

SUMMER 2014

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CAROLINA CONNECTION

CRU AT UNC-CHAPEL HILL



Smith Family Update

-20 minutes before leaving for Charleston we discovered water in our crawlspace in our house! Hundreds of gallons! After remedying the symptoms we have discovered a yard drainage issue that will require significant work to fix. Pray for this whole situation and that we sense God's presence and provision.

-Harrison turns 3 at the end of July. What a joy to celebrate him and see him develop

-Things at UNC will start back up on Aug. 8 as we head to our annual leadership retreat with student leaders. Pray for these Bible study leaders that they will lead out of an overflow of their own walk with Christ.

-Pray for incoming freshmen that many will come to know Jesus. during their time at UNC.

Historic Charleston Summer Project 2014

This summer we had the privilege of staffing summer project in Charleston again. 30 students from all over the country joined us to grow in their faith and share Christ with others. For many this was a summer of firsts in terms of trusting God. First time raising financial support, first time sharing their faith, first time sharing broken parts of their story with anyone, first time working at a fast food restaurant! We set out trusting God for the 6 weeks of project in the areas of Grow, Give, Rest, Reflect. These four components directed the project and was what we were praying for for students.

In the area of **GROW**, that they would grow in their own relationship with Christ. That life change would happen maybe in areas they had never dealt with God about but that came to the surface this summer. It always strikes me how much growth happens in each student's life on project. Each week we helped lead a training time (how to share your faith, how to communicate your testimony, etc), a devotional (often centering on Psalm 23), and a men's/women's time. These were designed to help students grow and go deeper into the gospel themselves.

GIVE The second thing we wanted to champion this summer was for students to give- to share the Gospel with others and really have an impact on the city of Charleston. This summer we partnered with 3 churches in the downtown area that gave us connections to more ministry opportunities. We partnered with one to minister in lower income areas, providing food and getting to know folks during a dinner. We set up Soularium (a picture survey) throughout downtown in order to meet people and find out what they believed. Two sisters we met doing Soularium one week accepted Christ! It is such a joy to see students step out in faith and to get to see fruit too! We helped students understand how to communicate the Gospel, ask good questions and share their testimonies through our weekly training times. And throughout the summer, students primary mode of ministry was working at their jobs- doing their jobs with excellence and building relationships with their co-workers.

We also wanted the summer to be about **REST** and **REFLECT**. Summer projects are always so much fun but the schedule is pretty packed. Students work at their jobs all day and then we have a training time, social, Bible study, etc at night. They are learning so much but we wanted to build in a time for them to make sure they rested well. One night a week was unscheduled so students could rest, recharge and take in the city. And each Wednesday night was a "reflection night" where students could pull away and go spend time alone with the Lord, digging deeper into what they were learning.

Just like last summer, we treasured our time in Charleston! The life change we get to see happen in students' lives in the 6 weeks we are there is amazing and we love getting to be part of it. ***Thank YOU for being part of it too by providing for us to be there and praying for us!***