

Ministry and Giving Update

December 2022

I thought very deeply about how I would explain Christmas to my family this year. It felt necessary to go beyond the traditional baby birth story. The story needed to be bigger, because it is bigger. The Lord led me to share about the necessity of his supra cosmic love.

The birth of Jesus is perhaps the greatest expression of this love. A love that dwells among rebellion and does not lose its power. In fact, it's power increases. Like my family, this year reminded us of how we are invited into this love.

I've been blessed to experience the breadth and greatness of Jesus love and the care that comes with it. May this update bring a greater understanding and appreciation for how Jesus is bringing love throughout all the world, even on college campuses.



Stories from the Campus

Georgia

India Anderson Campus Staff Minister, Emory

Emory's Collegiate Black and Christian chapter (CBC) had 40 new freshmen join their Wednesday night bible study



and recently hosted a 'Thanksmas' with over 50 students joining them in fellowship, yummy food, and worship before finals this past week. Students and leaders at all four campuses have been encouraged by the holy spirit

to have big and bold faith this semester. Students are looking forward to the new year

and have already made plans to lead their own small groups, schedule January NSO events, and step up in their leadership positions.

Pray that students will confidently step into leadership. That there will be a positive and encouraging cultural shift on their campuses and



in their different communities outside of InterVarsity. ■

-originally written by India Anderson

Alabama

Amanda Koch Campus Staff Minister University of Alabama-Huntsville

We had gotten so caught up in putting on programs

and events that we began to see our ability to cultivate relationships and disciple students [diminish]. Many of our leaders excel at organization and planning but people can unpredictable. Jesus brings deep love, compassion, grace, and peace - things that students desperately need. We shifted because we desire to participate in the mystery and the beauty of what Jesus is doina.

So we began to pray and to ask Jesus how we

can care for people and prioritize relationships. The term "Relational Leadership" became a guidepost for us. We've seen fruit already: less anxiety and frustration in leading, students feeling cared for and not "quilted" or shamed, and students have so much more energy and ownership to try something new (like starting an outreach for students with disabilities).



Students and volunteers at the University of Alabama Huntsville, staffed by Amanda Koch

Stories of Transformation

In addition to leading the Southeast Region, I've taken on the interim Area Director role for Alabama as we wait to fill the role. Praise God that we have a new Area Director ready to start in the new fiscal year.

Here is a story for the University of Auburn Montgomery in Alabama.

Myiyel is a new student who recently got involved with IV. She signed up to help volunteer, at one of our events where we served kids. Before the kids began arriving, the pastor asked if she wanted to be a buddy. I could tell she was hesitant but said yes anyway. She was paired up with a young lady with special needs. For the next 3 hours, Myiyel did not leave the side of this young lady. Every time I saw them, I could tell they were forming a special bond. After the event, when all the kids were leaving Myiyel came back to me with tears in her eyes. She had no idea that giving up her Saturday morning to serve would end up blessing her so much.

-originally written by Emily Johnston Campus Staff, University of Auburn-Montgomery

Pray for us as we begin to plan next semester with Relational Leadership from the start. ■

-originally written by Amanda Koch

A Season of Challenge

The image below is from my hometown, Fort Myers, about 3 miles away from my parents house. Hurricane Ian caused significant loss here including damage to my parents house making it unlivable. In addition to this, my parents health concerns has caused me and my siblings to adjust our schedules in order to care for them. I've taken

two trips to Fort Myers to be there for them. Thank you to everyone who gave to make this happen. Please continue to pray for my siblings and me to work with wisdom and spirit filled energy on behalf of our parents.



Finally, **concerning financial partnership**, as I've led the Southeast Region, my initial goal has been to sure up systems for the overall organizational health of the staff I lead. As these systems continue to improve, it is time for me to turn my attention toward raising funds, cultivating partnerships and developing resources to support ministry advancement. My greatest need will be gathering names of people who are interested in supporting me and the ministry to college students I lead. I will be in touch with you personally to discuss the future and how you can help.