



THE WORLD @ MTSU



Time Flies

I realize it has been quite a while since I have written a newsletter. Time has just gotten away from me. For that, I apologize. The students have really kept us busy.

Since our last newsletter, we have met quite a few new students. They come from a very wide range of countries and backgrounds. We have met students from countries we have never had students from in the past, countries such as Kyrgyzstan, Libya, and Cameroon. We are learning about their cultures and trying to find ways to connect with them and share the Gospel. Needless to say, it is always a new challenge.

Cultural Events

One advantage to working in the International Student Services office on campus is that we are meeting students from a wider range of countries. Before, we would meet students and they would introduce us to other students from their countries. This was a great way to focus on specific countries. Now, though, we are meeting more of the students, and that gives us, in turn, a greater reach to the world on our campus.



One of the advantages of this is the ability to reach across many cultures and get them to share with each other. Some of the students are Christian, so this gives them a chance to share their culture. Those who are not Christian, this is an opportunity for them to meet someone they may, otherwise, have never met. We are helping the Christian internationals to learn how to spread the Gospel.

Two such recent events are our annual Thanksgiving Banquet and a Parade of Flags at halftime of an MTSU football game. You have heard about our banquet many other times, so I'm sure you are familiar with it by now. This year was another great year to share the Gospel with students from around the globe. We had over 100 attend. It just keeps growing. We thank some of the families from Smyrna Assembly for helping us again with the food, and their connections with the students. We couldn't do it without families.

Next, we had the opportunity to put together a parade of flags during a home football game. The students were offered the chance to carry their country's flag on the field. We were not sure how many would get involved, but we had a great turnout, over 35 students from approximately 20 countries. It really showed the diversity on campus.

Unfortunately, in all this, we still lack American students to interact with these wonderful internationals. There are so many Christian students at MTSU, but they are afraid to interact with these students. We have been trying over the years to share a missions vision with students, but as they students who grab the vision graduate, we are left to find new students. The downside to my appointment in the ISS office is that my interaction with American students is less than it was before. We still have about 4 or 5 Americans involved, but we would really love more than that.

Going Digital

Since you are reading this online, you are well aware that we are going digital with our newsletter. As you have noticed over the last few years, our newsletter has gone from monthly to quarterly, to less frequent. That is directly as a result of the cost of producing and mailing

these out. Each mailed newsletter costs between \$100 and 120. We have decided to go digital with our communications. In doing so, we can get back to more frequent communications.

The process for this will be in two parts. First, will be a blog that will be updated on a very frequent basis. It may be updated as much as several times a week. The posts will be short and may include a photo. The good thing is that it will provide a large amount of information on our ministry and our lives. That blog is located at: pastorjr.blogspot.com Make sure to check it out and you can even subscribe to it to be notified by email when a new item is posted. You'll notice that this blog does not have a link from our regular website, though. This is because the information we put there will be sensitive, and could offend some students as we are sharing the Gospel with them.

Second, we will still put out these newsletters. They will be available online, but will also be available by email for those who would like to receive them. They will still be quarterly, but that shouldn't be too bad, since you'll have the blog to keep you up to date on a more frequent basis. Therefore, if you'd like to have these newsletters sent to your email inbox, just send an email to, newsletter@mtinternationals.com. We'll make sure to put you on the list. You'll then get more frequent newsletters from us, and it will be financially easier.

Thanks.

As always, we want to thank you for your support. Your donations allow us to reach a world of people. Literally. We could not do what we do without you. We want to make you aware, too, of one more way you can give financially to our ministry, or direct someone who might be interested. On our blog, there is a donation button. That will take you to PayPal, where you can make a donation to our ministry. Be sure to include your mailing address so we can make sure you get your giving receipt.

Your servants on campus,
J.R. & Carlita Becker

*From the Parade of Flags,
Nov. 2009 →*



Support. We would like to thank those who currently support this ministry. Your support is the only means of income we have. If you do not support us but would like to, please send support using the following information. Make sure you include our name and account number on your check.

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