

DEAR FAMILY & FRIENDS,

Sunny days are finally here in Fargo! I was seriously thinking this winter was never going to end. Sean is back to gardening (his favorite) and last night I actually got to read in the hammock in our backyard. We've been grilling almost every night and Fishstick is enjoying getting to run around and play in warm weather.

On a not-so glamorous note, I've been sick quite a bit lately. Guess it comes with the territory when you're constantly going into schools? In any case... please pass the tissues.

Sean and I celebrate our one year anniversary this weekend. Thank you for your prayers for our first year of marriage... God has been so good to us. Sidenote: I'm curious to see if the cupcakes that have sat in our freezer from our wedding will taste remotely good... ?

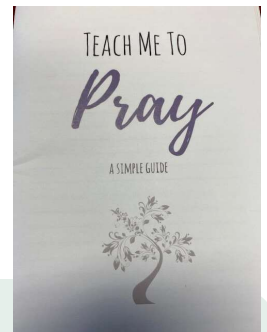
We will be heading back east to visit my family in August and I'm really looking forward to it. We're planning to take a trip to the beach and I can't wait to see the ocean again!



Spring Summary: Building relationships

"Can you teach me how to pray?, she asked.

Are there any sweeter words one could hear? I've been meeting with "C" every week in the detention center and a couple weeks ago when I asked her what she would like to do next during our time together, these were the words that excitedly came out of her mouth. I let her know that the best way to learn is to practice. Every time we meet before we do anything... we pray. I ask her to be the first one to pray and then I close. I showed her Jesus' model for prayer as a guideline for her to put into practice and we've been going through a simple prayer guide. Each week her prayers have grown deeper. She is scheduled to leave the juvenile center in just a couple of weeks, but I'm hoping she will keep in touch with me. We don't have the ability to contact youth once they leave the detention center, but we provide them with a bookmark that has the contact info of our office and highly encourage them to call us if they remain in the area. I've already told "C" that there will be a home cooked meal waiting for her if she contacts me. "C" is an orphan and had hoped to be placed with her uncle who lives on a reservation. She recently found out her uncle is not ready for her so she will be placed with a foster family. I'm hoping and praying that this family knows Jesus. I know that "C" would choose to be with her own family, but I'm relieved she is not going back to an environment riddled with drugs. God has shown me time and time again that He is working in her heart and revealing who He truly is to her and I am confident He will complete the work He has begun.





"I met "E" at her school while we were there doing relationship building time with the students. This year we started serving and providing breakfast one Friday per month at Moorhead ALC. It's been a great opportunity to meet more students who weren't initially coming to our program at Bethel church.

The following Friday I was at the school to round up students who were coming on the bus for program and Elise and her friends decided to join us. They have since been attending our program every week.

One day I was heading to pick up "E" at an address she gave me and found myself at a Super 8 budget hotel. I shortly would discover that "E" is homeless, being moved from hotel to hotel by her x-gangster dad who suffers from seizures due to heavy drug use. Her mom died a few years ago, and she now lives with her dad and two brothers in a hotel room. She has missed a lot of school and will need to go to summer school. "E" will hopefully be a senior next year and has expressed interest in joining a bible study that I'm hoping to begin in the fall. She is one of the girls I've gotten to spend time with outside of program and I'm looking forward to sharing more of Jesus with her and her friends.



There are more stories I could share if I had room in this letter. God has given me so many opportunities in the past few months to come alongside youth and with His love. Would you prayerfully consider joining me to reach youth for Jesus? Here are a few ways how:

- \$200 per month will provide transportation for Moorhead students for our release program
- \$100 per month will provide breakfast for 50 students at Moorhead each month
- \$100 will provide for a summer outing
- \$100 per month will provide for snacks and drinks for our release program

Donations can be given online at:

<https://redriveryouthforchrist.givingfuel.com/giving> and selecting the "DN" option or through the enclosed envelope.

Spring Highlights



We had the opportunity to host some of the Moorhead students for a prom dinner/professional photo shoot. It was such a blessed time! We also had fun taking some students bowling!



We partnered with Whole Hearted Mission, a local non-profit organization that provides complimentary photography services, to give a student a maternity shoot.

Please continue to keep Sean and I in your prayers as we pray about upcoming decisions. We appreciate your prayers and support and pray you would have a blessed summer!

Blessings,

Sean, Deb, and Fishstick



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