



NOVEMBER 2020

*There was a chill in the air - nothing terrible, but enough to make me involuntarily hug my arms to my chest. I looked at the chairs set up in front of me in neat rows. They were spaced abnormally far apart ; 6 feet from any other chair in any direction. I glanced at the speakers set up front, and hoped they'd be loud enough for everyone to hear. Being outside tends to make sound dissipate quickly. This was definitely a Fall Conference unlike any other.*

I (Clay), along with our team, got to host our first real in-person event since the shutdown in March. Fall Conference was a much anticipated idea we'd hoped would be feasible. Because of COVID, we knew it would have to be different. It needed to be entirely outside. Everyone would have to wear masks. Students who didn't share households would need to stay socially distant. Food would be pre-packaged, games would have to be touch-free. We jokingly started calling it "Fall Stay-away", a play on our usual title of "Fall Getaway."



Even so, the event went beautifully. Students, so hungry for intimacy and fellowship, were more open than I can remember most ever being. There was an enthusiasm for worship that was contagious. And despite the many barriers that could keep students from attending, we saw over 75 students attend the event. I even got to finally meet several guys who previously i had only spoken to via Zoom!

There is a true hunger and desire for fellowship, mentorship, and connection. The things our students may have taken for granted before have now become precious as their absence has been felt. I can only imagine what the Lord might have in store for us once campus fully reopens in January! Please continue to be in prayer for us, our team, and our students, especially as we begin to think about how to connect with freshmen coming to campus for Spring Semester.

Yours in Christ,

*Clay + Emily*





# FAMILY UPDATE

Judah is now over 2 months old, and growing like a (precious) little weed. We haven't been back to the Pediatrician (thanks COVID!) but we think he's over 12 pounds and has gained at least several inches - judging by the fact that he is now too long for 3 month clothing! He continues to be kind to his tired parents by sleeping through the night and rarely crying.

Elliott is healthy as well, though we do want to ask you for your prayers. In the next month or so, he will be having surgery to fix a small congenital birth defect involving his right eye. It's expected to be a simple, easy out-patient procedure. Please pray that he would do well with the anesthesia and during surgery, that the surgeon would be skilled and easily fix his defect, and that recovery would be easy.



# PRAISE + PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise God that Judah has continued to stay healthy and develop normally. Pray for his continued health and development.
- Praise God for the way He has continued to provide for our family during this pandemic - financially, relationally, spiritually and physically.
- Pray for Elliott's upcoming surgery on his eye.
- Pray for our ministry as we continue to seek God's will during this unusual year. We especially ask for creativity and guidance as we return to "Zoom" ministry as it gets colder and the levels of the virus rise.
- Pray for God's blessing on Spring Semester. Students are slated to return to campus full-time, and we want to be there to meet them in force!