



Ministry Update for the Browns  
February 2016

## ENGAGING THE WORLD

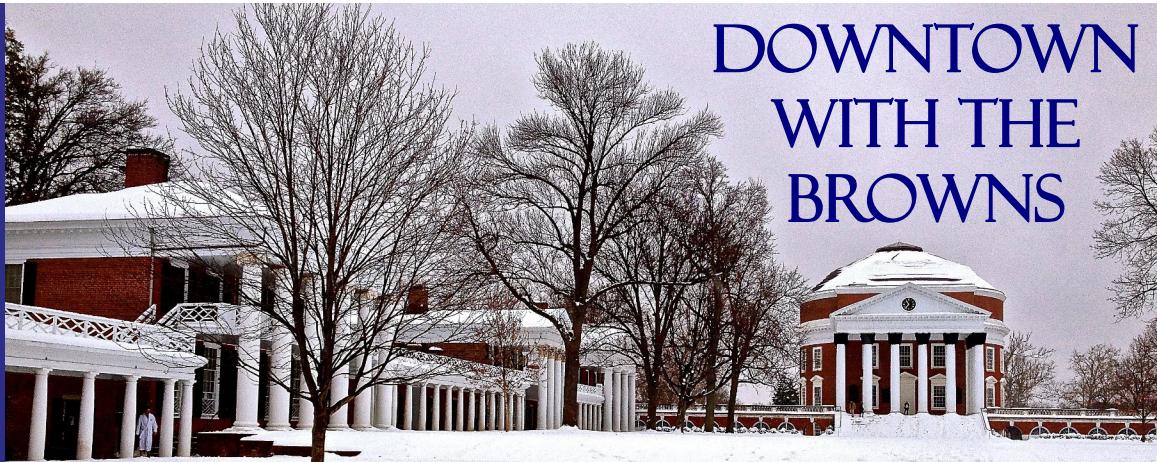
Working in ministry and teaching students to be lifelong laborers of the kingdom of God can often take up so much time in the life of a missionary that it can be challenging for us to find the time to engage with the world outside of the church. Not only is it easy to fill one's time with activity and relationships within the Body of Christ, but it can become a comfort and means for faith to atrophy. Francis Chan, author of *Erasing Hell*, in a convocation speech he gave several years ago, exhorted students "to get in the world and actually build relationships with people who don't have to show you grace...do all things so that by any means you might save some of them." Jena recently performed in a cabaret called *Broadway by the Decade: Songs From The 90s* where she connected with local Charlottesville theater people (her tribe:) and developed friendships and camaraderie. Though it was a huge sacrifice of time and juggling of responsibilities on our part as a family, it was great to see Jena in her element. Please pray that she will be able to continue the friendships that she made in the show and would be able to share the message of the gospel with them!



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# DOWNTOWN WITH THE BROWNS

## WOMEN AND MEN

### KALEH PAJAMA PARTY, PART 2



Kaleh (Our local Cru women's ministry) just had our 2nd Pajama Party, which was a great success. The event was held in our home and attendees arrived in their pajamas for a pot

luck comfort food gathering. 45 women from UVA and PVCC came to hear Cynthia Thomeer, mother of Leah, one of our student leaders. All four of Cynthia's children attended UVA! She delivered an incredible message to our women about how she has experienced God's grace through her current, as well as previous, phase of life in suffering, and how the Lord has used it as a tool for refining her into the image of Christ. She used Romans 6 as the basis of her talk, highlighting the idea that since we are under Jesus' Mastery, we are no longer under sin's mastery and don't have to sin.



Many women (including Jena) were moved to tears as we shared in small and large groups about our personal experience with suffering and our tendency to question, accuse or withdraw from God during those times. Several women approached Jena after the time to ask if they could have follow up conversations. Please pray that those conversations would go well and that Jena would be able to direct them to the resources they may need.

### PURE DESIRE

The men of WAM (Our local Cru men's ministry) recently started a new small group that uses materials from Pure Desire Ministries. Here is a description of Pure Desire from their website: *Our aim is to*

*educate and mobilize church leaders to facilitate hope and freedom from sexual addiction, through the development of healing ministries.*

This is an incredible opportunity, led by one of our staff, for some of our male students to be transparent with one another about this struggle in their lives. Our hope is that these men will experience healing and freedom and not walk away with the idea that they just need to try harder.

### BIG BREAK CONFERENCE



Next month we will provide a more extensive update as we have PVCC students at the conference this week and Andrew heads down with UVA next week. A quick update: **two women that are on the trip with PVCC have accepted Christ!** Kandice and Shannon are both new to Cru this semester. Last week our speaker at our Cru meeting shared the gospel with Kandice after the meeting and she accepted Christ! On the first day of Big Break, Shannon went out with Kristen (Cru staff) to share the gospel with people. That didn't end up happening and instead they had a 2 hour long conversation that at the end of it Shannon decided to place her faith in Christ. Then she told Kristen: "All I want to do is go and tell people about this because now I finally understand it." Praise God!

### PRAY FOR THE BROWNS

- Pray for Shannon and Kandice to grow in their new relationship with Christ and for the 5 other PVCC students and 3 Staff to be able to experience revival while at Big Break!
- Pray for staff and student leadership as we choose leaders for next year — that we would be of one accord.
- Pray for our upcoming Vision Dinner to have 200 people in attendance!

*Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. — Colossians 3:2*

Love in Christ,  
Andrew, Jena, Olivia, Logan and Samuel