



January 2010



BAPTIST
COLLEGIATE MINISTRY

Volume 2, Issue 1

Special points of interest:

- An awesome testimony from one of the international students
- How can I contribute and get involved?
- What's been happening at the BSM?
- What's been happening with the ISM?

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Brad McClenny Passes the Torch

When my wife and I moved from Arkansas to Texas in August 2001 it was to be on staff at a church full-time and to go to seminary. I assumed that I would graduate from school and be a pastor in some small town, end of story. Man was I wrong! It is hard to believe that Mattie and I have been working with international students in Grayson County for over eight years now. What started out to be a ride to Wal-Mart and taking a student to a movie has become a tremendous ministry through the BSM and the Grayson Baptist Association.

I have seen churches and people embrace these students. One of the keys to churches being as effective as they can be, is working together. The international student minister will spend many hours getting to know the students and their true needs. Then by working closely with churches the ministry can provide for more students.

Now God has opened a new door for me, as the international student advisor at Grayson County College and as an interim pastor. I am also excited for Josh Burton, the new ISM minister who has a great servant heart for the

international students.

I have seen this ministry grow with leaps and bounds and God is not done with it! Thank you for all your past support and the continuing support for the future of this ministry and the students.



*Sincerely,
Brad McClenny*

The Lovejoy's Open Their Home

It has been a privilege and a lot of fun to have Nancy with us in our home. It is such a joy to hear her talk about things in Africa and it's fun to teach her things that we say and do here in America. When dad takes her to college, everyday she leans over and gives him a kiss on the cheek like she has known him all her life. She calls my parents mom and dad and calls us family! It's hilarious to watch her do things of her own culture. For instance, I walked into our bathroom one night, and she was washing her clothes in the sink!(She knew we had a washer). She brings joy to me, and my family when she walks

up the steps to our home. Thank you Josh for asking my family to keep her, and thank you Nancy for trusting us and coming into our home. We Love you Josh and Nancy! *By Courtney Lovejoy age 13*

We have enjoyed our time with Nancy, and feel that being there for her during the transition between arriving in the states and being settled in her dorm room was VERY beneficial and helpful to her. It would be very advantages if every student who left their families to come and study had this opportunity. This was such a small sacrifice for the reward we received . We do feel like she is part of our family now. *Chris Lovejoy*

An International Student Testimony: The Value of the BSM & ISM

“If you can't be a missionary to Africa, invest in these potential missionaries here.”

My name is Vincent De Paul Ngako Tchuiaga. I come from a catholic-traditionalist family. I am the only born again Christian in my family. Most of the belief of my family is centered towards traditionalism which is the (belief in ancients and their divine power of protection etc.). I've had the grace to be saved while being at home. My German teacher in high school risked her job to share Christ with me and all the staff of the school. The principal of the school and many other people stood against her to prevent her from taking me in her "sect."

In my culture, people who don't know Jesus as savior, consider worshipping and serving Jesus as part of a mystical sect and they become very hostile to the sharing of the gospel. So, when I started attending the "sect" of my German teacher, everyone rejected me from my family to friends. The parents of my best friend even told him not to talk to me anymore because I could sell him into that "sect". By selling him they meant I'll offer him in a sacrifice to the sect; (This is a common practice observed in many sects which is not commonly known). Alone and desperate, God gave me the strength to overcome, gossips, rejection and persecution.

When my parents heard that I gave my life to Christ and got baptized,

my mother freaked-out so badly that she decided to sue my teacher. This attempt to make me change my mind didn't work at all. I was determined to go on with Jesus and I did! Years after the change in my life, my parents wondered what was going on...seeing me singing for God, serving as youth minister in my church, succeeding at school, and being at peace with my family. This led them to question themselves about my faith. My prayer times, my new habits, my love for people annoyed them because the son they knew before was a partier, a thief, a sex addict, a troubled kid, and someone who argued and got mad about everything. This contrast led them to stop persecuting me and they started to encourage my relationship with Jesus even though they still aren't ready to surrender their lives completely to him.

Many international students in the U.S. haven't had the chance I've had to hear the Word and hold on to Jesus.



Vincent De Paul

I see their coming to U.S. like a door opened by God to lead them towards him. Last summer during a mission trip in Arlington, TX I met a lady who never heard the name of Jesus! There are people like this among our international students. Being in the U.S. is a deliverance for most of them from the roots of traditionalism, witchcraft, atheism, Hinduism, Islam, etc... During the Spring 2009, God put it in my heart to lead an international student Bible study in the Jensen dormitory at Grayson County College. It was amazing to see how many people were involved, from non-believers to Muslims. Many international students gave their lives to Jesus during this time. Now, there is a Muslim going to church every Sunday because of the fire that started with the ISBS/BSM. It's **very** important to allow these people to know God, to help them, to lead them, to support them.

They are here for a purpose, only God knows. They will go back home one day, and guess what, they might forget to share the things they saw in U.S., but they will

NEVER forget to share Christ with the thirsty people of Africa. If you can't be a Missionary to Africa, invest in these potential missionaries here. One day they will go home where they know the land and know the people, and the people will trust them. May God bless your hands.

*Thanks,
Vincent De Paul*

International Students Speak @ Howe Library

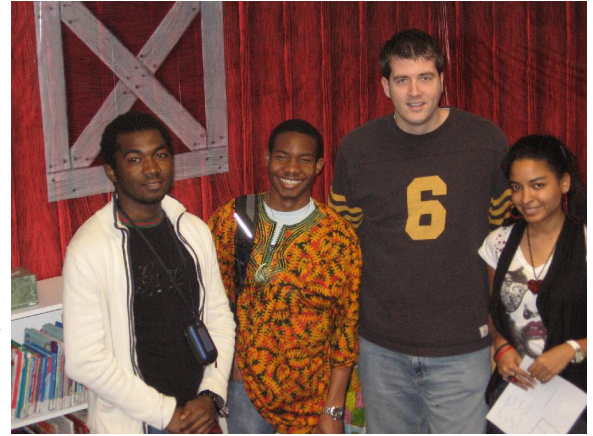
We have continued our community diversity cooperation program with the Howe public and school library. Howe has an after school kids program (A.S.K.) which initiated the relationship with the grade school children and our very own international students. Once a month, two international student volunteer's dedicate their Wednesday afternoon's to spending time with these children and teaching them diversity of culture.

This month Lisa Christina Campoblano of Peru/Sao

Tome and Principe, and Samuel Nzoghe Aninkora of Gabon made their presentations to the A.S.K. participants. Christina speaks native French, Spanish, and has learned English. Samuel speaks native French, his local language, and has also learned English. They shared about their childhood to adult customs and related to the kids about everything from school to home.

This meeting the A.S.K. coordinator, Naomi Ligon, put together passports for each of the children. It will be very

interesting as the months add up and the children's passports will have shown they have been to many countries. In the passports the children also colored their guests respective flags and Christina and Samuel both personally signed each one. *Josh Burton*



Changing Lives – On the College Campus

College students have returned to our local campuses for the spring semester. With a new semester come new beginnings, fresh starts, as well as challenges. Our GCC BSM welcomed students with a "Back to School Luncheon" on January 20th. Approximately 160 students as well as faculty/staff were in attendance. We use this event to reach out to the campus – especially new students – and to acquaint them with our ministry. Then on every following Wednesday we share the good news of what Jesus has done for us and encourage those in attendance to consider becoming followers of Christ. We also invite students to participate in our other BSM activities.

Special thanks Emily Roland, Andy Popplewell, and Steven Powless for providing music during the event and to the Antioch and First Baptist Churches of Bells, for providing desserts. Please pray that God will use the weekly luncheons this semester to reach more students for Christ.

As our BSM welcomes students back, we are encouraging them to think about serving as summer missionaries, and we preparing for our spring break mission trip. This year we are planning to do a local mission project so that we can give something back to our own community. We are planning to partner with Faith Fellowship Baptist Church to provide

a children's VBS at a local apartment complex during the mornings of spring break. Then we are planning to partner with the Project CrossWalk and the folks at Trinity Baptist Church to provide labor for various projects in the community.

Please join with us in praying that Jesus Christ would transform lives this semester: through the new beginnings, that God would capture the hearts of students desiring peace and hope; through the challenges that students would remember that God is always good; and through the preparations, that in everything said and done would bring God honor and glory. *Bernie Gallagher*

"Please join with us in praying that Jesus Christ would transform lives this semester"



Bernie Gallagher

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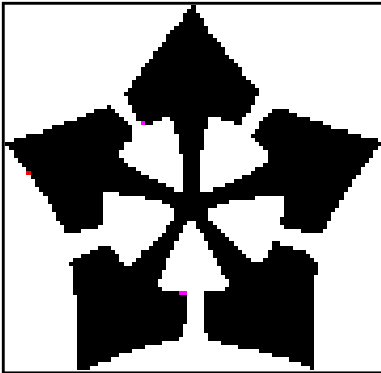
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Changing Lives—On College Campus



We want to email this to you! Please send your email address to d_s_clark@hotmail.com

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.

After our last publication we received a few very generous gifts. We still need partners to contribute small monthly gifts. Many charitable Christians partner with ministries abroad and never really see the fruit of their gift. This ministry is for sharing Christ with foreign citizens temporarily living in Grayson County. *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 (January) :
FBC Bells, Belmont, Calvary Denison, Cherry Mound, Elmont, Forest Avenue, Mt.
Carmel, FBC Sherman, Twin Cities, FBC Van Alstyne,
Individual contributions (January) : \$200**