

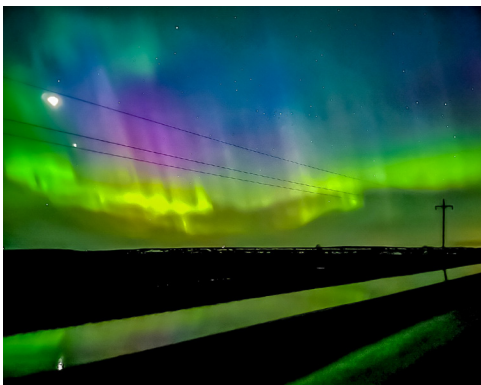
Dear Friends & Family,

Summer number two is just around the corner! That also means wedding anniversary number one is even closer. Carmen and I have definitely become more comfortable with the Fargo-Moorhead area. We have also made lots of trips to Minneapolis for various adventures and, of course, Portillo's! We're looking forward to some visitors this summer to be able to share our new life in person with some friends and family! Year one was such a blessing of growth and learning, and we can't wait to see what year two of this ministry and marriage have in store for the Lawyer party of fur!



*Enjoying Portillo's on one of our Minneapolis trips.*

God has been moving in the detention center, not only with the kids that are in there, but also with the staff that work with them daily. One boy who recently got out, reached out to us (this doesn't happen too often when they leave) to meet with me around town! I think his motives are the free food we offered, but regardless God uses the breaking of bread to build relationships. I'm all for it! I followed up with a boy from the Hip and Hope concert a while back. After meeting, he had the desire to meet one-on-one to learn how to read the Bible. I thought that was a great idea and agreed to meet with him. I asked if he wanted to meet once a week or every other week. He looked at me and quietly asked if we could meet twice a week. Come to find out, this young man had finished school already. In the mornings, he was the only resident upstairs while everyone else went to school. He was longing for a relationship and craving one with our Lord and Savior. It was such a blessing to do that with him for a few weeks. He has since been able to leave, so please pray that he reaches out to continue this relationship with God while he's out (He's local to where we're at)! Lastly, while at church a couple of weeks ago in the boys' secure pod, I asked if anybody wanted to close in prayer. After a little silence, a staff member spoke up and said he would love to pray for the kids. This particular staff and I have connected fairly well over the last year with a few common connections. However, it was so cool to see God use a staff member to care for more than just these kids' physical needs, but also their spiritual needs!



*Carmen & I caught the Northern Lights one evening.*

Liberty has been such a whirlwind this year, but God has been so faithful in how we have been used. I went to a restaurant while Carmen was gone at the Taylor Swift concert. (Everyone knows how social I am and would rather dine in myself than take it home to eat alone.) As I went to fill up my cup (with Dr Pepper of course), I noticed a kid looking at me with his face sideways, he quietly said to me "I know you from somewhere" ... not recognizing who he was, I asked if he went to Liberty. He smiled and said "that's where I know you from! We talked a little more, but I was so taken back by this interaction. It really put into perspective, if I just show up kids will see my consistent face, which is something they don't see much

of anymore. We also have had some positive strides in our mentorship class! I have been able to do multiple one-on-ones with a kid in the class. I also have had two other boys fill out the form for us to be able to meet outside of class. The relationships are able to go so much deeper with those interactions instead of in a group setting. God has definitely provided in this area! Liberty had "fan mail" this past week for Teacher Appreciation Week. Students could fill a sheet out at lunch and give them to the teacher they filled one out for. Two of the girls in the class handed me fan mail. Even though a lot of it was jokingly done, I still knew deep down there is a connection that has been made for them to "waste" their time and fill one of the letters out. I have been attending the FCA at Liberty this year and even got to lead one week. There will be a vacant role for that next year. After praying and talking to Greg about it, we decided to pursue leading the FCA program at Liberty. After conversations with the FCA director in Fargo, we both have the same vision for the kids at Liberty and he was super excited that I had reached out to try and help lead these kiddos through Bible study. Lastly, we were also able to give back to the staff and teachers at Liberty through our Project Serve last week. It was so fun to see the smiles on their faces as we thanked them and gave them some tasty food for their In-Service Day!



*Project Serve at Liberty*



Here are some things you can be praying for! I will be leading the huddle for FCA at Liberty next year, so prayer for wisdom and guidance as I plan for next year. Also prayer for an opportunity for FCA and YFC to partner in the future, that doors will be opened for that. We are having more trouble this year to find an artist for our Concert for a Cause fall fundraiser. Please ask God to provide the artist He desires for this fundraiser event. Georgia has had a statewide loss of crops when it comes to peaches. Please pray for the farmers who lost so much, but also for us as the peaches are a big fundraiser for our ministry. Carmen and I are less than two months away from having been married one year, so pray for continued guidance as we still navigate the newness of marriage.

I just want to personally say thank you to everyone who has generously donated to help support myself, and the Youth for Christ ministry. I'm so grateful to have friends and family come alongside me through prayer as well as financial gifts. Currently, I have \$1,200.00 committed per month towards my \$1,500 goal. However, I have also been so blessed through one-time gifts. I ask that you would prayerfully consider joining me as a monthly donor, if that's through financial gifts or even prayer gifts. Donations can be given online at: [redriveryouthforchrist.givingfuel.com/giving](http://redriveryouthforchrist.givingfuel.com/giving) and selecting the "WL" option, or through the enclosed envelope.



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William Lawyer  
Youth for Christ Ministry Staff