



ENCOURAGING AND CHALLENGING COACHES FAMILIES – Sept. 2009

An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. ~Proverbs 31:10-12

Welcome to Behind the Bench

We are excited about this opportunity to unify the coaches wives of northwest Georgia and to be an encouragement to each other before, during and after our husbands seasons.

Prayer Reminder

~ The fall sports are in full swing and the winter sports are creeping up on us rather quickly. Please keep all of the coaches and their families in your daily prayers.

~Pray for the FCA's continued success!

Events

We are in the planning stages for this years events. If you would like to be notified of the upcoming events please email Ashley winegarden15@charter.net

Events from 2008 – 2009

Ladies Lunch at Chelsea's on Thornton

Our guest speaker was Janie Jones.

Movie Night

Tickets were passed out for the movie Fireproof

Dinner with Chris and Les Steckel

Dinner and childcare were provided so that coaches and their wives could be encouraged and inspired by the FCA president and his wife.

AOSM & FCA Coaches Golf and Family Gathering

The guys play golf while the wives and kids swim and play!

FCA Annual Golf Tournament and Ladies Silent Auction & Luncheon

All of the proceeds go to our local FCA office. Each ticket purchased a Bible to be given to area students.

FCA Camps

We had six families from our area who went to the camp at St. Simons

Small Group Bible Study

This was a weekly meeting at Starbucks. We studied the book "The Frazzled Female" by Cindi Wood

We Are on the Web

<http://www.ngafca.org/WOMENSMINISTRY/NorthGeorgiaBehindtheBench.lsp>

Please check the site for upcoming events, helpful links, inspiring articles and pictures from events. Also, we post a link to our newsletter. If you would be willing to receive the newsletter online please send your email address to Ashley or Lisa and you will be emailed when the new newsletter is posted.

The Calling of a Coach's Wife

There is no question in my mind that the call on my life to be a coach's wife was an intentional act of God to shape me into the image of His son. This call on my life has been the number one tool of character carving in a heart that struggles daily to exalt self.

God knew that the demands of my husband's profession would be too great for me, that the call to serve Him and others would far exceed my desires. That is why He called me to be a coach's wife...because He knew I could never do it in my own strength and that through my failures and personal need, I would find Him in the process.

From *Gym Rats* by, Hope Radebaugh

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" Romans 8:28

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Amy Land, Erin Middleton
Angela Campbell, Lisa Dickey
Krista Lowe, Ashley Winegarden,



Adam Winegarden, Jamey Middleton, Kirk Campbell,
Josh Lowe, Jake Dickey, Matt Land

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FCA CAMP 2009 – A Testimony

Some twenty years ago Matt (my husband) introduced me to FCA while we were at Auburn. He was involved with the huddle there and invited me to join him. He and another friend of his that he played football with lead the praise and worship. I really got to see what FCA was about and fell in love with it.



Shortly after graduating from Auburn, Matt was asked by his high school coach (Bill Chappell) to come on staff at Dalton. Because of what FCA had meant to him as a player in high school and college, he decided to be involved now as a coach. Once we were married I became involved as a coaches wife.

Fifteen years later we are both still involved with FCA, because of our desire to see kids come to know Christ at an early age. Matt and I have both been involved in many capacities, as a student and now as a coach and a coaches wife, as a board member of both FCA board and female ministry board. Matt has served as chairman of the board for several years now. We both have helped with fundraising for both ministries. And I have chaired the committee for the Ladies luncheon for 3 years. We went to the couples retreat at Calloway Gardens 4 years ago and have seen many kids and coaches go to camps.

BUT.....I said all that to say we have NEVER gone to coaches (family) camp ourselves. We have talked for years about going, but talked ourselves out of it for some reason. We didn't want to give up our regular vacation trip to go to camp. And we could not do both. This year was no different. We wanted to go, but just wouldn't commit. Matt decided to send our deposit hoping that would make us go. We were supposed to go to Black Mountain and it started the week of one of our large fundraisers for FCA, so we backed out. Matt called to get our deposit back and they asked us about going the following week to St. Simons. They just happen to have an opening and we decided that was where God wanted us to be.

Satan started putting obstacles in the way from the day we sent our deposit till the day we arrived and I had to drop off all 4 of my kids at their designated spots. (Ages 10, 8, 4 and 15 months) I was very uncomfortable leaving them with people I did not know. I felt guilty doing so and going to something for myself. The staff was amazing. They did all they could do to make the children happy and make moms and dads comfortable. It was their desire for your kids to be in the best care so that you and your husband could truly enjoy yourselves. I quickly became happy with their care and was able to enjoy myself.

The week was awesome. Great praise and worship, fantastic speakers, and the personal testimonies were so inspiring. And being with other coaches and wives offered so much encouragement to me. The huddle time was such a great time of sharing our needs, concerns, hurts, and our joys of being a coaches wife. Just being in fellowship with other families that lived similar lives to ours was so enjoyable. There were so many more wonderful things about the week, but I can't share them all.

Our week that we spent at camp was so great for our family. We were together, but away from home in a wonderful atmosphere of growing in Jesus and sharing Jesus with our peers. Our kids were having an awesome time as they learned about their own personal relationship with Jesus. We had plenty of free time to spend with our kids (go to the beach, take a nap, etc.). The week was really a perfect mix of friends, fellowship, free time and faith.

I want you to know what a struggle it has been for Matt and I to get to camp. Only to find ourselves, on the day we left, saying..... "see ya'll next year" to so many new friends. And our kids were asking us if we could come back next year instead of just going to the beach.

Our experience at camp was amazing! Like so many other things, God just needed us to be open to what He wanted us to do and let Him bless us. It was truly a week filled with blessings. I pray that you too will let God bless you and your family with a week at coaches camp.

In Christ,
Amy Land