

The Collegiate Chronicles

Back Across the Border

Making continued connections with ministry in Mexico

When we walked into the church in Muna, Yucatan, Mexico before the Sunday morning service, we were greeted like family. Not surprising since we've been getting to know the members for the past 3 years.

From March 7th-14th of this year, I led a group of students from both American University and Northern Virginia Community College back across the border to serve with my brother Dave for spring break. It's been a standard formula for us, hard work in the mornings, followed by outreach in the church and community in the afternoons and evenings, but the results are far from ordinary.

This year we rolled up our sleeves and helped to pour a sidewalk in Opichen. We put the finishing touches on an expansion of the sanctuary in Muna (dug the foundation for it last year) and spent 2 days clearing a field for a new church plant. The rocks are big in Muna!



Leading songs for the children's service in Muna

We were also able to lead or participate in 6 services and reach out to families in the community. The team prepared several new dramas and songs in Spanish and thanks to Dave and several of the team members' translation skills we were able to make a real connection. A definite highlight was watching one of our new friends begin her relationship with Jesus during our visit to her home.

Here's what some of our team members said about the trip:

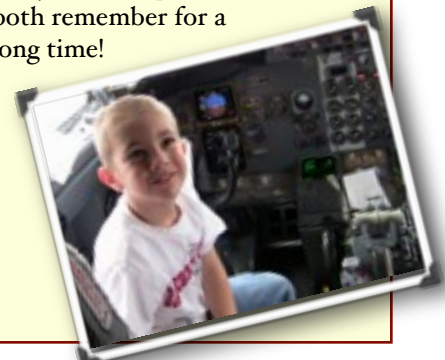
"I was praying next to an older woman and I remember thinking that even though we are very different

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Around the Apartment

The family highlight for this newsletter is Sam's first missions trip! Because of an unexpected gift and low airfare, Sam had his first flight, first trip out of the country, and first chance to join a Chi Alpha spring break team.

Sam did great! He pitched in during both our work and ministry times without complaint. He was also able to spend an extended time with his cousins in Merida (thanks Aunt Kelly!) It an experience we'll both remember for a long time!



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New Beginnings in DC

In our October newsletter, I shared a list of goals for my position as the DC Chi Alpha team director. One of those was recruiting new missionaries. I'm happy to introduce two new missionary couples to the DC team.

Jon and Jenny Rice are now in the process of raising their budget to direct the ministry at Georgetown University. They're coming to us after spending the last four years building a strong group at Virginia Tech. Jon, Jenny and their new baby girl (due in June) will move into DC when they establish their support team.



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Chi Alpha team with our new friends.

Mexico, cont.

people from different countries and we don't even speak the same language, we are sisters in the family of God, and that makes us closer than even if we were related by blood.”

-Erin

“While on the Mexico trip, I encountered the power of the family of God. I walked into this little, precious community in the Yucatan and found the love of my life, Jesus Christ, as present among them as He is with me at home in DC. I was blown away by being able to instantly connect with people because the authority and love of God had already united us. This trip was irreplaceable as are the people I met, and I brought the truth I learned home with me. With it I'm learning to love my spiritual family here with more fervor than ever. What a wild, surprising thing to be a part of a global family, where my failures and successes and hurts and celebrations fit. I'm overwhelmed that this is real.”

-Heather

**More news and updates @
www.thegodzwas.com**

Beginnings, cont.

Jeff and Robin Saferite have been doing a remarkable job leading Chi Alpha at George Mason University for the past school year as missionary associates. God is leading them to make a long term commitment there. They are now in the process of raising their support to become nationally appointed missionaries and be ready for ministry in the fall.



Please pray for both the Rices and the Saferites. The thousands of students on their campuses need them here soon...and so do we.

With much love and hearts full of gratitude,

Mike, Jen, Sam, Levi & Nate

Upcoming Events

May 10-16

Student Institute of Campus Ministry, Nags Head, NC. I'll be leading worship for our regional student leader training conference.

May 19

DC Chi Alpha Year End Dessert. We'd love to have you! Email me for more info.

May 31-June 6

Incite, Nyack, NY. I'll be helping to coordinate our regional staff training conference

June 20

Officiating wedding for AUXA alums. Congrats Dan and Jennie!

Please Pray

DC XA DESSERT



We're hosting a semester-end dessert to share our story and get more partners involved. Please pray for a great response.

OUR BUDGET



The recession has caused our funding to take a dip. Please pray for God's provision.

RENEWAL



With the hectic pace of the spring semester coming to an end I'm looking forward to an opportunity to pray, plan, and study.