

Burkey Beacon

Helping Reach Campuses in the USA

June 6, 2024



Dear Friend,

Amy and I are so blessed by your partnership with us. Thank you for investing in our lives and our kids.

Our son, **Seth**, returned from **Slovakia** after a month of sharing the gospel with students on campus and on trains.



Slovak students were in exam season, and they only take 1 or 2 exams a week over a 5 week period. They take the time between exams to go home and study. So the team tried the innovative idea to ride the trains in and out of the capital city, four days a week. They rode trains from one to four hours outside the capital city, and started spiritual conversations with students on the train. Seth said it worked well as students were curious why these Americans were going to their home town, and wanted to tell them everything about it. This started relationships easily and then they were often able to transition to talking about faith in Jesus. Slovakia is predominantly Catholic as you can see by the cathedrals, but they hold it more as a national identity than a personal belief. Seth's team of 25 started up over 227 conversations and were able to have significant spiritual conversations with 105 students. They were able to connect many of those to the long term team in Slovakia. Seth loved being back in Eastern Europe, seeing all the places they traveled and eating foods he grew up loving. Seth said the team was the best part, and that they all got along very well together. I think he grew in his ability to share his testimony and talk about how the gospel relates to his life and others' lives. We can pray for lasting fruit in Slovakia and in Seth.

Praise the Lord! **Nathan** is already fully funded for his upcoming summer mission to Zimbabwe and Tanzania. He's getting training online with his team weekly and they will be there all of July.

Penn State: Last time you prayed for an outreach where Matthew Tingblad spoke about "Why Christianity Makes Sense." We did significant publicity but only about 6 new students came (non-believers), other than our regular students. So I was disappointed at the turnout. But God really showed up during the question and answer time. These students were bold to ask sincere and tough questions to Matt, and he did a great job with real answers. When he closed the official part of the meeting nobody left for another 90 minutes. The Penn State Cru students engaged with the new students in a compassionate way and we all just listened to them and shared our faith responses with them. I saw students exchanging phone numbers afterwards and committing to continuing the dialog. So thank you for praying. The Lord was working.

One student from Penn State, named **Ben**, could use your prayers as he is on mission to **Toulouse, France** all this month, sharing his faith with students there.

