

INSIDE CV

Figuring Out Life and Faith

CV Black Hills State
University

Parties with a Purpose
By: Shane Vietzke

"Are you happy?"
"No."

"If you don't mind me asking, would you identify as a Christian?"

"That's complicated."

This was one exchange that occurred during our Super Bowl party. We train our students to understand that 'making disciples who make disciples' is the goal, but there are a lot of other things that happen in the process. One of those things is hosting parties where students can mingle, have fun, and get to

know each other face to face. They also know that Ephesians 5 instructs us to '...make the most of every opportunity.' So, in the middle of something as non-spiritual as the Super Bowl party conversations about faith, family, and belief come up. For this particular math major, who had never come to a Bible study or CV meeting, it's a struggle to believe in something that is beyond comprehension and seemingly lacking evidence. But because we hosted a party, our staff and student leaders were able to hear her story and make a meaningful connection. Now, with God's help, our community can move the conversation forward with the next opportunity - over lunch, at a party, or maybe on the day she decides to visit a local church.



Conversation between
commercials.

CV Casper College

Sweet Reminders
By: Tyler Owens

This winter our newest staff member, Caden Bright, got married! It was an exciting time to celebrate with him and his new wife Nora, who both came through Campus Ventures at Casper College. During the celebration Caden's father spoke of meeting Nora. He recalled a time having dinner at the Owens' house, and this college student (Nora) randomly dropped in. He was surprised that someone would just walk in uninvited, but shrugged his shoulders and said if you know the Owens' that's the way they live! Anyone can come over. It was an encouraging story for SheraLee



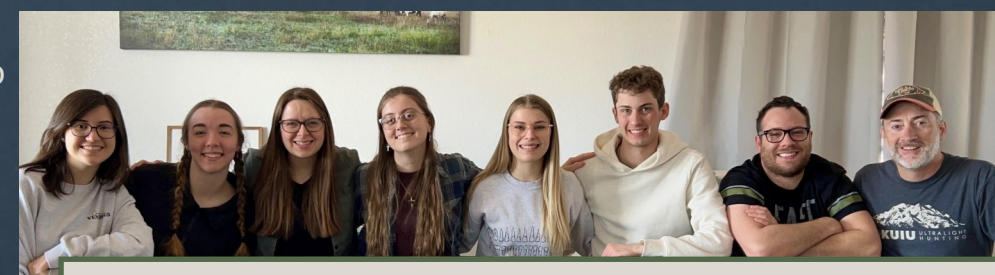
Celebration with Sherri!

and I to hear as we enjoyed watching those two start a new chapter of life together, and a great reminder of the vision Christ has given us as his ambassadors. Our home is His, and He gave it to us to use as His embassy! Sweet reminders like this help keep us motivated knowing Christ is working here. We saw Him working in another great way as we watched Sherri, a brand new sister in Christ, get baptized in January! Praise Jesus for he new life we see in her!

CVNEXT

Exciting Things Ahead
By: Brandy McCloud

For the past 3 years, we at CVNext have invited college seniors to come away for a weekend with us. We give them the opportunity to look back over their time in college, think forward to how they can leave college well, and talk through questions to help them go prepared into the world after college. This year is especially exciting for many reasons. First, we get to host not one but *two* Senior Debriefs as the number of students registered has exceeded our space! Second, one CV campus is implementing a senior exit program designed to help seniors transition into life after college. Why do we put so much effort into helping college students leave college? All so they might finish life well with Jesus! So, we give the invitation to come away, rest, pray, think, practice, and move forward with intention. What an honor it is to launch students who are well prepared to follow and love Jesus well, past college into the rest of their lives! *Pray alongside us for these students who are at such a pivotal part of their lives.*

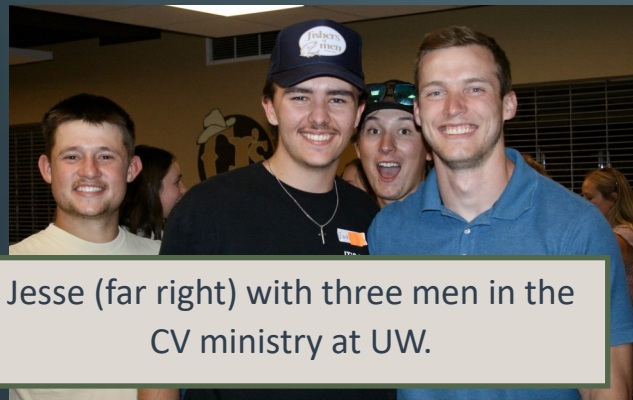


The staff of CVNext with students from our first Senior Debrief this year.



What's Truly Important By: Jesse Harvey

Recently, I have been personally struck by the constancy of God's character. This truth was a mental ascent in my life up to this point. The reality of God's unchanging ways was not a comfort realized by my heart until I began to step toward Him in more areas of my life to further align my heart with His. This is what I am seeing our students begin to do as well! As we seek to obey God in every area of our lives, He affirms His constancy of character and upholds us. God will always care deeply about the human soul and its destination... which means God will always care deeply about our obedience to Him



Jesse (far right) with three men in the CV ministry at UW.

in sharing the Gospel and training those around us to walk with Jesus. God has been teaching me that despite the inevitable shifting in my life, I can rest assured that He will not shift or change. As we train students in how to share the Gospel and disciple others, God has been showing me that I can continue to walk in step with Him, by pursuing the things I know He will always care about: evangelism and discipleship.

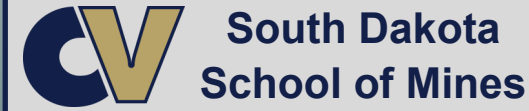


Praises By: Mary Carter

A South African proverb says; "If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together." What a joy it is to share that this semester we have had an international student choose to trust in Jesus and surrender her life to Him! We have also seen a group of young men meld into a Kingdom-team-force, stepping into outreach with classmates and becoming serious about their spiritual training. They are delving into deeper prayer lives, fellowship with one another, and showing commitment to a Discipleship group. Tuesday night you will find them with Hunter and Seth at Hunter's home. Please be in prayer for Hunter to find another housing situation near campus, as his lease is up soon. He is such a blessing to have laboring with us on staff! Monday nights the ladies have been meeting for Bible study, fellowship, prayer, and the occasional meal. We are also discussing a book ("Every Thought Captive") with the application of living a life where we take our thoughts captive. They are sharing more authentically as they've pondered what it means to be new creations in Christ and being an ambassador for Him! (2 Cor. 5) Several are even desiring to learn how to disciple others. Praises! These are our Future Leaders.



Students that spent Christmas Eve with the Carter family.



God is Doing the Work By: Hannah Katz



Andrew and Aiden

A few weeks ago I hosted a group at my house to debrief a recent conference we had attended. It was a great time of hearing what the students had been pondering and what things they are challenged by. It also drew my attention to the people in the room who are hungry and ready for more. One student, Andrew, even voiced that he is wanting to study the Bible more and wanting someone to do that with. I thought, how can I help him get connected? Who is available to disciple him? The very next morning one of our leadership students, Aiden, approached me and said Andrew came up to him, just as he had been praying about who he could disciple this semester. When Andrew shared about our group discussion the night before, Aiden seemed to notice the same things I did. Aiden asked me what I thought about him discipling Andrew. I told him I think that's exactly what God wanted him to do because I had been praying that same thing. I am so encouraged to see God putting the pieces together and I'm so grateful that God is the one doing the work, and we get to observe what He is doing in the lives of these students.



Free Coffee By: Jacob Haertel

A warm cup of coffee (or hot chocolate) on a cold Friday morning is a welcome sight. At Chadron State, Campus Ventures has been serving free coffee every other week for the past 3 years. Whether it is 90 degrees or 10 degrees, we set up our booth at 7:30 a.m. and offer a cup of joe to each student or employee who walks by. Some Fridays we bring a football and play monkey in the middle and some Fridays we break into spontaneous dance sessions. Each Free Coffee Friday is a shared experience that expands CV's outreach on the Chadron State campus. These Fridays serving coffee give our students and staff the opportunity to serve together in a fun environment, strengthening the CV community in Chadron. For many of our younger students, it is a good first step into participating in the ministry of CV. One Friday last December, I was sitting with a freshman and asked him for a highlight from his semester. He told me "Honestly, it's been Campus Ventures. It has been such a welcoming community to be a part of." We are extremely grateful for the ways God is moving here in Chadron!



Free Coffee Friday

- Prayer Requests
- Campus Director for our CV ministry at School of Mines in Rapid City
 - Our 4 new staff interns joining us at UW
 - OneLink team as they prepare and travel to Central Asia this summer to support the local missionaries.
 - Project Impact students as they raise funds and prepare for the summer discipleship training program where they share the gospel with their co-workers.
 - For the gospel to be boldly proclaimed and the vision of makers of disciple-makers being lived out on our campuses.