

International Student Ministry Luther Memorial Chapel and University

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International Student Ministry (ISM) is a ministry of friendship and hospitality to those God is sending to the Milwaukee area. Luther Memorial Chapel began outreach among the internationals in the fall of 2010. The work was begun with a small group of four internationals that Irma Weber of Luther Memorial Chapel and Joan Moeller had befriended through their invitation to English conversation.

Through these relationships trust was established with the Chinese visiting scholars and they invited their friends. This year we had 586 participate in activities. Members helped with transporting mattresses and providing household goods, gardening, leading ESL classes and Bible conversation classes and through many other volunteer needs. Area congregations are invited to be part of the ISM support team, through prayer, financial support and volunteer service. God has provided many wonderful opportunities to make contact with the visiting scholars and their family and friends that come with them to share the exciting adventure of learning about another culture. We share with you a week in the outreach ministry among the internationals.



On Sunday mornings seven to nine internationals attend worship. The church secretary, Kathryn Hill prepares a full service bulletin for members to give to the internationals attending worship. Members provide transportation or sit with the internationals and assist them in following the worship. (We are always looking for more volunteers.) There were 101 international visitors to the worship services and we rejoiced in the baptism of three individuals this past year.

Coffee hour snacks are provided by many individuals throughout the year. (Cookies, coffee, tea, and paper products are always needed.) It is a great time for conversation with others. Kim Hernandez leads a Bible reading group in the ISM office on Sunday mornings. The Gospels provide many opportunities to tell the good news of Christ's forgiveness won for us through His death and resurrection. Pastor Wieting leads a summer adult instruction class which has three internationals regularly attending. The children's program coordinator, Erica Wieting, and an international youth lead the Sunday School Bible introductory class for children.

Mondays, internationals assist with office work and send out invitations to ISM activities. Students help with the campus tables, where we have opportunities to converse and invite others to activities. In the afternoons this past year, Pastor Wieting had five international children in Catechism instruction.



Tuesdays, Simon, a professor in Library Science, helps with a vocabulary class and Georgia Sylke leads a conversation class. There is also a beginning English class for parents of the visiting scholars. We are always grateful for those who serve through leading conversation classes. We have volunteer ESL teachers from Brookfield Lutheran, St. Peter Immanuel, and Our Savior, Whitefish Bay and the community working with the 141 who have participated in the classes. (Contact Bessie Fick if you would like

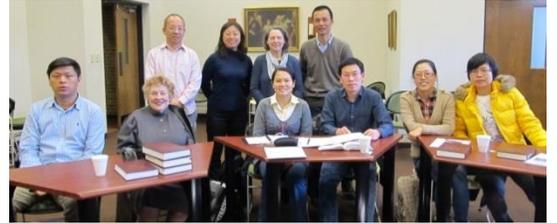
to serve in this area.) The relationships built in these classes provide opportunities to invite internationals to worship and to Bible reading classes.

Members and area congregations bring blankets, winter clothing, kitchen and household items and furniture to help the incoming internationals set up housekeeping. (If you have any of these items available for donation contact us.) The internationals let the arriving internationals know of the Exchange Room at Luther and of the items available there.



Wednesdays Mark Wieting and Jacob Kempf host Sports night. In the winter it is usually basketball and in the summer it is volleyball or Frisbee golf. There are usually around 15 participating each semester. One of the participants attended the adult information class.

Thursdays we again have vocabulary classes led by Simon Mu, beginning English led by Bessie Fick, Intermediate English led by Diane and Lillian Meyer, Advanced English conversation



led by Ellen Ash, English Conversation led by Joan Moeller and Campus conversation class led by Ann Nehring. Pastor Wieting leads the Bible reading group. There were 134 who attended Bible reading classes this year and two of these attended the LCMS In-Depth Bible Seminar in St. Louis this year.

Thursday evenings we hold "World View" discussions, led by Tim and Cheryl Albers. There is an English class led by Nancy Wolck and children's program activities, in which the children learn Bible stories, make crafts and sing. The Children's program is under the leadership of Erica Weiting and the assistance of Concordia and UWM students. We have had 60 children participate in the activities. From these activities we invite children to the Christian education classes.



Some of the college volunteers who have assisted in the children's program are Megan Braunschwig, Taylor Brown, Breanna Erdman, Anna Hahn and Mary Reinke. High school students have also helped such as Madeline Olson and Mary Heinrich of Our Savior, Whitefish Bay. (We are always in need of volunteers to assist in the children's activities.)



On Friday mornings the internationals participate in gardening activities. Many Thursdays or Fridays we have potlucks where we share food from the different cultures and meet together to converse, celebrate special holidays and enjoy food from around the world.

God has richly blessed our partnership in outreach to the internationals through your, prayers, financial support and volunteer service. This past year we had 101 internationals visit worship services, 134 in Bible reading classes, 60 international children in Christian Education classes, 13 adults in adult instruction and 5 children in confirmation classes. So with St. Paul we say: "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ... because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now." Philippians 1:3-5

Thank you for your prayers. If you would like to contribute to the support of this ministry, please send contributions to:

International Student Ministry
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