

Northern Illinois & Northwest Indiana

MINISTRY UPDATE FROM BYRON & MICHELLE GRAHAM

March 2015

Renewed vision



Christiana arrived at Encuentro (Latino Student Leadership Conference) feeling discouraged after people had stopped coming to her small group. But God met Christiana powerfully, reminding her of His Love for her AND the need to reach Latino students on her campus... even in the midst of discouragement. Sometimes the most challenging step for a leader is to remain faithful even when you don't feel successful. Christiana now has a plan to re-launch her small group as a GIG (Group Investigating God – designed for spiritually curious students) this month. *Please pray for Christiana, for the students that will be joining her GIG, and for Latino students (the fastest growing student population) to fall deeper in love with God through InterVarsity's LaFe ministry in Chicagoland.*

Going Against the Flow



Most college students are planning to head south to warm beaches for Spring Break. But some will resist the urge and instead attend The Chicago Urban Program, an experiential Scripture-saturated retreat for students to learn about racial tension, injustice, and their own ethnic identity. Events in this last year like Ferguson have made even more evident the desperate need for God's people to lead in this area. *Please pray that God would use CUP to raise up a new generation of leaders and reconcilers. Pray also for our team - Jinette, Anthony, Beth & Jazzy - as they teach and train about multi-ethnicity and reconciliation.* Check it out: www.cupivcf.org

Graham Family

Intense seasons of ministry make family time all the more important. Thanks to grandparents, our kiddos got to experience skiing for the first time on a short getaway to Wisconsin. We were super grateful to make memories and be refreshed.

Other highlights:

- Warning to those in Chicago on Earth: Natalie has her driving permit! T minus 3 months to a license.
- Joshua rocked an awesome wig in the school play "Bad Hair Day" and now is jumping into volleyball.
- We loved our small group series by John Ortberg called "Soul Keeping". If you are looking for spiritual formation, the book and DVD series is for you.



Thank you!... for your faithful financial prayer and support as we minister with InterVarsity.

To give visit donate.intervarsity.org

CONTACT INFO

byron.graham@intervarsity.org
 michelle_graham@ivstaff.org
 (B) 815.375.4977
 (M) 815.375.0160

More Prayer Requests

- Pray for Chicagoland Staff Team Mtg (Apr. 7-9) that we hear from God about annual plans
- Pray for growth & strengthening of chapters at NU, Valpo, U of C, and UIC to reach their full potential
- Pray for interviews of staff candidates March 20th that we would have discernment on fit and placement