

# The Guenthers @ Central

Your missionaries to college students across the Pacific Northwest



## February–March news

Hello friends,

The past few months have been full—and fruitful. In fact, our March newsletter was delayed until April! We'd love to give you an update about what God is doing on campus. This is a season where we have the privilege of watching long-term investments become new fruit. Galatians 6:9 says: *"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."* And that's where we're at!



350 came to PNW SALT!



Feb 2-4: Students responding to God after each session.

## God moving at SALT Conference

SALT happens all over America, where Chi Alpha students gather to seek God and pray for his will in their lives. **Pacific NW SALT** is the new name of our Winter Camp (Feb 2–4) and it was a very powerful moment. Students came from Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. Over 350 gathered near Seattle to spend the weekend together.

At the “altar” each night we focused on personal response and prayer. It's not unusual for students to pray for the members of their small group Bible study after every session. Students called each other to repentance from sin; prayed for baptism in the Holy Spirit; and asked God for their futures.

One of my favorite stories was seeing a couple, whom Becky & I are meeting with for pre-marital guidance, get connected with a ministry internship at Idaho. Like many students, Jackson and Maddie are making a radical shift to give a year of ministry back to Jesus. We are excited to help them along the way.

SALT (aka Winter Camp) is also a great moment where non-Christian students make their “YES” to God. Loong is a Buddhist from Vietnam, who immediately said, “Everyone's faith is so strong! I saw people lifting their hands and bowing on their knees, singing, and crying. It can see it's more than just tradition for them.”



One of our CWU student leaders digging into the Bible with Tim (staff).



Derek (far right) from U.Oregon



Eleah teaching our MK Kids

Some more great experiences with students at SALT:

→ Our main speaker preached “the Bible is our weapon,” and challenged student to memorize and believe verses just like Jesus after his desert temptation. It was encouraging to see students taking notes and responding eagerly. Learning to study the Bible with a clear focus on obedience.

→ We packed out the room for six missionaries, who came to present opportunities to serve the Lord after graduation. **Eleah** is one of our former students who now reaches college students in Indonesia. At SALT she called students to join a work which aims to reach Indo (the largest Muslim country in the world) through colleges. In fact, our campuses are sending three missions teams to Indonesia this summer!

→ **Derek** is a senior in our young ministry at Univ. Oregon. He showed up at SALT and sensed that God was calling him to make a shift. Just a few weeks later, Becky and I were so delighted to see him arrive in Ellensburg for our annual support raising training. Derek will be doing the Chi Alpha internship at WWU!

→ This year we have a record number of missionary kids in our region. Becky is so blessed to partner with our CWU alumni, **Brenna**, to teach and love these kids. their goal is to free up the parents for ministry at places like SALT. So we love to do kids ministry at camp. In the photo, our missionary Eleah is teaching about God’s love for the nations. We’ve got 25 kids in the program, with a few more on the way!

## Launch season

*Dan:* We’re launching **Braden and Lydia!** Both myself and Becky have poured some timely hours into these two recent graduates (among many people who have mentored them, of course). We’ve personally labored to help and coach them in raising up a team to support their ministry training. And I have been giving Braden a lot of “handy man” guidance as he’s learned to care for the XA House here in town. That will prove to be useful very soon. Recently, I wrote that they are ready to move ahead. What’s that?

Braden and Lydia are joining a church planting team in rural Alaska. They will be serving as teachers in a native village. This is part of a long-term Chi Alpha initiative to train believers as effective Christians in what we often call the “marketplace” — finding jobs all across America. We want to empower them to take their training and implement it in a lost community. Currently Chi Alpha has 20 teachers sent to Alaska.

Our family is finding ways to invest in villages where Braden & Lydia will be teaching. Next month, both Dan & Becky are helping in Bethel (Alaska) to host mission teams as we remodel a new church for this effort.



Discover the Nations was crammed with students ready to learn!

## Discover the Nations

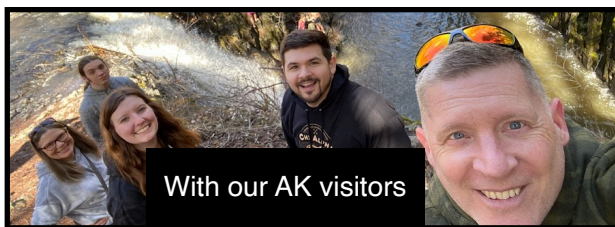
*Becky:* In February I journeyed with 25 CWU XA students to Bellingham for the annual Discover the Nations conference, to learn about building friendships and discipleship relationships with international students! I learned a new statistic: by the year 2025, 90% of the world's national leaders will have been international students in the US! Lord, raise up workers for this strategic harvest field! And I am so thrilled that we're continuing to build a heart for the nations, here among our own students.



Chi Alpha at U. of Idaho

## Praying for God's at WSU

*Becky:* In March, Dan & I took a team of Chi Alpha leaders over to Washington State University, to pray for the 17,000 students on campus. We brought two people from Alaska who are seeking God whether to come help out at this very strategic campus. It was a powerful few days, with some additional help: mission teams from other Chi Alpha groups were already doing outreach at WSU (on their spring break). I loved hiking Kamiak Butte: our team stopped at a huge vista where we could pray over the two towns of Pullman and Moscow. Chi Alpha has rich history at WSU (with Dan's parents meeting at the "Pullman Chapel" years ago)!



With our AK visitors

## Family updates

*Becky:* It happened that Hannah was already on a mission team that was at WSU when we were visiting! We are proud of her for choosing opportunities for growth in Jesus! At left is a photo of Hannah & Dad, at the XA ministry house in Pullman where grandma and grandpa first met.

Please pray for Caleb's other trip, traveling to Dallas, TX for the VEX Worlds Robotics Championship, April 25-17th. Caleb's team is practicing every afternoon in preparation!

Thank you for your deep partnership and prayer,



Dan and Hannah at WSU

*Dan & Becky*