

January 26, 2009

Dear «Greeting»,

One of the things I enjoy the most about my current role is being face to face with our staff – developing them, building into them, listening to them, praying with them, and even “playing” with them.

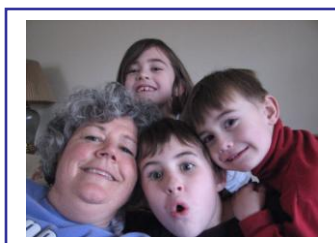
During our annual January student conference (the “Boston Winter Conference”), my team (Leadership Development) not only connected with students, but also was busy meeting with our staff and interns. Over dinner the first night, we gathered together the new staff who are raising their initial support. It was a chance for them to share how they are doing – the challenges they are facing and how God is meeting them in it. Then, over lunch, our interns shared what their futures hold after their internship with us comes to an end (join us as staff, go to grad school, look for other employment). Moms met together to talk about the benefits and challenges of raising children on staff.

And I’m not sure just how many hours I spent at Starbucks talking with our staff and interns individually. It’s hard to summarize what these times were like because they were as different as each person I met with. **Interactions like this are invaluable to our staff. It is so important that they know they are known, are needed, and have a future with us.**

February 9-11, I’ll again be face-to-face with twenty-five of our new staff and interns when they come to Boston. They have all been on campus for at least a few months – so this is a chance for us to go deeper with them in their training. **Please pray for me, Bob, and Kerri as we are knee-deep in our preparations with respect to the content for those days, and for Greg as he takes care of the logistics. Please pray for the time we are together – that God uses it for His glory and to better equip these fulltime workers.**

Thank you for your prayers and financial gifts – together we are developing leaders who are spreading the gospel.

Dependent upon the Lord,



Goofing around with my youngest sister’s kids at Christmas.