University  
 University of California-Berkley  
 University of California-Santa Barbara  
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and  
 State University (Virginia Tech)  
 Georgia Southern University  
 Northern Arizona University  
 Marshall University  
 University of California-Los Angeles  
 Georgetown University  
 University of California-Davis  
 Wright State University &  
 Sinclair Community College (Ohio)  
 Purdue University  
 University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh



Watch Kimi Bui  
 talk about  
 the 168 Project.



## EDITORIAL

BY E. SCOTT MARTIN

The strongest biological appetite that humans possess is to feed themselves. Of the two primary biological appetites (food and sex), the drive for food will eventually win out. It is amazing to observe the paths that people will take to relinquish hunger: walking great distances to find food in famine, fighting for food at the aid truck, eating rancid food and the list goes on (and downhill from here). Hunger is a powerful motivator.

At the 2009 General Council, Dr. George Wood advocated that the Assemblies of God add compassion to the mission of the church. The constituency agreed and show compassion became the fourth mission of the Assemblies of God. Our students believe in compassion ministry. Our church believes in compassion ministry, and we as Chi Alpha need to be actively involved in compassion ministry.

Hal Donaldson, Founder and CEO of Convoy of Hope asked Crystal and I to meet with him in July 2012. Over lunch, Hal shared a vision he had of starting a new relief organization that would focus completely on feeding children and alleviating world hunger. Hal went on to express that the Lord had spoken to him that the primary facilitators of this relief organization would be university students and that he was to ask Crystal and myself if Chi Alpha would be willing to lead the way in this effort.

I trust Hal and believe he heard from God. Hal's vision of feedONE is launched and we can make a significant imprint and impact in his God given vision to feed hungry children and alleviate world hunger. We would like to see every Chi Alpha group partner in some way with feedONE as it is the official compassion arm of Chi Alpha.

Challenge your students to feedONE.  
 E. Scott Martin

**E. Scott Martin** is the seventh national director of Chi Alpha Campus Ministries, U.S.A. He previously served as the Student Mission Director for 18 years. He has served with Chi Alpha since May 1986, where he pioneered Chi Alpha on The University of Arizona. He and his family along with two great teams of "give a year" Chi Alpha volunteers also pioneered Chi Alpha in Central Eurasia. As national director, Scott leads Chi Alpha with 312 chartered groups, 765 affiliated staff, and 28,000 involved students.



### CHI ALPHA CONNECTION

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Jesus exuded compassion. I'm not sure there is a story of him where compassion is not shown. Whether he was with his well-loved disciples, or prison guards that tortured Him, His words moved their hearts. His entire mission on earth was out of compassion. His love and need to rescue a dying mankind made Him capable of enduring the cross. He moved with compassion to the desperate, reaching out to rescue a prostitute condemned for her acts. He responded to those calling out to Him in loud cries with a heart of compassion—healing blindness, paralysis, and disease. Even those who did not approach in faith were not immune to Jesus' compassion. Some people recognized the power in His presence yet weren't pursuing him. Their interactions were on their part chance, yet the Master still loved them. The demoniac was not left in ruins to die, and the woman at the well left free and rejoicing.

This is still the case today. Many do not realize there is a hope to be found. The world is longing for true compassion to rescue them from where they are. We may not hear their cries first hand, or be able to provide for every need. We can reach out with what we have, from a heart that is stirred by His love.

FeedONE offers a unique opportunity for Chi Alpha to interact with their college community. The Greek system, athletic department, or student organizations that might not find a commonality with in Christianity can find common ground in combatting world hunger. We hope to see bridges built to our campus communities that will enable us to work alongside those outside our faith, in order that they too will see Christ's love. Whether partnering together in raising awareness or having a joint fundraiser, feedONE gives students a starting point to new conversations on campus. We've already had testimonies of student clubs contacting Chi Alpha about feedONE, wanting to partner together. At one university, a professor referenced their high regard for Chi Alpha's work with feedONE during their class! The potential is limitless, and as a local ministry you can decide what works best for you. We've had ministries try everything from small groups competing to raise the most money, walk through displays on campus, to a shabby chic prom party. It's a great chance for students to brainstorm and strategize how they can make new connections on campus.

FeedONE is not another activity to add our campus ministry calendar. It is a way to let others feel Jesus' heartbeat, to know they are loved, and that someone knows their pain. Together Chi Alpha will feed the hungry. We will help those in need. We will offer hope to the hopeless. Because He was moved with compassion, so we will be moved.



**Kimi Bui** has spent much of her life dreaming of loving the people of Haiti. From her experience as a campus pastor, and continual work in Haiti, feedONE is a natural fit for her. She is currently serving as a campus pastor at UCLA, and also as a liaison between Convoy of Hope to Chi Alpha. She is the Chi Alpha feedONE contact person and can be reached at [kimibui@hotmail.com](mailto:kimibui@hotmail.com) or 310-989-0932.

## THIS YEAR CHI ALPHA IS RAISING MONEY TO OPEN NEW FEEDING INITIATIVES IN NICARAGUA.

We want to resource you for what you choose to do with feedONE. We have created the 168 Project to help you establish a goal and give you ideas. We have challenged campuses to dedicate 168 hours (one week) to feed 168 kids. That's a goal of raising \$1,680. We have put together a packet that will give you some tools in order to do the 168 Project. In it you will find a basic table set up, plus Bible Studies and more.

If you would like more information on the 168 Project, or to receive a packet, you can email Kimi Bui at [kimi@feedONE.com](mailto:kimi@feedONE.com)



Find out more  
about feedONE





# SOLD!

HOW ONE PLASTIC ALLIGATOR CAN CHANGE WORLD HUNGER.

BY MISSY BOYER

Chi Alphans at the University of Missouri (Mizzou) were presented with feedONE in the fall of 2012 when their campus pastor, Tom Trask II, attended a Dream Session in Los Angeles the previous June. The Dream Session was with Convoy of Hope and feedONE founder Hal Donaldson. He called in a few campus pastors from around the nation to discuss the new partnership with feedONE and Chi Alpha. "As a minister, you hear a lot of good ideas that are worthy and the Lord would be pleased with, but when I was presented with this concept, God just stirred something in my heart," Trask says.

Mizzou Chi Alpha raised \$1,700 in November 2012 simply by collecting offerings in small groups. In March 2013, Mizzou Chi Alpha stepped it up a notch and encouraged students to become feedONE Ambassadors by giving \$10 a month to feed a child.

In November 2013, Mizzou Chi Alpha collected \$1,100 through small groups, but Trask wanted to give more than the \$1,700 they raised the year before. That was when the Holy Spirit spoke to him at the annual Christmas party during a white elephant gift exchange. "I saw this stupid alligator toilet paper holder get stolen over and over and over again. I knew the kids thought it was great," he says. "I really felt the Lord just say to me, 'Steal it at the end and auction it off for feedONE. Get the kids excited about what I'm doing.'"

Trask thought the alligator would go for \$50 or \$60, but God had a better plan. Students pledged matches and after the alligator was sold to the highest bidder at \$200, the group doubled what came in from small groups and raised a grand total of \$2,200 for 2013-2014. "It inspired people to give. That truly was one of the most beautiful things I've ever seen," he says.

In case you're not counting, Mizzou Chi Alpha has raised more than \$4,900 for feedONE since its beginning in 2012. "I would encourage every Chi Alpha director in America to make this the compassion arm in your ministry," Trask added. "Allow your students to be a part of what God's doing."



Missy is a 2009 graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism. She is in her fifth year of full-time staff as a CMA with Mizzou Chi Alpha. She loves feedOne and challenges everyone she comes in contact with to join the cause. Missy is engaged to be married in June to fellow Mizzou Chi Alpha staffer Mike Towers.

# ROWAN RAVIOLI

BY CARL NALBANDIAN

Over the summer, God led the Rowan University Chi Alpha leadership team to make service to others a greater priority in our group. When we heard about the feedONE program, we were extremely excited to participate. We asked the students to sacrifice and donate money in support of feedONE. Our goal was to raise \$1,680 for the 168 Project.

The students organized a ravioli dinner, which was the highlight of the program. It was held at a local church and our students helped seat, serve and cook for the guests. Friends, roommates and families came out to support the cause.

The absolute best part was when about 20 fraternity brothers came to the dinner. Not only did they give to feedONE, but our Chi Alpha students were able to serve these fraternity brothers. At the same time we were raising money to feed children, our students were able to show these fraternity brothers the love of Jesus. I thought nothing could top that.

But I was wrong.

The next day at our Chi Alpha meeting, we had a number of new people. They were people who came the night before to our ravioli dinner. That night, I shared on 1 John 3:17-18, explaining how we are called to love with action and serve those in need. After the service, a young man who came to the ravioli dinner handed me a \$100 bill and said, "Can you give this to the kids you were raising money for? They need it more than me." I was blown away that God moved in his heart to give so generously. I was speechless.

God has birthed a great heart of service in our Chi Alpha this year. FeedOne was such an integral part in initiating that heart of service in our group. We are so blessed and honored to lead these students who constantly impress us with their desire to serve God and serve others in His name.

Because of people's selfless giving, we were able to surpass our goal of \$1,680 with a grand total of more than \$1,800.



Carl Nalbandian is on staff at Victory Assembly of God as their Worship Leader and Campus Pastor. Carl and his wife Christine co-pastor Rowan's Chi Alpha with their partners, fellow Rowan alumni Bill and Laura Walsh. It is their heart to see Rowan transformed by power and love of Jesus.





# FEEDONE CAMPUS PARTNERSHIPS

BY RYAN RIBELIN

Northern Arizona University Chi Alpha launched feedONE in the fall of 2012. We began with our Chi Alpha family in an effort to help impoverished children. We challenged students to sacrifice two Starbucks coffees a month to feed, educate, and provide clean water to a child. Passion stirred during our feedONE service as Chi Alpha students watched the meter rise with each \$10 donation. Cheers followed as students responded, and \$465 was raised—46 children were provided for as a result.

After the success of 2012, we participated again in feedONE Project 168 in 2013. The goal was for each campus to raise \$1,680 in 168 hours to feed 168 children in Nicaragua. Seeing the potential

*“It was surprising to find how far \$10 could go in supporting the children in Nicaragua.”*

to both feed children and to involve unchurched students, we partnered with several campus groups. Chi Alpha students joined

with the NAU International Student Club, Cardinal Key Honor Society, NAU English Club, Associated Students of NAU and Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

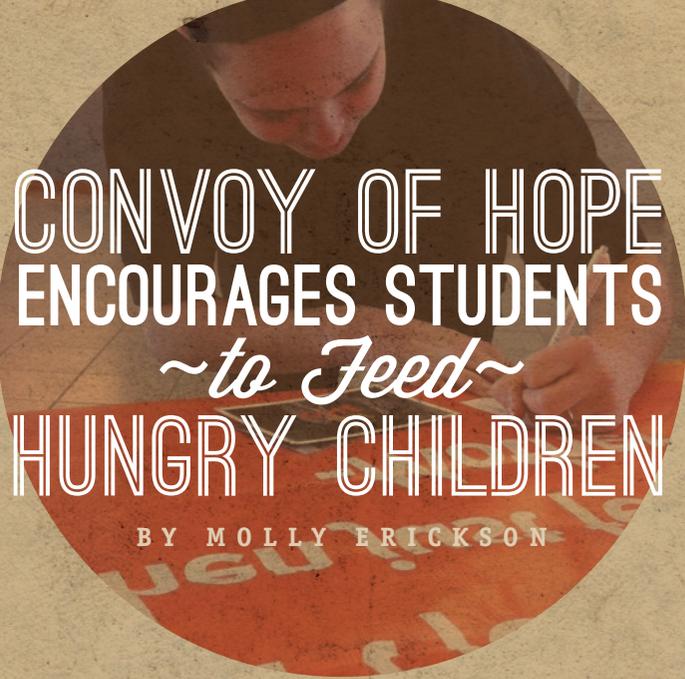
Seeing groups from other nations and religions join together to fulfill the words of Jesus changed something on campus and students noticed. “It is awesome watching students from different walks of life, whether involved in Chi Alpha or a sorority, work together to invest in a cause greater than themselves and be Christ’s hands extended,” says Chi Alpha member Rebekah Betzold. “We accomplished that with feedONE.”

During feedONE week, booths were set up daily in the student union. Students were encouraged to set aside their coffee for the day and feed one instead. Shariq Jamil, from the International Student Club, called it “eye-opening” and learned how valuable this money is to starving children. “We are so disconnected with the comforts of life in the developing world around us that we forget the plight of those in need in faraway places. It was surprising to find how far \$10 could go in supporting the children in Nicaragua,” Jamil says.

At the week’s end, NAU students raised \$1,476 and 18 people committed to give to feedONE monthly.



Ryan Ribelin is a former military criminal investigator and children’s pastor, and has been leading the Chi Alpha at Northern Arizona University with his wife Kelly since 2000. Ryan is passionate about raising up trained student leaders and hunting wild game.



# CONVOY OF HOPE ENCOURAGES STUDENTS ~to Feed~ HUNGRY CHILDREN

BY MOLLY ERICKSON

Each day, across the developing world, 66 million primary school-aged children attend classes hungry and malnourished. Such ailments delay development, stunt growth, make learning difficult and can even cause death.

Mother Teresa said, “If you can’t feed a hundred, then just feed one.” We embraced that challenge by creating feedONE, an initiative of Convoy of Hope that helps feed more than 126,000 children in 11 countries. For only \$10 per month—the cost of a pizza or a movie ticket—a child is fed for 30 days.

“Without a cause, education is an empty pursuit,” says Kimi Bui, feedONE liaison to Chi Alpha. “Today’s college student is aware of this and will commit time, energy or money to something that moves them. For many that’s feedONE.”

According to Chris Sonksen, executive director of feedONE, students from 14 major colleges have participated in the 168 Project. Their mission is to end hunger. “God has given us an amazing opportunity to engage students in acts of generosity that are directed to those in need,” says Sonksen. “We pray many more students will participate in feedONE.”



TO GET INVOLVED, VISIT [WWW.FEEDONE.COM/CAMPUS](http://WWW.FEEDONE.COM/CAMPUS).

# SOUTH CENTRAL SALT 2013

A record attendance of 1,300 students and staff gathered in Dallas for Chi Alpha's South Central Area SALT Conference. SALT is the winter conference to train and empower university and college students to reach their campuses for Christ. This was the largest area SALT conference in the history of Chi Alpha with students from campuses in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas and New Mexico.

A strong call to holiness and Holy Spirit empowerment were at the core of the conference as well as many electives and practical workshops on living an evangelistic lifestyle on campus. There were powerful times in the altars where students were saved, baptized in the Holy Spirit, delivered and healed. There was even a spontaneous water baptism service in the fountain of the food court connected to the hotel.

Several dozen international students attended the SALT conference as well and were recognized and honored during the conference with many of them experiencing Christ for the first time. One student from China sent this email message shortly after he returned to his campus after coming to accept Christ during SALT:

"Thank you for inviting and bringing me to SALT. That was amazing and unforgettable. I learned much more about Christianity, especially Holy Spirit. I will keep reading Bible to learn more. Besides, I made some friends from University of Louisiana and other places. All in all, this is the best conference I have ever attended."

Students also had the chance to mingle with AG missionaries at the Chi Alpha Expeditions Lounge and discover opportunities for summer teams and giving a year to missions after graduation, as well as ministry training through Chi Alpha's internship programs.

A missions offering was received during SALT and a check was presented to Convoy of Hope for \$5,000 from the students. Another \$5,000 was presented to New Mexico State Chi Alpha as the newest group being pioneered in the South Central Area. After being on campus for only one semester, they were able to bring 11 students to the conference this year.

Chi Alpha Campus Ministries, U.S.A. began conducting SALT conferences across the country in 1972. This winter more than 4,100 students attended SALTs nationwide. This unprecedented involvement is representative of Chi Alpha's historic growth nationally in terms of numbers of campus ministries 311, affiliate leaders 771, and estimated national student involvement 28,083.

**Gary Paschal** has been the North Texas District Director of Chi Alpha for 25 years. He lives in Hurst, Texas with his wife Connie and daughter Sarah.



BY GARY PASCHAL

Watch videos  
from this winter's  
South Central SALT.





# AFRICAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE EQUIPS STUDENTS TO LEAVE A LEGACY

When criticized by the religious establishment of his day for associating with tax collectors and sinners, Jesus responded with a simple story of a shepherd who left the majority of his sheep in the open country to look for one single sheep that had wandered off. It is core to the Gospel and the Kingdom to leave our comfort zone, trust the majority to fend for themselves and search for those on the outside. In the history of the U.S. and the Assemblies of God, one of the most overlooked and under sought groups of people are African Americans.

For this reason, the Great Lakes SALT Team decided to put together an event specifically for African American students as a pre-conference to our SALT called The African American Leadership Conference (AALC). "Legacy," our second AALC, was held January 1-2 with about 90 students and staff in attendance.

Rev. Sherman and Sadell Bradley, pastors of New Life Covenant Cincinnati, brought three powerful messages on understanding the past, leading the present and forging a legacy. Rev. Reggie Lenzy, worship pastor of People's Church Cincinnati, led us in amazing times of worship and praise.

In addition to the speaking sessions, the event included a marvelous Talent Showcase where students shared dance, songs, and spoken word. Sherman and Sadell also hosted a "pillow talk" where students could ask any questions regarding sexuality, relationships, and romance. Both of these times were powerfully used by God.

Something new we did this year was to put together a student planning team. I felt if we were serious about raising up leaders, we needed to give students leadership within the conference

itself. It was wonderful how God wove together each and every part of the conference and how all the leaders involved worked together seamlessly.

The students who attended this conference left as different people. "God began a process of healing for many in issues of identity, sexual abuse, the orphan spirit and financial freedom," says Sadell. "So many students and staff expressed that what was shared drastically changed their perspectives, made relevant the history and culture of African-Americans, and gave them tangible next steps on how to engage going forward."

There is little for us to be proud of when we look at the history of race relationships in our country and our fellowship. It's time we put forth serious effort in healing this breach wherever it is found.



**Belkis Lehmann** is a catalyst for diversity, resource and

leadership development, in the Great Lakes. She also leads the national diversity task group. She lives in Avon, Indiana with her love and ministry partner Steve and her children Sofia and Gabriel.

*Watch AALC videos and many other Great Lakes Area videos on YouTube.*



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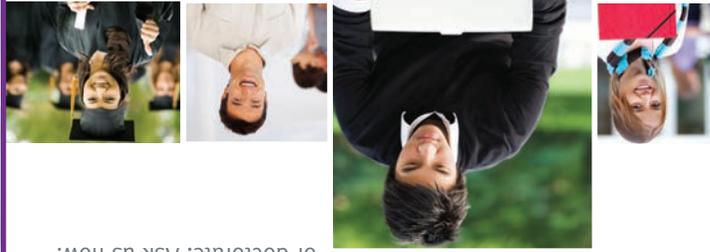
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