

1. Wins over the last month

- My sabbatical was extremely refreshing. It was good to get away from my regular schedule and routines. The week travel helped Julie and I remember that our identity as people encompasses a relationship beyond merely being parents and providers (even though that's a huge responsibility right now). I was able to read a lot more, think deeply about vision and the future, appreciate the competency of my leaders. There were a number of things that I got to do that had fallen by the wayside over the years that were refreshing as well (biking in Pittsburgh was not something that I even thought about doing until my sabbatical began). Teaching William how to ride a bike was special as well.

As I visited a number of churches I was able to testify to the people I met about the way that Greensburg Alliance takes care of its workers. I will say that it is great to be back.

- We had a fantastic move up Sunday School. We had 9 new students and it was a great event. The breakfast continues to be a great way to welcome our students in. And our double move up events (Sunday morning and Thursday Move-up YG) which we implemented about 5 years ago continue to work well in casting the net wide and introducing new students to two important elements of GAC Youth.
- Our Summer finished out well. And judging from the reports of my leaders and the feedback from students our August schedule served its purpose of closing out the year strong.
- I was able to outline and work on the message series for Youth Group through December. I think our opening series "Grow & Go" will do a great job at balancing foundational elements of faith development with how to step out and put hands and feet to the work of God.

2. Ministry challenges you are facing

- Its not really a challenge, but Ed Calhoun has transitioned out of ministry at GAC. He was a long time leader and he will be missed.

3. Goals for the next 30 days

- Get caught up on all the little things that have stacked up because of my Sabbatical
- Work on some ideas for our DR share day in November
- Work on report for our congregational meeting
- Get up to speed and catch up on any committee work for District Prayer Conference (I was on sabbatical for our first meeting)
- Look at freshening up the Spring schedule (I have been feeling that there is room for us to do something different). We have been dabbling with things for a few years.

4. Actionable items if needed

- No actionable items at this time