



June 2025 Newsletter

COLBY AND SARAH KEEFER
4695 SYCAMORE DR. YPSILANTI, MI 48197

COLBY—(937) 902-1767
COLBY.KEEFER@ATHLETESINACTION.ORG

SARAH— (937) 681-6533
SARAH.KEEFER@ATHLETESINACTION.ORG

GIVE.CRU.ORG/0507765

“Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.”

Psalm 62:8

Happy hot summer! Not sure what the weather is like where you are, but here in Michigan our AC unit is having a run for it's money trying to keep our house cool with the awful hot and sticky weather outside! It is definitely making me look all the more forward to our annual vacation in Northern Michigan next week with Colby's side of the family. With these kind of temps, even I might venture into the brisk Lake Michigan water :) It will be good to get away with all eight of us Keefer's, as with the passing of time and our kids launching into college, those days are sadly few and far between. It's crazy to think that this fall *three* of our kids will be in college! I've definitely had some "I'm getting older" moments these past few years as I sit across from the college students we minister to. "I could be your mom" has frequently run through my mind as I chat with them, along with "but wait, aren't I still basically 18 years old?". It's a weird blend of emotions being this age ministering to 18-22 year olds, but definitely one I still love and cherish. Being able to come alongside these young people at such a crucial phase of their lives is both a privilege and a responsibility we don't take lightly. God is building His Kingdom here in their lives and we are so very grateful for your partnership in allowing us to be a part of that full-time. May God continue to bless His work on these campuses!

Summer AIA

"I JUST prayed out loud this morning that God would give me some Christian community in my life." That is what we heard from one of the EMU volleyball women who came over last night for our weekly summer AIA group. She's a sophomore who had been nominally involved in AIA last year, and now over the summer has been drawn to the Lord and desires to grow in her faith. Yay!

It's been a blessing to host students in our home all summer, watching them dig into God's Word and really wrestle with what it looks like to live out their faith. This past week God brought us four new incoming basketball and volleyball freshmen. Providing a place for them to meet like-minded others is so important during those early months of college! Please pray along with us that God will protect them in their faith and set them on a trajectory of spiritual growth and ministry while they are here with us.



Ultimate Training Camp

At the end of last month ten EMU and UM athletes journeyed out to Ft. Collins, CO to be a part of the annual AIA Ultimate Training Camp (UTC). The UTC is a week-long high-intensity camp where college athletes find freedom and purpose through the integration of God, life and sport. It is truly an amazing and life-changing experience!

We could outline the nuts and bolts of the camp to you, but it would be far more encouraging for you to hear from the athletes themselves. Here are a few words two of them shared with us about their experience at UTC...

"UTC was truly an unforgettable week—far beyond anything I could have imagined. The friendships I built, the lessons I learned, and the spiritual guidance I received made a lasting impact on me. Throughout the week, I was challenged and stretched in ways I'd never experienced before. I learned what it really means to have an audience of One—to live fully for God rather than for the approval of others. I was reminded to use the talents He gave me to become the best version of myself. And maybe most powerfully, I learned to be vulnerable—not just with the people around me, but with the Lord." ~Campbell, UM soccer

Pictured to the right is Campbell finishing the S.P.E.C.I.A.L., a twenty-hour long athletic competition designed to push athletes to rely on the lessons they have learned throughout the week. The board on her back symbolizes the cross Jesus carried for her and the lengths He went to to provide redemption for His children.



"My experience at the UTC was nothing short of spiritual rejuvenation. From the moment I arrived, I found myself in a place that combined intense athletic training with deep spiritual reflection. This mix of physical challenges and biblical teaching pushed me beyond my limits, affecting me physically, emotionally, and spiritually. UTC reignited my faith, which had been dim for a while. Surrounded by a group of athletes and mentors who openly lived out their beliefs, I was reminded of the strength that comes from living for something bigger than myself. Through prayer, worship, and honest talks about struggles and victories, I felt God's presence in a way I hadn't experienced in years. This camp didn't just train my body; it renewed my heart and brought my soul back in line with the truth of who God is and who I am in Him." ~Sophie, EMU track

Please pray...

...for the freshman athletes who have been arriving on campus the past few weeks. Pray hearts would be open to the gospel. Pray we can connect those who are believers to Christian community.

...for the students who went to the UTC. Pray God would solidify in their hearts the lessons they learned there. Pray God would use them to influence others for Christ on their teams.

...for Colby's trip to a Muslim country in Central Asia July 10-21. Pray for safety in travel, wisdom as he leads the trip, favor with the people there, and that groundwork would be laid for the gospel to go forth.

...for rest and refreshment for us as we take vacation time this month with our families.

Your partnership means the world to us and we are so very grateful for you! God bless!



Jaydon is the latest Keefer to graduate from high school!

We were able to sneak away to California this month on an anniversary trip. 25 years...where has the time gone?!

