A WORD FROM

EAM WENIG

High Highs and Low Lows...





The end of the semester was full of fun and encouraging moments, especially witnessing the generosity and excitement of the athletes who joined us for Operation Christmas Child care package packing & the Christmas Party study break we were able to host! There were many places we saw God at work, by encouraging people who have been coming regularly, but also having new friends joining in. These were definitely highlights of an already great Fall semester!



An unexpected and scary experience kicked off our 2024, as Kyle went to the ER for what we thought were respiratory challenges. Actually his heart was in Afib (Atrial Fibrillation- a heart condition causing irregular and rapid heartbeat).

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It has apparently been out of rhythm for a while because there is significant weakening, which caused heart failure. They were able to do a cardioversion to shock his heart back into rhythm, but it came with some challenges and 9 days in the hospital to get him regulated. Kyle is home now, but will need to have a procedure called an ablation, which will hopefully be a more sustained solution. We have so much to be thankful for! God brought us through all this, He provided incredible care through the medical team at UW, He blessed us with generous and thoughtful community who helped us navigate this storm, and He met us step by step with His peace that surpasses all understanding! Please keep our family in your prayers as we figure out the next steps and new normals that will help us care best for Kyle.

<u> Please Pray With Us:</u>

- Continued healing for *Kyle's heart.*
- For rest on sabbatical
- For Athletes and Coaches to continue to hunger and thirst for the Lord, especially students who are coming in as mid-year transfers or freshmen.

<u>Praise God for:</u>

- PEACE that comes from His presence with us in the storms.

<u>"In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength</u>" Isaiah 30:15

This passage of Scripture was the focus of a devotional by a mentor in our lives as she encouraged and cautioned about the needing to pause and seek the Lord. The devotional encouraged us to be aware of places we need to let worship of the Lord replace our self-reliance. We are most inclined to be self-reliant when we are tired and weary. Because of this, Athletes in Action/ Cru, encourages us to periodically take Sabbatical, a season of rest. We had been planning towards this Sabbatical for the past 6 months, but in God's plan we are seeing His perfect timing play out. With Kyle's health scare and needing a time to reset and recharge, we are even more thankful for this opportunity for a season of a different pace. The sabbatical honestly can sometimes feel counterintuitive to us and difficult to receive, but we also know its incredibly important. As God has been doing so much on campus and opening opportunities beyond what we could have ever imagined, it feels hard to step away, but we trust He is leading us and knows best. We long for what God promises in verse 18... His compassion and mercy and a joy that comes from experiencing Him in a deep way. We believe that will refuel us to serve better! We know that this Sabbatical is necessary and we trust that as we let go of control and surrender to His plans, the fruit that He grows will be better than anything we could have manufactured by pushing through or becoming self-reliant. Please pray for us in the upcoming season of Sabbath, February & March, as we seek the Lord and draw near to Him in a fresh (and Lord willing refreshing) way!

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THANK YOU for the many ways you're in our corner! We're grateful to be on mission with you! <u>Much love,</u> Kyle, Jayne, AJ, Leisel, George & Simon