

CAROLINA CONNECTION

CRU AT UNC-CHAPEL HILL



Pray for the Smiths

- Our summer would continue to shape us and prepare us for the fall.
- New Financial support: We are attempting to raise \$800/mo of new support.
- Our marriage would continue to deepen and be a place where we experience the gospel through each other.
- Our student leaders walking with God through this summer and their experiences.
- Time in the Word would be refreshing and rich.
- New Freshman coming to Chapel Hill in 6 weeks.

Thank God for:

- Our time this summer to connect and be refreshed in His love for us.
- Harrison continues to grow big and strong. He is pulling himself up on everything and crawling very fast everywhere. He is almost 1 yr-old!!

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Resting Well Is not Easy

This summer has been refreshing. After nine years it feels different to have the margins in our life we've been experiencing this month. We have used our four week sabbatical to individually spend extended time with the Lord, focus on our marriage, have time to enjoy being a family, read a lot and take care of Harrison. We spent 10 days at North Myrtle Beach, SC and enjoyed some slow time together there with good food at the beach.

It is not easy to rest well. It is hard work in itself and requires intention. It has been a good to confront barriers in this season that get in the way to simply enjoying Christ.

The Authority of Grace

At the end of the month, Josh took a week long Church History course entitled, 'The Life and Theology of Martin Luther.' One of the leading Reformation professors in the country, Carl Trueman, unpacked the major events connected to his life and the significance of his faith upon the culture in his day. Opposed to the superhero image we may have of him, he was very human.

One big lesson that has been encouraging through the study and reading is that Scripture must be our final authority. If we submit to any other authority we will compromise our hope in Christ. We will add to the gospel of grace or obtain a new salvation outside of Him. We all are really good at letting convenient authorities determine what matters in our life. Our faith is connected in history to thousands of years of mistakes and critical thought in response to those mistakes. And Scripture has been the one force that has led us back to the person of Christ over and over again.

Support

The remainder of our time this summer we will be raising financial support to continue to be on campus. We are so grateful for the commitment of so many to make this ministry a reality. It has been difficult to generate new support and that makes us grateful the support we have. Pray for new contacts to catch the vision of coming with us to help reach the campus as we trust God for \$800 in new monthly support.

Take Your Pill

A thought on prayer and time in the word that has encouraged us recently:

"If you knew you had a terminal disease, and the only thing that would save you was taking a pill every night at precisely 11PM, you would never miss taking that pill." This is our spiritual condition. We need an intervention outside of ourselves. We are never going to make it without God's help encountering our life. He is completely resourced and ready to move on our behalf. Let's believe He is who He says He is by asking him to move where we don't believe He can.