



THE WORLD @ MTSU



Best Start Ever!

As I mentioned in my last newsletter, we were expecting great things to begin this school year. God had opened quite a few new doors and we believed He was planning to do amazing things. Well, He didn't disappoint! We have had our best start to a school year, ever. Let me tell you about just a few things.

Annual Camping Trip.

Every year, over the Labor Day weekend, we take internationals to a little farm outside Cleveland, TN for a camping trip. The property has a private lake with fishing, canoeing and swimming. The students really love it. In previous years, we have taken between 10 and 15. This year, we had 38 students join us! It is a great opportunity to get to know new students and catch up with old friends after a long summer. The students came from about 15 countries and 6 continents.



FC World Intramural Football (Soccer) Team

Since I began college ministry, I have wanted to put together an intramural soccer team with students from around the world. This year, I had great interest and we were able to field a team of 15 players. They came from countries around the world like, Ghana, Korea, France and Chile. We had a great time and the bonds shared will surely last a lifetime. Through some events that happened on the field, we even had a chance to show that Christian love supercedes competition on the field. Our team came in first in the regular season, but third in the playoffs. Maybe we'll win it all in the spring! Also, we had 10-15



internationals at each game to cheer us on, even though the games were at 10 or 11pm on Wednesday nights.

Wal-Mart Rides

We started the year off with over 20 students riding with us to Wal-Mart. That is more than we have ever had before. Usually, as the semester goes along, the students make friends with roommates and classmates and depend on us less. In the past, that has led to some weekends not having anyone needing a ride. This year, that has not been the case. We still average over 12 per trip. Is this because they have not made friends on campus? No. It is solely because of the relationships they have built with us. They take the trips with us because they

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.

Account #2641306. Send to: AGUSM 1445 Boonville Ave. Springfield, MO 65802-1894

Contact Us. 2726 Gold Valley Dr Murfreesboro, TN 37130 (615)898-1434

Email: info@MTInternationals.com



want to spend time with us.

First Friends Dinner

We held our first First Friends dinner this year. Every year, we use a program called First friends to connect international students with local families. This year we have 40 students and 25 families involved. We decided that a great way to help them connect with one another was to host a potluck supper toward the beginning of the school year. We had 85 in attendance and the students and families are connecting this year better than ever before. It's not perfect, but much better.

Growing Ministry

As you can see, God has blessed us with some great outreach opportunities. We have taken other trips, had other meals and even have an international Bible study at our home on Saturday evenings. This is all because of 1)your prayers, 2)your support and 3)my position at the university. God has blessed us with all three and is using all three to reach out to the world here at MTSU.

Financial Update

Just as things are going so great in regards to outreach potential, I want to make sure you know and understand our needs. Since February, our support has dropped by another \$500 per month. Whether this is because of the economic atmosphere or some other reason, we need to work to rectify it soon. With all the outreach we are doing, we need finances to keep it up. God has blessed to this point, and we see no reason to believe He won't continue to do so, but we wanted to let you know, as He may want to use you to continue to bless our ministry. Therefore, we need to ask if you can look at your budget, determine if you can increase your support to us by \$5 or 10 per month to help us make up the shortfall? If, perhaps, you have not supported us in a while, would you consider resuming your support?

We have so many plans for the future. We are planning to start a monthly worship service for international students and faculty. We are planning more overnight trips that will allow us to build the kinds of friendships that enable us to share the love and message of Christ in greater ways than just a trip to the store or a meal a few times a month. We are looking to build stronger relationships with a few that the Holy Spirit is directing us to, relationships that will allow them to see deeper into our lives and have a greater impact into theirs. As you continue to help us and stand with us, we can do this. As always, you are our encouragement and a blessing. It is our honor to be,

Your servants on campus,

J.R. & Carlita Becker

