

The Spring 2024 Semester is in Full Swing!

Hello Everyone!

I hope the start of your 2024 has been awesome!

A lot has happened over the past few months, and it has been a really fun and busy time for us here in Boulder. Before the end of last semester we had a big White Elephant gift exchange with all of the students in the ministry. It was a lot of fun! The event was probably one of the craziest and most fun gift exchanges I have been a part of. There was a lot of gift stealing and some strange gifts, but everyone seemed to have a good time. It was a really energizing event to do with the whole community.



Everyone that was at the White Elephant party.

After the winter break and right before school started back up, we had our SALT conference. This is a big conference for all of the Chi Alphas in CO and WY and it was an amazing conference! At last year's conference we had two students join us, and this year we had a total of 8 students that came and joined us - which was exciting. The speaker this year was Mark Renfroe. He and his family were missionaries in the Middle East for 30 years, and he had such an incredible amount of wisdom and experiences to share. He gave a series of three talks on our relationship with God, our relationship with each other and our relationship with the local church. They were all great talks and led to some good discussions afterwards.

The other staff at CU and I also go to hangout with some old friends from CSU. That was such a blessing, as we really miss everyone there. It was also a cool opportunity for our students here at CU to meet students from CSU, as well as students from all across the state that are also a part of Chi Alpha. The highlight of the weekend for me was seeing all of the guys that came with us genuinely enjoying each other's company and growing in brotherhood with one another. It was really encouraging to see a community start to form and to see students hangout with each other, without the staff around.



All of our students and staff that were at SALT! (From left to right, top then bottom row: Partha, Jen, Andrew, Erik Unruh, Me, Erik Sandquist, Julien, Matthew, Rishab, Rachel, Reagan, Jessamine, Emma, Marek, Kellyn, and John)

After SALT we got back into the swing of things for the semester. The first week, we had a large gathering of everyone in the ministry and Erik shared about our vision for the semester, overviewing what our weekly small group meetings would look like. This semester we are splitting up the guy's small group and the girl's small group into two different groups, each. We are excited that we are growing to that point



Erik Sharing the vision for the semester with our students.

now, and it has gone really well so far. Erik Sandquist and Andrew are leading one small group, and Erik Unruh, Rishab, and I are leading another one. The discussions in small group have been good; it has been really amazing to see the ministry grow to this point and to see the community that is forming here at CU.

One thing in particular that has been really encouraging so far this semester is to see our student's hunger for the Lord grow. I walked into a coffee shop here in Boulder one morning and saw 4 of our students studying the Bible together! Another couple of our students are wanting to get a co-ed Bible study going on Sundays. This has been really encouraging, because it is so cool to see our students not only express a desire to study the Bible and grow closer to God, but to see them actually start to put that into practice, doing it on their own - outside of our weekly small group meetings. I am looking forward to what God will do in our student's lives the rest of this semester!



One of our small group meetings this semester.

Thanks again for all of the support that you all have shown and given me over these past few years. It really means a lot and I couldn't do it without you all!

Prayer Requests
We are going to have an introduction to our Discipleship Training Class in a couple of weeks for our students and there has been a lot of interest. So be praying that we can share our vision well to those students and that they would join and grow through that class.
We have had a few students that have been going through a rough time and have shared some hard things with us. They seem to be doing better now, but pray that they continue to seek God in this time and that He would give them peace and strength.
This has been a hard season for a lot of the staff team - for many reasons - so just be praying for all of us and that we would continue to seek and trust in God through this season.
Pray that our student's hunger for the Lord would continue to grow throughout this semester and into the future.
One of our students who does not currently follow Jesus has been starting to ask more questions and seems to be thinking more about God. So pray that he would continue to ask questions and that he would genuinely seek God and come to know Jesus.

Contact me!

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