

The Lake Effect – Great Lakes West

MULTIETHNIC MINISTRIES UPDATE FROM KATHY KHANG

Fall 2014

Average Days Don't Exist

I have one of those jobs that does its best to defy defining. Secondary supervision. Oversees value integration into programs & training. Develops ministry partnerships. I'm alone for hours on the computer in my home office or away for hours/days in meetings. Last month I prayed, tweeted, and posted articles as the nation's eye turned to Ferguson, MO. Basically, I was trying to figure out what to do. I sent out an email checking to see how our black staff were doing in light of current events. The response reminded me that my role as parent (juggling, failing, and finding joy in it all) and my life as an Asian American (holding two cultures in tension) have prepared me well to keep the mission – increasing the number of students in love with Jesus – and the value of a multiethnic ministry together. *"Thank you for reaching out...I really haven't heard anything from anyone above me in the region besides you...which breaks a little trust to be quite honest,"* wrote Staff A. Thank you for allowing me to be in a job where part of the average day involves juggling, failing, ministering to and with Staff A and others, rebuilding trust, holding multiple values in tension, and finding joy and Jesus in it all.

Released to Rest



InterVarsity has granted me a six-month paid sabbatical to rest physically & spiritually from the ongoing demands of ministry, giving space to discern God's invitation for the next season in ministry & life. I joined the ranks of paid staff in January 1998 with the hope of seeing one student generation graduate. God had other plans. The past two years honestly have been a struggle. No one wants to say ministry depends on money. I certainly don't. I have wrestled with calling & its connection to salary, self-worth, and job expectations. My heart goes back to the impact of the Gospel on college & university students, faculty & staff. So, it is with all of my questioning & passion, I'll attend monthly retreats and meetings with a spiritual director. Your continued financial & prayer support remains critical as it has been the only thing allowing me this gift of sabbatical. If you are able to give an additional gift or increase your support, it will go towards my participation in a two-year spiritual development cohort through the Transforming Center and then toward programs I will be developing & leading upon my return.

From the Homefront

We are just starting to test out the new normal as Bethany has moved into her dorm at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY, as a dance major! Corban is now a sophomore in high school and the 2nd tallest person in the family. Elias, 7th grade, is about to give up his shortest in the family status to me. In the back-to-school whirlwind we have come to know quite intimately the joy and loss of sending a child off to college. It has been particularly bittersweet as a 16-year campus ministry veteran to experience a campus welcome week as a parent and to be on both ends of the new student experience. Thank you for your continued prayers as the parent of a college student and a minister to college students!

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Thank you!

If you would like to give a special sabbatical gift, please use the enclosed envelope or give online at https://donate.intervarsity.org/donate/to/Kathy_Khang

Prayer Requests

- For discipline and rest as I set a new rhythm during sabbatical.
- For the right words as I speak at Sonburst 14 – Florida's regional student conference – on multiethnicity in mission. Oct. 3-5
- For an additional \$70,000 in new annual multiethnic mission training and leadership program funding.