

September 2014



Jonathan and Kerri Thorn

jonathanandkerri.blogspot.com

Cru Northeast

SO THAT EVERYONE KNOWS SOMEONE
WHO TRULY FOLLOWS JESUS



Big Changes on the Way! by Kerri

- 1) I am transitioning to full-time ministry with Cru in the Northeast
- 2) Jonathan is returning to teaching and will continue working with Cru part-time.
- 3) We are moving to Texas.

Whew! That is a lot of change. First of all, my news. I love being on staff with Cru, and for the past 11 years have been blessed to make meaningful contributions in a part-time capacity while spending significant time at home with Zoe and Sophie. I am passionate about helping people discover and utilize their God-given gifts to impact the world. For the past 6 years, I have been the New Staff Coordinator on the Leadership Development/HR team for the Northeast. As our student ministries have grown, one of our greatest needs in the northeast is for staff - we have several teams with just 2 full-time staff serving multiple campuses - and I am blessed to be able to play an instrumental role both in getting new staff to the field and keeping them there by ensuring that they are trained, developed, and known. I ensure every new staff person has a coach, train those coaches, and coordinate a biannual field training for 30+ new staff and interns.

As the girls have gotten older, I have taken on a variety of new projects with Cru as well - coordinating summer placement for all the northeast staff (staffing Cru's summer mission trips, sending people to take their required seminary classes, etc.), co-leading summer projects such as this summer's trip to South Africa, organizing and running the program for our annual northeast staff conference, emceeding the northeast women's conference, working with local teams that are in crisis, and evaluating intern and summer project applicants. I have almost been working full-time already! Because staff are such a precious resource in the northeast, I count it a privilege to do all I can to ensure that they are spiritually healthy and thriving in their roles. Fortunately, much of what I do is from a distance already, so a move to Texas will not change much for me. Your ongoing support will ensure that I am able to utilize my gifts to help more and more northeast students hear the Gospel.

Now to Jonathan's news. While Jonathan has also loved being on staff, for the last year or so, he has felt the Lord tugging on his heart and calling him back to public education. In many ways, he considers this simply a ministry shift, as he will now be an insider in a student community. He will be teaching 8th grade social studies at Haltom Middle School in Haltom City, TX - a school of almost 90% at-risk students. Would you join us in praying that God would open relational and ministry doors for him there? Jonathan plans to continue in ministry with Cru, coaching the conference and events team in the northeast and hopefully serving at our nationwide staff conference held in Colorado every two years. We are excited to see what God has in store in this new season of ministry for him.

We are so thankful for each of you and your years of faithful prayers and financial support. Would you prayerfully consider continuing to give to our ministry with Cru? We will be keeping the same staff account, so nothing will need to change on your end. If you sense that the Lord is leading you to give elsewhere, we ask that you would keep giving through the end of October as we close out Jonathan's salary and benefits. We are looking forward to being together again as a family and continuing to pursue the Lord during this new season.

Pray With Us:

- ◆ For Jonathan as he starts the school year as a "first-year teacher" all over again!
- ◆ That our house in Reading will sell quickly and for a good price
- ◆ For Zoe and Sophie as they transition to a new environment
- ◆ For financial provision so that Kerri can continue working for Cru.
- ◆ Please pray for our family as we experience the strains of life apart until we sell our house.

Thank you for partnering with us to tell students about Jesus! We appreciate you so much.

Jonathan and Kerri



Now I'm a
3rd Grader!

Kerri