

An update from the McClure family

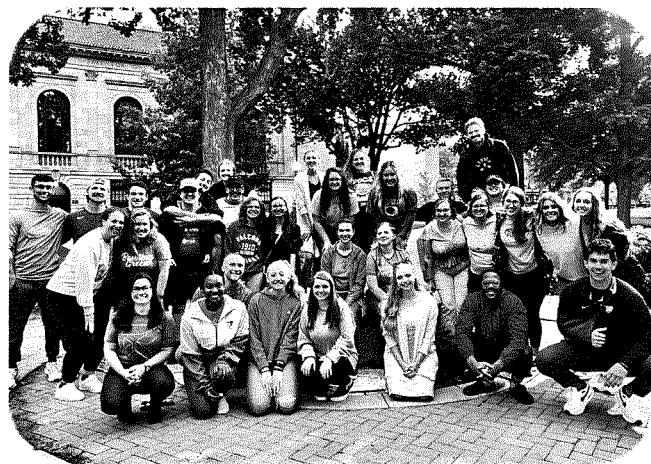
Partnering with God in His mission of making, maturing, and multiplying disciples at Bowling Green State University.

It's the start of a new school year here at BGSU and the whole town seems to have kicked into a new gear with the arrival or return of thousands of college students. Tiffany and I absolutely love the slower, quieter summers in a college town, but at the same time we are always eager to get back into the hustle of our city and campus. With classes now just a couple weeks underway, the craziest season of outreach is behind us and we are settling into a rhythm of family and work that will anchor us through the end of the year. We're excited to update you on the tail end of our summer and our outreach on campus so far this fall!

New student outreach in pictures



Our older three kids really wanted to help out this year- something that really blessed Tiffany and me. It may have something to do with the free snow cones we give away. Regardless, it was a joy to see them get in the action. Phoebe and Naomi helped hand out free water bottles (with info about our church on the label) to students and parents during move-in. Phoebe even met some BGSU cheerleaders and dance team members and invited them to our first worship service- and some of them came!



We gathered some of our student leaders together for an overnight retreat to prepare for a new year of ministry. I had the joy of planning and leading the event. Everyone in this picture helps to lead one of our small groups that meet at BGSU or in various places just off campus. In total we had over 250 people attend a small group the first week they launched. We are so excited for how God is going to use these groups to draw people to Himself this school year!



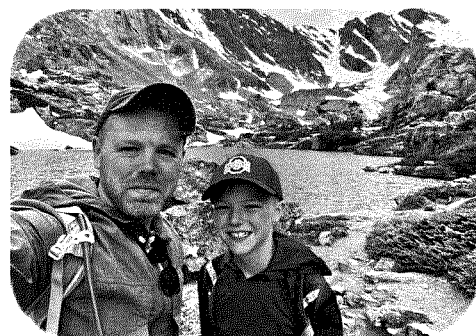
We hosted an outdoor worship night in the center of campus the evening of the second day of classes at BGSU. Students heard a message on following Jesus in college and we spent most of our time worshipping in song. There is something so powerful about being right out in the open declaring our commitment to Christ! It speaks to why we exist as a church- to declare and embody Jesus in this place. Praise God almost 200 students came out to worship that evening!



Every day for about a week we set up a tent in one of the busiest walkways on campus and gave away free snow cones. This has become such a fruitful way to make connections with tons of students and tell them about our church. Those who are interested fill out connection cards and our small group leaders start following up with them right away to get them plugged into one of our Bible studies. Mason and Phoebe also helped serve snow cones (and consumed way too many themselves while doing so).

Equipping leaders in Colorado

Estes Park, Colorado is such a special place for our family. We've been blessed to spend a month or two out there on a handful of occasions to help run the Collegiate Network Leadership Training program. This year I was asked to be a guest speaker for a week- teaching main sessions and leading equipping seminars with the staff team out there. I asked Mason to tag along with me and we tacked on some extra days to hike and explore the area. One of my heart's greatest desires is to disciple my own kids with passion and intentionality, so we made this "guys only" trip a launching pad into Mason's journey into becoming a man. The mountains and the physical challenges were an awesome backdrop to the kind of deep conversations I've been looking forward to having with him since he was born!



Thank you for standing with us in this mission, Matthew & Tiffany & kids