



Let me help you see what a UW Spring looks like!

The spring is one of our busiest times at UW as we prepare for the summer ahead. This year has been no different, in fact it may have been even busier with more to do and less people to do it. The beauty of that is God has shown Himself in so many exciting ways in our times of need and weakness.

The spring began with our family spending much time in Wisconsin. UW allowed me to work remotely and God brought interns and churches to me to fill needs. We were blessed to be able to spend needed time with family and yet keep up on the work that needed to be done.

As a ministry with few people, we all wear many hats. Much of my time has been spent in three areas; IT work, intern recruiting, and church recruiting. We wanted to share a little bit more of what each of those look like.

The IT part of what I do with UW has centered mostly on the website and our social media. The website has been in need of many updates and new features. We are currently working on adding the ability to take EFT donations to save UW money and also save the hassle of declined cards. The newest, and most exciting, part of what we are doing is the creation of the UW app for smart phones. This app has all of our information and promotional materials, but best of all it will give our summer staff ways to connect and share pictures. As a prayer request, the most difficult piece of the app has been adding in all of the administrative pieces that our head coaches need. We met as an IT team in Myrtle Beach last week (see the picture below) and after many speed bumps and even road blocks we think we have a solution. **Pray with us that we can get the app with all its pieces in place for this summer!**

Intern recruiting has been one of my favorite pieces of my time at UW. What a joy and encouragement to meet, interview, and serve with young men and women that love the Lord, kids, and sports. I have been challenged and encouraged so often by them. This summer we will need around 60 summer staff. For this summer we still need about 10 interns. These men and women are so crucial to what we do as they represent UW to the churches as they physically travel around each week and help run camps and coach kids. If you know a high school senior, college student, or someone with some free weeks in the summer that would like to join us, please send them my way. **Above all be praying for those that have already joined and those that God still has coming!**

Church recruiting has also been a blessing to me. With returning churches it has been fun to hear how God has used UW in their community and in their church. It is great to have so many come back year after year because of how God has used our ministry. One of my favorites is an outreach camp here in the Springs that we did last minute last summer with just soccer. This year they wanted to do a full camp with more kids and all the sports. They even put in a brand new basketball hoop just to get the neighborhood coming by to play. It is also neat to hear how God is working in the new churches that He has brought to us and sometimes dropped in our laps. Their excitement and desire to reach their community through sports is contagious. One church in Indiana got a new children's director and his first step of action was to call us and get sports camp set up for their church! We are currently at 100+ churches with a few gaps to fill. **Pray that God brings us the churches that He wants us to minister with this summer and in His time!**

(Over)

Praises:

- that Jason's dad is home with Jesus and made new!
- for a wonderful celebration of Dad's life and the work God did in and through him. You can see more of the celebration below
- thanksgiving for the partnership of around 100 churches and 50 summer staff already committed.
- Jubilee continues to grow and is now walking and talking - she continues to bless those she meets
- for wonderful visits from dear friends. We are always excited to have guests!
- for the wonderful team of tech people Jason gets to work with and for the new ideas God is giving them

Requests:

- comfort, peace, and companionship for Jason's mom as she grieves, ministers, and goes on with life without her other half.
- for God to provide any other churches to fill in the open spots for ministry in our camp calendar for this summer as He desires
- for God to provide the 10+ summer staff needed in His time
- for men and women and the church to love and show grace as Christ did so that by His grace and love we can see a country changed and transformed
- for strength, courage, patience, and perseverance as we move towards a busy summer and seek to continue the legacy that God left
- for wisdom in parenting as Jubilee grows more wonderful, but at the same time shows her sinful nature more often at times
- we are currently \$680/month short on our monthly giving and finished 2016 around \$2500 in the red. Pray that God would provide in His time as He sees fit and that we would grow in our faith through it.

A new aspect of UW that I was able to see this past week is the High Tide Ultimate Frisbee tournament. Ultimate frisbee is one of the fastest growing sport and we are excited to offer it at our churches this summer. High Tide is one of the biggest ultimate frisbee tournaments there is in the world. Last week alone there were 124 teams from around the country at the tournament. With such a huge platform to reach the lost, Christian colleges and ministry groups are invited to play, serve, and share God's love with those in attendance. Of course we also love to be able to share about UW and invite people to continue serving with us through the summer. **Pray for Ed and Cathy Pulkinen as they continue to serve with UW and High Tide!**

So as you can see there is a lot going on as we rally for summer 2017. While there was some human fear as I looked at this summer and the changes within UW, I can say with total confidence that our God is truly greater. He has brought churches and interns from new and random places like only He can do. This of course excites me for the summer as I know God is doing these great things to set up a great summer with greater things yet to come. **Praise Him with us for all He has done, all He is doing, and all He is going to do this summer and beyond as we strive to GO THE DISTANCE!**

Aside from housing my office, our home has also been full of blessings this spring with so many partners, friends, and family visiting and with many more to come. We would love to share the home God has blessed us with and the beauty around us with any of you. Thank you for the blessings you all have been to us as we serve together at UW!

One of the biggest blessings of the spring season is new life. We are celebrating that new life in a big way as we look forward to becoming a family of 4 in September. You can see the pics of Jubilee getting ready to be a big sister and of the most recent ultrasound below. **Please pray with us for a healthy baby, mommy, and growing family!**

For HIS GLORY and HIS FAME!

Jason & Heather

UPDATE - As our teammates in this ministry, we do want to let you know that we are currently \$715 per month short of our budget for 2017. Since we finished \$2500+ in the red in 2016, we are trusting the Lord to provide the needed monthly partnerships to sustain us going forward. Please pray for God to grow our faith in His providence through another season of new partnerships. If you feel the Lord stirring your heart to give or to re-continue your support you can do so through the information on the right above. We will keep you updated so you can pray and celebrate with us. We are so thankful for each of you, your prayers, and a God who meets our every need.



Front: Jubilee donning a new pair of (fake) glasses with joy! Back, clockwise from left: Jason enjoying a walk at Garden of the Gods with our friends the Moens, Jason (and Jubilee, on back) standing with our longtime friend Maggie also at Garden of the Gods (separate visit!), Baby #2 having a debut photo(!!!), Jubilee practicing big sisterhood, Jason working with his IT team in South Carolina, High Tide Frisbee tournament in action, and visiting friend Heather reading to Jubilee.



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