

The Adventure Continues

MY LIFE AS A MINNESOTEXAN

REBECCA ZAMORA | OCTOBER 2015

MEET MY TEAM!

I am so blessed to be able to serve with these incredible men and women. They are a seriously fantastic group of people. I actually look forward to our staff meetings, because there is so much joy and laughter when we are all together! It's great knowing these guys are always on my side.

BACK ROW: ANDREW, PETER, WILL, BRODY, AND BRANDT
FRONT ROW: MYSELF, KAYLA, KELSEY, AND MEG



Students lining up for free food at our Labor Day BBQ in the middle of a block of freshmen dorms!



Some of our awesome household members welcoming people to our House Party. It was a successful night!



Staff bonding time at the St. Paul Saints baseball game! This is our staff and the University of St. Thomas missionaries.

"CRUSH" WEEK? CRUSHED IT.

During the first two weeks of school, we hold a bunch of events to try to meet as many new students as possible and welcome them into our community at the Newman Center. We call this week "Crush" (Catholic Rush) Week, and it was insanely busy but the Holy Spirit showed up in full force! Here's a brief review of the main events we had going on during the week:

Saturday: Freshman Activity Fair - we had a table set up and began getting contact information from new students

Sunday: We met freshmen at their dorms and walked with them to Mass to familiarize them with the different routes to get to St. Lawrence

Monday: Labor Day BBQ - all afternoon at a courtyard in the middle of a block of freshman dorms, we grilled, socialized, and played yard games as students enjoyed free food!

Tuesday: Dorm Visits - we contacted students who signed up to receive more information about Catholic Students United and brought care packages to their dorms!

Friday: House Party - held in our backyard, we had plenty of free food and a great live band to carry us into the weekend. We had over 200 guests over the course of the night!





SO FAR, SO GREAT

Overall, I really am enjoying Minnesota. Sometimes it feels like I'm on a different planet, and more often than not it is very clear that I am not in Texas anymore (someone PLEASE send me tacos and Whataburger!!!!!!), but Minneapolis is a great city and there's so much to see and do here! It hasn't started snowing yet, so I can't complain too much...but, to use a

Minnesotan word, it will definitely be "interesting" when it does (Minnesotans use "interesting" as a placeholder when they don't want to offend people by stating their actual opinion. This concept is called "Minnesota Nice" and I think it's hilarious). As a side note, I have never been more aware of how much I say "y'all" in my entire life. Students like to joke with me and tell me that "my Texas is showing," which I love to hear!

The University of Minnesota is a really awesome school. I have not made it to a Gopher football game yet, but I am hoping to make it to one soon! Aside from campus being HUGE, it's absolutely beautiful and the students that I've met so far are awesome. I never really cared about the Big 10 before, but I definitely do now! It turns out that hockey is a bigger deal than football up here, so I can't wait until that season starts!

Household life is going great so far! I will include a picture of the women I get to live with and talk more about household life in my next newsletter. These women blow me away - they are so dedicated to prayer, to their schoolwork, and to building up our community, both inside and outside of the house.. It is an inspiration every day and I am never without a smile when I am with them!



This is a group of students that we took to Feed My Starving Children near the end of Crush Week. We packed 89 boxes of food to be shipped to Nicaragua - almost double the amount of boxes packed in an average shift!



The House Party at the end of Crush Week took place in the shared backyard of the two women's houses. We had Mike Mangione & the Union come and play for us - look them up on iTunes, they are great musicians and awesome people!



My new friend Goldy the Gopher!

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- For **the women in my household** (Hannah, Hannah, Monica, Alex, and Ariel) as they begin to balance their schoolwork and household commitments
- For **my team** as we begin investing in students and forming discipleship relationships
- For **the new students** we have encountered this year and will encounter throughout the year
- For continued **energy, joy, and boldness** in my mission
- **Please send me any prayer requests that you have!**