

Unless the Lord builds a house, the work of the builder is use less. Unless the Lord protects a city, guarding it with sentries will do no good. It is useless for you to work so hard from early in the morning until late at night, anxiously working for food to eat; for God gives rest to His loved ones. Psalm 127:1-2 (NLT)

## **Trinkets:** *That Trunk in the Corner of the Attic*

A little over two years ago, my truck broke down on the way to my grandfather's funeral on Easter weekend. Although the situation was not a pleasant one, when it was all over, my mother told me, "The reason why things like this happen to you is because you can deal with them."

This month, two days before I was to leave for Maryland, my truck started developing some problems. Rather than chance it, I took it in the next morning. I gave the repair men strict instructions that I was to leave town the next day (Friday) for a new job in another state. Due to the nature of the work, I knew this was going to be difficult for them. However, I signed the paper work and was ready to leave by 5pm the next day.

But it didn't happen. At the last minute, the repair man said that he had found a bigger cause for the problems. As a result, I was stuck in Auburn for the weekend. Because of my troubles, a group of friends decided that it would be a good idea for me to have a cellular phone when I got on the road. So, they went together and bought me a cell phone and paid for the first month of service.

## **Heartwork:** *Pastoral Internship Responsibilities*

*NorthStar* is a Southern Baptist church plant formed as a vision only 6 months ago. In January, Pastor Kevin met with a core group of about 40 people to shape the vision of the new church. Although the original vision was to launch in the fall, the work progressed so quickly, that only eight weeks later, on Easter Sunday, the church launched. Currently meeting in the cafeteria of Windsor Knolls Middle School, the first Sunday had about 150 in attendance, and the numbers have not fallen below 100 since. New visitors come each week.

As interns, Judson, Amy, Eric, and myself will spend

Then Monday came and went, Tuesday, Wednesday, and yes, even Thursday. Thursday evening I showed up at a Bible study. One of my friends had given his whole week to running me around town, for which I am extremely grateful. Another friend at the study told me that if my truck wasn't finished the next day, I was to take his truck.

Friday came and went. So, I left for Maryland Friday night with my friend's truck. It took another full week before my truck was released from the shop, so my gratefulness is ever-increasing.

I kept a journal of all the blessings that came from my extra week in Auburn, but they are far too numerous to list here. I will say that I truly found out how deep some of my friendships have become. The extra week also gave me a week to relax and focus, so that by the time I arrived in Maryland, I was energized and ready to work, which, as you read in my last newsletter, was a greatly needed vacation.

So, here I am in Maryland working with Kevin Marsico, a pastor of a brand new church outside of Frederick, Maryland.



two months with *NorthStar* helping them develop various ministries within the church. I am teaching the *Find Your Place* curriculum on Wednesday nights to a group of new people, hoping to get them involved in ministries as time goes on. Judson and Eric are sharing the responsibility of teaching a small group of the original core.

I will also be working with a young lady, Dena, who is part of the core group, to develop a singles ministry. We have already begun to shape out some

plans and visions, and will be launching the vision in July, with an "Orphan's Picnic" on July 4<sup>th</sup>, for those who don't have family activities planned. The following week, we will be starting a singles Bible study as a base for creating a cohesive ministry.

As a group, the interns have developed a community needs survey and will be going door-to-door to let people know that the church exists and is interested in meeting the needs that are present in the community. As the summer progresses, we will be training church members on how to conduct the survey and be sensitive to the person you are talking to as to whether or not to begin a spiritual conversation with them.

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, a group from Lakeview will be arriving in Frederick to work with *NorthStar*. As Lakeview interns serving at *NorthStar*, we are pretty much in charge of organizing the weekend. On Friday afternoon, we will be going door-to-door throughout the community in order to invite people to a "family festival" to be held nearby. On Saturday, *NorthStar*, the group from Lakeview, and us interns will be running the festival and using it as an opportunity to get to know some people in the community, and to let the community know that we care.

In addition to all the work we will be doing with Pastor Kevin directly at *NorthStar*, Kevin also has a vision to plant more churches in the Frederick area in the coming years. As interns, we will be helping Kevin begin the preliminary studies for locating the plants and deciding what particular group of people each church plant will target.

For those of you who are online and are interested in watching the exciting progress as this new church grows and matures, *NorthStar's* website is <http://northstarcommunitychurch.com>. The current website is very basic and out of date, so I will also be working to develop a new web site that will contain the new ministries and future events of the church.

Already 2 church members are going on short-term mission projects, and one young lady will be spending an entire year with *Youth With A Mission*.

Please keep *NorthStar* in your prayers as we seek to be "a guiding light in the darkness" throughout the Frederick area and around the world.

## **Ephesians 1:16: Thanksgiving and Prayer**

### **Thank you:**

LBC-help with my truck. YPS-the cell phone and so much more! TW-"Mr. Chauffeur." DB-trading vehicles. JT-being my "Lakeview contact." D&W-special gifts and encouragement. J&NH-hospitality for the summer. I'm sure I missed someone.

### **Prayers:**

TW-job. BB-ministry. BJK-health. JDK-salvation. *NorthStar*, Pastor Kevin, and other leadership.

Continued prayer for my truck situation. Continued diligence and discipline. Adjustment to a different type of church and wisdom to learn.

## **Et Moi: Personal Comments**

The area around Frederick is curious to me. We are about 50 miles from either Baltimore or Washington, DC. Yet, a large number of people make the long commute to work every day. Just a few years ago, most of this was farmland. Now, developers come in, pay big bucks for the farms, and build a mass of rather mediocre quality houses (to be generous) and sell them for \$200,000 or more.

I've been a southerner for 7 years now, 12 if you consider Florida the south. I am now only about 40 miles from the Mason-Dixon line. The people are much different. Neighbors don't always know each other (which is something I've been ridiculed for in Auburn). Religion is about church, and not much else. Even a simple survey may result in a harsh comment. Being in ministry is much different here.

The rolling hills, pockets of older towns, and vast amounts of history nearby remind me of the part of Pennsylvania where I once lived. Despite the difficulties of the culture, I have to wonder if one day God may have me go back.

Being in Maryland, I can't use the church's meter to send out newsletters, so I have to pay to send them out myself. As a result, I am combining the June and July issues. If you would like abbreviated email updates, please let me know!

Leaning on your prayers,

  
Andrew P. Kulp