

11/1/2012



**GREAT LAKES BAY
YOUTH FOR CHRIST**

Dear Friends & Family,

“I have to learn to quit asking about the kids’ families that come over to our house.” That is a quote from my wife after the last student left our house the other night. Heather said, “She looked like she was going to cry when she started talking about her living situation.” This girl, let’s call her “Sarah” is one of the several brand new kids to Campus Life this year. She doesn’t live with her parents anymore and is currently living with an aunt and uncle. We have not known “Sarah” long enough to get her complete story. She shares sparingly and ONLY what she wants us to know. “Sarah” LOVES coming to Campus Life, it’s a safe place and she can be herself. I am pretty sure she enjoyed sharing “Lego Ninjago” stories with my children and eating ice cream more than the actual time she spent with me the other day. She had a great time hanging out with our family after we packed shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. While she is positive there is NO God, she loved the idea of helping others who have less than her. Heather and I will continue to love “Sarah” because Jesus loved us first, right where we are. Romans 12:9 says “Don’t just pretend to love others. Really love them.” Pray that “Sarah’s” heart is softened and open to the Gospel, as she will hear it regularly at Campus Life.



Speaking of the Gospel... Just a couple of weeks ago I got the opportunity to share THE GOOD NEWS at club. Only two kids got up and walked out of the room during that time. There is a saying that goes like this, “When you throw a stone at a pack of dogs, the one that squeals the loudest got hit.” Not that the good news of Jesus is a rock and not that the kids are dogs, but the gospel presented rightly will expose sin that people want to hold on to. Forty other kids did not leave as I shared some of my story and then the good news of Jesus. Nine of those kids made commitments to follow Jesus, AWESOME RIGHT? I have met with several other students that wanted to hear more about Jesus and still had some questions. October proved to be a busy month with students. We packed shoeboxes, played dodge ball, met at the local coffee shop to talk about life and faith, spent some time helping out at the homecoming dance and had students over to begin student leadership. Somewhere in the midst of that we also had our annual Great Lakes Bay Youth for Christ Report to the People banquet.



Thank you to all of you who came to share a meal with us and hear what has been going on with YFC. It was great to meet new people and catch up with some of you that I don’t get to see as often as I would like. You have until the end of November to maximize our matching grant. This means anything you donate can be doubled RIGHT NOW. Just put a note on your check or in PayPal that says, “Banquet 2012.” Thank you for your generous giving. Without you on our team there is no team!

Heather and I took a small trip down to Detroit to have her shoulder examined by a specialist. She is not going to need surgery at this time. I guess it’s a rotator cuff problem from having hyper mobile joints. The doc gave her a shot and prescribed some physical therapy. She will be off work for six more weeks. We will be loosing our health insurance because of her time off work. This means for about a month we will need to buy some sort of health insurance until she returns to work. Needless to say with her pay cut during this time off it will be a challenge to come up with insurance money. It would be awesome to see God provide through you during this time. Any extra will help us out right now. Thank you again for your giving, your prayers and your encouraging words. We are truly blessed to have you on our team!

God Bless,

Jon Hartwick

HARTWICK PRAYER CORNER

- * Quick healing for Heather’s shoulder
- * Homeschooling 4 kids (yeah...just pray)
- * Balancing time with ministry and family