



# What we're doing instead . . .

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Jenny & John Karraker

**They are calling it a “pandemic.”** The appearance of COVID-19 has forced a change of plans upon individuals and nations. You will recall that we were supposed to be in Stuttgart, Germany this week with 6 IUPUI students and a faculty member. Our purpose was to scout out ministry opportunities in the hope of establishing an ongoing ministry partnership with students and faculty in Stuttgart. Alas, that has all been thrown out by virtue of travel bans.

How are students responding? On one campus here in Indianapolis, the final Cru gathering before spring break was a praise and worship night (pictured here). What better way to meet unexpected roadblocks? And rest assured, the funds that were raised for travel, food and lodging will be put to good use - either for ministry here in the US - or for future ministry overseas.



Praise and worship night at IUPUI Cru

Now that we are directed to practice ‘social distancing,’ how can evangelistic ministry be maintained? This week (March 16-20) is spring break which allows us as a staff team to put our heads together to plot a new course. In Cru we are conducting video conferences with our leadership for the purpose of prayer and planning for the rest of the semester. Universities across the country have either closed all together or have directed that all course work be conducted online. We feel that we can continue to meet in small groups or online in order to maintain continuity in relationships with students and faculty. Still there is danger in isolation. In our neighborhood, people are reaching out to check on the elderly and to offer help. One on one meetings also seem feasible. But for the time being large group meetings and conferences are being curtailed and that seems wise.



And then the Lord sends us little joys. We had about 3 inches of snow this weekend and so had fun playing outside. Grandpa had to help Trudy make a snow princess and that was fun. It didn't last long because it was cold and wet but coming inside for hot chocolate was a special treat.

We are grateful for your partnership. Together we are making an impact for Jesus on the university campus.

*Jenny & John*