

InterVarsity in Northern Illinois & NW Indiana

September 2010



New staff - Danny, Stephen and Debbie

Funds = Ministry

We are elated to have 3 new staff join Michelle's area team. But before they can jump into the scene and work their magic with students, they need to be fully funded. We've been coaching them through a summer of inviting folks to partner with them, but raising funds has been slow-going. With students returning, they are eager to get to campus. Would you pray with us that they would each see a dramatic wave of support come through soon?



IV students hand out sno-cones and invitations

PLEASE PRAY

- ✓ For students as they return to campus... that every student would have the opportunity to meet Jesus.
- ✓ For God to continue providing for Danny, Stephen and Debbie. We're eager for them to get started on campus.
- ✓ For our continued adjustment to our new neighborhood, schools, and church.

The Return

'Back to school time' means more than notebooks and No. 2 pencils. Recently our campuses have experienced the flood of students returning to class. God has been hard at work to welcome these new students through InterVarsity.

Esther is a freshman at NIU this fall, but not new to InterVarsity. As a senior in high school, she attended the Urbana missions conference last December with her church. During the conference, Esther was struck by the testimony of Marilyn, an NIU student who shared about her experience in Kenya. Esther was so compelled by Marilyn's story, that she decided to attend NIU.



Working hard to move in

Tim is another new student that stumbled upon InterVarsity at a BBQ. He hadn't been to church since his childhood, but was curious about Jesus again. After meeting with the staff, Tim prayed to become a follower of Jesus!

We're praying that InterVarsity would be a blessing to students like Esther and Tim... their new home away from home. But we're also praying these students would become a blessing themselves... seizing the vision of reaching students with the gospel, and ultimately becoming world-changers on their campuses and in the years that follow college.

Pray with us for these next crucial weeks, as staff and students work tirelessly to throw welcome parties and BBQ's, plan retreats and worship times, make phone calls to new students, and organize small groups, prayer meetings and Fall Retreats. Pray they would encounter God in their activity. Pray that new students would respond to Jesus' invitation. And pray that fellowships would grow to reach more and more of their campuses.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE: Summer w/ the Grahams

The last few months have been a blur of adventure, refreshment, and putting down roots. Here's a summary list:

S'mores, dog training, swimming, neighborhood cookouts, mountain climbing, elk spotting, Mt. Rushmore, birthday parties, Camp Timberlee, trips to Grandpa's house, fort-building, InterVarsity training, flower planting, bike riding, soccer playing, church selection, mosquitoes!, camping, and the zoo.

The kids continue to adjust as school has begun. Keep praying that they would build friendships and have a sense of



belonging. Byron is thoroughly enjoying the blessing of sabbatical, which began in June and will continue until December. Pray that this would be deeply restorative and spiritually stimulating.

THANK YOU!!

... for your faithful financial prayer and support. To make a contribution please send checks to IVCF Attn: Donation Services P.O. Box 7895 Madison, WI 53791. Please include a note indicating your gift is for Byron & Michelle Graham. If you want to give online, visit www.intervarsity.org/donate