

# MCLAUGHLIN



*Be Strong | Stand for Truth | Live for Eternity*



*Luke (Far Left) and Athlethia (Middle Left) and myself are the 3 AIA Staff going through SLI*



*We were able to tour a few of the Nationally Recognized Missions that San Antonio has to offer as we focused on cultural intelligence, living and working on mission. This is my favorite photo...it is hard to see but in the shadows is a Cross!*



*SLI Leadership Action Learning Group: Gabe, Claire, Nick, Jamie, John, Deb, Ryan, and Bonnie (not pictured).*

## 2018 INTERNATIONAL BASEBALL TEAM

The 2018 summer baseball season is right around the corner. I will officially leave to begin the tour on May 29th. I will meet up with our Head Coach, Ross Yoder from Mount Vernon Nazarene University in Miami and will begin preparations for the arrival of the rest of the team which will arrive on the June 1st. I am excited to coach along side Ross as he was one of our Assistant Coaches for our Xenia Scouts team last summer. He has a deep passion to invest in the players both spiritually and athletically.

The team will then leave for Panama on June 2, working with and serving our in-country staff member Isaac. On June 16th we will head to Guatemala. The tour will end on June 30th when we all head back to the US to debrief in Miami and the players will return home on July 1.

Our team will be unique this year in that there will only be 11 players and 1 coach. It's not ideal, but I am confident the Lord is in control and as He does every year, He will turn this unique situation into a growing experience for everyone involved. Our ministry strategy and methodology will change this summer. It is unlikely that we can recruit enough local players to make our team complete so we will simply have to mix the teams every game. This will provide special opportunities to engage relationally in conversations with them and truly be able to demonstrate what it looks like to play as Christians particularly in the dugouts!

On the following page is a list of the players. Please be praying for them. Pray for their growth, for their hearts to be teachable, for their love and passion for the Lord to grow deeper, and that their hearts are prepared to learn what God wants to teach them. Pray also for coach to lead well and serve his team well. Pray for their financial support and even consider helping to sponsor a player in some way. Pray also for me, as I will be wearing many hats this summer including General Manager, Assistant Coach and Team Discipler. This always stretches me when I have to play all these parts.



*Celebrating Natalie's Birthday*

**2018 INTERNATIONAL BASEBALL TEAM CONT'D**

Danial Brown	Jacob Rhodes	Graham White
Seth Hagan	Josh Rollins	<b>Ross Yoder</b>
Andrew Miranda	Nick Wagoner	<b>John McLaughlin</b>
Adarius Moody	Colby Watilo	
Owen Pyatt	Braxton Wheeler	

**NATALIE'S INDIA/NEPAL EXPERIENCE**

Natalie had the opportunity to travel with BEE World ministry in March to India and Nepal to assist in facilitating a Bible Study Methods course to women. She had an absolutely wonderful time and the experience was extremely fruitful. I know she would love to share more personally with you, so if you are interested in hearing more details, please do contact us.



In India she worked with 9 women who were finishing up their three year journey in courses with BEE World. And in Nepal, she started the same course with 43 women along side Penny Semmelbeck and Kathy Burr. Natalie plans to finish up the training (This course requires two trips since the course is pretty in-depth and extensive) sometime in September. She is extremely excited to be a part of this ministry and what BEE World is doing around the globe!

**SENIOR LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE UPDATE**

I wanted to give you a quick update on my Action Learning Project as a portion of our leadership Training. Our project goal is to help create an improved leadership culture for women in all Cru US ministries. Would you consider joining us in prayer over the next few months. The week of October 15 is our presentation in Atlanta, GA. We would covet your prayers as we dive head first into understanding the current cultural climate of Cru as it pertains to women in leadership. There is much data to collect, a great number of interviews to be had and understanding that needs to take place for each of our team members. Please keep Claire, Nick, Jamie, Deb, Gabe and John in prayer as we lead this charge. Please keep our coaches in prayer also: Ryan and Bonnie. Also, we would covet prayers for our sponsors Jacqueline, Tom, and Carol along with Jesus Film and USLDHR.

**Prayer Requests**

1. Pray for John as he continues to prepare for his trip to Panama and Guatemala. He leaves May 27th to meet up with the coaches in Miami and will head to Panama on June 2 and Guatemala June 16.
2. Pray for Natalie and the kids as they remain behind. This year Natalie will join John on June 16th but she will be bringing both boys with her. Pray for Hudson and JT, for health and for a good experience. This will be Hudson's first time with the team internationally.
3. Pray for Johns SLI team as they do their preparations this summer for their presentation which is in October in Atlanta, GA.
4. Pray for our families as both our parents are going through a number of transitions.