

## Senior Memories

I first met Caryn four years ago. She had the distinction of having the most memorable email address on our sign-up list: "rockonwithcaryn@...." She and I met regularly for much of that year, studying and wrestling with difficult passages in Scripture. I have been privileged to walk alongside Caryn as she has grown in her love for Jesus, engaged difficult social issues, developed amazing Bible-study-leading skills, and become more the person God has created her to be! Caryn is graduating this June, along with several other seniors. It is bitter-sweet for me to watch seniors leave the fellowship — I'll miss them so much! But I rejoice that they are following God and stepping into a new season of life.



This cozy little cabin — Cedar Nook — is where Jon and I often stay when we're at Cedar Campus.

## Serving New Staff

I am really excited to be part of a revision team for our regional New Staff Training program. All new staff go through this program during the first two years of their staff career, where they learn skills needed for the ministry and job management. I am the youngest person on this revision team, which is a bit

intimidating at times, but my colleagues have made me feel very valued. I'm excited to bring another part of my undergraduate degree (music education) into my ministry. I have been reading some fascinating books about education and learning (see below).

## Shelf Life

### Book Notes from Ann

*What the Best College Teachers Do* by Ken Bain.

What makes really effective college teachers different? Bain sought out almost 70 professors who have a sustained, positive influence on the lives of their students — teachers who care not only about imparting information, but also about changing the way students think about the subject matter. This book describes

some of the similarities these fine teachers have: quite a list! I especially liked learning about the responsibility that these teachers took: when students don't understand a concept, they don't just give up — they assume that they haven't described it well, and they look for another way to communicate. I find in my ministry that I

must discipline myself to look within very often — if the students aren't having quiet times with God, perhaps I just haven't found a compelling way to describe them (or perhaps I need to have quiet times more regularly!). A very useful book for my own ministry as well as for developing the curriculum for our New Staff Training Program.

## Boyd's Eye View

Jon and I seemed to be on opposite travel schedules for about six weeks. At the end of March, when Jon had a trip to Texas scheduled, I decided to have some fun myself — I drove up to Ypsilanti, Michigan, to visit with my excellent friends (and DePaul IVCF alums) Darel & Keri Middaugh and their five-month-old daughter, Abigail. We had such a great time! I had knit her a hat that looks like a raspberry and, since Abi is just about the cutest baby ever, she was the perfect model for it — we got all kinds of compliments everywhere we went!

Another highlight of spring was hosting our first-ever Easter dinner. I decided I wanted to make chocolate truffles, but went a bit overboard making them with my friend Jane Deitrich — we ended up with over 200 of them. Luckily, Jane took some home. :) The coconut truffles were the best — and you'll find the recipe at [www.annagram.org](http://www.annagram.org)!

## Prayer Requests

Please pray:

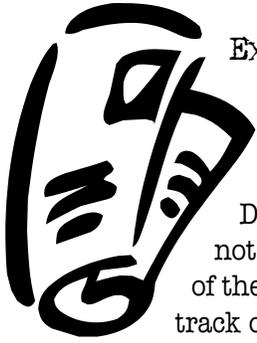
- ☛ for our leadership team process at Cedar Campus
- ☛ for the revision process of our New Staff Training program
- ☛ for the students attending Cedar Campus: Allie, Diana, Eric, Kirra, Maggie, Mark M, and Nicole
- ☛ for our graduating seniors: Caryn, Kate, Christine, and Linda

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Extra! Extra!

## Breakthrough Opportunity at Cedar Campus

For the past seven years, the DePaul leadership team has not been able to take advantage of the week-long Leadership Team track offered at Cedar Campus.

Conflicting summer schedules made this dream an impossibility, and I've been just about ready to give up. Recently, we were having a discussion about our leadership team structure. While talking about conflict on the team, one leader said, "We really just need to lock the whole team in a room for a while to work out our conflicts and make plans for next year." Many other leaders piped up in agreement. I brought up the Leadership Team track idea — and to my utter surprise, they all decided that this was a great idea and committed to go in June!

I'm very excited about this. We'll have six student leaders at Cedar Campus the week of June 12-19. We will be spending about seven hours each day together. I'll lead them in a Bible study each day (I'm leaning towards having us tackle the first few chapters of Joshua), where I hope we will hear from God about leadership and strategy for our chapter. We'll spend time evaluating our chapter, making concrete plans for our next school year, and praying. We will also take part in some group team-building exercises, and maybe we'll have some fun together, too!

I feel that this week will be extremely crucial to the future of the DePaul chapter. I have definitely seen our group grow in quality and maturity during the seven years I have been on staff at DePaul. Students have a hunger to study Scripture and the skills to do so. The group is becoming more of a community and less a collection of individuals. I see students nurturing one another, praying together, and wrestling with the lordship of Christ in their

lives. However, I still see many gaps: the size of our group hasn't grown significantly in the past few years, student leadership needs to be more central to the chapter, and younger Christians need better ways to be disciplined.

I believe we are at a turning point in our chapter right now. Over the past several years, I have felt a bit like the "mom" of the group — taking initiative and leadership when students haven't been able to lead well. At this point, however, I think the group is in an "adolescent" stage — which means that I need to release some of the areas I have taken control of and encourage students to take leadership. I want to be a partner in this group, and less of a "mom." I think the students are up to the task, and I think this change (beginning with this week at Cedar Campus) will help this group to grow and flourish.

I have a lot of hopes and plans for this week at Cedar Campus, but my biggest hope is to follow God in these plans and hear from him about how to structure this week. I value your prayers during this period, as I finish up reading some books about leadership, planning out our leadership week together, and seek God's direction for this new team of leaders. May God's purposes for DePaul be accomplished as we seek him at Cedar Campus!

For Christ & the University —

*Ann*

P.S. As always, there's more online at [www.annagram.org](http://www.annagram.org). This issue's Web Extra: "How not to prepare a Bible study." Plus: New recipe feature!

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