



STEVE & TAMI BARKE



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# Sept-Oct 2011

Dear Friends & Family,

WELL, FALL HAS FINALLY ARRIVED here on the Palouse, The weather is starting to get colder, the leaves are turning a multiplicity of Fall colors & on the weekend that ended September & began October, we had our annual Fall Camp. For the past few years we have done our Fall Camp with the XA group from University of Idaho. Derek



& Jessica Seaberg pastor that group & we have really found the addition of them & their XA group to be a real blessing. All of the pictures in this months newsletter are from Fall Camp.

YOU WILL NOTICE there is one picture on the back that shows a group of students holding up a funny looking sculpture. This year as part of the fun at camp we had a series of games that pitted WSU vs. U of I & the team with the most points at the end of the camp won the "Fall Camp Cup" The 1st annual Fall Camp Cup went to the U of I after a tie breaking race. We'll get 'em next year, Go Cougs!



THIS YEARS FALL CAMP, losing the "Cup" aside was great. Weston, Julie, Derek & Jessica each taught a session on our Main theme, which was called Body Language. Each of them did a great Job relating our physical postures of worship with how we interact with God & with each other as the

body of Christ.

I THINK THAT THE BEST part of Camp for me is also the thing that has marked the whole school year so far: Our students learning how to be & growing into



becoming the Body of Christ in a way that allows the presence of Christ to be evident to all, especially those who are not yet followers of Christ.

IN OTHER NEWS, this semester I decided to teach a class. It is called Fishing Lessons. Once of the reasons I decided to teach the class is because I believe that



one of the areas that we need to grow is in the area of outreach. Students have been told all their lives that being a Christian is fine, just don't talk about it & especially don't tell people who are not that they should change what they believe to become a Christian. But, Jesus told his first disciples that he wanted them to follow him & that when they followed him he was going to make them "Fishers of Men." So, in our class we are talking about why we are called to "Fish." We even have two people in the class who are not yet Christians, learning about why we Christians do what we do! Cool Huh!

## Prayer Requests:

## Ministry

- ◆ **Cores:**
  - **Pray** for our Leaders. They are doing a great Job, but it is easy to get discouraged
  - **Pray** that God would use them to raise up new leaders & to inspire their core members to reach people for Christ
- ◆ **Fishing Lessons Class:**
  - **PRAY** that God would take what we are talking about each week & use it to a heart for the lost in our community
  - **PRAY** for boldness to share the gospel with friends & classmates
  - **PRAY** for people to get saved as students apply what they are learning
- ◆ **Tuesday Night Fellowship:**
  - **PRAY** for a greater openness to the Holy Spirit
  - **PRAY** for opportunities for our students to invite their non-Christian friends.
  - **PRAY** for those who are being invited to experience the presence of Christ in our meetings
- ◆ **XA Finances:**
  - **Pray** for Wisdom & patience
  - **Pray** for God's blessing & provision

## Family

- ◆ **Pray** for Cayla, her health issues continue on, but she is doing well. We are hoping to get into a Dr. at Stanford
- ◆ **Pray** for Ethan. Doing well in school & in sports. Is asking questions about girls. Aaaarrggggg!
- ◆ **Pray** for our Family to continue to have quality time together!

## Praises

- ◆ Russia was amazing!
- ◆ We have a growing # of young Freshman in XA who are catching the vision for reaching our campus.
- ◆ Visitors are coming to TNF every week

## Ministry Financial Info

XA WSU Fiscal Year July 2011-June 2012

Actual Income for: July - Oct. 2011

Budgeted Income YTD: \$29,334.00

Actual Income: \$26,310.00

Difference: **\$3024.00**

Ways to give: Checks or Bill Pay can made to:  
Chi Alpha WSU—PO Box 1058—Pullman, WA 99163

**Steve's  
going  
on Sabbatical?**

Sabbatical, it comes from the root word in the Hebrew from which we get the word Sabbath. Which literally means "ceasing." God commanded the Israelites to Sabbath from work as a way to honor God & show him that they trusted his provision in their lives. A sabbatical is the ceasing from work every 7 years for a time of rest & reflection on God. In the modern world a Sabbatical has become an extended absence from work during one's career for the purpose of accomplishing (usually professionally) something that one could not within the normal course of ones job.

Well, after 19 years of full-time ministry, the XA-WSU board has seen fit to extend to me a time of Sabbatical. As a matter of fact I will be talking all of Spring Semester to rest, connect with my family & at the end, to build the curriculum for the final piece of the puzzle that I felt God calling me to when I first came to WSU: a Campus Ministry Internship.

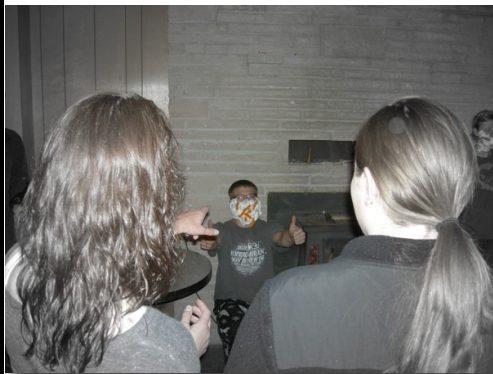
The first part of the Sabbatical will be rest & reconnection with my family. I have been going strong for 19 years, but I believe that God wants to make the next 20 years even better. Also, with all that we have been through as a family, I need to be able to devote some extra time to them, for a season. With Cayla graduating & Ethan starting High School.

It is also the perfect time to do this. I have an amazing staff, who are perfectly capable of not just maintaining, but, extending XA's ministry at WSU. We are also planning on starting our Internship next Fall & that gives me some uninterrupted time to plan for & design it, so we can hit the ground running in the Fall. I am really excited about what God is going to do while I am on Sabbatical, please keep us all in your prayers!



## Tami, Cayla & Ethan, Your Missionaries to WSU

⚡ Here are some more! ⚡



I wanted to mention one more thing in regard to my Sabbatical. While I am gone I still am getting paid, so please continue to send in your monthly, quarterly & one time gifts. I will continue to send out newsletters letting you know what is happening while I am on Sabbatical In a few weeks my Sabbatical Committee (board members who are overseeing my Sabbatical) will also be sending out letters asking people to partner with us during the Sabbatical. Sabbaticals are actually not cheap & it will cost more to be able to do the things I want to do while I am on Sabbatical. XA-WSU has actually already saved up \$2000 towards the total cost, but we will need to raise about \$3500 more. If you want to contribute, It would be a blessing! Just send checks to the address on the front & put Sabbatical in the memo! May God bless you! - SKB