

# The Harvester

The Outdoor & Experiential Learning Ministry of Cru



*"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." -Colossians 3:17*

## New Zealand, Here We Come!

Surveying the decimation of my house, I wonder if a bomb went off, scattering clothes and outdoor gear like rubble. Somehow, in three days this destruction will be neatly packed and we'll be in the air following God across the Pacific to join the Cru staff there in establishing a Lifelines ministry. NZ is the ideal environment for outdoor pursuits; we are praying that students will respond to the ministry, and far more so to the message, as we

strive together to glorify God and make Christ known. We are not coming in with all the answers, but with a desire to love the staff and students well and to add our passion and experience to the gifts of the staff already serving the campuses of NZ. Right now we are all questions and prayer requests; as God directs our steps we will post updates on our website below, so please follow along with us!

[Intothewilderness.org](http://Intothewilderness.org) ✓ us out!

Please cover us in prayer as we travel and represent Jesus Christ

Please pray that we will love the people and students of NZ as we do our own here in New England.

Pray for fruit: that the lost will find salvation in Christ and the saved will grow in Christ-likeness, and Lifelines NZ will thrive and change lives.

Please pray that we will have a love for people and not our own ministry: that we will offer Christ, not ourselves. Apart from Him we can do nothing.

Learn about God's work in New Zealand on our blog: [Intothewilderness.org](http://Intothewilderness.org)

## In Memory

December 7, co-worker and friend, Scott Blom went down in a plane crash near his home of Port Alsworth, Alaska. Scott's two youngest children, Kaitlyn (age 14) and Zach (13), were also on the plane, along with the pilot. Debris from the plane was found in the lake, but the bodies have not been recovered. Julie and Scott have an amazing ministry with Lifelines and to the native people in their village. Scott, with his big heart, quiet humor, and steady faith, is irreplaceable and greatly missed. Please join us in praying for Julie and their older sons, Josh and Sam, as they press on and trust God in the midst of such life changing loss.

## A Winter Conference Win

Here is an update from our staff women...

Two of our staff women, Abby and Beth, attended the Cru winter conference in Baltimore this month along with a group of our students from Plymouth State. Abby texted this from the conference: "Hey team! Just thought you would like to celebrate with Beth and I about all that the Lord has done in the hearts of our PSU students during Winter Conference:

Nelson and Carolyn want to go to Big Break (Cru's evangelistic spring break conference,) Sabrina wants to go on a summer mission, Tristan is most likely going to STINT in Central Asia, Carolyn wants to intern with

Transform, an arts ministry that partners with Cru, and Nelson and Sabrina want to start a high school ministry in Plymouth, praise the Lord!

Also we have a huge list of people interested in Lifelines! We had an info breakfast with 24 students, at least two are thinking of interning."

Of the hundreds of students that participated, 120 signed a pledge card to the Lord. Six of those trusted Christ for the first time, 21 committed to spend a year with Cru on STINT or as an intern, and 34 committed to going on a stateside or international mission. May God use these students to draw the nations to Himself.

## New and... Improved?

We pray that God would bless you this year with His Presence, provision, and peace.

So far, our new year has begun with the new adventure of New Zealand, and a new birthday for Aliza who just turned eight (she says she does feel smarter now,) and a new look for Emma who gets her braces off tomorrow.

Sometimes new is exciting like a new car, but sometimes it is scary and uncomfortable.

Although we will only be in NZ for three months, we will miss our staff team and friends, family, church, pets, house, bed... to our kids this new experience is a mix between the new car feeling and a black hole.

We are trying to teach our kids, and live ourselves, by the words of 1 Peter 5:7, "Cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you."

May all your "new" point you to God's gracious care.

