

Our last two months have been quite challenging and we're a little slow in getting a ministry update out. Dirke & his mom's picture at right was taken the end of March following her major surgery in February. Her recovery demanded a lot of attention. A week after taking her back to her assisted living residence in the Twin Cities she succumbed to a stroke and is now recovering in a transitional rehab center. Her recovery is not going as well as we would like, so we solicit your prayers for some hard decisions that need to be made in the coming weeks. She will be 90 in December.

Meanwhile, life and ministry marches on. Dirke taught a Spiritual Formation class in Feb. and March. Several of the students were youth pastors and leaders in their churches.



### God Opportunities with an Islamic teacher and an Agnostic

Dirke also created a new class for Palm Beach Atlantic (PBA) Christian University called *"Growing in Cultural Intelligence and Effective Cross-Cultural Ministry Skills"*. Not only are PBA students attending, but so is a number of Cru missionary staff. One of the exciting results of the class is Dirke's developing relationship with an Islamic teacher, Khalil. Dirke even attended a Mosque worship time while Khalil preached. *Pray God develops a positive relationship and natural doors are opened so spiritual discussions about Jesus can take place.*

On a separate occasion Dirke got into a conversation with a successful engineering architect who is an Agnostic who lives in our neighborhood. He felt he had all the answers to those Christians and their crazy beliefs. But after addressing some of his biggest objections he began to warm up and said, "We need to meet again, I can tell you know what you are talking about." *Pray God engineers another meeting and the truth of the Gospel can be shared to an accepting heart.*

Lorna's been busy too. She just finished coaching the Track team this spring and providing tutoring and mentoring occasions to the athletes. Two athletes went to the FL state meet and one got 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Triple Jump. Below are a couple pictures at the track banquet. Lorna's on the far right of the 1<sup>st</sup> picture and the picture on right shows some of the athletes Lorna has been working with.



### Prayers, Praises & Summer Plans

- Pray God provides strength to Dirke's mother's right side in recovery from the stroke so she will be able to use a walker, eat and use the bathroom on her own.
- Pray God gives Dirke and his brothers' wisdom as to the best means to care for their mother.
- Pray we find a buyer for our home in Minneapolis in the next month and that all the preparations are completed in the next couple weeks.
- We praise God for Briana's new salon business in NYC getting off the ground the beginning of 2018 and we ask for wisdom and insight as she is learning to run a business.
- We praise God for the opportunity that Lorna will have to be with all three of our girls in the Twin Cities June 9-12. They will celebrate Alyssa's birthday and all six of the grandchildren will be there. Dirke is missing out on this girls time. I guess this is what you get for being a minority in a sorority. ☺
- Pray for Lorna as she speaks at Park Ave. Church (3400 Park Ave. S., Mpls), Sunday morning June 10th at their early service.
- Pray for Dirke and the students in his class on *Growing in Cultural Intelligence*.
- May 23-24<sup>th</sup> Dirke will co-lead team development sessions with the Cru Inner-City Exec. Team. Pray God's Spirit guides the time.
- Pray for Dirke as he prepares to co-teach the Bible Class for 170+ new Cru missionary staff (June 20-July 3<sup>rd</sup>)
- **Our VERY tentative travel plans: Twin Cities/Duluth MN: July 5 – 29th. Chicago area July 30-31<sup>st</sup>. Detroit Aug. 1 – 10<sup>th</sup>**

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