

Athletes in Action

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“...remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your heart enlightened...”
Ephesians 1:16-18

Happy fall! I think I mention this every September in our newsletter, but I just love the fall season! It's the weather, the colors, the anticipation of new things...and yes, the kids back on a school routine :) But, I think most of all it's the excitement of a new semester on campus and all that comes along with that. I just love dreaming about how God might use AIA this year at Michigan — student leaders taking steps of faith, freshmen eager to be a part of something, the many discipleship groups forming, people catching a vision for how their college years can really shape their faith, and the gospel going forth mightily in people's lives. Looking back on the past three weeks of the campus year, we can't say enough about how encouraged we are by what God is doing! There has been so much interest and involvement which makes us excited to see how it will all play out. Thank YOU for the vital role you play in reaching these precious students for Christ! Let's trust God together to give them a Spirit of wisdom, revelation and knowledge, all for His glory!

Kicking it off!

Since we are not allowed to advertise our ministry through the university, we rely on social media, cell phones and word of mouth to let students know about what is coming up. So needless to say, we never really know who might show up :) However, this month we were blown out of the water with the amount of people who came to our first two events! As you can see in the picture below, we had a packed house for our first Monthly Gathering, and even ran out of chairs! While there we asked the students to fill out comment cards indicating interest in AIA, a relationship with God, and involvement in a discipleship group. Praise God that we now have our hands full of interested students! I can't wait to see what God will do as we text and get together with them.



There was also a great turnout at our kickoff party the first week of class with a bunch of new freshmen coming out to meet people. God is on the move here!

Building up the core

The way we structure our ministry at Michigan is after the model that Jesus gave us with His disciples. If you read the gospels you will see that much of Jesus' time was spent teaching and doing life with His twelve disciples. He was preparing them to make disciples themselves after He went back to heaven. In the same way, Colby and I are investing the majority of our time in our disciples who we call our core leaders. We meet together with them as men and women for two hours each week, shaping, guiding and equipping them to lead their peers. Each of these faithful men and women then have committed to lead a discipleship group each week made up of their teammates and friends.

To watch our core leaders really trust God to reach out to people and tell them about their groups has been really encouraging! The room was electric the other night with the core women as they brainstormed who could reach out to who on what team. The vision of Athletes in Action coming down to us from our headquarters is "a Christ-follower on every team in every country so that everyone knows someone who truly follows Jesus." Please pray along with us that there would be a Christ-follower on every team here at Michigan so that all 900+ student athletes here would know someone who truly lives out their faith.



These beautiful faces make up our women's core group this year. Front row: Jessica, Shaina, Taylor. Back row: Morgan, Maurgan, Natalie, Lauren, Maggie.



This fall we are continuing our partnership with MACC Development in Detroit and sending students to serve on Saturdays in their youth sports program. Moriah & Mia love to hang out with the athletes!

Please pray...

...for the discipleship groups as they form. Pray many students would commit to coming weekly and that they would taste and see that the Lord is good.

...for wisdom for our core leaders as they lead. Pray also that they would be protected from the Evil One as they walk in obedience to God.

...for us as we follow up interested freshmen. Pray for opportunities to share the gospel and that students would place their faith in Christ.

..for wisdom for us as parents and that our kids' hearts would be drawn to Jesus.



The crazy Keefe crew set off back to school this month: Mikayla (10th), Jackson (8th), Jaydon (7th), Moriah (5th), Mia (3rd) and Jairus (K).

God is on the move here at Michigan and YOU are a part of it! Thank you so much for the many ways you partner with us!