

# The Lawrence Log

December 2016

Here we are almost at the end of 2016! It has been a challenging year for us. Here is the condensed version of our lives this past year.

The year started out well, but things changed in March, when my (Colleen's) father died unexpectedly! Kaleigh and I flew up to visit my parents during spring break. The second day we were there, Dad died from complications with COPD and osteoporosis. We were heartbroken but so thankful we were able to see him and be there for my mom during that difficult time. My mom is doing quite well, but missing my dad so much. I feel bad that I am so far away as we all transition to living life



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again play football for the Okanagan Sun, a team in the Canadian Junior Football League. He suffered a few shoulder injuries, so he didn't have as much play time as he had hoped for. Kent has been working as an ironworker, placing rebar for the last two years in Kelowna, while playing football. This past year he has been driving truck, and two different trucking companies offered him management positions. He will work this winter in Dinuba and plans to return to Canada in the Spring. In order to keep his permanent resident status, he has to spend time in the U.S each year. Please pray for him as he juggles all the above!

Kim has decided to take a Discipleship Training School with Youth with a Mission in Brisbane, Australia. The five month school includes a three month lecture phase, and a two month



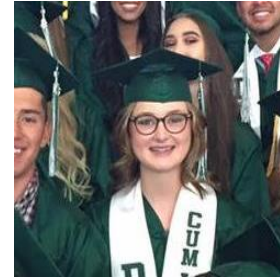
cross-cultural outreach, usually in another country. We are so happy for her as she pursues this new direction in her life.



Kaleigh graduated in May with honours! She worked as a swim coach over the summer, and in August, left to attend Vanguard University in Costa Mesa, Ca. She is studying Sociology, with a minor in Women's Studies. She is very interested in social justice issues, and is out to change the world! Kaleigh was also a member of the summer staff team here at Gleanings. She loved her experience! Kaleigh also sings in her school's women's chorus. She is

planning to go to Greece in June, on a study abroad/mission's trip, where she will be focusing on anti-human trafficking. Check out her facebook page for more info:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/15KrrR51kFojdq1riSgW2RYZTms10gtDvuFOXaE0zmt0/pub>



We certainly miss the two of them! It's been a bit of a transition, but we are surviving. We chat lots with them, almost daily. I never thought I would say this, but I am thankful for social media!

Rod continues to be very involved with Gleanings' backpacking ministry. He considers it a privilege to meet and work alongside these young people from all over the world! He is so good at being their 'Canadian dad'! We keep in touch with so many of them after they leave here. I'm sure by now, we have hosted over 100 backpackers! Many leave Gleanings with a new, positive perspective on God and Christianity.

I (Colleen) continue to be a part of the Gleanings' Board and our local leadership team. I also manage the kitchen, where I get to interact with many of our weekly volunteers and backpackers. It's been a hard year for me on many levels, but I think I am rallying and I am looking forward to new adventures in the new year! We are hoping to make a trip to Guatemala in the near future to visit previous staff members, Eric and Lisa Rivera, who feed 22,000 children a day!

In September, many of the Gleanings staff flew to Kansas City, Missouri to attend a YWAM conference. We had a great time! A few of us visited Convoy of Hope in Springfield, Missouri, a ministry we partner with, for a tour and an opportunity to see their operation. Check them out online, they do an amazing work around the world!

<https://www.convoyofhope.org/about/contact-us/>

Gleanings continues to thrive, with God impacting people here on campus, as well as out in our hurting world. We love being a part of what God is doing! [gleanings.org](http://gleanings.org)

If you would like to invest in our work to help feed the hungry both spiritually and physically, you can made out a check to Gleanings for the Hungry with a note indicating it is for the Lawrence Family. Your gift would be tax deductible! We appreciate and thank you for your prayers and monetary support! It is a joint effort; we couldn't do it without you!!

Love, The Lawrence Family

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