INTERCESSORY PRAYER SHEET February-March 2011

John Schwartz c/o BCC, 1801 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502 785.317.4733, <u>thusman@ksu.edu</u> Ichthus University Ministries--KSU 2/17/11

LIFE REPORT:

Wow. LOTS going on!!! I last wrote about **Haiti.** The trip was wonderful. Great work, stellar missionaries, tons of bonding, lots of learning and laughing and moved hearts, great especially to have Juliana there. Check out the links in the email if you want to see pictures... We did have a crazy time when we got back, as Jeanette got cholera bigtime (we're still honestly mystified exactly how) and we spent some unpleasant hours in the ER getting IV fluid and antibiotics. Jeanette and baby are doing fine, thanks be to God. In **other Ichthus things**, I mentioned last time:

"There are things stirring and moving in Ichthus in a way that hasn't been happening in some time." I do see that as true. God works faithfully every year, he really does, it's always good ... but it seems there's something different stirring. Students taking initiative, investing in one another, responding to God, a movement to multiply and make disciples and plant new 2:42 (see Acts 2:42) groups. Carol and Genny Walker here, and another guy named Sean Richards here apprenticing with me; what a joy to have this sort of team, they are great. Coaching with REACH giving greater strategic direction than we've had. And God faithfully providing what we need—wisdom, intervention with students, resources. **Family:** That's good too. Still laughing that there's a new baby coming this summer (mid-July), we ought to name him/her Isaac. Love my wife, she's amazing, God is teaching us. Love my kids, so proud of them, sometimes being with all of them together threatens to drive me crazy. Basically, in all of this, in all my life, I'm over my head – in a way that I believe is good. If the Holy Spirit leaves my life, family, ministry, we're tanked. Seriously. But hallelujah, he won't, he's promised. Thank you for your love and prayers.

REQUESTS:

- Wisdom (Ichthus and home). Asked for it last semester, God provided, I'm still asking for it. Wisdom in navigating specific strategic decisions, in the many different "random" things that pop up in ministering to college students, in how to focus/spend my time with family, Carol/Sean, students, graduated students, fundraising concerns (been some needs lately), help develop and plant the new multigenerational church aspect of Ichthus, on and on. I need wisdom all day, every day. Like I said, I feel over my head. Solomon's request to God comes to mind, me too Solomon!
- **2:42 Lifegroups (House/microchurches).** OK, celebrate with me. A new plant/birthing has happened from our "Behemoth" group, and it is probably the healthiest "birth"/multiplication we've ever had. The new group has started well, is growing, AND the "mom" (Behemoth) has also grown! Previous multiplications usually resulted in either "mother" or "daughter" suffering or fizzling/dying. So thank God! Pray for...
 - Behemoth–Matt & Rebecca, Robbie & Christie, and many others. Freshmen in particular are a key part of this group. Pray for a new female leader (Rebecca is graduating) and missional movement.
 - "Baby"-new plant, Kevin & Veronica, Anthony & Jordan. Strong leadership, evangelistic punch.
 - **Ogden—I could write a whole prayer sheet on this, so I'll highlight it here.** Sam and Emily, but they are both graduating. SO many needs, WIDE OPEN DOORS for ministry and service, we're praying for so much more than just serving a bit here and there, God will you raise up students and non-students to plant a genuine work there. Connect us with these kids, so many of whom have really rough lives/backgrounds. Stir hearts in Ichthus to undertake this missional work.
 - Architecture—Carol Walker helping lead, apprenticing Andy, and Alexis. Architecture is such a unique group may the love of Christ/gospel/kingdom spread like yeast through the whole lump.
 - "The Vine" our multigenerational 2:42 church … Ben and Jennie. Sundays. PRAY FOR A CONSISTENT LOCATION AND TIME, we're having trouble finding one and it's tiring. Lots of people potential, God bring who you want to us. Let this church especially be rich and real for the kiddos. We're taking a family/2:42 mission trip March 18-21 to Oklahoma City, go God go.
- Sexual Purity. I believe Satan is trying to undercut the gathering momentum of Ichthus by taking especially the male leaders out through the issues of lust, pornography, struggles in relationships. Genuine addictions are common. Much I could say, my heart is burdened by this struggle in our men in our pornographic culture. Please pray for freedom, deliverance, obedience, purity, full repentance, truth and mercy triumphing over guilt and shame and accusation, etc.
- FAITH! Whoo my change meter is maxed out, so many new things. I want to trust and enjoy the ride!