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“Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God,” 2 Timothy 1:8

Hello again! Usually when I sit down to write this letter each month, I scroll through the pictures on my phone to jog my memory as to what has taken place the past month in life and ministry. Looking back this time, I am remembering that A LOT has gone on since we last wrote to you. Partnering with Eastern Michigan AIA on an outreach, sneaking up to Northern Michigan with our kids for a few days for their spring break, celebrating and sending off our graduating seniors, and attending our AIA national staff conference are just a few of the things we have been up to. Be encouraged as you read this letter that lives are being impacted for eternity here at the University of Michigan! We are oh so grateful for the important role you play in all of this!!



On April 4th some Michigan student athletes made the short trip over to Eastern Michigan University to hear Len Vander Bos, the chaplain for the Buffalo Bills share the about the incredible Damar Hamlin story. If you remember, Damar Hamlin is the NFL player who went into cardiac arrest on the field with the nation watching. Amazingly, doctors and trainers were able to restart his heart on the field and he has now made a complete recovery. Len was able to share with a captivated audience of around 120 athletes about the “God” moments from that time and challenge the room to live in light of eternity. It was a powerful night!



A few weeks ago Colby and I attended our national Athletes in Action staff conference where we joined 400+ other AIA staff from around the country at our headquarters in Xenia, OH. The theme of our time was “You Are”, reflecting on who God is, who we are, and who He has called AIA to be.

Connecting with and being sharpened by other staff was hugely encouraging and I left feeling like my cup was filled. It truly is a privilege to serve God in this ministry!

Sending off our seniors

I've always said the hardest part of my job is saying goodbye to seniors every spring. After lovingly investing in their lives during their years here, we now entrust them to God and send them off as men and women who will be making an impact in the Kingdom.

This year we had a record number of graduating seniors—29!! We usually spend our last monthly gathering listening to each senior share a bit about how God has intersected their lives in college and what wisdom they would like to pass along to underclassmen. But, with 29 of them, we had to do things a bit differently!

Each senior took time to write something about their faith during their college years which we made available to all the students. We wanted to highlight two stories in particular. Enjoy hearing how faithful and intentional our God is!



Colby used a passage from 2 Timothy chapter 1 to commission this year's senior class to go into the world and make disciples

"At one point I was not planning on continuing with AIA. I grew up in a religious family, and in my first few months with AIA during my sophomore year, I was very overwhelmed by ideas and truths I had never been taught before in my church. The main one of these being God's grace; the underserved love we receive from Him.

Now it seems like forever ago that I was making the decision to continue with AIA, but after meeting with Sarah and joining Sophie's discipleship group, I have felt nothing by God's overwhelming grace these past two years. I've learned so much about myself, my relationship with God, and how faith is being a part of a community. I am so grateful that Michigan AIA has become my community. I am saddened to leave such an amazing group of people, but I'm leaving with much more than I came with."

~Megan Glass, who will be using her final year of swimming eligibility at the University of Notre Dame next year.



Lauren, Megan & Dani

"Prior to college, I was not a man of faith. I knew the idea of Christianity and went to church on Christmas and Easter, but I did not really have a relationship with Jesus at all. Being invited to AIA kickstarted my faith journey and has allowed me to understand where my true identity lies. It's not in school or sport or relationships, rather in God's immense love. Invite your friends and start conversations about God. Be bold!"

~ Jackson Miller, a Michigan cheer team member who is starting an engineering job in Indiana in June. Jackson was also chosen to be a featured athlete in a new AIA documentary which will hopefully be picked up by a major streaming service. Details to come!



Colton, Jackson, Dylan, Nate & Jack



This crazy Keefer crew thanks you for all you do for us!

Please pray...

...for the AIA seniors as they journey on from Michigan. Pray God would provide churches and Christian community for them. Pray they would continue to be disciples who make disciples.

...for **Colby's trip to Central Asia May 4th-15th**. He is leading a team of 3 AIA staff and 2 Michigan students to a predominately Muslim country where they will engage with college students and help to establish an AIA ministry there. They will also be involved in various humanitarian projects while in country. Pray for God to open doors for ministry, as well as for traveling mercies and details.