

Burkey Beacon

Ministry after Cru Headquarters

July 1, 2019



Dear friend

Our family feels as though May and June were a whirlwind of activities, changes, accomplishments, endings, beginnings, and a time to say goodbye again and a time to reacquaint. Our oldest and only daughter, Lauren, graduated from high school and the week of her graduation party we had the pleasure of hosting my (Amy's) Dad and eight missionary friends from Macedonia!



Even though we experienced excitement, joy, accomplishment, and fun, we also had to say goodbye again to those we hold so dear! What a joy it was for so many of our worlds to come together for this joyous occasion, but as we said goodbye to all of them and anticipated saying goodbye to our new Florida friends, as well as anticipate sending our first born off to college in August, my heart hurt. What will the future look like for us? What friends and opportunities does the Lord have in store for us? As we anticipated yet another move and transition, where do we even start? There is excitement for our future, trusting the Lord will provide in great ways yet again, but we also enter this next phase with apprehension and grief for the life we left in Macedonia, left in Florida, and for the coming changes in our family.



As you may remember, we entered this Stint year at the International Headquarters of Cru thinking that we knew what the Lord had for us after this year. As we have continued through this year, that became less and less clear, so that is why we asked for prayer and discernment for us in this process in our last prayer letter. Just a week before we left Florida, we felt the Lord had closed all doors for us ministering with Cru from central Ohio which was our goal. We experienced a very emotional and faith testing 24 hours. Just as our last week of Stint was upon us, the Lord brought us to our knees, asking us to surrender all to Him. We were and did and still felt that central Ohio was where He wanted us to be. It was a very confusing and faith-testing time, but thankfully the Lord did not leave us there for long! Adam went into work the next day and through a series of conversations, he was encouraged to talk with Gilbert Kingsley, who is the director of the Coaching Center with Campus Ministry. This was the role God had for us!



The Coaching Center

The Coaching Center is a team of staff tasked to help resource college students and communities who have a heart to reach a campus, high school or middle school with the good news of Jesus. I graduated from Capital University in 1996 and it was actually through the ministry of Cru's Coaching Center, that the Lord connected my friend and me with staff from the Ohio State University. As a result of their networking, I and a few of my friends were coached to help start the ministry at Capital in 1993. That ministry at Capital continues and is thriving even to this day.



Before leaving Macedonia, we had determined that Adam is a pioneer, a recruiter, and a great networker. He likes to trust God with big things that are beyond him and that only can be accomplished by God showing up. Being a part of The Coaching Center on the launching side of things will allow Adam to work out of these giftings and passions. With my gifts of empathy, relating, and developing, I will be able to work on the coaching side of things to help develop and disciple women who have a vision to be used by the Lord on their campus, like I did as a student so many years ago!

Cru's mission statement "Movements everywhere so that everyone knows someone who truly follows Jesus"

We really gravitate toward filling in the gaps, reaching out and resourcing people and campuses that do not meet criteria for other Cru strategies to allocate resources to them. Scope is a major driving factor in both our international experience and our current passions. When Cru says "everywhere" and "everyone" in our mission statement, Adam and I really take that to heart. We think The Coaching Center is an integral part of Cru's Campus Ministry to get everywhere and to everyone. We are looking forward to launching ministries and coaching students and ministries all around the USA from Alexandria, Ohio with The Coaching Center's team. Thanks for sticking with us through these transitions. We hope now that we are closer by we can work together with you to make disciples of Jesus in central Ohio.

INVITATION: Speaking of spending some time together, we would love to have you join us in Colorado for three days this summer for a portion of our Cru Staff Conference called Connection Weekend. It is specifically designed for partners like you and is full of worship, Bible study, ministry seminars, and connecting with other partners. This is NOT a fund-raising thing. More details and a schedule can be found at this website: <https://www.cru.org/connection-weekend/>. We would love to attend this with you! We'll already be there for our biannual staff conference. Our daughter Lauren's there already for 5 weeks doing a Cru summer mission project. So if you are close to Ft. Collins, Colorado or would like to make a trip, let us know and register at that site. Dates: July 19-21.

Prayer and Praises:

- ◇ Praise the Lord for being close to family again. We are really enjoying reconnecting with our families.
- ◇ Please pray for Adam's brother in law, Mike Horst, who is battling leukemia. Please pray for his platelets and white blood cells to increase, and for a match for blood marrow transplant donor, and comfort and peace.
- ◇ Please pray for our transition to The Coaching Center roles and ability to grow our ministry partner team.
- ◇ Please pray for our kids transitioning to new schools: Lauren to Asbury Univ, Seth to 11th Grade Northridge High School, Nathan to 7th grade Northridge Middle School.

You are such a blessing to us! Adam & Amy Burkey