



THE GUARISCO'S REPORT

Meet Steph Reeves, Senior in History of Art



L Steph Reeves, R Sarah Caughey

I'm Steph Reeves, a senior in History of Art at the University of Michigan. Before I got involved with H2O I was heading down a pretty dark path. By some divine intervention, (I would have to say) I ended up living in a house filled with Christian girls. I met Sarah there, a leader in H2O, who invited me out on a Ski trip. Out of some obligation for the fun I had, I went to Church that next Sunday. I haven't been the same since! Pastor Nino's message that day spoke to me; he said that God wants to be our Father. I had been feeling for a while that I was alone even in a group of friends. After that day, I wanted to know how God wanted to be my Father, how He wanted to love me and take care of me. Ever since then I have been on a fast track to knowing the Lord. It's been amazing! My heart has been filled with a love I haven't felt in years. I can't believe the difference I feel in myself as to a year ago, when I was trying to fill the void with alcohol and drugs. After attending SICM this summer (with minor pushing by Pastor Nino J), I received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit! I look forward to everyday for a chance to grow with the Lord.

On the Homefront

In the past 10 months the Guarisco tribe has grown from five to six people! Our newest addition, Alyson, is 5 years old, and came to live with us in August. She's been such a blessing in our lives, and we pray that God will use us to return a great blessing to her in the years to come.

Aly seems to be adjusting quite well to life in her new home. She has a very sweet, gentle and quiet personality; quite a contrast to the oldest two! I mean, it's not like Emma and Jonathan aren't sweet, which certainly they are. But when you think of Emma and Jonathan, the words gentle and quiet and not the first two that pop into your head...more like hyper and loud! In spite of personality differences, it seems the 3 oldest kids are really beginning to gel, and form strong bonds of love. Of course, all 3 of them love baby Matthew, and can't keep their hands off that adorable and chubby baby boy.

You'll often find Aly and Emma hanging out in their pink and purple striped bedroom, dressing up in the exact same clothes. This is possible since mom has a slight addiction to Gymboree children's clothing, and for some reason has the same outfits in about 3 different sizes! Emma and Aly are also looking forward to our upcoming Chicago trip for Aly's birthday. We'll visit the world famous American Girl store, and Aly we'll get to pick out her very own American Girl Doll.

Yes, it's true, estrogen is flowing in the Guarisco home, but Jonathan, never to be outdone, has become an important counter balance to the feminine activities of the kids. If you came to our home, there'd be a good chance you'd find Aly hanging out in the basement playing Mario Party with Jonathan. Aly loves video games, and the Nintendo Gamecube has helped Jonathan and his new sister to deepen their friendship. Who would have thought that God could even use video games to bring people together?



Welcome to our family, Alyson!

Ministry Highlights

- Our pilot **Fusion cell group** was very successful last year. It multiplied leaders, and as a result we now have a team of 10 new fusion leaders who have launched two cells on campus this month. Please pray for our cell leaders as they share Christ with the lost, and disciple young believers in their cell.
- **Our China trip** in July/Aug was incredible. Two young men from our ministry accompanied Nino on the trip, and their lives were significantly impacted. On Oct 9, we'll hand out applications for China 2006. Our vision is to bring 10 people from our ministry to China next summer. Please pray that students will respond to the vision, and commit to serving God in China next summer.
- **Our sunday services** have gone well this semester. The main focus this year is our cell groups, but nevertheless we still meet together for service once a week, and the Lord has done great things during these times. We continue to see healthy growth at the service, and our attendance is at least double from what it was last fall.



Nino and Tammy Guarisco

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