



December 2009



BAPTIST
COLLEGIATE MINISTRY

Volume 1, Issue 1

BSM Summary-Fall Semester 2009

Special points of interest:

- What has been happening at the BSM?
- What has been happening with the ISM?
- Ministry opportunities we've taken part of?
- How can I get involved or contribute?
- Special needs?

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As the fall semester comes to a close – we can look back and see that God has blessed us in many amazing ways this semester. For example, at the GCC (Denison) Campus our weekly Wednesday Luncheon attendance has averaged 225 participants.

To accommodate this number we began presenting our program twice every Wednesday. We really appreciate the meals that are provided each week by our churches. It is because of your willingness to minister in this way that we are able to communicate the gospel to these students.

God also blessed us with a wonderful group of student

leaders who have worked hard the entire semester to help the BSM achieve our mission of reaching and disciplining students for Christ. We have also been blessed with a number of very talented students who are willing to use their talents for the Lord.

Of course we are very excited that the Lord brought Josh Burton to us to serve as our new International Student Minister. In addition to Josh – we are blessed to have several youth ministers in the area helping us with the college ministry. Both Brandon Bentley (Faith Fellowship) and Chad Rogers (First, Denison) lead a weekly Bible study on the GCC (Denison) Campus.

Simon Keizer (Fairview) leads the Bible study on the Austin College campus. Randy Thompson (First, Tom Bean) is the volunteer BSM Director of the GCC (Van Alstyne) campus. Please continue to pray that God will use this ministry to make a difference for Christ in the lives of students. *Bernie Gallagher*



Bernie and Nita at the BSM/ISM Thanksgiving Dinner.

Special Thanks to...Churches Providing Meals this Semester

FBC Bells
Antioch
FBC Whitesboro
Georgetown
Forest Avenue
Crutchfield Heights
Cherry Mound
FBC Dorchester
FBC Denison

FBC Sherman
Kentuckytown
FBC Howe
West Sherman
Twin Cities
Parkside
FBC Tom Bean
Luella

BSM/ISM Campus Thanksgiving Dinner

You may have seen us on KXII evening news, or you may have been among the very fortunate that were able to provide or serve, but if not there was a very special occasion on the eve of Thanksgiving at the BSM. Students gathered together for a chance to enjoy some American staples and gather with friends. We wanted to provide for them an extravagant Thanksgiving dinner because it's difficult for these students to get home for Thanksgiving to see their families and enjoy their own traditions.

They were able to enjoy food like turkey, green bean casserole, corn, and gravy. The event wasn't only open for international students, but for all who were not able to go home for the holiday or who did not have the provisions to have their own Thanksgiving meal. We also encouraged students to take leftovers back

to their dorms for the rest of the weekend. This was due to the fact the cafeteria wasn't open over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Stuffing, turkey, and cranberry sauce are common items at our normal Thanksgiving tables but not everyone grows up with those traditions. Here at the BSM/ISM we made sure the international students at GCC got a chance to learn all about a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

There are a lot of countries around the globe that celebrate holidays similar to the American Thanksgiving as Rasan Hassan from Iraq explained to us, "We don't have Thanksgiv-

ing but we have some feast and celebrations that are similar to Thanksgiving." Hassan further expressed his appreciation by telling us, "This is great, back home we have very big families and this makes me feel like I'm back home."

While it may have not been exactly like some of the celebrations some of the students are used to, it's a nice way to make to make a new Thanksgiving memory from the love of local Christian's and their churches in the GBA.

A fun fact you may have not known...Abraham Lincoln choose the fourth Thursday of the month for Thanksgiving back in 1863, but President

Franklin D. Roosevelt moved it up to the third Thursday in 1939 in order to increase the holiday shopping season and stimulate the economy. *Josh Burton*



"It is great, back home we have very big families and this makes me feel like I'm back home."

ISM Special Needs

We have a few special needs for the upcoming months:

1. Juan from Venezuela, a current high school senior at Gunter, will be attending GCC in the Spring semester '10. Because he will not turn 18 yrs old until March, he is not allowed to live on his own. He desperately needs a healthy Christian home to stay in from January until March 2010. He will be willing to pay financial compensation.
2. The furniture ministry has depleted much of its inventory. The most needed items in subsequent order are: mattresses, tables and chairs, couches, and dressers.
3. The furniture ministry is considering finding a permanent vehicle to use for moving furniture but until that time volunteers are needed on Thursdays (or any convenient day) to lend their trucks and/or time to transport furniture.
4. Churches willing to lend their buses/vans for transportation on special events such as Six Flags, Mall-of-the-Month, Mavs games, etc...
5. If you can contribute to any of these special needs please contact Josh at josh.burton82@yahoo.com or call @ 903-465-2207.

International Students Speak @ Howe Library

One of the greatest programs that has begun since I started my position at the BSM is a cooperative programs with Howe library's A.S.K. (after school kids). Naomi Ligon heads up the program and invited international students of GCC to come and share their culture and heritage with the students of Howe.

November 18th was the first scheduled meeting and Vy of Vietnam and Paola of Congo (Brazzaville) were selected to give presentations. Both wore their native dress and held the children captive with their stories and traditions. Some of the topics covered were compari-

sons in what a typical school day would involve, holidays, and language. The after school kids had many questions and were encouraged to hear that other countries also have the pleasures of lunch and recess!

The finale and most interesting point of the program was when the students were divided into two groups with one being assigned to Paola and the other to Vy. They then began an exchange of short and simple conversation that the students repeated. Paola's native language is French and Vy's is Vietnamese. The student's learned simple phrases such as "hello", "good-bye", and "I'm

hungry". Overall, the field trip was a tremendous success and educational for both sides participating.

The next scheduled international A.S.K. program will be January 20th. If you know of any other schools or public libraries that would like to have international's come and share their culture contact me at the BSM. *Josh Burton*



Tribute to Brad and Mattie McClenny

Three years ago as we prayed for God's redirection for our retirement years, the Lord led us to Brad McClenny. As he shared with us his vision, passion and desire to meet the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of international students at GCC we became excited about what God was doing

through the BSM ministry to international students. Countless international students have been welcomed, loved, nurtured, and blessed because of Brad and Mattie's dedication and love for these students. They have truly been light and salt sharing the love of Jesus with these guests to our coun-

try. Brad has built a solid foundation for this ministry to continue to grow under Josh Burton's guidance as the new director to the International Students' Ministry.

Vern & Kay Harris

"They have truly been light and salt sharing the love of Jesus with these guests to our country."

Thursday Night Salsa

Special thanks to Ana Morales and Freddy Flores for initiating a new outreach through the popular Latino pastime...salsa! We have had a blast the second half of this fall semester laughing and stumbling all over each other. Salsa can be done in many ways as such as line-dancing known as suelta

(pictured right) or in pairs. We started of in suelta form to learn basic moves and then paired up and slowly coordinated moves together. This has been a wonderful experience of interacting with seekers in a unique way while maintaining our modesty and Christ-likeness.

Josh Burton



Salsa done as "suelta"

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Changing Lives—On the College Campus



Our mission is to introduce students to Christ and help them grow through BSM and church based college ministry. The GCC BSM began in 1967 as the Baptist Student Union and has thrived since conception. The ISM began in 2005 due to the need of ministry to a new and developing international student population at GCC. The BSM is funded through the Grayson Baptist Association. The ISM is funded solely through generous contribution commitments from individuals and churches. Currently, the ISM does not have enough contributors to continue through 2010. ***Would you consider getting involved personally or through your church to support this ministry?*** All donations should be made through the Grayson Baptist Association.

Current Church contributors (November) :

FBC Bells, Belmont, Calvary Denison, Cherry Mound, Country Chapel, Elmont,
Forest Avenue, Mt. Carmel, FBC Sherman, Twin Cities, FBC Van Alstyne

Individual contributions (November) : \$175