

The Roe's Hatch

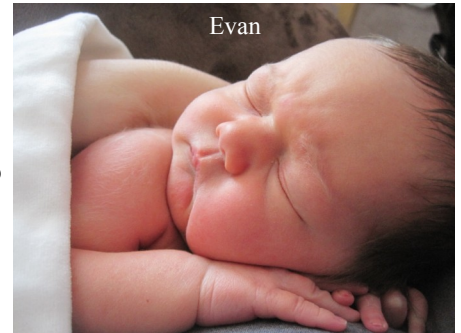
February 15, 2011



Celebration at the hospital

Dear Partners,

Evan Scott Roe arrived a little over two weeks early! We welcome him with joy, but had hoped for a little more time. It seems like there's always more to do to prepare. In fact, last week, while I was in the process of writing this update letter to send to you, Bonnie started feeling like she might need to go in. She finished packing her bag and I packed my carry on "just in case" and we loaded the kids in the car. The baby was breech and Bonnie's blood pressure was high, so the decision was made to do a caesarean. At 10:20 p.m. on Feb. 8, we welcomed our 8 lb 7 oz son into the world. The next few days in the hospital were relatively relaxing, and Bonnie's recovery has been exceptional, relatively speaking. Today at her checkup a nurse told her she'd never seen anyone recover so quickly.



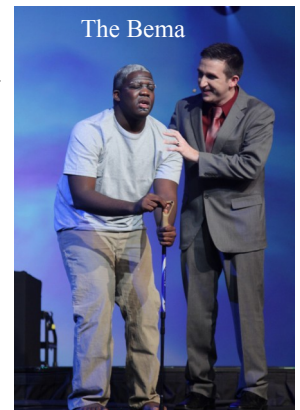
Evan

Julia, Brenna
& Evan

Praise God. Yet, as wonderfully as Bonnie is doing, I imagine I should not take that report as an excuse to let up on trying to offer additional help around the home. Our girls are also trying to help where they can, fetching diapers, stroking his head when he cries, etc. They love the addition and enjoy being big sisters.

It's no wonder Evan's arrival seemed to come so quickly. As I look back over the last couple months prior, we, or at least I, have been out of town, or at least slept somewhere other than my home each week since mid-December. In the beginning, some of that was to see family before Christmas, but mostly it was to spend time investing in the lives of students and/or staff for training, planning, and caring. As we trust the Lord to do supernatural works through our ministry, well beyond what our own abilities would produce, we're motivated to position our lives to care and influence these dear ones. Often that involves going away together.

One of our post-Christmas traditions is to house our family in the downtown Minneapolis Hilton Hotel. While the hotel is nice enough, I assure you we are not motivated to cram our family into a hotel room for five nights because of the accommodations. Instead, it's from seeing year after year what God does in the lives of the nearly 1500 students, 125 of them from our Madison Area, at our five-day "TCX" conference. That and the fact that my supervisor requires us to be there, for good reason. God grabs the attention of these young adults in a fresh way, and we see the fruit of that immediately and for years to come.



The Bema

One feature from this year's conference was a dramatic performance about the Bema seat of Christ. It's a little over 90 minutes, and I recommend spending the time to view it online at <http://tiny.cc/bema>. Through some creative license, the presentation compellingly highlights the importance of living life now in light of eternity.

Shortly after TCX, I spent 6 days in Dallas at a leaders training conference. Our family will be spending much of the summer in South Carolina where I will be the project director of the North Myrtle Beach Summer Project and the 100 students and 25 or so staff on it. I feel honored to lead this strategic mission/discipleship program, but will have to wait until another letter to tell you more.

The day after returning from Dallas, I left Madison to spend three days at an alumna's cabin with our Madison staff team before the new semester. It's such a blessing to work with a team of motivated, high character servants.



Snow Football

The following weekend I chose to take twelve key third-year student men that I work with to a good friend's cabin. I've been attempting to highlight eight components that the book *The Master Plan of Evangelism* argues can be found in Jesus' ministry with His

disciples, and one of those is “association”, or simply spending adequate time with them. We opened God’s word,



Cabin Retreat with 12 student Men

talked about spiritual brokenness, prayed, cooked meals, played football on the lake, and talked about who they are as individuals and how they might fit into God’s Kingdom. It has given me greater insight

into who these men are and could be. My vision for them is even higher as I strive to help launch them into a lifetime of humbly loving and reaching others for Christ.

The following weekend, we gathered the freshmen through seniors for an overnight training event at a local church where we put on twelve seminars. We trained in areas such as evangelism, spending time in God’s Word, and money management mixed with fun events like dodge ball, board games, eating, and even sleeping on a church floor. At least I’ve finally learned to bring an inflatable mattress to these things.

That was the time away from home, except for a wedding of two former students in La Crosse, WI, on the Saturday before the birth where it was great to spend time with a number of beloved former and current students. And, you may be happy to know, I requested not to go to the director’s conference in Bloomington, MN, that was scheduled for two days after Evan’s birth.

Some have joked that we work for Campus Crusade for *Conferences*. And sometimes it does feel excessive. But we schedule these things because they all have a purpose, and it does seem that getting people away for a few days can be the best thing to train and shape an individual. Before we had children, it was much easier to live such a crazy lifestyle where any day, night, weekend, or summer was available to be used to invest in others. At that time Bonnie had the same flexibility and we took advantage of it. Since having children, we have had to moderate this, of course. The last couple years she was able to do a little more direct ministry with college students, but now having an infant again, that must be very much scaled back. Lately I’ve been ever more grateful for Bonnie’s capacity and generosity as a mother and partner which allows me to function in such a capacity, while she more often is left at home nurturing our children. We would not be able to do this ministry like we do if we both weren’t committed to it. In the same way, we’re fully aware that we would not have the freedom of schedule to be on campus or out of town as needed without the support of individuals like you. So, we continue to be amazed and grateful to you, too.

Scott & Bonnie Roe

Let me share three quick accounts to illustrate how conferences and retreats complement normal ministry on campus as we seek to turn lost students into Christ-centered laborers:

People come to Christ:

God often uses this environment to win people to Christ. Tori received Christ at Fall Getaway last year and has been on a mission to reach her friends ever since. Her text after TCX said: "Guess what?! ...My agnostic friend Danny came to TCX and the Holy Spirit completely changed him! He accepted Christ!!! And he understands that Christ is the Lord of his life!"

People are equipped to be sent out to win others:

Gavin came to Christ a couple years ago when another student loved him and shared the gospel with him. This year Gavin came to TCX and participated in the optional afternoon outreach to Spanish speakers in Minneapolis. He ended up taking a couple extra Spanish gospel tracts. After TCX, he happened to sit next to a man from Latin America who didn't speak English. Over the course of a few hours, they talked about family, life and eventually Gavin pulled out the Spanish tract and was able to lead him in a prayer to respond to the gospel. Since then, they have been in contact via email with follow-up materials. But Gavin’s story doesn’t end there. When he got home, Gavin was talking to his dad about his plans to spend a year in Spanish-speaking Uruguay next year with Campus Crusade, where there are only two national staff members. Gavin’s dad asked to talk more about the message of Jesus. Later, Gavin’s dad looked up and said, “Gavin, I need this.” Gavin’s dad is now a Christ-follower!

People receive new direction for their life:

Danielle was a transfer student who was having difficulty making friends, so in October, when she was browsing the internet and stumbled on our website, she filled out our web form asking for more information. I sent the information to our interns to follow up, and Bridgette did. Bridget invited her to coffee and found out she had no “religious” background nor any desire for it. However, she did have a persistent grandfather who asked her about God, and finally during the last visit, his words began to ring true, and she wanted to know more. Bridget shared about her sinful condition and God’s loving response of sending Jesus to restore that relationship. Danielle was eager and readily trusted Christ.

She was open to following the Lord and came to our TCX conference, where she sensed God speaking to her about her future. Now she’s changed her major to Human Development and Family Studies because she believes God is calling her to work with children.

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