





### ENCOUNTER RETREAT!

Christie and I had a big role once again in pulling off this year's fall retreat. We had about 275 students come from several different schools around the upper Midwest to hear Andy Gray, a pastor from a sister church in Minneapolis, speak on Awakening spiritually.

It was a fantastic time! We had several experiential parts of the retreat to add to what everyone was learning in the auditorium. Andy had us all grab a small stick and slowly add it to a small campfire until it was a huge bonfire, illustrating how little we can do by ourselves and how much God can use us when we are unified. Christie and I had a great time organizing and administrating a retreat that impacted so many lives! 


### ZEKE'S IN ACTION

The Rock has been meeting in Zeke's now and it has really helped me and my responsibilities with the Rock every Friday night. We now know every week where we will be meeting, we don't have to set up all of the sound and lights every week and we can settle into a groove with cafe refreshments and after Rock fun activities and games nights.

In addition to Friday nights we've had several outside activities take place in the building and we hope to build a reputation in the community as a safe non-alcoholic place for college students to hang out. Ultimately we would love them to come to this place that they have become comfortable with some Friday and check out the Rock. 

### FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

I've been keeping track of God's financial blessings in our lives lately. Here are a couple of things that he has done:

- One of our cars blew a head gasket and we didn't have as much saved as we thought we should when considering a new (used) car. We were able to get a 2000 Ford Focus wagon for way under what it is worth and only had to take out a small loan to do so. We just finished paying off the loan and only had to pay \$17 in interest.
- We were able to get a larger refrigerator for free from a friend's dad.
- We were having problems with our dishwasher. It stopped filling with water. We called in a repairman hoping it would be covered by the warranty. There was a 10 second fix and a \$68 dollar charge, ouch! The next day we received a check in the mail for \$163 because our property taxes were lower than the bank expected them to be. So our nasty shock was replaced with an over abundance. 

### OUR DOG! BY CHRISTIE

Allow us to introduce to you our new dog, Abbie!

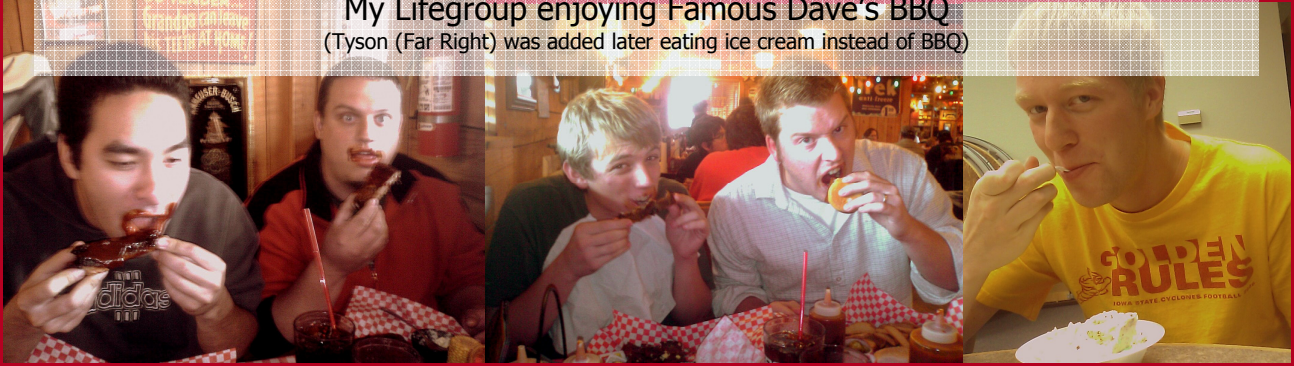
We found her at a nearby shelter a couple months ago. She has been the perfect dog for us! She is calm and subdued in the house, doesn't bark or jump up, and for the most part, is house trained.

In the last few months, she has learned several commands and loves to run outside and play fetch. God has definitely used Abbie to bless our lives and the Rockers just love her. Isn't she cute?



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My Lifegroup enjoying Famous Dave's BBQ  
(Tyson (Far Right) was added later eating ice cream instead of BBQ)




## LO-FI STUDENT BIBLE STUDY

In an effort to build some synergy with the students in the Rock I started a bible study for those in the Rock who are still hanging around campus.

We talk about how the bible applies to daily life and the struggles that students are facing. Last week we did a bible word study on love and how the world equates love with sex.

After Thanksgiving we're going to move into how to discover God's will for your life. The Rock still has quite a number of students but they are scattered across campus and throughout separate teams within our organization.

Hopefully God will use this time first and foremost to connect students with him but also as a rally point for those reaching out to the campus so that they can encourage and build one another up. 


LO-FI  
BIBLE  
STUDY

## FAITHWALKERS AND LT!

Our annual Faithwalkers conference is coming up at the end of December. We are excited to join with almost 2,000 other students from around the U.S. to hear from men who have fought the good fight for 30 or more years as Pastors working towards the great commission.

Please pray that we would see high attendance at this vision building event.

We are considering going back to GCM's summer long Leadership Training (LT). Christie and I have been talking and praying about going for a couple of months now and have started talking to the rest of the church and Rock leadership while leaking it to students that we think might be interested.

Please pray that God would lead in our decision making and would draw those he wants there. 



**THEROCK**

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