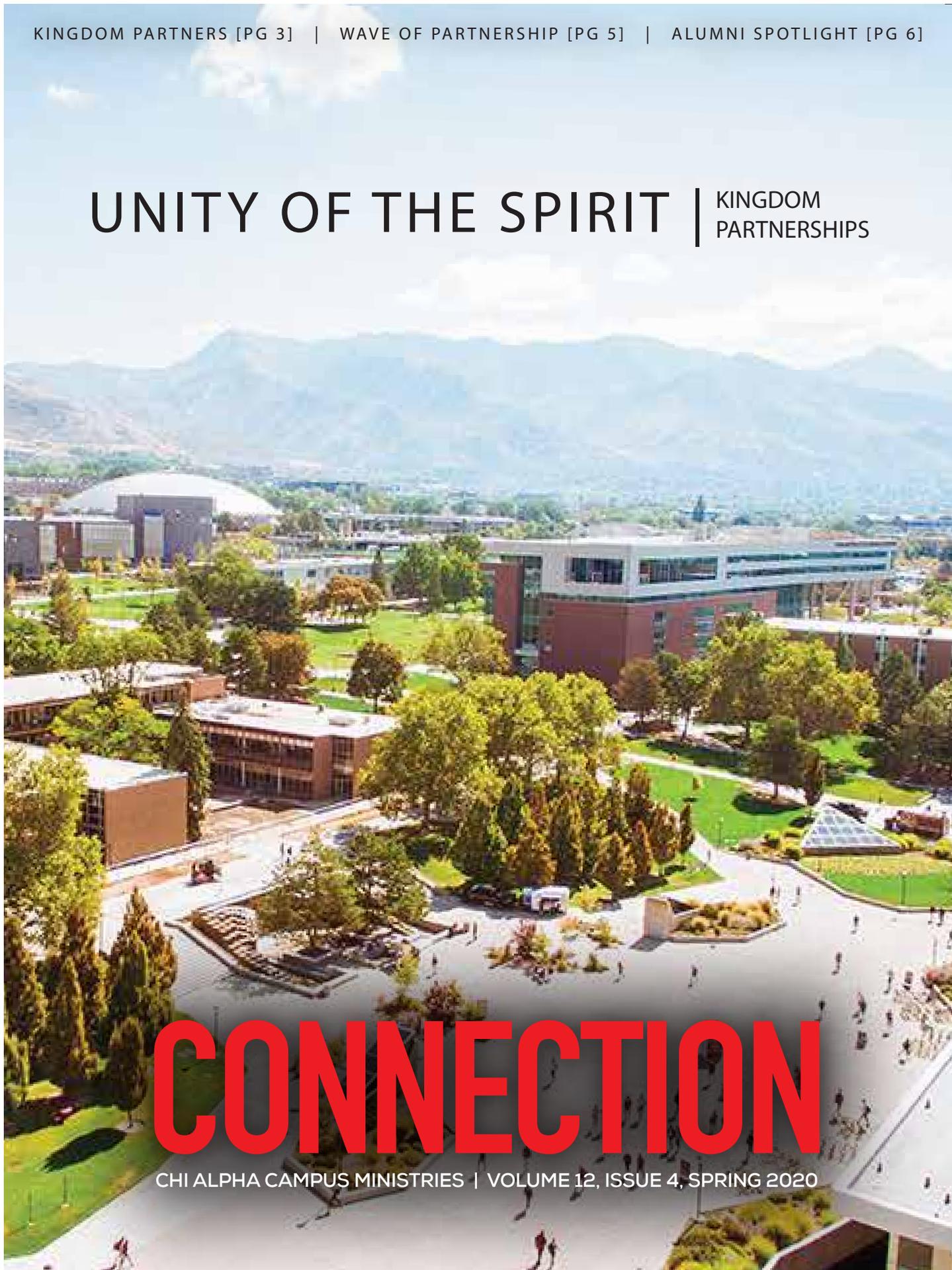


# UNITY OF THE SPIRIT | KINGDOM PARTNERSHIPS

# CONNECTION

CHI ALPHA CAMPUS MINISTRIES | VOLUME 12, ISSUE 4, SPRING 2020





# CHI ALPHA CONNECTION

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# EDITOR'S LETTER

## UNITY OF THE SPIRIT

I was a good church kid when I entered the University of Arizona as an eighteen-year-old freshman. My first class was a biology course. The professor immediately polled the class on who believed in evolutionary theory and who believed God created the earth. I realized at that moment that I didn't have what it took to take the big stand for Jesus outside of the insular environment I had been in for some time.

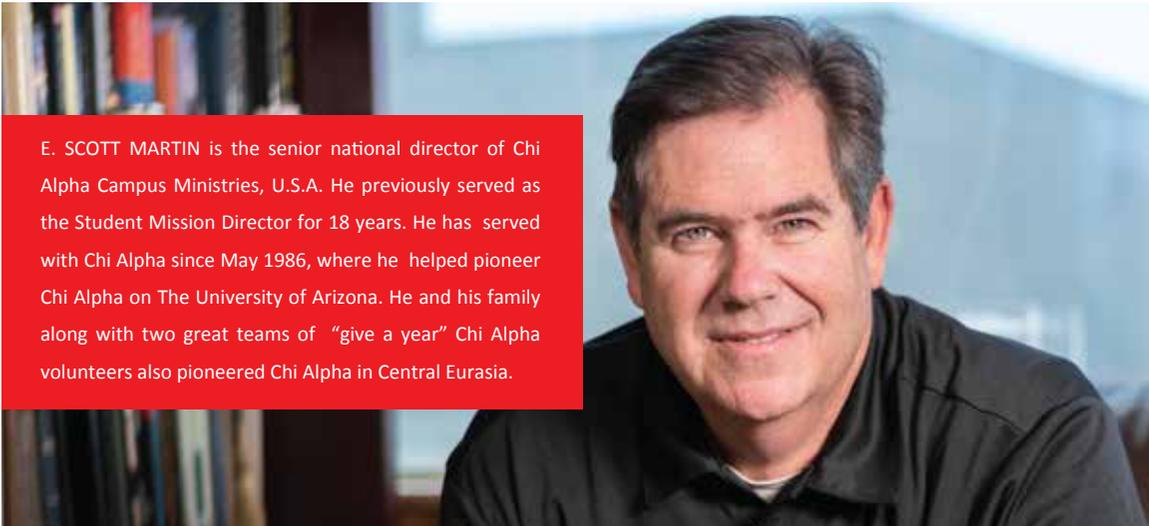
Following class, I saw posters plastered all over the campus: InterVarsity Christian Fellowship meets tonight in the Student Union Cactus Lounge Room 285 at 7:00 p.m. I had no idea what InterVarsity was, but I did pick up on the words "Christian Fellowship," and I knew I had to be there. I convinced my roommate to come with me and we entered the InterVarsity meeting a little late. But when I walked through the doors, I felt the tangible presence of the Lord. There were around eighty students worshipping with one acoustic guitar and they were going for God with an authenticity and passion I had never experienced from my own age group. I remember saying in my mind, "Whatever it is they have, I want that."

As I was leaving the meeting, one of the student leaders intercepted me. Paul introduced himself and asked to have breakfast with me the following

morning. That morning Paul began the process of discipleship in me. He taught me the importance of daily reading the Bible and prayer, and he instructed me on how to do it. Paul challenged me to live the authentic gospel on the campus. My life would forever be impacted by a student leader from InterVarsity Christian Fellowship.

Later that year, Chi Alpha would be planted on the University of Arizona by a group of Assemblies of God students who desired a Pentecostal witness on campus, of which I was a part and I would become the first Chi Alpha missionary to the University of Arizona. But my first touch on campus came through InterVarsity on my first day on campus, of which I am eternally grateful.

There is a new movement emerging today: EveryCampus. This movement is a strong partnership and collaboration between multiple campus ministries to work together to plant the flag of Christ on every campus in the United States. It is a Jesus first and our ministry second movement! Cru, InterVarsity, Chi Alpha, and others have linked arms to advance the Kingdom of God on our secular universities. It is an example of what takes place in a season of awakening: biblical unity. I encourage you to join me in prayer and support of this vital Kingdom movement.

A portrait of E. Scott Martin, a middle-aged man with dark hair, wearing a dark polo shirt, smiling slightly. He is positioned in front of a blurred background that appears to be a bookshelf and a window with light coming through.

E. SCOTT MARTIN is the senior 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 helped pioneer 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.

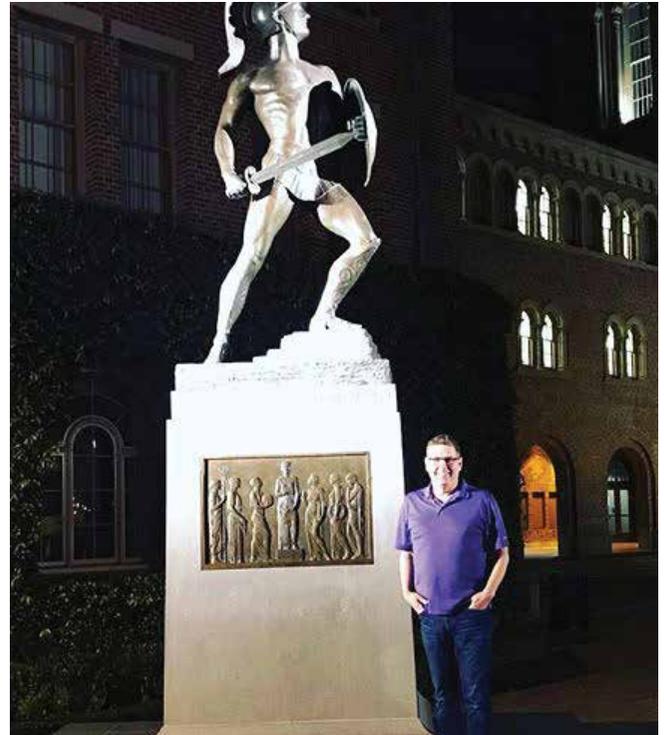
# KINGDOM PARTNERS: DOING TOGETHER WHAT WE COULDN'T ON OUR OWN

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**BY JON HIETBRINK**

In the spring of 2017, the EveryCampus movement was born as an answer to the question, “What could we do together that we could never do on our own?” Over the last three years, we have had the privilege of watching God write a story that is more beautiful and multifaceted than anything we could have envisioned!

From the early stages of the process, Chi Alpha has been a Kingdom partner and key contributor in the EveryCampus coalition. As one of the largest and most expansive campus ministry networks in the country, Chi Alpha has offered not only essential strategic contributions, but also profound spiritual encouragement to the initiative.



Whether through broad marketing efforts fueled by Nathan Cole’s partnership with Collegiate Day of Prayer, to grassroots “feet on the ground” mobilization of local students and staff like Paul Austin who has personally prayer walked more than 40 campuses across the country, Chi Alpha has been at the leading edge of our strategies to mobilize historic prayer for college campuses!

In faith, the EveryCampus coalition is believing God for an historic move of His Spirit across the campuses of America, and we rejoice in the ways he has used Chi Alpha to accelerate the EveryCampus movement! As we come to the end of this ministry year, please join us by visiting [everycampus.com](http://everycampus.com) to adopt a campus near you that still needs to be prayer-walked!

But on an even more significant level, Chi Alpha has offered a courageous spirituality to our coalition of partners as we’ve sought to join our voices to the chorus of those crying out to the Lord in seeking the next great student awakening on the campuses of America!



# PRAYER WALKING WARRIORS

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**BY SHELLEY SCOTT**

What I love about the EveryCampus initiative and this vision is that no one ministry nor its staff can do it alone; this requires trust in the Lord, in one another across ministries, and in our students, and alumni!

This vision pushed me pray for partners, and this fall, God called one of my students from Pellissippi State Community College, Andie, to prayer walk across the nation. Friends of hers joined in the prayer walk too. She began in eastern Kentucky and since then, we have seen favor in planting campuses in that area, both with new laborers and in openness to see ministry planted. Over the winter

break, they prayer walked from Knoxville, Tennessee to New York City, and I can't wait to see how God answers those prayers!

What I'm learning from God in this process is that our physical presence pushes back the darkness of the enemy as we, as God's light and His temple, pray and establish His Kingdom in people and places. More than that, this prayer initiative is something anyone can do, and the impact reaches far beyond anything we ask or imagine.

Go, pray, and see what God does on the campuses where you prayer walk. There is nothing our God can't do. Thank you for partnering with us.



*Andie, her friends from Pellissippi State, and a partnering student/staff from Dickinson College, one of the campuses they prayer walked between Knoxville and New York City.*

BY DAN ALLEN

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“I just talked to a live one!” When Ronnie told me this yesterday in the office, it felt like an invitation to ask more questions. Ronnie explained to me she had just talked to a 16-year-old student named Bradyn who is dual enrolled in high school and at his local community college. Bradyn wanted to learn more about what it would mean to start the first campus ministry at his community college in Georgia. Those of us who share a burden for ministry to college students celebrate this kingdom progress.

EveryCampus is a movement of like-minded organizations conspiring together with the Holy Spirit to instigate revival by catalyzing prayer and establishing gospel communities across the college campuses of the United States. EveryCampus is creating a wave of partnership and cooperation evidenced by prayer and the sharing of resources. This unity, generosity, and goodwill truly must be pleasing to our heavenly Father. We are increasingly operating like different divisions of the family business rather than like competitors in a marketplace.

**EVERYCAMPUS IS  
CREATING A WAVE OF  
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COOPERATION EVIDENCED  
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SHARING OF RESOURCES.**

# WAVE OF PARTNERSHIP

Can you imagine Chi Alpha staff prayer walking campuses with friends from other churches and ministries? Sure—that makes sense. Can you imagine the Circuit Riders exploring new campuses while they are on their Carry the Love tours and passing along names of interested students to other campus ministries? It is happening right now. Can you imagine Cru staff joining InterVarsity staff to plant InterVarsity chapters? That sounds like something special is happening! In unprecedented ways, churches and ministries are bringing their campus ministry resources and offering to bless others.

Baseline data is still improving, but only about 45% of all college campuses in the United States have a known gospel movement. We have the ability not only to map out which campuses do and don't have known gospel communities, but we can also identify which ministries are present at each of these campuses. This allows leaders to pray and plan with greater insight.

In Thailand, this kind of “mapping” is helping to accelerate great ministry activity. In the United States, this kind of mapping and collaboration is helping us to see students like Bradyn at a school that hasn't typically been on any ministry's priority list. EveryCampus is bringing those campuses and those students more clearly into our ministry vision.

Check out [EveryCampus.com](http://EveryCampus.com) for prayer and launching resources.

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:

## CRYSTAL VILLALOBOS-LEWIS



Crystal Villalobos-Lewis was part of the first Chi Alpha group at Loyola University New Orleans, which was pioneered by Matt and Jen DeGier. After graduating in 2005, Crystal worked the next 11 years in Human Resources for a local Louisiana hospital. Along the way, she met her husband Aaron, a Chi Alpha Kansas State University alum. They married in 2011 and now have two beautiful daughters, Katelyn and Kayleigh. Recently, Crystal stepped away from her career to focus on raising her family and serving in ministry. Crystal shares how her experiences in Chi Alpha has prepared her for her current season.

### **Describe the impact Chi Alpha had on you as a student in college.**

For my first two years at Loyola, Chi Alpha did not exist. Just before my junior year, through a divine “right place, right time” appointment, I met Matt and Jen as they were prayerfully considering pioneering Chi Alpha in New Orleans. The difference in my university experience after that moment was profound.

I found a purpose at my university beyond my studies. “Faith, Community, Action” was our local motto, and it became a way of life for me, even to this day. We had very rich and creative times of prayer. Lifelong friendships grew from those times of prayer, fun activities, and service events, whether painting houses or playing with orphans in Mexico. “Sharing faith” meant asking God to use me to meet practical, emotional, and spiritual needs.

### **What was it like transitioning from your human resources career path to a ministry path?**

It was definitely a step of faith! I believed in my heart that this was God’s purpose but making the decision to leave a job I loved was difficult. I came to realize my work was not my identity; it was my assignment. That assignment was completed, and God had new orders for me. I wasn’t losing a part of me. Instead, I was taking all that I learned into a new season.

### **How did Chi Alpha prepare you for ministry?**

My years in Chi Alpha were some of the most influential of my life. It was a great transition from being in “youth group” at church to taking on leadership as an adult. The mentoring I received in Chi Alpha caused me to grow in many ministry aspects. I enjoy welcoming and connecting those who come to our church feel in addition to facilitating ways for our church to serve the general community.

### **What advice do you have for alumni who feel called into ministry?**

1. Be faithful in your current season. We tend to think of ministry in certain roles, such as pastor or teacher. Ministry is more of a lifestyle than a title.
2. Recognize the gifts and abilities that come from your education and work experience. There are countless ways God can use you.
3. Keep God first in everything. He is the reason you do what you do! Your ministry should be an overflow of your relationship with God.

#### 01 . CONNECT

Follow both local and national Chi Alpha on Social Media:  
[@chialphausa](#)

#### 02 . PRAY

Pray for new graduates entering into a new chapter of their lives.

#### 03 . GIVE

To connect with a missionary near you go to:  
[ChiAlpha.com/Locator](#)  
Support National Chi Alpha’s 20/20 campaign at:  
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