

Prayer Needs from your missionaries at New City Church - Nov 16, 2007

Praises!

- Grants - 18 months ago we hired Wendy Eaton as an assistant to the director (me) in order to help me write grants and do some fund raising. She has been a real asset to New City, and a great person to work with. For the first year she would be discouraged from time to time that the grants she was writing were being denied. But grants take a while to start coming in. Good things come to those who wait. This week we found out about 2 grants we wrote last year that have come in! This will help us in so many ways. With additionally funded staff, I'll be able to transition out of the day to day operations and be more effective as a visionary, discipler, and ambassador for new City. Praise God!
- Praise God for new staff - Deborah Lemmen started last week as our new After School Center director (a position I was basically filling with the help of Josh & Vicki last semester). She just graduated from Calvin and has jumped straight from college into the mission field here. I see a lot of qualities in her that are going to be crucial for our growth. We are very excited to have her.
- Refreshing time in Michigan - Linda and I and our family spent the holidays in Michigan with my parents. We were blessed and refreshed for the work we do here. The worship services at Madison Square and C.O.S. and times with family were outstanding!
- Life & Energy - we've had a real season of life and energy that's palpable. Kids are learning and growing and it shows.
- Great staff - We have the best team we've ever had. It feels like such a blessing and such a responsibility. Praise God for his faithfulness.

Requests

- Great staff - please pray for me as I am now called on to be at the top of my game leading a staff of 9 other adults. Pray that I will continue to be open as a lifelong learner and sensitive to their needs while at the same time hearing from God and keeping us as a ministry on the road we are called to.
- Vision day - pray for us as a ministry on Jan 19. We will be having a board/staff retreat morning. We'll pray about and think about the 3 year visions and goals for our ministry. Pray that we will clearly hear God's call.
- Personal Prayer Retreat - This weekend I am going to Princeton to spend much time in prayer and reflection on my own calling and deepen my Scripture life.
- Teens - one of the biggest struggles for me as founder and director is relational time. I feel like so much of my relationships with the teens operates out of a to-do mode. While others on staff are responsible for more of the one on one relationship time, I feel this need strongly too. Some of my relationships with teens are strained and need to be renewed. With 9 staff, most of my available relational time is with them. It's hard for all of us to adjust to this. This is the single hardest thing about this ministry now.