

# Northern Illinois & Northwest Indiana

MINISTRY UPDATE FROM BYRON & MICHELLE GRAHAM

June 2014



## Know the Word

**Do you have a place where your soul just breathes deeper?** That place for us, and for thousands of InterVarsity students, has been Cedar Campus in the U.P. of Michigan. As the school year ends on campus, we gather students for a week at a time at Cedar Campus to celebrate what God has done, plan for the next school year, and strengthen their walk with the Lord. This camp is a time to renew our minds with God's word. Students spend 4-5 hours a day hearing, studying, reading God's Word to know what it says. Several of these camps have been happening this last month, and a few are still coming up. Please be praying for the students who attend Cedar Campus, that their time with God and in community would be transformational.



## Campus Influence

"I've never felt so close to God before! I feel a real and sustained sense of His presence!"

At the University of Chicago, 4th year Chris has never had a relationship with God but has become increasingly curious about Him. On Easter Sunday, InterVarsity hosted over 100 students at an Easter dinner where a local pastor shared the truth of the Gospel through John 3:16. That night, Chris experienced God's presence in a new way and decided to start going to church and exploring the Bible with InterVarsity friends. **Nine students made a decision for Christ that night and many more decided to begin a journey of learning more about Jesus through 'Groups Investigating God'.** Praise God!

Please keep these 'Groups Investigating God' (GIGs) in your prayers. Many students joined GIGs earlier this year and have tasted the goodness of God. "I wouldn't have expected that from Jesus!" One student exclaimed to a friend after reading the Gospels. Another seeker said to her InterVarsity friend, "I want to have what you have."

## Graham Family

Summer in our house is also known as sports season. Soccer for Ty; swim team for Josh; tennis for Natalie; and football for Jason (and Josh too, this year). Byron will be spending a week in Madison, beginning his role as a 'planting coach' through InterVarsity's National Chapter Planting Co-hort. And Michelle hopes to make some progress with writing this summer.



We'd love your prayers for two things:

- We are grateful for the ways God has been showing us the way forward to address Jason's dyslexia. Please pray we would see progress over the summer.
- Michelle is having surgery June 5<sup>th</sup> for a hysterectomy. Please pray for a safe and speedy recovery

**Thank you..... for your faithful financial prayer and support as we minister with InterVarsity.**

To give "IVCF Attn: Donation Services / P.O. Box 7895

Madison, WI 53791."

Memo Byron & Michelle Graham.

To give online, visit [donate.intervarsity.org](http://donate.intervarsity.org)

Our family ran a 5K together this spring.

## Prayer Requests

- Pray for students to encounter Jesus at Cedar Camus
- Pray for students who became believers this year, as many of them go home for the summer to spiritual deserts.
- Pray for Byron's time in Madison, that he would develop a great coaching relationship with the young planter he is partnered with.