

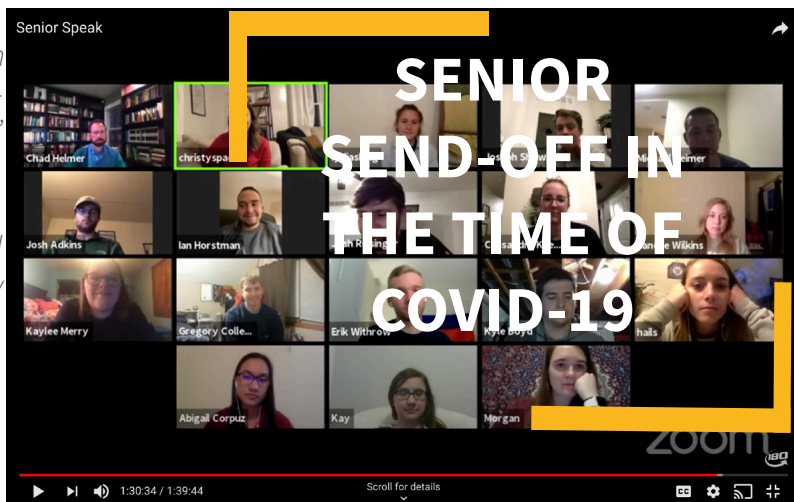


April 2020

“This has obviously been a difficult time for all of us... but if you have had struggles in your walk with God, I want to remind you that your true identity is in Christ as an ambassador.”

“These past four years have been the greatest blessing that I never saw coming. I had no intention of joining a Christian community, but four years later I can say it was the best decision I’ve ever made.”

“As my senior year comes to a close, it’s safe to say that nothing about my life turned out the way I had planned. But, the decisions I made that supposedly put me off track were some of the best I’ve ever made. Don’t let your plans block you from opportunities God has placed right in front of you.”

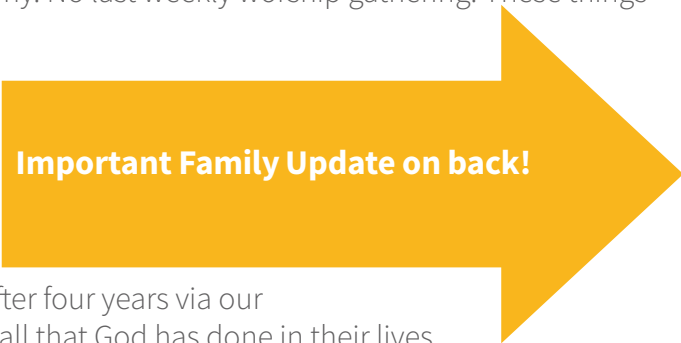


It is often hard to say goodbye. Many times good-byes bring up all sorts of emotions that are difficult to process through. We have all of the happy memories that we will tell stories about years later. We remember the hardships that we went through that have helped make us who we are.

I (Clay) remember when I first left Athens in the summer of 2012 after I graduated from OU, thinking that I would never be back for more than a visit. The goodbyes were complicated enough as a 22-year-old who had no clue what was next. I knew it was time to move on, and thankfully I had the opportunity to prepare for what it would feel like to leave a place that had become home to me.

Many of our seniors did not get that same chance. Due to COVID-19, all of the things that make the end of college memorable were unable to happen. No graduation ceremony. No last weekly worship gathering. These things and many more have been missed.

Thankfully, one tradition was still able to continue. Every year, we give our seniors a chance to pass on wisdom that God has taught them to the underclassmen at the final weekly meeting of the year. While we couldn’t do this in person, they still had the opportunity to share what God has put on their heart after four years via our YouTube channel. The quotes above are just a snapshot of all that God has done in their lives.



If you’d like to listen to these snapshots of God’s work in their lives, go to the Cru at OU YouTube channel and click on “Senior Speak”.

Yours in Christ,
Clay + Emily

FAMILY UPDATE

BABY #2!

We are thrilled to finally announce that Baby Boy Selway #2 is on the way, arriving September 2020.

Our eager anticipation of a new child has added great joy to our lives during what otherwise has been a somewhat scary and unsettling time.

So far, both Emily and the baby are in excellent health, and it has been an “easy” pregnancy. (Unlike last time, no morning sickness!) We are so excited to become a family of four.

Elliott, now nearly two, is perhaps a bit less excited than we are. We’re somewhat convinced that he thinks the “baby” in Mommy’s belly that we keep referring to is her belly button....

Please continue to pray for all of us as we await to new arrival.



WHAT ARE WE DOING THIS SUMMER?

Originally, we were assigned to help run Chicago Summer Mission. However, sadly, all Cru Summer Missions (both stateside and international) have been canceled due to COVID-19. We were honestly crushed by this announcement, as we were very excited. However, we just received our new summer assignments and we’ve been heartened by them.

This summer, we will be in Athens, as it seems the “Stay-At-Home” orders in Ohio may not be lifted anytime soon. Clay has been assigned to “Ministry Partner Development” (aka fund raising for our personal ministry), and Institute of Biblical Studies, or IBS (ongoing education courses, much like seminary, for Cru staff). Emily has also been assigned to IBS, as well as a two-week virtual small group course designed to help missionaries refresh, connect with God, and avoid burn-out. We will share about these assignments in our next prayer letter.

PRAISE + PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for our seniors - all of the normal rhythms to say goodbye, and all of our normal preparations to launch them into the “real world” were abruptly ended due to COVID-19. Pray as they grieve, process, and move forward.
- Pray for us as well. We have shed tears knowing that we may never see many of them ever again in this life, as they move far away before we had a chance to say goodbye.
- Pray for wisdom and discernment as we continue to work hard in our ministry, raising up more Financial Ministry Partners and taking classes this summer. We are especially eager for your prayers as we prepare for the unknown of the fall.
- Pray for God’s mercy and the abatement of this virus. We are so eager to see students return to campuses in the fall, but we know that is completely up to the universities, and what course the virus takes.