

INTERCESSORY PRAYER SHEET Sep-Oct 2010

John Schwartz
c/o BCC, 1801 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502
785.317.4733, thusman@ksu.edu
Ichthus University Ministries--KSU 9.24.10

LIFE REPORT:

A month into the new semester. It is exciting ... and whew, very full! We have three student **2:42 Lifegroups** – **Behemoth** (multi-missional, contains several smaller missions as I listed last time, so it's a big one with 30ish people in it, hence the name), **Ogden**, and **Architecture**. They have started well; I'm impressed particularly with our student leaders' diligence. We also have been meeting with the other elder couple, Ben and Jennie Stout, to pray and prepare for a 2nd semester adult 2:42 launch. Also praise God for training times led by Bret Jenson of REACH, the most practical training we've given Lifegroup leaders in YEARS. **Thursday night** meetings have moved forward, I think they're going OK, I'd love continued prayer. It has been fun to have adults (non-students) and kids (my wife Jeanette has been coordinating and leading the kid times, equipping a student volunteer to take charge) there. Lot of women – "chickthus" is in full swing, ha. God bring men. **New staff**—I can announce publicly who's coming ... Carol and Genny Walker and their kiddos Lucy (3) and Oliver (1) are moving here in November! Carol has been the middle school youth guy at the Wornall campus of Colonial Presbyterian for the last six-plus years and even already has relationships with a number of our Ichthus students. It has been a delight to get to know them already (Carol and I even took a 4-day trip to CO to "microwave our friendship") and we are delighted God has called them to the Promised Land ... We have been praying and seeking this for quite a while now. **Family**—Jessa (5) is in her last year at home, Jayna (8) is part-time home and part-time at Amanda Arnold, Juliana (10) is at Amanda Arnold, and Joshua (12) is in middle school! He's also playing tackle football this fall which means practices and weekend games, including travel to McPherson twice and Salina twice. He's enjoying it, mostly playing free safety, and intercepted a pass in the last game, which was really fun. God is at work in Jeanette's and my relationship and teaching us to navigate the complex waters of this particular season in life/ministry/church/etc. I admire my wife's character, God-listening, and faithful service to God. She's a gift.

- **Wisdom.** In parenting, in husbanding, in how to oversee 2:42 Lifegroups, in the multitude of issues that arise when pastoring/mentoring college students, how to schedule all that needs to be done, including monthly trips into KC for coaching with REACH/Craig McElvain, basically in everything. *"If any of you lacks wisdom, ask... and it will be given."* That is a blessed promise.
- **The Team.** Ben and Jennie are in. Carol and Genny Walker are in, though not here yet. There's a MAP (REACH training program) student who will be coming weekly to explore his role and apprenticeship. Are there more God wants to bring on this front side? I suspect perhaps yes. May God bring those with a heart of "We get what you're trying to do, we're called to jump in and do it with you." This transition time is so key, with so many decisions and lots going on. Assemble your team, Lord.
- **Clarity and strength.** Man I need it. The multitude of things going on (Ichthus, family, ministry things (weddings and such) related to Ichthus alumni), calling for attention, some even clamoring, particularly before the Walkers get here, is almost comical. I'm intentionally seeking to live healthily, trustingly, within limits/with boundaries. I guess this relates to the first wisdom request doesn't it?
- **Ogden.** The verse I think God has given me for that community is *"The people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the shadow of death a light has dawned."* I think perhaps prayer works like artillery – a soldier's most hated and dreaded fear – raining down shells of light and life and ripping Jesus shrapnel through our hated enemy and his forces. Launch a few, would you?
- **Behemoth, Architecture, and Other 2:42 Plants to Come:** Fun stuff going on in the community. Thirty plus students coming for Sunday dinners, Monday 2:42 time, lots of Architecture students gathering weekly and more ... may it grow, be full of life, may God's word be rich, prayer be powerful, and mission be plentiful.
- **God's Growth.** Growth IN people, growth OF people, growth of MISSION. God has to time it and do it, or we won't be able to nurture and care for it ... so basically I'm actually praying for HEALTH, aren't I? Lots and lots of Jesus-hearted health and life that can't help but grow in disciples being made, in works being done.