

“Equipping the international body of Christ.”



UPCOMING EVENTS

BY MICHAEL DAVIS

FEBRUARY 4, 18 – The ministry’s band, UnNamed Servant, has accepted an invitation to lead worship for both Sunday morning services at Belle Meade United Methodist Church in Nashville. Previously the band had been leading worship for the first service only.

FEBRUARY 18 – Students at the Institute have an opportunity to learn and practice the most widely played sport in the world...soccer. By learning this game, it will open up opportunity to minister in any foreign culture, thereby allowing for more acceptance of our team and the word of God.

MARCH 1-3 – Spring Student Visitation Weekend will be held at the Institute. This will be a time when any prospective students can come and experience 2 full days of classes, check out our dining facilities, catch some intramural sports games, and experience the community at large. The prospective students will get an authentic student experience by staying in the student housing facilities with the current students.

OTHER PRAYER NEEDS:

• One of our Kenyan friends wrote to us on the hardships of life in Kenya. The poor in Kenya (the majority of the population) depend on the rainy seasons for food. When there is no rain, their crops suffer on the farms and the prices are doubled in the market. If they have no food to sell because of the lack of rain, they have no income. When they have no income they are unable to pay even regular price at the market, let alone double price. Please pray for rain this season.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

BY LAURIE KAGAY

HERE AT HOME

• Interns and Staff participated in a three-day retreat in North Carolina (January 5th-7th). Participants enjoyed Bible studies and discussions about the ministry at large. This trip helped refresh and unify the staff and interns for the upcoming semester.

• The 2007 semester for the Institute for G.O.D. Int'l began on January 8th, preceded by an orientation for new and returning students. The Institute hosted Al and Gail Anderson (and daughter, Barb), who encouraged the students with words from their own experience on the mission field. Al and Gail have been missionaries in Guatemala for over ten years and have grown to be close friends and Latin American contacts for the ministry.

• This spring an Immersion Class is being offered for the first time, accompanied by two language acquisition classes: Swahili (East Africa), and Tagalog (The Philippines). The hope is to give students, interns, and staff quality preparation for their summer immersion trips that are currently being planned by the students themselves in the classes!

• A Linguistics emphasis has been added to the Missiology program.

• The new school catalog is complete and has been added to the Institute website (www.godinternational.org/institute). The catalog offers an overview of the various courses offered under both our Missiology and Biblical Studies programs, in addition to other pertinent information and policies concerning the Institute.

• SLAM (Students Living a Mission) facilitated another Nashville Community Service project for students and a local youth group in the Nashville area. 12 students from the Institute and 31 youth from Forrest Hills Baptist Church divided into 3 teams to serve at Nashville Rescue Mission, Safe Haven Family Shelter and Church of The Messiah Inner City Outreach.

INTERNATIONAL

• A Team of 12 completed a pioneering trip to Juarez, Mexico (December 26th-January 2nd). The team consisted of students from Illinois, California, Tennessee, and Georgia and two staff members. New contacts were made as well as old acquaintances reunited. Several students had their first experience out of the country and returned with much encouragement in their hearts for the Lord and how he is working in the Ciudad Juarez area, especially in the youth and college-aged students they met. The team participated in construction, soccer, church services, Bible studies, and enjoyed fellowship in their host homes.

• In December, our first payment (\$700) was sent to Kenya for the purchase of the banana farm. The second payment (\$285) followed in January. This farm will allow our international students to make better wages in order to support their families through their lives of ministry and study, as well as future projects for their community.

• A total of \$1,005 was sent to Philippines, India, Kenya and Uganda. The support is sent to help families provide school fees, care for everyday chores, start businesses, and other necessities specific to each family. We are thankful to God every month for his provision for all these families we support.



To read more about the recent trip to Juarez Mexico visit www.GODinternational.org

THOUGHTS

BY GREGG GARNER

My tires were low and I had to get some air. Now you have to know I'm a cheapskate and I actually search online for the nearest gas station that hosts the most economical price for the gallon. Anyways, as I pulled up to the air compressor I saw that what used to be 'free' air was now priced at .75 cents? I pulled out of that station to cross the street hoping to pay a quarter for air, only to find a competitive price of .75 cents! Every gas station - .75 cents!

Air is a resource that is available in bulk. It's everywhere! It's not necessarily anything that anyone is worried about us running out of. However, when it is harnessed through technology and made applicable to seeming necessities, I guess its value in 2-minute increments is .75 cents?

It seems we live in a world where we attach value to everything by its dollar price.

- Cell phone airtime is valued at .05 cents a minute
- Gas is valued at \$2.50 a gallon
- A 'good' cup of coffee is valued at \$4
- A 90 minute movie is valued at \$10
- A decent dinner for 2 in a dimly lit room

prepared and served by others is valued at \$35

- Access to 50 different television channels for a month is valued at \$50
- Monthly membership with "Weight Watchers" to reduce calorie intake is valued at \$100
- Green fees on Pebble Beach for 18 holes of golf are valued at \$150
- Non nose-bleed concert tickets for recent Madonna tour are valued at \$250
- Single night accommodations for a family of four at Disney World are valued at \$500
- A 48 month auto loan for a Lexus SUV is valued at \$1,000 per month
- The average cost of a Diamond engagement ring for an American woman are valued at \$2,500
- A monthly mortgage on a 2,000 sq/ft home in the Silicon Valley is valued at \$10,000
- An average college education for the American student is valued at \$50,000 per degree.
- Howard Stern is valued at \$75,000 per hour
- Oprah Winfrey is valued at \$150,000,000 per year
- William Gates III (Bill Gates/Microsoft) is valued at \$53,000,000,000 (net worth)

It seems we live in a world where we attach value to everyone by his or her dollar price

- The American Police Officer who maintains the peace is valued at \$50,000 per year
- Teachers in the United States who educate our children are valued at \$40,000 per year
- Plumbers who maintain our public sanitation and water systems are valued at \$30,000 per year
- The American Farmer who feeds the nation is valued at \$25,000 per year
- The average elderly American who contributed to society for at least 40 years and is unable to work like they used to

is valued at \$10,000 per year by Social Security

- 3 billion people in the developing world are valued at less than \$750 per year
- The immigrant worker in the USA without legal papers to labor is valued at \$3 per hour
- Providing a 'good' education for a Sudanese child is valued at \$2.30 per term
- The life of a child from India is valued at .50 cents a day when supported through a charitable organization
- The Filipino sweat shop worker is valued at .25 cents a day for 12 hours labor to produce the clothes we wear
- Moldova, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Fiji, Swaziland, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Rwanda, Togo, Malawi, Mongolia, Mauritania, Lesotho, Central African Republic, Suriname, Sierra Leone, Belize, Cape Verde, Eritrea, Antigua and Barbuda, Bhutan, St. Lucia, Burundi, Maldives, Guyana, Djibouti, Seychelles, Liberia, Grenada, The Gambia, St. Kitts and Nevis, Comoros, Samoa, Vanuatu, Timor-Leste, Guinea-Bissau, Solomon Islands, Dominica, Tonga, São Tomé and Príncipe and Kiribati are all countries populated by real people whose combined value (Gross Domestic Product) is less than the net worth of Bill Gates! And sadly, they were possibly valued at less than the time most of you had to even read through the previous list of them?

There are over 6 billion people in the world, and like air, we are not running short on people. However, also like air, it seems that we don't find value in a human until we're able to harness their power in order to produce technology applicable to our seeming necessities.

I guess we can't figure out what to do with the 2.5 million people who are dying in the wilderness of the Sudan. I guess that the 1million people who died in the Rwandan Genocide of 1994 weren't of value to us

either – in our 'national interest.'

On the other hand, the 3.7 million people who've died as a result of the 'civil wars' in Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and Sierra Leone have been worth our Diamonds. It also seems that the sex trafficking of 3 million women and children from Southeast Asia is worth about \$7 billion dollars a year.

Given humanity's current ability to overlook the value of human life and even worse, put a price on it, I wonder if it's the people of Iraq that are worth the price of both Iraqi and American peoples who have lost their lives and loved ones in that war?

Can you believe that air is .75 cents!

Genesis 1:27 And God created man in His own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. 28 And God blessed them...

DID YOU KNOW?

Mike (Dean of the Institute for G.O.D. Int'l) and Trinidad Garner met and married over 31 years ago while Mike was a 20 year old member of the United States Marine Corp on an extended deployment to the Philippines. While stationed at Cubi Pt. Mike traveled to the only place he had learned of that had Bibles in the Tagalog language. After purchasing all the Bibles in the shop Mike began to give them away on the streets of Olongapo City. However, Mike did not know that one of the Bibles he gave away would lead him to the girl whom he would marry.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:
RACHEL OLSON - 22ND