

Missionary Update

Andy & Erin Owens

Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Eastern Kentucky University



Our ministry at Eastern Kentucky University really took off during COVID. We were unable to meet on campus this year, but our church allowed us to use their sanctuary and the ECU athletic department gave us their blessing to meet with students there. We currently have 13 students we are doing one on one discipleship with and another 30 that are in Bible studies! The new ECU football coach has allowed me to be involved as team chaplain, leading a weekly Bible study for staff and speaking at home games.

Praise

- We had almost 70 couples join us for our annual FCA Coach and Spouse Marriage Getaway last weekend where they received Biblical marriage teaching and heard the Gospel!
- For the growth we have seen in our weekly ECU FCA Huddle with almost 60 college athletes attending each week.
- For our faithful high school and middle school coaches who have been leading virtual huddles, Bible studies, and discipling all year long online.
- For our new church plant that has been partnering with us this year and allowing us to use their facility to meet on Mondays. They have been a great source of encouragement for our ministry and family.
- Maeven is getting baptized on February 7th!

Prayer

- Please pray for Erin. In February sometime she has to have a hysterectomy. Due to COVID crowding in the hospital they are not able to even try to schedule her surgery before February 1st. We are praising God that there is no cancer and this is a precaution for some potential pre-cancer areas. Pray that all goes smoothly and for an easy recovery.
- Please continue to pray for our kids. We are homeschooling now which in many ways has been a blessing, but the separation from friends has been hard and we are seeing more of Judah's tendencies from being on the autism spectrum come out the less socialization he has.
- Pray for our ECU athletes as they struggle with mental health and spiritual warfare. The isolation has been rough on many of them and they are really seeking answers. The good news is that this has led to them being even more open to the Gospel.
- Pray for Gracie Frazier who is a softball player at ECU. She is currently praying about doing an internship with us. She is an amazing Godly young lady that would be a great addition to our ministry team.

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Missionary Update

Valerie Smith
YWAM, New Zealand



This past year has been one of seeking the Lord and finding renewed passion and direction from Him. In September of last year, I moved from YWAM Oxford up to Tauranga and joined YWAM Furnace.

This year we are gearing up to do a nationwide port tour with the YWAM Koha which is a medical ship that YWAM Furnace owns. We are going to be doing a three month tour visiting a few different ports, where we will not only be promoting the work of the ship and bringing hope and healing to the Pacific but also having mission/evangelism nights, prayer nights and other events on the ship. I'm also a part of our training circle. I will help run our DTS and other training/teaching opportunities that we have.

Praises-

- I have received a third Religious Worker Visa for another two years here in this country. This will allow me to continue to work while my Residency application is processing
- We were able to run a five month DTS program in September and so we have three different teams out on outreach in New Zealand right now - loving people and spreading the gospel.
- I have found a place to live for the next year that is with a family in the community! It's so exciting to have my own space and be able to have a place to settle into.

Prayer Requests-

- For my residency visa to process quickly. It has been lodged with immigration but just prayers for a smooth and easy process would be amazing.
- For the planning and for the tour with the ship. We have such a belief that God is wanting to do amazing things. We are believing for kiwis to be called into full time missions because of what God is going to do through this tour.
- For my transitions, as I'm still processing moving across the country, new location, and new home. Also for being on the other side of the world from everything going on back in America. NZ's borders are closed to anyone except for citizens and permanent residents, and so I could leave the country but just not know when I could come back. So prayer for my heart and for the unknowns for what that all entails.

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