

THE LANGFORD LETTERS

SERVING WITH CRU
AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | MAY 2022



SENIOR DESSERT AFTER THE LAST REAL LIFE OF THE YEAR; ROBIN WITH KARA, A STUDENT LEADER SHE'S GOTTEN TO MENTOR THIS YEAR.

Praising God the at End of the Year

A handful of students and hundreds of questions. This characterized our entrance into the 2021-22 school year. Like many universities, MSU pulled the reins tight during height of the Covid pandemic. For all intents and purposes the campus had been closed to us the year prior—few students were allowed to live in the dorms, no student groups could use classroom space, classes were virtual. When news arrived in August that we had access to campus again—albeit limited—we rejoiced! Our remaining students rejoiced! And together we began to ask God what we might trust Him for over the next several months. Some things felt normal. Some were very different. But we saw God at work in ways that are worth celebrating!

At the end of the year we are thanking God for:

- A healthy, unified staff team.
- Around 100 students committed to Cru.
- Regular, consistent small groups in each campus neighborhood, mostly led by students.
- In-person Real Life meetings. Our weekly large group meeting was a huge source of encouragement!
- 44 students who applied to be part of our leadership team in the fall. There will be a place for each one to serve.
- Several community events, including a volleyball tournament, several men's and women's events, cookouts and bonfires, and other fun hangouts.

- We were able to host several events in our home. It felt so good to have students draped over our furniture and eating our food!
- A terrific Spring Break trip for 50 students to Orlando, FL.
- Fall Getaway and Spring Retreat. Both weekend retreats are greatly loved by our students!
- Our Cru Staff Team is leading 2 summer mission trips. As we mentioned earlier this year, we will be helping lead a team in Virginia Beach, VA. We also have a group going to Porto, Portugal to partner with the campus team there.

THANK YOU for your consistent encouragement, financial support, and prayer. We are grateful for each card and text and email.

Please pray for our students over the summer! We are trusting God to draw them near wherever they are.

Virginia Beach Summer Mission

You might recall that we are returning to Virginia Beach after a decade to help lead a new type of Summer Mission. In mid-June we will lead the 2-week leadership project with 25 students joining us. It's a diverse group of students! Neither Brian nor I can think of a summer trip we've been a part of that was more culturally and ethnically diverse: 45% of the students coming are people of color.

As in the past, we will focus on evangelism and discipleship training. We'll be staying in the dorms at Old Dominion University—another change hastened by the price of housing that made it impossible to think about staying closer to the beach.

Will you pray for a few things?

Please join us in asking God to do the things that only He can do!

- We desire to be part of building life-long, Christ-centered multiplying disciples.
- Unity of the Staff. We won't have much time together before students arrive.
- Relationships with churches in VA Beach.
- Support-raising for the students

We Need a Car!

We are on the lookout for a car. I know, great timing! Currently we have four drivers and own one car. Our faithful 1997 Toyota 4-Runner became too expensive to maintain and we had to sell it last fall. Friends graciously loaned us a car while they have been out of the country this year. *Please pray with us that God will help us in this.* God has been so faithful to provide for us in the past; we know He will provide now, even amid such poor timing. ***If you have any leads for us, we would be grateful!***

FUN TIMES



WOMEN'S ICE SKATING



NEIGHBORHOOD DINNER



NICK & FRIENDS AT PROM

Jack successfully navigated his first year at the University of Michigan. He got plugged into Cru and has begun to develop great friendships. Another reason to be glad for our work! We are glad to have him home for the summer!

