THE TRAVELING TEAM

Year In Review





Since 1999

50 STATES SATURATED

4,921 CAMPUS MEETINGS



The Right Fuel

There's nothing quite like a road trip. It's a beautiful way to experience new things, see amazing sights, and get to know people. There's also nothing quite like when you're deep into one of those expeditions, the gas light flashes on, and you realize you and your convoy are in the middle of nowhere. Far too many times, I have coasted into gas stations running on only fumes and prayer. Fuel is crucial. We don't always think about it, and we can often take it for granted. However, we would not be able to get anywhere without it. Fueling a minivan is significant, but how much more important is it that we fuel our hearts? What fuels us as Christians?

I've traveled around this country for three years, speaking to college students about God's global mission. At the beginning of my journey, I would search Scripture, looking for verses that highlight God's heart for the world and motivate students in a new way. However, after three years, I always come back to one verse. "For God so loved the world..." (John 3:16). I've realized that there's no greater motivation in missions than God's love. That is our fuel. We can love the world because of God's love for us. The Traveling Team has made it this far by being fueled by the love of God poured out through his people. Each time you pray for us, donate to our work, or show support in any way, you are displaying God's love and fueling good gospel work around the world. Your love has allowed us to express God's passion to countless students across all 50 states. Thank you for displaying God's love by supporting us. On behalf of The Traveling Team, we love you.

— Gunnar, Traveler

EDM Conference

Evangelism, Discipleship, Mobilization

In May, many of our staff attended a collegiate minister conference called EDM'23. EDM stands for evangelism, disciple-making, and mission mobilization—all goals of any healthy college student ministry. This conference was historic! Often times, ministries naturally silo themselves from others, but this conference was all about gathering 750+ campus ministers from 90 organizations to focus on EDM. The Traveling Team had the honor of attending and teaching at the conference! Our staff led several sessions on mobilization. Attending EDM was personally challenging for our staff, and it was enormously fruitful as an organization. We reconnected with ministries that have hosted The Traveling Team in the past and made countless connections with new ministries we hope to host us in the future.

At this conference, we were reminded of the importance of mobilization and the strategic nature of college students. The Traveling Team wouldn't exist without campus ministries inviting us to their weekly gatherings. We are so thankful to labor alongside campus staff in raising up the next generation of

goers and senders.

Mobilizing the next generation of goers & senders

Since 2014 34,180 STUDENTS HAVE MADE PERSONAL COMMITMENTS TO



time to hear tremendous fruit from campuses who have had The Traveling Team as well as gain momentum in scheduling dozens of new meetings in the Fall!

 Todd Ahrend, founder of The Traveling Team

Hey!! This is Molly with The Traveling Team again. I would still love to follow up with you for just 10-15 minutes if you're available. What day works best for you?

Hi! I'm sorry for not responding earlier. I think it was because i am afraid that if I do have a call with you my life will like go upside down and I will be pulled to missions work long term which is kinda scary for me because I've felt called to missions for a while so it wouldn't be that much of a shocker, just not in my life plans. I feel like God has been pushing me towards you though so are you free this week to chat?

Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes

Within days of a campus ministry meeting, our staff have phone conversations with every interested student. In these calls we help answer questions and we direct students in taking a next step in the Great Commission. From our phone calls we "pair" students with our mission agency partners.

By the time we have "paired" a student with a mission agency the student has already said **YES** 6 times. They said **YES** to attending an optional breakout session, **YES** to giving The Traveling Team their contact information, **YES** to responding to a text message, **YES** to setting up a phone call. They said **YES** to talking to one of our staff for 20 minutes on the phone, and finally, **YES** to being matched with an agency.

Our staff put a lot of care and attention into these student conversations, this is a major part of our job that extends past the meeting. Follow up is where we see fruit.

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Since 2013 14,061 STUDENTS HAVE BEEN PAIRED

Bro! How was this summer? **

Mason!!! This summer was indescribable! Definitely changed the course of the next few years for me. Pretty sure ill be working/living over there through the IMB after I graduate!

I had an interview with the IMB and when I told them that after y'all came and talked to us, she said that at least a dozen other people have gone on overseas missions because of the team. How incredible!



Long Term Fruit

David, a student from Michigan, heard The Traveling Team 3 years ago. This Spring he reached out to Will, the staff member that followed up with him. He had some great news! David is gearing up to go overseas with Frontiers (one of our current mission agency partners) long-term! Last summer he did an internship with MTW (another one of our agency partners) and it convinced him that Jesus was worthy of the worship of all people, and worthy of personal sacrifice to engage in that mission. In the meantime, David is mobilizing others. He purchased The Missions Course from The Go

Fund (another one of our agency partners), and is recruiting college students, young adults, and others at his church to take the class with him in the Fall. David credits The Traveling Team with a lot of what God has done in and through him over the past 3 years. He told Will that he is counting down the days until the team comes through next Fall. Praise God for the work he has done in David's life! We do not often see the fruit of our labors, but the Lord allows our staff to invest in eternity one student and one conversation at a time

Your Generosity and Newton's 3rd Law of Motion

In 1686, Sir Isaac Newton created 3 Laws of Motion. These laws were created to describe the relationship between the motion of the object and the forces acting upon it. Newton's 3rd law of motion states that, "every action has an equal and opposite reaction". While this law is mainly applied to physics and the scientific world, we can see its basic principles at work through your giving. The object is the gospel, the motion is toward the nations, the force acting upon it is your generosity, and the reaction is salvation of people from every tribe, language, people, and nation. The action of giving toward Kingdom work has an eternal and far greater reaction than we could ever imagine.

It all starts with the gospel. Paul says the gospel is the goods news of Christ dying for the sins of humanity and rising from the dead, according to the Scriptures (1 Cor 15:1–4). In the metaphor, if the gospel is the object, what are we to do with it? It is this news that is meant to go forward! The gospel comes to us, but it is not meant to end with us. The gospel is good news that we are to share with all creation. To reach all creation, it must be in constant motion. God is actively propelling the gospel toward the lost and unreached world without access to this good news. Praise God that the gospel

is moving as you read this, but it has not quite reached its final destination. God designed the gospel to move by His people participating in His global mission until he returns. It is through God's people obediently saying 'yes' to stepping into their role by going and sending. You have said 'yes' through stewarding your finances toward The Traveling Team.

Your giving is an active force that is moving the gospel toward the nations. When you choose to give, you are partnering with us to mobilize students by challenging, equipping, and connecting them to take the gospel to the world. Your generosity activates a ripple effect that reaches to the ends of the earth and has eternal significance. We will most likely never see the extent to which God uses your generosity, but there is one thing I am certain we will see. When we are worshipping before the throne, we will look to our left and to our right and see people worshipping from every tribe, tongue, and nation. This is the vision you are investing in! Your action of giving toward gospel work has an eternal and far greater reaction than you could ever imagine. Thank you for your generosity. We could not do this ministry without you. — *Molly, Traveler*

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