

The Guenthers @ Central

Your missionaries to college students across the Pacific Northwest



December–January news

Dear team,

Winter outreach is in full swing! We're excited to report about this new season of ministry. God is at work building his kingdom in college students, and we desperately need your prayer! Read on.

Pray for students in a growing season

One of the big tasks at the end of Fall — in that short season between Fall retreat and Christmas break — is to call students into growing experiences the rest of the year. In short, we make a pitch for life-altering moments with Jesus. And there are quite a few!

(1) First there's Discipleship Class every winter, where students learn and practice Jesus' style of life-on-life training with each other. (2) There's learning to share your faith with others on campus. (3) And joining a spring break missions team. (4) Plus regular opportunities to pray for the fullness of the Spirit in their lives.



In November, Dan hosted a vision retreat for our XA ministry interns.

It's not unusual for a student who is saved in fall to be actively discipling friends one year later, simply because they took up the challenge to learn (and practice!) their faith.

Enter *Talk Time!* Our hearts are burdened for the many international students on our campuses. They come from all over the world—and they are eager for friendship. Recently, our leaders at CWU launched a new outreach to internationals. *Talk Time* is an event where Chi Alpha students have focused conversations with new international friends, usually over dinner. When you explain the Bible to someone from a new culture, it causes you to grow in communication, patience, and love. I'm excited that a couple of our ministries now do a regular *Talk Time*.



Becky and the CWU team, at *Talk Time* with international students.

Becky helped out at the first CWU *Talk Time*, just last week! Photo at left. One of her partners was a girl from Indonesia.

Please pray for fruit as this outreach gets underway at CWU.



Dan teaching our missionaries at LIGHT

Training our pastors

Becky: In December we gathered our leaders for a 3-day retreat. LIGHT is a time to connect with the Chi Alpha missionaries across the Northwest. We make sure everyone is cared for. There's training on current topics, and time for prayer & ministry. The goal is to see everyone empowered for the rest of the year.

This year, some of the big topics were: **discipleship on LGBT questions** (we have an increasing number of students with identity challenges) — **building ministries that grow** — **thriving in the midst of hardship** (a theme for many today) — and how to **conduct an effective student retreat**.

In the photo, Dan is teaching about ways to focus our time so that the ministry grows. As everyone knows, there's always a lot to do... but not everything produces fruit! One missionary said, "It's not spending *more* time, it's about making the *most* of it." Like many, I came away encouraged to log hours with students with less time at the office. And that's a good thing! **Pray Jesus makes the most of our time this year.**



Braden & Lydia headed to Alaska

Upcoming launch(es)

Dan: We're excited to see students serving Jesus after college. Braden (*at left*) and his wife Lydia are joining the Alaska Student Partnership. That's a Chi Alpha initiative which gives theological training to our graduates and sends them to teach in native Alaskan villages. After next year's training, they will commit 3 years as part of a team in Western Alaska, reaching the Yupik people. We've presented the opportunity for several years, and are excited to see it move forward.



Hannah on Christmas break!

Caleb's team

Family updates

Hannah is still doing great at WWU. She's going on a Chi Alpha mission trip over spring break, headed to WSU to do evangelism. Pretty cool!

Caleb is also doing great in Running Start at CWU and part of the campus ministry. That's him in the photo after winning a robotics tournament in my home town of Clarkston :)

More soon! Thank you for your partnership,

Dan & Becky