



Ministry Update for the Browns
November 2023

THE SECRET INGREDIENT TO THE GOURMET MEAL OF CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY



In an effort to forge community, we host weekly dinners at our home, where 35-50 staff and college students (sometimes even high school students!) from across the Lynchburg area come for food and fellowship. This has not only been the highlight of our week, but has been a strategic means of forging community and getting time to "do life" with those who participate in Cru. Often we will tack on a fun event to make happy memories together. This month we have carved pumpkins, played games, and even done outdoor painting (courtesy of partnering with the Education arm of Lynchburg's Academy Center for the Arts)! We are hoping that we can impart many happy memories for our students and continue to be a place where people experience Christ-centered fellowship.



Andrew and Jena Brown
8 Riverview Place
Lynchburg, VA 24503

(434) 825-8083 (A)
(434) 409-2467 (J)
Jena.Brown@cru.org
Andrew.Brown@cru.org

Staff Acct #0498095
Online Giving:
<https://give.cru.org/0498095>



TEAM LEADER RETREAT...IN CUBA!

As Team Leaders, Andrew and I are required to attend two Team Leader conferences annually — one with our Cohort (the Delaware-Maryland-Virginia region, which we lovingly refer to as the DMV) and one for the country. This year the DMV decided to create a hybrid conference/mission trip to Havana, Cuba to partner with Filter of Hope, a sister mission organization that distributes water filters to areas without clean water access. This was a first time for our Cohort, and we decided as a group to travel with our families as well. A few weeks ago, with 18 staff kids and 19 staff, we spent the week in meetings and in ministry.

One of the most exciting experiences we had was installing water filters with Samuel, and seeing him excited about installing them and demonstrating how they work. Samuel and all the other children had a blast together during the time there and even got to go to the zoo and aquarium.



At one house, we met a man who had dreamed the night before that we were coming and to anticipate our arrival! He was a practice of Santeria, but after hearing a clear gospel presentation, he accepted the true message of Christ and denounced his former religion. But before leaving, he told us that in the dream one of us had asked him "where is the statue?" and when we inquired, he brought out a bust of what looked to be Jesus. In Santeria, members believe that the actual idol itself has power, and our translator, who was formerly involved in Santeria herself, urged him to destroy it. We then took it out to his court-

yard and with his permission, smashed it in the name of Jesus. Through that experience Samuel has been able to have a greater understanding of our risen King and that we are enabled by the power of the Holy Spirit to destroy strongholds. Praise God!



PRAYERS FOR THE BROWNS

- Please pray for the 43 people who made decisions for Christ while we were in Cuba, that they would begin to learn about Jesus and be disciple in a good church.
- Please pray for our recruiting efforts to Winter Conference, spring break trips and summer missions — that students would be connected to opportunities that would be life giving and growth producing.
- Jena is leading a vision trip to Japan 12/7-14! Please pray for safety and for the Lord to make clear what a partnership could look like between Lynchburg and Tokyo.

"...making known to us the mystery of His will according to His purpose, which He set forth in Christ..."
-Ephesians 1:9

Love, Andrew, Jena, Olivia, Logan and Samuel