

The Guenthers @ Central

Your missionaries to college students across the Pacific Northwest



Campus updates, April-June

Hello team!

Spring is an exciting and full time—baptizing new Christians at the end of the year; launching the seniors; affirming newly-trained student leaders. I love hearing testimonies from freshmen who found themselves lost in a dorm at the start of the year, but a Christian student invited them to a loving family in Chi Alpha. Life-changing moments! Please join us in prayer as we prepare for another year of God's work.



Becky moving to full-time ministry

The news: **Becky is now full-time!** With our kids' transitions to college life and jobs, there is more time in our lives. Becky continues to increase her efforts caring for Chi Alpha missionaries in our area.

She is heavily involved in coaching our younger ministers, helping them to get feet on the ground with skills and finances in their first season of ministry. And experienced staff are regularly calling her for help, too. That's been a great blessing all around.

We are busy raising \$1,900/month toward Becky's work budget & salary. Will you consider helping? We have a few ideas:

1. Send notes of encouragement in this season—we appreciate it.
2. Consider a “cost of living” increase in your financial support. This is a huge blessing. Or if you have connections to suggest, let us know.



Becky with pastor Choco (far right) meeting Chi Alpha

New Chi Alpha leadership

A new Chi Alpha National Director was named this spring, along with a new executive in Assemblies of God US Missions (under which Chi Alpha is a department). We are getting to know our great new leaders.

Our new national director is Alex Rodriguez who had served by planting campus ministries in Asia and in the U.S. Also, our new AGUSM director is Choco de Jesus, who pastored in Chicago for many years. Recently, Becky took a few students to get to know him in Seattle!



Training the new crew

It's an annual cycle: students really grow in their theology, character, and calling when they do the XA internship after graduation. For 21 years, Dan has had the privilege of coaching these graduates to raise support for this transformative internship year.

This year, we had 31 young people at our annual Support Raising Training. I (Becky) am part of a team who do the main teaching along with Dan. The incoming interns spent a weekend learning how to build their team. Goal #1 is to get on campus by fall!

Many, many hours of care and discipleship have gone into each of these interns. We are privileged to continue that investment as they test out a calling to ministry. They are bright, passionate and relational to their core. They give me so much hope for the future!

Next year, there will be 19 interns being trained in our OSU, U of I, WWU, and CWU ministries. That's a high point and it's clear God is up to something in our region. The next couple years are going to be a very important season. Both of us can't wait to see what happens. Recruiting, casting the vision, praying for God's work to grow on campuses everywhere... We are aiming at sending teams to **WSU (Pullman)** and to **Univ. of Washington (Seattle)** as these interns develop into ministers. Please pray with us!



Alaska missions

During May, three of our family went on mission in Alaska. Dan served for three weeks, and Caleb and I came up for a couple more. Our Chi Alpha leaders there have built a program called Alaska Student Partnership. The goal is to reach native Alaskan villages—with the highest rates of addiction and suicide in the country—by sending our college graduates to serve as school teachers with 3-year commitments and to plant house churches in each village. Regular short-term mission trips also help cast vision and build interest.

Top photo: Camp Hope is near the village of Bethel, where our summer teams are hosting a Christian camp for native kids.

Bottom: We helped with rebuilding the AG church in Bethel. It will be an important training center.



Our time in Alaska was three-fold: (1) Rebuild the church in Bethel, AK to serve as a training center for these teachers and a place of worship; Bethel is a strategic hub to 56 nearby villages. (2) Host Chi Alpha students arriving every week for summer camps and internships. (3) Encourage teachers who are preparing to serve in villages soon. After their 1-year ministry training, they also apply for Alaska teaching credentials. Then they are sent in teams (4-6 per village), with the dual goal of teaching in the schools while discipling new believers through house churches.



Looking ahead

Becky is upping her game on coaching Chi Alpha missionaries this summer. There are 10 staff that she coaches weekly in support raising: encouraging and cheering and believing in them, strategizing and trouble shooting, and giving accountability for the goals that Jesus has set before them.

Dan continues to coach the leadership in all three of our regions: Washington/N. Idaho, Oregon, and Alaska. A lot more on that next time!

We are planning for a historic student gathering next January, called Pacific Coast SALT. This will gather students from the entire west coast, including our region. Our goal in this gathering is threefold:

#1 Soak in God's presence, #2 discover his heart for lost people, #3 give students many opportunities to serve Jesus with their skills & lives around the world when they graduate. More on that later as well!



Family on the move

Caleb just finished his junior year in high school, doing a mix of Running Start and homeschool. He is also highly involved with Chi Alpha at CWU. His Core group (bible study) was a huge highlight. It's fun to see our kids grow in their relationship with the Lord. And Caleb's robotics team (once again) made it to the world championship in Dallas, TX in May (*team picture at left*).

Hannah just finished her freshman year at WWU and is home for the summer. Many are asking how she's doing! It was a fantastic year for her. She has absolutely loves being involved in Chi Alpha; it's a different experience being a student with her peers instead of a child of the leaders! She had a great experience with her Core group, and went on a spring break missions trip. Check out the team photo (*left*). She loved some of her science and philosophy classes, but is still deciding on a major.



Thank you for your partnership!! *Dan & Becky*