



STEVE & TAMI BARKE



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JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2012 SABBATICAL EDITION #1

Dear Friends & Family,

I AM NOW OFFICIALLY ON SABBATICAL & so for my newsletters during my Sabbatical — since I am supposed to be resting — I am going to have other people write the main part of the letter. This month it is going to come from the monthly report that Julie — XA's Interim Director — gave me over viewing the beginning of the Semester. So here is Julie:

So here it is! Your first Chi Alpha update while you're on sabbatical:

THINGS ARE GOING REALLY WELL. The first two Tuesday nights have been really great!

We decided on a sermon series very much based around Mission: KO. We're calling it "Mission: Kingdom Outward - Restoring Kingdom Culture". We're doing some introductory/set-the-tone messages, and then will be looking through Mark 1 & 2 to see how Jesus put the Kingdom into action.



I thought this picture was really cool! It was done by the Chi Alpha Artists Circle — A group of artists in XA wanting to use their gifts to bless the body & reach the campus — They used Sparklers & slow motion photography

I AM SO EXCITED about how much vision the Corefas have for Mission: KO! Last week at TEAM meeting, the Corefas had time to work on vision/16-week plans for the semester. So at TEAM meeting last night, each of the Corefa teams shared their vision for the semester, and there were some vision-filled and inspiring ideas about how their Cores would have an outward focus this semester. In helping them be outward this semester, we encouraged them to find a semi-equal balance of 2 things: "going" (service, missions, evangelism) and "being" (Bible study, prayer, worship, fellowship) this semester.



AS PART OF OUR TEAM meeting curriculum, we've decided to make every other week a prayer time for the campus. We are loosely guiding the prayer time so far.

DISCIPLESHIP CLASS has had a good start.. Students are engaged and truly wanting to understand and apply their faith.

WINTER CAMP IS COMING UP next weekend, (Jan. 27-29) and right now we're looking at taking around 30. When we first announced winter camp the first TNF, students seemed really stoked about going!

WESTON & JEREMY make great teammates. We did a staff bonding day at the beginning of January, and I think it was



helpful for getting to know one another, having fun together, and learning about one another's strengths and weaknesses.

— Julie Solbrack

A BIG THANK YOU to those of you who contributed towards the gas for students going on the retreat! (SKB)

Prayer Requests:

Ministry

Family

◆ Cores:

- **Pray** for our Leaders. That God would bless them as they lead
- **Pray** that our Cores would be able to reach the lost & encourage one another as well.

◆ Discipleship Class:

- **PRAY** for Weston & Julie as this is their first time teaching the whole class...
- **PRAY** for the students taking the class, that they would have open & teachable hearts

◆ 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

◆ Steve & Tami's Sabbatical:

- **Pray** for Rest & trust
- **Pray** for God's blessing & continued provision
- **Pray** for Growth in our marriage

- ◆ **Pray** for Cayla, She went to Stanford & has gotten some concrete direction for treatment
- ◆ **Pray** for Ethan. Doing well in school & in sports. Pray that God would make himself more real to him.
- ◆ **Pray** for our Family to continue to have quality time together!

Praises

- ◆ I have an amazing staff that is & will continue to do a great job while I am gone!
- ◆ We have a growing # of young Freshman in XA who are catching the vision for reaching our campus.

Ministry Financial Info

XA WSU Fiscal Year July 2011-June 2012
Actual Support Income for: July - Jan. 2011

Budgeted Income YTD: \$29,166.00

Actual Income: \$24,488.00

Difference: **\$3677.00**

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

Steve's Sabbatical Report

Tami & I have been on Sabbatical for almost a month now. The goal for the first two months of my sabbatical is rest, restoration & reconnection. I spent the first week or so literally doing nothing ... but trying to organize what the rest of my Sabbatical will look like. Organizing my home office, organizing my schedule, organizing my priorities.

It has been great to spend extra time with Tami & even with the kids, because of the snow storm that closed school for almost a week. As I said above one of the goals of my Sabbatical is reconnection. One of the ways that Tami & I are doing this is to start Marriage Enrichment counseling (our counselor calls it Marriage Coaching) Dr. Julie Stevens is a wonderful counselor we found through the NW Ministry Network & we are really enjoying what she is having us do so far. We have had two sessions with her & are really looking forward to growing in our relationship. I also think that a side effect of this will be growing in our pre-marital counseling skills..



Tami, Cayla & Ethan, Your Missionaries to WSU

◀ Here are some more! ▶



My Chi Alpha Family & Friends, before I end this 1st of my Sabbatical Newsletters, I need to make an appeal to you. To be blunt, right now Chi Alpha is struggling financially, we are not going under or anything, but giving is down & so I want to ask those of you who don't normally give to consider a onetime gift to help out with our shortfall. We understand that times are tough for all & we are planning on tightening our belts as well, but if you can help it would be greatly appreciated. For all of you who do give regularly, thank you for partnering with us. We know that God is going to move through Chi Alpha's staff & students, He is now & I believe that more is in store for the future. May God bless all of you richly!! - SKB