

# Stephen Blum



The past six years have been filled with adventure and excitement for me – from graduating with a degree in Biblical studies, to teaching English at a university in China, to obtaining a master’s degree in Art and Theology from the University of St. Andrews. I have traveled the world and learned much, and now I’m filled with joy to return to the Pittsburgh area and begin a new adventure of full-time college ministry with the CCO

(Coalition for Christian Outreach), in partnership with FBC, at the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University. When I was in middle school, the president of the CCO led the middle school/high school boys’ Bible study at our church. I experienced his heart for investing in and encouraging young people, and I know this care is something that has permeated the whole organization. Later, as an undergraduate student at both Seton Hill and Huntington Universities I experienced what campus ministry was like as a participating student leader and mentor for other students. For one semester I volunteered with the CCO at LaRoche University, and was mentored by CCO staffer David Kuehl.

In China I got a taste for living in a culture that is not historically based in Christian values; and during the pandemic I was acutely aware of the struggle with loneliness and isolation that so many students experience. These experiences awakened my desire to do campus ministry as a career, and I trust that God will use all of my story to help college students make their time in college one of growth and transformation for good. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work with students on the Pitt and CMU campuses and to help connect them with FBC.