

Serving with Cadence International

Carter Pike

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Friends and family,

Wow . . . I am sitting here humbled and stunned as I reflect on the past week of being at the Cadence Worldwide Conference. I am struggling to find big enough words to convey the richness of culture and community that I experienced. Every step of the way from my travel day to my first dinner in an unknown situation, I got the best representation of what Cadence is as a whole! Cadence's mission statement is "Sharing the gospel and our lives with the military community." This shouldn't be surprising, but an organization made of full-time hospitality missionaries were incredibly good at making me feel welcome! The best way I can describe my love for the people here is this: Have you ever walked into a lunchroom with a lot of people you've just met but very few you actually know? You look around unsure where to sit, so you choose someone who seems to be welcoming or at least not intimidating. When I walked into the dining hall for this conference there were literally dozens of people I barely knew, but I was *excited and eager* to go sit with and learn from them.

This week has been a crash course in discipleship and ministry. During the conference I learned about cultivating a transformative community, being



disciplined in rest, applying rhythms of sustainability in ministry, thriving as a husband and in a family as a missionary, creating a servant/volunteer team at a hospitality home, fostering chaplain and chapel relationships, and more. I am so thankful for all God is teaching me as I look to my future, both short and long term. So many thoughts and prayers are running through my mind:

I need to pray about chaplaincy and/or Cadence in my future.

How am I going to not burn out during this next semester of school?

What rhythms should I implement for myself and my family (once married) to be near to Jesus and be healthy?

I should take more time to reflect on my internship.

These people are SO INCREDIBLE!

I have so much to learn.

God is so good and faithful!

I am so excited to start vocational ministry in some way, shape, or form.

Most of all, “*I wish you were here.*” There were countless times I wished both my fiancé, and my supporters could have been there with me to see how incredible it was!

My internship with Dwight and Letty in Ohio and my time at conference this summer were truly transformational. I will never see or think about ministry in the same and I have learned so much that I will take with me through the rest of my life. I want to extend a massive thank you to everyone who has taken the time to pray for me and for those who have supported me financially. You have all been a part of building God’s kingdom both in Dayton, Ohio, and in me as the Lord grows and sanctifies me day by day. May He bless and keep you and may His face shine upon you and give you peace!

With praise and gratitude to Christ our King,

Carter Pike

P.S. You can find more pictures of the Conference [Here](#)

This final email only scratches the surface of all I could share with you! If you’d like to hear more or connect, text me at 720.431.9443 and we can schedule a call. You can also reply to this email.

As of August 1, my Cadence work account will be closed, and any remaining balance will go towards supporting future Cadence internships. If you have been encouraged by my internship, would you prayerfully consider supporting another Cadence missionary in their mission to share the gospel and their lives with the military community? If you would like to begin financially supporting another ministry, please visit Cadence.org and click on Give or contact Donor Services at 303.762.1400 or email Donors@Cadence.org to get set up. If you are interested in directly supporting the ministry location in which I worked with this summer, you can search for “Dwight and Letty” or “The Wright House” in the missionary directory on the website and click on Give.



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