



Ministry Update for the Browns
JUNE 2014

A FAMILY ON MISSION

As parents, we try to teach our children that they too are called to be on mission — being born into a missionary family, they share in the calling to live life on assignment for God. Olivia and Logan in particular sacrifice just as much, if not more, than their parents as “MKs” (missionary kids): for example, just this summer, as part of our mission to serve students in Hampton Beach they were asked to leave school 2 weeks early (affecting one child’s GPA and missing various end of year celebrations), live together in the same small room for 6 weeks, and learn to develop independence skills in an environment that was not tailored to their wants or needs.

Many times the kids chose to take part in student activities. One evening dedicated to outreach, Logan went around with Andrew and several students giving out cookies to the neighbors and introducing themselves. One neighbor was particularly antagonistic toward our group and Logan learned the difficult reality that not everyone is welcoming to Christians — or Christ. Thankfully, he was able to share in a debrief session his thoughts and feelings about the incident and actually prayed for the man to experience grace. We are so moved by how God used what could have been a very hard experience to draw Logan closer to Himself and give him a heart for the lost.

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SUMMER PROJECT!

What a summer so far! We have spent the last six weeks in Hampton Beach, NH, bringing leadership to HBSP where 27 students from the Mid-Atlantic region have come to grow in their faith and bring Christ’s message of redemption to those around us. Students here spend five days a week at their jobs (Dunkin Donuts, McDonald’s and several other employers) where they develop relationships, learn to love and serve their coworkers and hopefully have opportunities to engage them in spiritual conversations and share the gospel. Beyond that, we provide for them discipleship, Bible studies, men’s and women’s times, and outreach opportunities. We also have a weekly meeting with a speaker, spiritual development and worship, and have “family time” as well— social times designed to enable our students to grow deeper in fellowship with one another. Each of these components is broken up into different teams. Andrew led the Family team — a highlight was orchestrating the Staff Hunt (see below), where



staff dressed up in strange costumes and hid around a local mall and students had to find us and take pictures with us.

Andrew had the opportunity to disciple two men this summer — Ben, a recent UVA grad, and Nate, a rising sophomore at Penn State. Both men were an incredible blessing to Andrew and have been humble learners and leaders. Ben is developing skills leading in discipleship to bring to the workplace when he returns to Charlottesville, and Nate has been named one of the student project directors!

Jena led in staff care for the women staff and planned devotionals, excursions and gave gifts to each of the staff women for their weekly meeting times.



Incredible for us, moreover, has been the depth to which we’ve seen our seven UVA students grow in such a short period of time. Though living in close quarters, having little “free” time and learning to share the love of God in a variety of contexts has been a challenge for our students, we have seen them rise to the occasion! As staff leave for the summer and the project is entrusted to the students, we are excited that our UVA students have each been given leadership opportunities unique to their gifting to assume after the staff leave. We are so excited for them to take up their positions and see what the Lord does!



Ben, Nate and Andrew

PRAY FOR THE BROWNS

- Please pray for the rest of HBSP and the students’ leadership — pray they would seek to serve one another and be served.
- Pray that our UVA students would have a great desire to bring back what they’ve learned on project and implement it at UVA.
- Pray for our children to continue to see God’s mercy and grace as “MKs.”
- Pray for our preparation for the fall semester. Classes start at the end of August!

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. **Hebrews 12:1-2***

Love, Andrew, Jena, Olivia, Logan and Samuel