



# AGAPÉ CENTER

For Service And Learning

## ANNUAL REPORT 2004-2005



Service-Learning  Service and Mission Programs  Service Trips  
 World Christian Fellowship  Local Community Service  
 Outreach Teams  Dokimoi Ergatai  
 S.A.L.T. House  Barnabas Servant Leadership Award



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## AGAPÉ CENTER

Jenell J. Patton, former Director (fall semester '04)

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Gregory S. Anderson, Interim Director

This year can be summed up in one word—transitions. Often within the college setting there are times of growth and change, hopefully oftentimes with our students, but also in our programs and staff.

This year, much like every year, of our 40 student leaders within the Agapé Center, more than half of them transitioned into their leadership positions and stepped up to serve in a variety of ways with World Christian Fellowship, Outreach Teams, Service Trips, S.A.L.T. House or as an Agapé Center work-study.

All around campus faculty assisted students in thinking differently about their majors and their vocations by incorporating a component of service-learning into their courses. By connecting their course theories with real-life experiences, students grappled with the complexities associated with encountering the struggles of working with people in environments outside of the college campus.

Service Trips provided Fall, J-Term and Spring Break opportunities for Messiah students to transition their thinking in how they use their time and energy over breaks. Students wrestled with whether or not to spend a break relaxing at home or going to some warm-weathered city with friends, but instead opted for serving and living in transitional housing with the nation's marginalized.

Through World Christian Fellowship programs, the students were encouraged to consider living a life of cultural transition by becoming a missionary or being more involved in the world as a global Christian citizen. For instance, once a month they held an international dinner that featured a region of the world. A meal was prepared with food from this country. Before the meal, the students learned about the demographics of the country and the needs for sharing God's love.

Students involved in international service and mission trips, whether over Spring Break or in the summer months, experienced transitions in their own worldview and identities as they encountered culture shock while in country and also when they returned to the United States. They were confronted with the fact that how they saw the world around them was very different than the realities of the way things are and how others think and live.

Every week the hundreds of students who participated with Outreach Teams transitioned from their normal college life routine to broaden their education and serve in the Harrisburg region. They were forced to balance the tension of being at a private college while serving many individuals who may not be able to afford this type of education. Also, their service experiences helped enable them to straddle the transition from serving as a college student to making service a lifelong commitment once they graduate.

Now in an age of global community, where every night we can stay connected with news from around the world, students who lived at the S.A.L.T. (Serving and Living Together) House spent time as a community discerning and understanding the complexities of the world through their Tea and BBC evening meetings. Many of these students who had transitioned back to campus from serving or studying internationally found a place of respite and communal connection as they struggled with living *here*, but knowing what's beyond Grantham. Along with this, these five men and five women living in the duplex had to transition their lifestyles from being simply individuals, to living as part of the S.A.L.T. House community.

Transitions not only occurred this year with Agapé Center's programs and students, but also with the staff. At the end of the fall semester, Jenell Patton, Director, resigned and Greg Anderson stepped up to serve as the Interim Director. Also, due to a family need, Chaley Popelas, Local Community Service Director, resigned at the end of the spring semester. Next year, Rebecca Owen, who served as the Agapé Center Assistant, will be replacing Chaley as the Local Community Service Director. Therefore we will also now have a new assistant.

With any transition, there is anxiety, excitement and anticipation with what is to come. These staffing transitions in the Agapé Center are no different. We look forward to completing the search for the new Director of the Agapé Center who will provide new vision, renewed energy and future direction. In the meantime we work hard to maintain the standard of excellence established by the students, staff, faculty and community partners associated with our programs.

### **Suggestions for the future**

Over the course of the next few years, especially with the appointment of a new Director of the Agapé Center, we hope to bring clarity and purpose to role of the Agapé Center at Messiah College. Along with that, while maintaining the excellence of our co-curricular programming, we need to increase the value and usefulness of service-learning as an accepted and encouraged pedagogy at Messiah. This year we have been developing the foundations for an infrastructure to support and train faculty in incorporating service-learning into their course, but there is much more work to be done. Finally, there needs to be renewed efforts on building the Agapé Center's endowment to secure its role and functionality for the campus and broader Harrisburg community.

**Annual Report 2004-2005 respectfully submitted by Jenell Patton and Greg Anderson**



## **FACULTY SERVICE-LEARNING FELLOWS DIALOGUES PROJECT**

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Jenell Patton, Director of the Agapé Center (Fall Committee Chair)  
John W. Eby, Ph.D., Faculty Liaison for Service-Learning (Spring  
Committee Interim Chair)

In collaboration with the Boyer Center, the Faculty Service-Learning Fellows Dialogues Project continued this year, meeting twice each semester. The following faculty members were appointed by the Deans of the schools.

Stephen Gallaher, Christian Ministries, School of the Humanities (Spring 2005, only)  
Raeann Hamon, Family Science and Human Development, School of Education and Social  
Science  
Kathy Hettingua, Art, School of the Arts  
Kay Huber, Nursing, School of Health and Natural Science  
Brian Nejme, Computer Science, School of Mathematics, Engineering, and Business  
Vicki Root, Social Work, School of Education and Social Science  
Jenell Patton, Director of the Agapé Center  
Glenn Bucher, Director of the Boyer Center  
John W. Eby, Sociology, Faculty Liaison for Service-Learning

The purpose of forming the group was to develop a group of faculty who were informed about and committed to service-learning who could be advocates and consultants for service-learning in their respective schools. They would also be available for presentations and workshops on service-learning for the broader campus community.

One of the issues on campus is the lack of a consistent and widely used definition of service-learning. The group spent a great deal of time developing a proposed typology of service and definition of service-learning for use on campus. The Provost was able to participate in the spring semester meetings. These discussions and definitions will be helpful to the Provost and other campus bodies attempting to develop a common language and concepts. At this point no formal action on their acceptance has yet been taken. Two of the definitions are particularly helpful.

**Community Engagement** – *The broad range of service activities which link the college with the community, involve faculty, staff, and students, and strengthen the academic programs of the college and address community needs.*

**Service-Learning** – *A pedagogical model which intentionally integrates academic learning with community service in a credit bearing academic course. Students participate in an authentic service activity which meets needs identified by the community (designed within the framework of a mutually beneficial relationship), and critically reflect on that activity. Thus, students gain a deep understanding of course content, a commitment to socially responsible citizenship, and develop skills and understandings needed to contribute to civic well-being.*

**Certificate Proposal** - Participants in the Dialogues Project developed a proposal for a Service-Learning Certificate. This was recommended to the Provost for further action. Students would be invited to apply for the certificate which would be awarded after they complete 2 service-learning courses, 100 hours of service, and a series of other activities such as alternate chapels related to service and social change. They would form a learning community which would support their service involvement by providing a conceptual and theoretical reflection on material. Students would be involved in the program at least two years.

**Annual Report 2004-2005 respectfully submitted by John Eby**



## **BARNABAS SERVANT LEADERSHIP AWARD**

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The award is associated with the prestigious Barney II and Moore Foundations. The program serves as an effective instrument to the entire educational community by promoting the ideals of service that substantially benefits others.

Messiah's awarding is unique from other colleges and universities participating in the program because it is typically offered only to students. At the time of nominations, the two students we awarded were seniors. In conjunction with the Lilly Grant, Messiah College is now offering the Barnabas Servant Leadership Award annually to a Community of Educator member and an outstanding alumnae/alumnus. This year we awarded the five recipients at the November 30, 2004 Awards Chapel. The award includes a \$500 cash grant and a contribution of \$500 given in the name of the recipient to a charity chosen by the recipient and approved by the Barnabas selection committee.

Each year, candidates are nominated because she/he demonstrated significant contributions in the areas of ministry, community service and leadership. Listed below are the recipients for the 2004 Barnabas Servant Leadership Award and a brief description about their voluntary commitments.

### ***Tiffany Pierce, student recipient***

Charity of choice: Bombay Teen Challenge: Restoring Broken Lives

Tiffany was selected for the following areas of service:

- ☞ Tutored at Hispanic Center with Outreach Teams;
- ☞ Started a college and career small group at her church;
- ☞ Life Group Floor Coordinator;
- ☞ World Christian Fellowship Director, Publicist;
- ☞ Volunteered at Harrisburg Hospital;
- ☞ Youth Group Leader;
- ☞ Led a Service Trip to Atlanta, GA;
- ☞ Served older adults at Messiah Village.

### ***Jason Porterfield, student recipient***

Charity of choice: Gospel for Asia

Jason was selected for the following areas of service:

- ☞ Student Leader at Falcon Express;
- ☞ Youth Ministry Intern at Country & Town Baptist Church;
- ☞ Fellowship House Spring Break Service Trip Leader;
- ☞ Service Trip's Agency Coordinator;
- ☞ Member of the Messiah Student Movement leadership team.

***Mr. & Mrs. Carl Wolgemuth, alumnae recipients***

Charity of choice: Shalom Mennonite Church "Health Ministry"

Mr. & Mrs. Carl Wolgemuth were selected for the following areas of service:

- ☞ Served with Voluntary Service with Mennonite Central Committee;
- ☞ Offered pastoral guidance with Brethren in Christ Home Missions in connection with ministry to migrants;
- ☞ Served as a nurse-linguist with the Wycliffe Bible Translators;
- ☞ Provided language analysis and Bible translation in Nahuatl, the language of the Aztecs;
- ☞ Compiled and published the bilingual Nahuatl- Spanish dictionary and grammar, assisted by native speakers and consultants;
- ☞ Taught English as a Second Language courses;
- ☞ Currently they serve on the library committee of Shalom Mennonite, their home church.

***Kay Huber, faculty recipient***

Charity of choice: The Shared Ministry

Kay was selected for the following areas of service:

- ☞ Proposed, implemented and has operated the Wellness Center at Hoy Towers in Steelton;
- ☞ Admissions and Progression Committee;
- ☞ Chairperson of Portfolio Sub-Committee;
- ☞ Course Coordinator of NSG;
- ☞ Member of College Curriculum Committee (2002-2005);
- ☞ Faculty Service- Learning Fellow with The Dialogues Project;
- ☞ Involved in other committees and activities on and off campus.





# **SERVICE-LEARNING**

John W. Eby, Ph.D., Faculty Liaison

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## **Consultation**

During the past year, I consulted with a number of faculty members helping them understand service-learning and helping them think about ways to incorporate it in their classes. At least one person intends to write a dissertation about service-learning in her discipline. During the fall semester faculty members using service-learning were invited to an informal discussion to share ideas. About eight attended.

## **Faculty workshop**

During Faculty Development Week, a seminar was held for interested faculty. Research shows that service-learning is a particularly effective way to help students develop deep understanding of course content and also develop a sense of vocation. Our resource person was Madeline Yates, Director of the Vista Program of the Pennsylvania Campus Compact. She is a specialist in service-learning pedagogy with a degree in Human Development and Service-Learning. She works with 35 institutions in Pennsylvania and has consulted internationally. In addition, Dr. Raeann Hamon, Distinguished Professor of Human Development and Family Sciences, and Vicki Root, Director of Social Work and other participants shared models of service-learning they use. Fourteen people attended.

## **CCCU Grant**

A small group of 18 Christian college representatives met to discuss possible collaboration prior to the service-learning conference last June. Judy Hutchinson, Debra Fetterly and Kristen Gurrola from Azusa Pacific University (APU) and Jenell Patton and I from Messiah College coordinated the meeting. There is interest not only in that group, but in the broader academy in understanding the particular role and practice of Christian colleges in service-learning. Campus Compact is hoping to expand their Indicators of Engagement Project to include faith-based institutions.

In January I met with Judy Hutchinson at APU to make further plans. Prior to that, we had identified six varied institutions who were interested in further collaboration. These included three Catholic and three Protestant institutions, three urban and three rural ones, and two with diverse populations. We also developed a proposal for the Council of Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU) to support further collaboration and the development of a larger project. We were awarded a \$15,000 grant.

The first activity supported by the CCCU grant happened May 22 and 23, 2005. We were able to assemble a group of researchers who are studying spirituality and faith-based service-learning for dialogue and conversation. We were fortunate to get the top people in the field to participate in the project.

**Helen Astin**, Co-Director of the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA. They are conducting a study on spirituality among students. Jennifer Lindholm, the director of the project, spoke at the conference last spring.

**Lori Vogelsang** from HERI is director of a longitudinal study on the long term effects of participation in service-learning on students.

**Jennifer Meeropole**, Director of the Campus Compact Indicators of Engagement Project

**Bryan Hoyt**, Ohio University, is conducting a survey research project attempting to discover the moral and value impact of service-learning on students at faith-based institutions and at other institutions. Messiah and Azusa participated in the study.

**Regan Schaeffer**, Pepperdine University, did a dissertation study of service-learning at 90 CCCU member institutions.

**Garry Hesser**, Augsburg College, a national Campus Compact consultant.

**Dwight Giles**, University of Massachusetts, author with Janet Eyler, of *Where's the Learning in Service-Learning*. (He was not able to attend the meeting.)

### **Research Project**

Several faculty have made the students in their service-learning courses available to participate with Bryan Hoyt in his study of moral and value development. Students completed a survey instrument before the course began and after it was completed.

### **Campus Compact Ready Campus Project**

The Pennsylvania Campus Compact sponsors a large project to help college and university campuses develop capacity to respond to natural and human disasters. I wrote the Sociology section in a series of course designs.

### **Presentations**

There are two presentations and discussions that were of particular significance this year. Both were designed to increase interaction with groups with whom we have significant partnerships. They were designed to help our partners understand our educational objectives in service-learning activities, and at the same time help them help us understand how we can be most helpful to them. The one was to the persons who represented mission agencies during Mission Awareness Week in the fall. The other was to community partners last spring.

### **Publication of Papers**

After a number of detours, plans are now in place to publish some of the papers presented at the conference last spring in an informal photocopied format through Messiah College Press.

### **2006 Conference**

Another Service-Learning Conference for Faith-Based Colleges and Universities is planned for June 1-3, 2006. Liz Hollander, Executive Director of Campus Compact, has agreed to present the keynote address. Persons who met at APU listed above will also participate. The preliminary announcement has gone out. A call for papers will go soon. The conference will be coordinated with the CCCU grant.

## **The Future**

Service-learning is at a significant place at Messiah College. The programs are of high quality, but the service-learning, using Andy Furco's scale has not yet become institutionalized. In my opinion, The Dialogues Project has potential to do that. Jenell Patton made a significant contribution and gave helpful leadership. Her leaving at the end of first semester left a number of loose ends with The Dialogues Project. The inability to find a replacement and to postpone the search until next fall presents significant challenges for the next year.

## **Representative Courses with Service-Learning**

The list below is representative of courses which include service-learning. It is a self-reported list and consequently is not exhaustive. There are additional courses which are not reported because the faculty member does not define the course as a service-learning course, even though an objective person might do so.

There are other courses which would satisfy the criteria for a service-learning course, service related to needs identified by the community, structured and intentional reflection, and encouragement toward civic engagement, that are not reported.

There are courses which include a service component in education, social work, nursing, engineering, dietetics, and capstone courses in other majors. In addition there are nursing clinicals, social work field placements and student teaching which are not included. The list does not include community volunteer service projects, engineering projects, projects during breaks, and summer mission projects which are not course based, but which include very intentional reflection and learning components. The new General Education Core course includes participation in Service Day and several readings related to service and reflection built into the course. Next year all first year students will take that course!

<b>Professor</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Blackford, Randy	PSY 209: Life Span Development (2 sections)	22	Volunteer in local service agency
Eby, John W.	SOC 101: Principles of Sociology (2 sections)	35	Students served with Outreach Teams in a variety of service activities
Eby, John W.	SOC 356: Race Ethnicity and Gender	25	Students served with Outreach Teams in a variety of service activities where they related to persons of different classes, races, ethnicities and genders.
Eby, John W.	SVC 231: Foundations of Service, Mission and Social Change	18	Students serve during the summer with a variety of mission and service organizations in the US and overseas
Erickson, Carl	ENGR 102: Introduction to Engineering	11	Build sand filters to remove arsenic from ground water

Frey, Chad	IDS 101: First Year Seminar: Making Home Away From Home	16	Visiting with homeless people and distributing food and other supplies
Hamon, Raeann	SOC 231: Sociology of Aging	30	Interaction with older people at Messiah Village; Participation with them in volunteer activities; Creating a life story with their service-partner
Hettingua, Kathy	ART 347: Publication Portfolio	10	Students designed visual communication pieces for non-profit organizations
Kilmer, Robert	BIS 230: Computer Applications (2 sections)	38	Students taught 2 sections of Microsoft Excel to staff members of local non-profit organizations
Nejmeh, Brian	BIS 412: Systems Analysis and Design Applications	12	Build information system for an area non-profit organization
Nejmeh, Bryan	CSC 333: Database Applications	20	Build data base for an area non-profit agency
Parkyn, Linda	LNG 312: ESL	30	Tutoring refugee families in English
Root, Vicki	SOW: Helping Processes III, Groups	8	Consultation on organizational structure for local organization
Root, Vicki	SOW: Helping Processes IV, Communities	8	Volunteer in local service organizations
Root, Vicki	SOW 221: Human Behavior	15	Volunteer in local service organizations
Seitz, Charles	SOW 121: Introduction to Social Work	24	Volunteer in local service organizations
Seitz, Charles	SOW 203: Helping Processes I, Individuals	16	Volunteer in local service organizations
Seitz, Charles	SOW 204: Helping Processes II, Families	16	Volunteer in local service organizations
Witt, Kay	FSN 493: Nutrition and Dietetics Seminar	8	Interviewing and food distribution for SHARE
Witt, Kay	FSN 427: Practicum	1	Nutrition and health needs assessment for SHARE

Annual Report 2004-2005 respectfully submitted by John Eby

Organizations:
Allison Hill
ARMS Cumberland Vista
Boys and Girl's Club- John N. Hall
Brethren Housing Association
Canine Rescue of Central PA
Carlisle Habitat for Humanity
Carlisle Parks and Recreation
Carlisle YMCA (New Frontiers Camp)
Catholic Charities Interfaith Shelter
Catholic Worker House
CATRA
Center for Champions
Central PA Literacy Council
Christ Lutheran
Cumberland Crossings
CURE
Danzante
Falling Springs Nursing & Rehab.
Harrisburg Habitat for Humanity
Helen Krause Animal Foundation
HELP Ministries
Hidden Valley Boy Scout Camp
Kings Gap Environmental
Leukemia Society
Loveship Inc.
Meals on Wheels Mechanicsburg
Mechanicsburg Parks & Recreation
Messiah Village
Morning Star Pregnancy Center
Mount Pleasant Hispanic Center
Neighborhood Center
New Hope, Mechanicsburg
New Hope, Dillsburg
Paxton Ministries
Pride of the Neighborhood Academics
Project Share
Ronald McDonald House
Safe Harbour
Seidle Hospital
Silence of Mary Home
Silver Springs Courtyard
South Central PA Food Bank
St Paul's Episcopal Church
The Joshua House
UM Home for Children
Watershed Alliance of York
Wildwood Lake Sanctuary
York Habitat for Humanity
West Shore Evangelical Free

# INTO THE STREETS 2004

Report by Heather Norris

## Summary

Overall *Into the Streets* was a success. We had around 800 first year students, 48 transfer students, and 10 professors working with 49 agencies in the Harrisburg, Mechanicsburg, and Carlisle areas. Between them they played with kids, cleaned, weeded, did block clean up with the community, facilitated a festival for kids on their last day of summer camp, did activities with elderly residents, learned about farming and food pantry distribution, helped build a house, and picked apples at an orchard.

## Budget:

	Volunteer Services Budget	Welcome Week Budget
Transportation	\$6,460.00	
Copies/Supplies	\$100.00	
Food		\$186.00
		\$869.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$6,560.00</b>	<b>\$1,055.00</b>

## **Reflections & Challenges**

Praise God it was a sunny blue day this year and our first year students were able to do lots of outdoor service successfully. I was able to stay around Starry Field and talk to some of the peer leaders as well as faculty when they arrived back from their projects, and I was pleased with their feedback. I also was able to spend some time with the bus drivers between their routes and it was good to get helpful feedback from them such as narrow routes, lunch breaks, and providing cold bottled water next year.

Into the Streets is always loud and exciting and busy while there are hundreds of first year students trying to find their buses and several student leaders guiding them and people shouting directions. The best sort of noise was the cheering of the student helpers the peer groups arrived off the covered bridge and as each bus left campus. The parking was less organized this year than last because there were vehicles in the lot before the parking officers arrived. The bus helpers were very instrumental in guiding groups to buses, since the bus letters were not visible to everyone.

As we only had two groups per bus this year, directions were less of an issue. Also, I had mailed the routes I had made to the agencies beforehand so they could check them. I was pleased that many of them did respond back to me with suggestions and corrections. With only a couple of exceptions, buses were arriving to agencies within 15 minutes of their scheduled times. A point of confusion for the bus drivers is that they were not always picking up the groups they had dropped off. Because I had several non-local agencies, I divided the drop offs and the pick-ups as necessary so that one driver was not making two 45 minute long trips. A misunderstanding in these directions caused one group at a distant agency to be stranded for 45 minutes. However, their peer group leader used the time for fun and games and pizza and soda was provided to them upon their arrival on campus. I also was extremely impressed with the leadership skills I observed in the peer group leaders this year. I was impressed by the way they conducted their groups while waiting for buses to come on campus, the way many handled stressful situations, and what several did with their groups during the down time.

I felt more confident of my directions this year as well as my organizing abilities, however, I again found myself with more interested agencies than first year seminars. What I learned is that I inadvertently put agencies that must transition to summer programs at a disadvantage. The time my summer position begins is the time these agencies are the busiest, so when I am looking for their response they have other priorities. I worked on a first-come, first-serve basis when I need to be holding spaces for some of our older community partners. What I ended up with was a handful of new agencies while I did not have room for some older ones. Also, I had more than a few far agencies, which does not encourage the students to continue volunteering there, because they are not local. Next year, I decided I will delay sending out letters and making phone calls to agencies. With my aggressive personality, I tend to have it all done too quickly, leaving some interested, local agencies in the dust. I am pleased that we made connections with some new agencies that we will continue collaborating with in the future, but for the purposes of this day they did not need to be my focus.

**Annual Report 2004-2005 respectfully submitted by Heather Norris**

# SERVICE DAY 2005 FINAL REPORT

Chaley Popelas

**Total Participation:**

	2004	2005
Community Projects	524	626
Special Olympics	900	790
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1424</b>	<b>1416</b>

**2005 Off-Campus Participation:**

Students	424
Faculty/Staff	132

**Community Projects:**

Total Community Projects: 45

- 18 Organized by Staff or Faculty
- 7 Organized by Outreach Teams
- 12 Organized by Local Community Service Office
- 8 Organized by Students/Clubs

**Budget:**

Special Olympics T-Shirts	\$5,150
Off Campus Project T-Shirts	1,995
Box Lunches	679
Transportation	202
Supplies	87
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$8,113</b>

**Challenges and Improvements:**

- Recruiting continued to be a challenge for both Special Olympics and Off-Campus Projects.
- Form a task force in the fall to discuss Service Day and ways to continue to incorporate the day into the educational mission of Messiah College-brainstorm recruiting ideas (i.e. friendly competition between residence halls).
- Work-study should be present in Dining Services the morning of Service Day to pass out lunches to project leaders. This made the process less stressful for dining services.
- Add "t-shirt size" to registration forms to obtain a better estimate of number of sizes needed when ordering
- Send hard copy of information to project leaders in addition to email to insure the information is read.

Allison Hill Community Ministry	Harrisburg
Bell Socialization Services	York
Bethany Village	Mechanicsburg
Bethesda Mission	Harrisburg
Brethren Housing Association	Harrisburg
Caitlin's Smiles	on campus
Cancer Recovery Foundation of America	Harrisburg
Canine Rescue of Central PA	Harrisburg
Carlisle YMCA	Carlisle
Catholic Worker House	Harrisburg
Child Times	Carlisle
CURE International	Lemoyne
Danzante	Harrisburg
Dokimoi Ergatai	Grantham
First Church of God, Learning & Play Center	Mechanicsburg
Fort LeTort	Carlisle
Grace United Methodist	Harrisburg
Grantham Locale	Grantham
Habitat for Humanity-1	Carlisle
Habitat for Humanity-2	Harrisburg
Habitat for Humanity-3	Lancaster
Helen Krause Animal Foundation	Dillsburg
Hidden Valley Boy Scout Camp	Loysville
Historic Harrisburg Association	Harrisburg
Holy Towers	Steelton
John Harris Mansion	Harrisburg
Mechanicsburg Park and Recreation	Mechanicsburg
Messiah Village	Mechanicsburg
Migrant Education Retreat	Grantham
Mission Central	Mechanicsburg
Morning Star Pregnancy Center	
Mt. Pleasant Hispanic Center	Harrisburg
N. York County Historical & Preservation Society	Dillsburg
Paxton Ministries	Harrisburg
Project SHARE	Carlisle
Red Crown Bowling Alley	
Seidle Hospital	Harrisburg
Shenks Ferry Holtwood Land Reserve	York
Silence of Mary Home	Harrisburg
Silver Spring Courtyard	Mechanicsburg
St. Paul United Methodist Church	
Swatara Church of God	Harrisburg
The Outdoors Club	Yellow Breeches
West Shore Evangelical Free Church	Mechanicsburg
Wildwood Lake Sanctuary	



# OUTREACH TEAMS

Hierald Osorto, Director

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## **Introduction**

Reflecting on this year brings back many memories of triumphs, difficulties, times of joy, and moments of sadness. The students that volunteer with us on a regular basis, our coordinators, and the Agapé Center staff embody a life of servanthood as mandated by the message of Jesus Christ. Often when I take a step back and reflect on our students I see lives filled with busy schedules, commitments to friends, and the stress of doing well in college. But there is one thing that permeates this and it reminds me of a moment in *Tuesdays with Morrie* as Mitch Albom recounts, "The way you get meaning into your life is to devote yourself to loving others, devote yourself to your community around you, and devote yourself to creating something that gives you purpose and meaning." I see this reflected in the lives of each individual I encounter in Outreach Teams and the Agapé Center as a whole. This year was my third year, and as Director I have definitely seen enormous strides in our students' dedication to serving the community around them. There has been enormous growth in understanding the definition of service and it has been a very humbling experience.

I have had the great pleasure of serving as Director of Outreach for the 2004-2005 academic year. I am pleased to say that I will be remaining in this position for the following 2005-2006 academic year. This year we hired Chaley Popelas to fill the position of Local Community Service Director formerly held by Jill Terpstra. Returning staff member Kate Bauer worked alongside her as the Local Community Service Assistant Director. Chaley, Kate, and I shared the responsibility of leading a group of fourteen Outreach coordinators. We each met with five coordinators on a bi-weekly basis to lend assistance and have accountability. We also worked on implementing a new position called the Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator which will be filled next year. Along with this change, there will be a merging of Publicity and Computer and Technology coordinator positions which will form one position called Public Relations and Web Design.

## **Outreach Teams Overview**

Outreach Teams coordinated volunteer opportunities with 32 community partners in Harrisburg and the surrounding area. As a team, we worked on a covenant to remind us of our vision and direction: what it meant to not only volunteer in the community but also to bring back our experiences to educate the community here at Messiah. This year was also the first in which we began implementing the Bonner Leader model, which is still a work in process. As a team we met bi-weekly every other Tuesday to discuss issues that are pertinent to the world we live in. We covered a wide range of topics from fair trade to conflict mediation and were able to bring in several speakers that added to these discussions. I think this was one of the highlights of the year as we grew together in our understanding of social justice, realizing that it went beyond the local communities we all served. Along with this we also worked on understanding service and how it plays out not only in the commitment to volunteer on a weekly basis but in our lives as a whole. It was key to understand a holistic approach to service that went beyond a person serving another and instead embodied a mutual commitment to serve each other. We also worked alongside



Jeanell Austin, the VP of Educational Programs, to focus on recruiting more students of color into serving with our programs.

I was also able to attend a number of conferences that provided resources and insight into Outreach Teams. In the fall semester I attended the National Christian Multicultural Student Leaders Conference and learned the meaning of being many parts in the body of Christ but ultimately belonging to one. This allowed me to also gain insights into the struggles of students of color on other Christian college campuses and the disconnect often felt with offices such as ours. In October I also attended the Pennsylvania Statewide Latino Coalition Conference along with another student leader, Daniel Mercado. This conference allowed us to create multiple connections with the Latino community and provided many resources that I was able to pass along to the Latino and Migrant Coordinator, Esther Dobos. In the spring, two of our coordinators, Megan Wells and Katherine McCormick, were able to attend the United Students for Fair Trade National Convergence in Chicago and bring back a wealth of resources that proved to be very beneficial not only to us in Outreach Teams but to the campus as a whole. I was able to end the semester by attending the COOL Conference in San Francisco with Chaley Popelas, Kate Bauer, Ben Lamb, and Signe Henkel. This provided a number of networking opportunities with other college campuses that are involved in community service work. We gained a great deal of insight on the resources available to us and attended a number of seminars that provided growth for us as individuals and ideas on what we can do better with our own positions.

## **Recruiting**

There were two important recruiting events that were conducted by Outreach: the Ice Cream Social in the beginning of the fall semester and the Volunteer Fair in the beginning of the spring semester. These were supplemented with the more general outlets of recruitment provided by the Student Government Association. These events allowed us to recruit a number of students for our more than 30 teams. Our Publicity Coordinator was more proactive on getting the word out about our programs and set up a bulletin board outside of the dining hall always highlighting one of our teams. There were also a number of articles written in the *Swinging Bridge* that highlighted one of the teams that was serving in the community.

## **Highlights**

One of the main events that I planned and implemented was the Urban Promise weekend on campus. Each year a group of 75 third, fourth, and fifth graders come from Camden, NJ and Wilmington, DE to spend a weekend at Messiah. It is meant to expose them to college life, provide an opportunity for personal growth, and, of course, be a lot of fun. I believe this year the event went well because it was well organized and some activities were changed to engage the students more directly. There was also good communication between Urban Promise and Messiah which, fortunately, was established through the efforts of last year's Director. We also had our yearly Migrant Education retreat in the fall. This retreat carries the same purpose as the Urban Promise weekend except it is with middle school students who are involved with the Migrant Education program in their school districts. This year there were also a number of alternate chapels that were planned by our student leaders. Two other events that stand out were Hunger and Homelessness Week and the Human Rights Awareness Fair. Our coordinators worked very hard along with other students to make these week-long events happen, and they

proved to be very successful. Another highlight was the drive organized by Jessica Falkner, the Human Rights Coordinator, for a Carlisle family that was victim to a devastating fire that destroyed their home and personal belongings. Through this effort they were able to provide a month's supply of goods, clothing, and furniture. I was also able to work with the Student Government Association on implementing a position in Student Forum for organizations such as ours that would have a voting status. This was crucial as it is Student Forum that passes our budgets for the year, and to have a say in this process is very important.

One of the major difficulties for us was the fact that we were all very busy and at times this would be reflected in our work. I believe this fact always causes some minor problems, but I am glad to say we were able to work through it. All of our coordinators have been selected for next year and I see another year full of committed, hardworking, and creative students. Also, Chaley Popelas the Local Community Service Director will not be returning and will be missed by all of us. We are excited, though, about the hiring of Becky Owen to take her place.

### **Into the Future...**

In the future, our hope is that we will continue to work to be living examples of the life Jesus Christ. To continually serve is not our privilege but our call as Christians. Our hope is that in this process our students discover that we should be addressing the reasons while we are still seeking ways to serve. We hope to create a constant reflection on the root of the problem and understanding that our work should only be temporal. Also, it is vital that our coordinators make themselves available as much as possible to the Messiah campus and the Harrisburg community. I see our leaders as bridge builders between the two, which is truly an amazing thing. This is the essence of service. My hope is that in continuing our efforts to serve the wider community, our students become more engaged in issues affecting marginalized groups. Engaging in this approach is crucial in order to have an understanding as to why inequality occurs. My hope is that our students engage this problem and lead others to a wider understanding of the world as a whole. Our service in Harrisburg is a mere glimpse of the realities existing in the world around us. We also hope to be open to possible new volunteer opportunities coming this next academic year depending on the requests of the community.

This year has been very amazing, and it has been a pleasure to work with all of the coordinators. I hope to continue to be humbled by my encounters and grow together with each person I meet in this office. The best piece of advice I can offer is to remember that we are all human beings created in the image of God, and that in our effort to serve one another this message continues to be remembered. I hope to continue to grow in the vision and purpose of Outreach Teams. I am thankful to be a small contributing part of this effort and I am excited about the change and growth that we will all experience in the coming years.

**Annual Report 2004-2005 respectfully submitted by Hieraal Osorto**



# **NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SERVICE AND MISSION**

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Greg Anderson, Director

This year was filled with many very exciting changes, additions and redesigns. Upon completing my initial year last year, I listed a number of areas within the National and International Service and Mission programs where I could see possible improvement. This year was the time for making changes to work towards that improvement. Some of this revamping included: a new Service and Mission trip design; a new more adaptable role for team advisors; an increased focus on student leadership development; a new system for tracking students, details and funding for the mission teams; the creation of a new Spring Break mission partnership; and a new team training curriculum. Early signs from this year reveal that the changes were a great success, with areas (as always) for future adjustments to the new changes.

## **Service and Mission Teams**

### **Spring Break**

This was the fourth year to have one of our Service and Mission teams return to Northern Ireland for Spring Break. We returned to the same partnership, a local Nazarene church, which was established last year for continued ministry within the community of Lurgan. For some of the students on this 10 person team this was their second or third time back to the Lurgan community, and relationships with the youth that were established before picked up where they left off. The team found a special blessing in the fact that they could see the work God had done through them over the last year. They were able to spend time with, and disciple a number of students who last year came to know Christ through their ministry and were growing in the church throughout this year. They were also able to return to some of the elementary, middle and high school classrooms they visited before with presentations of the gospel. Many of the teachers and students remembered them and were anxious to have them back. Our students were able to witness first hand the transforming power of Christ in the church and community. They were able to see Christ's love and work in reconciliation among certain neighbors of Lurgan, a hotbed for religious turmoil between Catholics and Protestants. Thank you to the leadership of Chad Frey completing his fourth consecutive year in advising this team.

Upon witnessing the great success of having a consistent and established program like the Northern Ireland Spring Break team, and seeing the great desire on campus for more Spring Break international mission options, I decided to add one more trip. As a unique design for this trip style in the future, it is my goal that I partner with various groups on campus to be a part of this trip each year. This year I partnered with The Loft and Who's Zoomin' Who. We sent a team of 11 students, advised by Tim Bogertman and his wife Krista, to Belize City, Belize to serve in an impoverished area of the city known as the Burial Grounds. Here the team partnered with a college team from Penn State and served under Mission to the World, a well established holistic community development mission. The team served the community by doing construction on a church and school, as well as helped MTW build relationships with the community through holding Bible studies for the adults and Vacation Bible School for the

children. The team had an amazing experience and highly encouraged me to consider this as a consistent partnership and location in the future. One advantage of maintaining a consistent partnership is having students who want to return as leaders and workers that they may continue to serve the area they are now passionate about. This increases the likelihood of their commitment to world awareness and mission well beyond college. Also, logistically, it is much easier to maintain a consistent established partnership for both the receiving organization and Messiah.

### **Summer 2005**

**A New Model:** As I went through my first year at Messiah I learned much about the advantages and disadvantages of short-term missions experienced here, at other institutions and by the receiving organizations. Here is a short list of what I learned:

- Even though the team can complete large and important projects quickly, larger teams take a great amount of energy to manage by the in-country missionaries. They become distracted from their normal daily work.
- Two weeks trips, like what we have always done, are good for those who are new to missions and international travel, but don't really get students more richly into the culture for deeper identity, worldview, faith, and cultural awareness development. Some students desire, and would benefit from that deeper connection.
- Smaller teams that serve in-country for longer times can have a greater sustaining impact on the community, an increased opportunity for cross-cultural relationship development between our students and the locals, a more supportive and manageable group for the missionary, and the additional opportunity to possibly help missionaries manage additional larger teams serving for a week or two.
- There is student interest and desire on our campus for this type of experience.

With that in mind, I created a proposal that outlined reducing the number of current 15 person two week summer teams from three down to two. Then I would add two teams that would consist of three to seven students serving in-country for 4 to 12 weeks. Also, because an advisor couldn't be gone that long, I would increase the leadership development and preparedness for the student coordinators and transfer ownership and leadership of the teams to the in-country mission representatives.

Another discovery I quickly made last year was the lack of interest by Messiah faculty and staff to lead a Messiah Service and Mission team due to the year-long weekly time-demanding efforts needed to be the leader. So, along with the need to create a more improved training program for these extended team student coordinators, I decided to do the same training for all of the student coordinators. The student coordinators would then lead the weekly team preparation meetings and take care of all of the team details. The advisor would simply meet bi-weekly with the coordinators for mentoring and check-in, be required to attend at least two team meetings each semester, participate in the orientation retreat weekend in the spring, and actually go on and fully participate in the trip. Any more commitment than that was up to the advisor. With this new model I was able to quickly fill the needed advisor positions this year, and all were thankful for the new model. It still could use some tweaking, but I think it was a good change.

Throughout all of this, the National and International Service and Mission office continued to work closely with the Publications and Development offices to produce quality letters, thank you notes, and updates that kept each team's individual supporters informed and encouraged for ways in which to pray for the team. As a result of these efforts, the gifts from the donors, the team's fundraising efforts (including selling discount cards, used CDs, Sheetz coupons and ducks for the Ducky Derby), we were able to *exceed* the funding needs for this year's mission teams.

### ***Short-Term Summer Teams:***

**Philippines:** Serving through Food for the Hungry, this team of 13 students, advised by Faith Minnich and Ryan Wilson, served a local church and community in the small city of Los Banos, about 100 miles south of Manila. During their two week period they served in a variety of ways including construction, a summer youth discipleship retreat, a two day kids camp, and outreaches to the local community. The team was stretched by eating new foods, doing a night in a home-stay, trying out the language, loving people, and being loved by people who are literally on the other side of the world. Many have returned home transformed in their understanding of their faith, poverty, wealth, service and leadership. This is the second time we have sent a team to the Philippines, and again it was incredibly impacting.

**Dominican Republic:** This team of 11 students, advised by Kevin Villegas, traveled to Santo Domingo for the first few days and then up to Hato Mayo through the leadership of Bridge Builders. While in Santo Domingo they developed close ties with a local church, which included a night of home-stays. They also attended a couple of different talks about the culture and history of the Dominican Republic and received some language training. Then they headed up to the Compassion International site in Hato Mayor to serve the remainder of the time. While there they of course played often with the roughly 230 kids located at that site, but also worked on the construction of a new multipurpose building for the kids. Through this opportunity, the Messiah team was able to see multiple ways in which to serve the Dominican people through a variety of different missions. This trip was very successful.

### ***Extended-Term Summer Teams:***

**Japan:** One advantage of working within this new model of summer mission teams is that we can connect with organizations that didn't have opportunities available to us in the two week model. One of such organizations is Asian Access. Through Asian Access this summer we have a four person team serving six weeks at the Inchigao Christ Church in Yokohama. These students, coordinated by John Chase, will be involved in a variety of ministries specifically serving the community outreach needs of that church. Less than 1% of Japan is Christian, and among other hurtful things happening in Japan, their suicide rate is soaring. There is simply a lack of hope and purpose. It is the goal of these students, serving through this church, to offer that love and hope in Christ to the community. They will be involved in running talent shows, coffee houses, karaoke nights, putting on street skits, and hanging out with the youth of the city. Through all of this, these four students will have an incredibly impacting experience. We will be anxious for their return in mid-August.

**Chile:** Last year Erik Lindquist, Assistant Professor of Biology and Environmental Science, approached me with his passion for the community of Puerto Mont, Chile. He himself

had been there multiple times and had led many teams to the community. His vision was to send a group of students for a two month period to the community to serve while helping to receive other teams from the US. Through this new model it became possible. A team of seven students left on June 1<sup>st</sup> for eight weeks of service in Puerto Mont, Chile. Erik and his family will be meeting them down there in the beginning of July. The two student coordinators are Andrea Ramsey and Heather Bruyere, who are both veterans in international missions. While there they will be living in home-stays the entire time. They will be continually working on the construction of an elementary school, while also teaching English as a second language to youth and helping to receive and coordinate a couple other two week U.S. teams who will be arriving and serving while they are there. We've already heard some wonderful stories through their communication over email, but we will be anxious to hear more upon their return at the beginning of August.

### **Individual Summer Service and Mission**

This summer there will be 41 students, including 19 students taking the service-learning course, traveling to 25+ different countries to serve with over 20 different mission organizations. Their ministries will range from serving in inner city New York or outreach to Muslim, Arabs in Syria, to medical missions in Africa or serving in orphanages in Central America. Many of these students learned about these opportunities through November's Mission Awareness Week and resources available in the Agapé Center. Scholarships and grants totaling \$51,000 were awarded to 27 of these students to help defray their expenses and subsidize their lost summer earnings. Many of these individuals participated in the spring semester Orientation retreat to help prepare them for their cross-cultural ministry.

### **Learning Through Service and Mission**

We are very thankful for the students excited about and actively pursuing service opportunities through Messiah. It is not only our goal to provide them with those opportunities, but make them as engaging and transforming as possible for both the student and the community in which they serve. Therefore a preparedness and understanding of service, as well as a reflection and processing of that experience, is very important to us. We also take very seriously, and with great joy, the development of student leaders. These leaders then serve as mentors, equippers and facilitators for their various teams. When dealing with international travel experience, this increases the importance of effective leaders. Included at the end is an outline of the '04-'05 training curriculum used for the team and student coordinator preparation.

### **Advising Student Led Initiatives**

Serving as advisor for the two student organizations, World Christian Fellowship and Service Trips, is one of the greatest joys of this position. These student-led groups are full of energy and passion about their mission, which motivates them to do some amazing things on campus and around the country. My role is specifically to mentor the student director of each team, training them in leadership and providing counsel, encouragement and direction when needed. I also try and attend their meetings bi-weekly to spend time with them and attend as many of their campus programs as possible.

Sadly, due to increased responsibility with my other role as Interim Director of the Agapé Center, my time spent with these two groups this past spring was greatly reduced. I still mentored the directors, but was unable to attend as many of their meetings and events. But,

being student-led, both groups ran quite smoothly and had amazing impacts on campus. I encourage you to read each of their reports later in this Annual Report.

**Service Trips Summary:** Once again all of Service Trips' Fall, J-Term and Spring Break trips were very successful. 156 students participated in the 16 different teams throughout this year. Some of the highlights include three unique trips. Upon request by the students on campus, the Agency Coordinator was able to connect with a ministry on a Native American reservation in South Dakota for Spring Break. This trip was filled a full month in advance with a 10 person waiting list. Also upon request, he was able to send a team through Mennonite Disaster Service to the Hurricane victims in Florida. He was also able to set up a unique opportunity to send a Fall Break team to the Bruderhof intentional Christian community near Pittsburgh. Similar to last year, Service Trips staff was very intentional about helping Messiah students learn about and serve specific topics such as poverty, homelessness, racial issues, etc at their associated service site.

**World Christian Fellowship:** Running on a calendar year leadership model, this fall the WCF team started out strong and hit the ground running in all of their programs. They had an excellent turnout for Canoe-a-thon in October, all of their Salt and Light chapels, their new Member Meetings and International Dinners. One of the areas of greatest growth was with Mission Awareness Week. Working directly with the MAW coordinators on this, we were intentional about making the week not only more impacting and effective for the campus, but also "conference-like," being restful, educational and interactive, for the over 30 mission representatives in attendance. For many of the representatives, they responded this year as being the best year they have ever had at Messiah, both in student interest and in their own rest, networking and growth. Many of these mission agency representatives attend these MAWs at multiple Christian campuses around the country. They consistently rank Messiah's MAW as one of the best and are shocked to know that it is primarily student led.

## **Summary**

In summary, this has been a very exciting year. It has been one of great transition, but also of great success. It has been an intentional attempt that through these programs there is a greater care of and development for the students, as well as the community partners we serve. This next year I look forward to not creating anything new, but working to stabilize the changes, refine, assess and strive towards excellence in all of these programs. One of the resources I look forward to developing even more is the use of our website for providing materials and resources for the teams and individuals doing missions through Messiah, as well as providing options for service, civic engagement and post-graduation service opportunities for the broader campus community.

Finally, once we have found a new Director for the Agapé Center, I look forward to deepening my relationships with the students I work with, to engage them more in mentoring and discipleship.

**Annual Report 2004-2005 respectfully submitted by Greg Anderson**

## Team Training Master Schedule Summer Teams

<u>Team Training Schedule</u>	<u>Coordinator Training Schedule</u>
<p><b>September</b> Wk 1- Wk 4 Trips Advertised</p>	<p><b>September</b> Wk 1- Wk 3 Team coordinator positions are advertised</p>
<p><b>October</b> Wk 1- Wk 3 Trips Advertised</p>	<p>Wk 4 Team Coordinators chosen</p> <p><b>October</b> Wk 1 Attend Info Night - be introduced as team coordinators.</p>
<p>Wk 4 Participant Applications Due</p>	<p>Wk 2 Team Coordinator Meeting – <i>Interviewing Candidates and Choosing a Team, given resource training binder and journals for note keeping and reflections.</i></p>
<p><b>November</b> Wk 1 Summer Coordinators interview candidates.</p>	<p>Wk 3 Coordinator Prayer Time – <i>Reflection: Psalm 8</i> Discipleship with Director – <i>2-3 coordinators at a time meet with Director, Creation – Genesis 1&amp;2, Psalm 19</i></p>
<p>Wk 2 Summer Teams notified</p>	<p>Wk 4 Coordinator Prayer Time - <i>Reflection: Psalm 23</i> Discipleship with Director – <i>Fall – Genesis 3, Romans 1:18-32</i></p>
<p>Wk 3 Large Group Training (all teams together) – <i>Support/Fund Raising Training</i></p>	<p><b>November</b> Wk 1 Summer Coordinators interview candidates.</p>
<p>Wk 4 Off – <i>Thanksgiving Week</i> Participants compile addresses and prep mailers</p>	<p>Wk 2 Team Coordinator Meeting – <i>Working with a new team – Discovering Gifts, Etc.</i></p>
<p><b>December</b> Wk 1 Appeal mailers sent out Deposits due to Business Office Team Meetings – <i>(picture of team taken) – Team Introductions and Testimonies (1/2 Testimonies)</i></p>	<p>Wk 3 Large Group Training - <i>Support/Fund Raising Training</i> Discipleship with Director – <i>Redemption – Romans 3:21-26, Romans 8:18-39</i></p>
<p>Wk 2 – Wk 4 Off – <i>Christmas Break</i></p>	<p>Wk 4 Off – <i>Thanksgiving Week</i> Participants compile addresses and prep mailers</p>
<p><b>January</b> Wk 1 Off – <i>Returning from Christmas Break</i></p>	<p><b>December</b> Wk 1 Appeal mailers sent out Deposits due to Business Office Team Meetings <i>(Coordinators lead all team meetings)</i> Team Coordinator Meeting – <i>Team Building Techniques – From Many to One</i></p>
<p>Wk 2 Teams Meet – <i>Team Building (1/2 Testimonies)</i></p>	<p>Wk 2 Coordinator Prayer Time – <i>Reflection: Psalm 24</i></p>
<p>Wk 3 Large Group Meeting – <i>Spiritual Preparation</i></p>	<p>Wk 3–Wk 5 Off – <i>Christmas Break</i></p>
<p>Wk 4 Off – <i>J-Term Break</i></p>	<p><b>January</b> Wk 1 Off – <i>Returning from Christmas Break</i></p>
	<p>Wk 2 Teams Meet <i>(Coordinators lead all team meetings)</i> Team Coordinator Meeting – <i>Forming a Team Covenant</i></p>
	<p>Wk 3 Large Group Meeting – <i>Spiritual Preparation</i> Coordinator Prayer Time – <i>Reflection: Psalm 46</i> Discipleship with the Director – <i>We Do Not Lose Heart - 2nd Cor. 4:1-6, Ref. the Glory pp. 26-31</i></p>
	<p>Wk 4 Off – <i>J-Term Break</i></p>



# Team Training Master Schedule

## Summer Teams

<u>Team Training Schedule</u>	<u>Coordinator Training Schedule</u>
<b>February</b>	<b>February</b>
Wk 1 Teams Meet – <i>Making a Team Covenant</i> Summer teams begin discount card fundraiser	Wk 1 Teams Meet ( <i>Coordinators lead all team meetings</i> ) Team Coordinator Meeting – <i>What We can Learn From Information on a Country</i>
Wk 2 Teams Meet – <i>Understanding the Country</i>	Wk 2 Teams Meet ( <i>Coordinators lead all team meetings</i> ) Coordinator Prayer Time – <i>Reflection: Psalm 47</i> Discipleship with the Director – <i>Our Jars of Clay - 2nd Cor. 4:7-15, Ref the Glory p 32-37</i>
Wk 3 Large Group Meeting – <i>Worldview and Holistic Community Development</i>	Wk 3 Large Group Meeting – <i>Worldview and Holistic Community Development</i> Team Coordinator Meeting – <i>Leading a Bible Study/Bible study on Leadership</i>
Wk 4 Summer Teams Meet – <i>Understanding Short Term Missions</i>	Wk 4 Teams Meet ( <i>Coordinators lead all team meetings</i> ) Discipleship with the Director – <i>A Transforming Glory - 2nd Cor. 2:14-17, 3:18, Ref. the Glory pp. 12-14, 24-25</i>
<b>March</b>	<b>March</b>
Wk 1 Teams – <i>Off</i> - Teams Collect CDs/DVDs for sale	Wk 1 Coordinator Prayer Time – <i>Reflection: Psalm 100</i>
Wk 2 <i>Off - Spring Break</i>	Wk 2 <i>Off - Spring Break</i>
Wk 3 Teams Meet – <i>Bible Study on Service</i>	Wk 3 Teams Meet ( <i>Coordinators lead all team meetings</i> ) Coordinator Prayer Time – <i>Reflection: Psalm 113</i> Discipleship with the Director – <i>Reacting to a Living Hope - 1 Peter 1:3-9, 13-23</i>
Wk 4 Large Group Meeting – <i>Evangelism</i>	Wk 4 Large Group Meeting – <i>Evangelism</i> Team Coordinator Meeting – <i>Mediation and Conflict Resolution Training</i>
Wk 5 Teams Meet – <i>Team Gifts and Personalities</i> Teams CD/DVD sale	Wk 5 Teams Meet ( <i>Coordinators lead all team meetings</i> ) Coordinator Prayer Time – <i>Reflection: Psalm 121</i> Discipleship with the Director – <i>A Royal Priesthood - 1 Peter 2:4-12</i>
<b>April</b>	<b>April</b>
* Apr 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> Orientation Retreat – <i>Cross Cultural Training and Preparation</i>	* Apr 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> Orientation Retreat – <i>Cross Cultural Training and Preparation</i>
Wk 1 <i>Off – Break After Retreat</i> Teams begin collecting Ducky Derby Prizes and Selling Ducks	Wk 1 <i>Off – Break After Retreat</i>
Wk 2 Teams Meet – <i>Conflict Resolution and Language Training</i>	Wk 2 Teams Meet ( <i>Coordinators lead all team meetings</i> ) Team Coordinator Meeting – <i>Processing While on the Field</i>
Wk 3 Large Group Meeting – <i>On-Field Details and Risk Management Procedures</i>	Wk 3 Large Group Meeting – <i>On-Field Details</i> Coordinator Prayer Time – <i>Reflection: Psalm 130</i> Discipleship with the Director – <i>Living for God - 1 Peter 4:1-11</i>
Wk 4 Teams Meet – <i>Leader's Choice</i> Teams run Ducky Derby	Wk 4 Teams Meet ( <i>Coordinators lead all team meetings</i> ) Team Coordinator Meeting – <i>What to Expect and Prepare for</i>
<b>May</b>	<b>May</b>
Wk 1 Teams Meet - <i>Final Prep</i>	Wk 1 Teams Meet ( <i>Coordinators lead all team meetings</i> ) CPT – <i>Reflection: Psalm 150</i>
Wk 2–Wk 4 <i>Off – Summer Break</i>	Wk 2–Wk 4 <i>Off – Summer Break</i>
<b>June – August</b> <i>Summer Teams Out</i>	<b>June – August</b> <i>Summer Teams Out</i>
<b>September</b>	<b>September</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Weekend – <i>Summer Experience Re-Entry Retreat</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> Weekend – <i>Summer Experience Re-Entry Retreat</i>



# SERVICE TRIPS

Heather Bechtel, Director

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*The rain came down, the streams rose and the winds blew and beat against the house, Yet it did not fall because it had its foundation on the Rock. Matthew 7:25*

## **Introduction**

I will look back on my time as Service Trips Director very fondly both for the incredible staff I was blessed to work with and for the opportunities I was given to grow as a leader. Besides me, the staff is composed of unpaid volunteers who are dedicated to providing other Messiah students with the opportunity to serve during their breaks at sites that are of interest to the student body. Our Agency Coordinator, Jason Porterfield, responded to students' request to repeat past trips, such as the Fellowship House, and offer new trips, such as those dealing with Native American issues and hurricane clean-up efforts. Trevor Diaz served as Leadership Coordinator who was responsible for finding and interviewing potential trips leaders, as well as providing them with the information and training needed to be a trip leader. Kristine Harvey, Participant Coordinator, advertised upcoming trips, interacted with the participants to place them on trips and collected necessary information and forms from those participants. Our Education Coordinator, Deborah Moss, provided resources to the leaders and teams concerning the different topics of service they would be involved with and practical information about the site of their trip. None of this would be possible without Amy Merrill, Stewardship Coordinator, who was responsible for submitting our budget proposals to SGA and providing each trip with the funds needed during their time of service. As a staff we had weekly meetings to collaborate together and everyone worked on their own time to complete what was necessary for their position. They were a dedicated, selfless team and I will always remember their acts of service.

This year Service Trips has been able to meet its goals and visions by continuing to assist students in meeting part of the college's mission statement to "educate men and women toward maturity of intellect, character, and Christian faith in preparation *for lives of service*, leadership, and reconciliation in church and society." This is also the goal of Service Trips, to promote service as a continuing part of students' lives while in college and beyond. Our vision is to have as many students as possible participate in a Service Trip to experience different areas of service including: serving in soup kitchens, building houses, playing with children, and many more. We also want students to learn about the issues that contribute to the situations where they are serving and use that knowledge to live as responsible Christians showing Christ's love to all.

## **Summary of the year**

This year Service Trips consisted of an entirely new staff (except for me, who served in a different capacity). In the fall we began immediately preparing for our **fall break** trips. To advertise we did an alternate chapel with a panel of former participants. This chapel was very well attended and was an effective way of informing people more specifically about what service trips are all about. We had full trips for the fall much more quickly than last year as a result. We also used the normal methods of campus advertisement as well, including Channel 6, Community News, mass e-mails, flyers around campus, and a campus-wide phone message.

For fall break we sent teams of students to the following three locations: New Meadow Run Bruderhof Community in Farmington, PA; Fellowship House in Camden, NJ; and Center for Student Missions in Philadelphia, PA. Both CSM and Fellowship House have been used as trips sites before and each of these trips had a wonderful time and it was nice to continue our relationships with each of them. While both of these trips consisted of ten participants, the New Meadow Run Bruderhof trip, a new trip this year, was not full as several trips members decided not to go at the last minute (some due to family sickness). When each trip returned we held a debriefing session to learn about their trip and asked each participant to complete a site evaluation, to provide us with feedback on their experience with the site they served, and leader evaluation.

Following fall break we began working on J-term break and spring break trips. Late fall becomes very busy for Service Trips because most sites must be booked months in advance and while we only send three trips for fall and J-term breaks that last for three days, we send ten trips for a week during spring break. Our agency coordinator was able to book all of our J-term trips and most of our spring break trips before leaving for Christmas vacation. This allowed our participant and leader coordinator to begin advertising these trips before students left for break. Before Christmas break we sent out a lively campus-wide phone message informing them about the dates for J-term trips and encouraged them to apply. A mass e-mail message with applications attached was another effective way we advertised for J-term. We also set-up a table outside of Lottie for two evenings which was staffed by Service Trips coordinators to answer questions and hand out applications. The three **J-term break** trips filled up completely several weeks before the break. We sent three teams of students to the following locations: World Impact in Newark, NJ; The Rescue Mission in Syracuse, NY; and The Haft in New Albany, PA. Of these three trips only The Rescue Mission had been used previously by Service Trips. This trip also booked the quickest with many participants who had been there before signing up to return. Because of the large response to J-term trips we were able attain permission from World Impact to send fifteen students instead of 10 - our largest trip ever sent to a site! Finally, The Haft team consisted of the new members of WCF who wanted to go on a service project together to build team unity. Similar to fall break, upon their return we held a debriefing session for each team and had them complete site and leader evaluations.

Service Trip's largest project is to plan **spring break** trips. Since these trips extend over a longer period of time we provide each trip leader with more extensive information. For fall and J-term break leaders we meet with them and provide them with a packet of information for their trips and go over each of their schedules with them. For the spring break trips, however, we take the trip leaders to a site for the weekend to go through an extensive leadership training manual that we have assembled and work through it with them during the weekend, while also engaging in service projects and meeting with them individually to go over trip details. This year the retreat was at the Fellowship House and was attended by all but one leader. Everyone reported having a great time, receiving useful information.

The spring break trips also filled up quickly. Our main methods of advertisement for this break were word of mouth and mass e-mails. At least one class (Native American Cultures) found out about our trip to Pine Ridge Reservation and spread the word. That trip was filled up at least a month in advance. Many participants from fall and J-term break trips returned,

bringing friends. Additionally, activity fairs were helpful to spread the word for this and other break trips. Of the 102 spaces we had for participants, 99 were filled with teams going to the following sites: DOOR in Atlanta, GA; DOOR in Chicago, IL; Fellowship House in Camden, NJ; Habitat for Humanity in Newburgh, NY; Habitat for Humanity in Concord, NC; His Mansion in Hillsboro, NH; Mennonite Disaster Service in Century, FL; YouthWorks (Native American Ministry) in Pine Ridge, SD; Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) in Thibodaux, LA; and SWAP in Elkhorn, WV. Two weeks after the trips returned Service Trips sponsored an alternate chapel for the participants to come and share their experiences. Besides this feedback session, they also completed evaluations and each agency was called to determine their perspective of the trips. All of the trips were a great success!!

**Make suggestions for the future**

This year, I believe, Service Trips was successful in advertising to a wide body of Messiah College Students. We did this in two new ways: the alternate chapel before fall break and a table outside of Lottie for J-term and spring breaks in J-term. While our fall trips were not as full as the J-term and spring break trips, this was probably do to the large number of students who decide to go home for this first break. In the future I would suggest continuing to find new ways to advertise trips, begin advertising early, and do so through multiple avenues.

Trip:	Fall	J-term	Spring
Number of Participants	23	34	99

**Suggestions**

I would strongly suggest a review of how the budget for Service Trips is allotted. Due to the necessity of booking trips well in advance of when we have our budget approved, this year we have gone over budget. At the end of this year, we conducted a special fundraiser to reduce the amount over budget. This problem is foreseeable in the future if steps are not taken to change the budget allocation system. Since trips for the spring must be booked before Christmas break, Service Trips is able to calculate very closely how much money is needed to cover the expenses. However, the budget system does not currently take this into consideration and we only receive a portion of what is asked for each semester. Because we know we will only receive a portion of what is ask for, we ask for more than what is necessary in hope of getting what we need. I believe a better method would be to provide Service Trips with some type of fixed percentage of SGA’s budget or proportion of money at the beginning of the year so we can plan our trips accordingly and not go over budget in the future.

Another contribution to the budget problem this year, as shown in the following table, is the drastically smaller amount of money Service Trips received in comparison to the previous year:

	Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Spring 2004	Spring 2005
Requested:	\$11,880.00	\$12,730.00	\$23,840.00	\$21,659.79
Received:	\$10,000.00	\$8,500.00	\$21,000.00	\$15,000.00

Therefore, for the ‘04-‘05 fiscal year, we received \$7,500 less in funding than the previous year. While we ask participants to contribute towards their trip (\$40 for fall and J-term and \$75 for

spring break) if our funding continues to decline we will be forced to: 1) raise participant contributions, 2) send fewer trips, or 3) sacrifice the quality and variety of our trips. I believe that none of these options would reflect the purpose of Service Trips and Messiah's focus on providing opportunities for service to its students. In efforts to maintain a priority of service at Messiah College, a review of budget allocation is highly encouraged.

**Annual Report 2004-2005 respectfully submitted by Heather Bechtel**



# WORLD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Heather Bruyere, Director, Fall 2004

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## **Introduction**

This fall continued with the transition that began last spring and resulted in many changes to the structure of WCF. This semester we began holding WCF member meetings. The intent was to create an actual body of students participating in WCF outside of the council. It was also an attempt to combine many of WCF's other events in order to make the time involved more reasonable for WCF council members and those interested in being part of WCF's programs. As a result, Fellowship of Believers (FOB) has been disintegrated, and letter writings and international dinners are no longer separate events, but take place at our member meetings once a month. The other two weeks of the month are devoted to discussion on, and prayer for, different regions of the world. There are still many kinks to be worked out in this transition as the member meetings are still lacking in direction, but the overall idea of building a community of people interested in missions and the world has been a great one. Another outgrowth of this transition has been prayer groups. Both the member meetings and the prayer groups will be addressed in more detail later in the report.

## **Summary of the Fall Semester**

The fall semester started with much more clarity than past councils due to our switch to a council that volunteers for the calendar year rather than the school year. It was nice to return to familiar faces and to be able to do some real planning for the semester ahead of us rather than still trying to explain council roles. Over the summer we did lose two council members: our fundraising coordinator and treasurer, but both spots were filled quickly so that we were able to begin the semester with a full staff. The first week back before school started was a great time to really build and strengthen relationships, lay out a vision for the semester, and get connected with the new volunteers in the other offices of the Agapé Center. Unfortunately, only half of our council was present, but it still was a nice transition from summer back into the swing of things.

*Salt & Light chapel* was well planned and organized this semester. There were some great speakers including a Messianic Jewish Rabbi. It was a huge blessing that the worship coordinator had already been around in the spring and therefore already knew the ropes and had a worship team established come fall. A new position was added to the Salt and Light worship team for auxiliary support to fill the need for taking care of details often overlooked. Instrumentalists and vocalists were rotated into this position and no one seemed to mind at all. The position proved very beneficial. There continues to be a divide between those involved with the worship team and running the Salt & Light chapel and those actively involved in WCF member meetings. I think in the future it would be helpful to look for some of the worship team from within the body already committed to WCF.

The *Canoe-A-Thon* was thrown together in a bit of a hurry this fall as we transitioned between fundraising coordinators. Nevertheless, a great job was done with publicity this year with flyers up all over campus. There were a decent number of participants this year, though past years have definitely seen more, and over \$5,700 was raised to go towards grants for

summer missions. One of the hindrances to our participant number was that the event ended up being on a three day weekend so many people were not on campus. Hopefully these little glitches can be avoided if there is a consistent person in the position to begin planning in the spring. Overall, despite initial challenges, the event was a great success.

*Mission Awareness Week (MAW)* was a huge success this year, and went very smoothly. Since the coordinators were able to begin planning and making contacts in the spring, their work load this fall was considerably less. Over the summer representative response packets were sent out to all of the mission reps that responded positively that they would like to participate in MAW. Then, when the coordinators returned to campus they were able to compile all of the data and begin planning. One coordinator worked primarily with the mission agency representatives while the other worked primarily with students and on-campus contacts. The council was not really involved this year, but other students from the WCF community were. We had a great response this year from mission organizations and were even pressed for space! One new thing that we tried was "Ask A Mission Rep" booths around campus. Though they did help with publicity during the week and awareness, in general they were not very effective. Alternate chapels went really well this year holding three a day that were all well attended. For future years it is very important that more people be involved in the planning and that delegation does happen. Planning this event is a lot for only two people. Another goal is to have College Ministries and WCF work more closely together to have a more common vision for the week. MAW had a great impact on this campus and spawned many new ideas to improve next year's event.

*Operation Christmas Child* ended up being kind of last minute this year. Many people were willing and involved with its organization, but it was lacking leadership. The project still went very well, however, collecting 159 boxes and a good amount of money.

The *Ten Thousand Villages Sale* went very well bringing in the second largest revenue the sale has ever seen! Primarily volunteers from Ten Thousand Villages ran the sale, but students did help pack up at the end of the day. Hopefully in the future more students will become involved and we will see sales continue to grow!

We only held one *Chapel Offering* this semester to raise money for shipping books to Rwanda to start a library. This offering exceeded our expectations and brought in enough money to ship the books and then still have some left over. The extra money went toward a building project in Rwanda.

*WCF Member Meetings* are our new addition this year. Meeting weekly, they consist of international dinners, letter writings, guest speakers, prayer, and discussion of current events in the world. The council met an hour or half hour before everyone else would arrive for the meeting. International dinners this semester focused on Africa, Eastern Europe, and Asia. All of the dinners were a big success, but somewhat a stress for the coordinator who often couldn't find enough help to cook and/or clean up. Also, they can provide a challenge in knowing how many people to cook for. Letter writings have been a neat new dynamic, but are often poorly attended. By merging them with the member meetings we now have a larger body participating in impacting our world. Though the letter writings prove educational and informative, it is still

difficult in that writing a letter is very individualistic for such a group setting. A huge emphasis for WCF this semester was prayer. To encourage growing in our prayer lives we hosted two guest speakers: Evie Telfer and Michael Holland. These two meetings I think were some of the most exciting of the semester! The member meetings have been a great experiment in creating a real WCF community, and hopefully will continue to be refined in the year to come.

*Prayer Groups* have been a real blessing. There were four groups that met weekly this semester to pray for needs of the world. It was really exciting because the leaders of the prayer groups were not council members, but other WCF members. Our fellowship coordinator sent out weekly current event and prayer need updates on the region of focus for that week, and then the prayer leaders facilitated their group. The groups averaged about five people which seemed to be just perfect. So, our hope is not that the groups would grow, but that more groups would spring up.

At the end of the semester we chose as a council to combine the two new positions of persecuted church representative and fellowship coordinator. The position is now known as Awareness Coordinator. Only one council member is continuing on next year, so the council will be entirely new and hopefully bring fresh and innovative ideas to WCF.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, this fall has again been a busy transitioning time for WCF. Still, I think that we have made great advances in achieving our dual purpose of making Messiah's campus aware of missions and the world around them, as well as equipping students to interact in that world by going, sending, and praying. WCF, I am sure, will continue to grow and change over the next semester as the vision of the organization is fine tuned and new leadership is brought in. God has truly blessed the efforts of the council this year, and I pray that God will continue to use WCF in the years to come encouraging passion on this campus for missions and the world.

**Annual Report Fall 2004 respectfully submitted by Heather Bruyere**





# WORLD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Stefanie Moser, Director, Spring 2005

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## **Introduction**

This year has proven to be one of great transition. World Christian Fellowship has gained an almost entirely new council. The new council has brought many gifts to WCF and it has been a delight to see God use these gifts. Not many of us knew one another coming into the council, but over J-term break, we all served on one of Service Trip's projects to the Haft. Through this trip we were able to really get to know one another and it has provided a solid foundation from which our council has since grown.

## **Summary of the Year**

Amidst the details, logistics, and frequent wrinkles that any organization runs into, this spring semester has been both challenging and rewarding. It was understandably a little difficult to transition into our new positions as we did not have a week of team training to fully explain our roles as is provided in the fall. There was some confusion and many questions on the council and for myself as well. Thankfully WCF has an amazing helping hand in Greg Anderson, WCF Advisor, whose insight, wisdom, determination, and vision has provided us direction and more of an ability to focus on the task ahead of us and the purpose behind it. We went into the very beginning of this semester without having a worship coordinator, but thankfully, God has provided us with an amazing missionary-minded musician to organize worship for both Salt 'n' Light and worship during Member Meetings.

*Salt 'n' Light Chapel* was my primary responsibility in addition to the overseeing of the WCF Council in general. Our efforts for Salt 'n' Light chapel were to focus on particular areas of the world. We also had three chapels that focused on the Word, our relationship to God, and the effect that has on the way we reach out to this world. It was a great variety and I believe very refreshing to focus on missions as well as teaching straight from the Word. Those chapels that focused on different areas of the world included South East Asia, the Middle East, or right here at home. Salt 'n' Light ran quite smoothly throughout the semester. The worship team's music ministry has been a blessing, and everyone has really enjoyed the worship through music. Our worship leader has invited different people to play that they may be involved worship. He is hoping to have more people be involved next year as he plans to extend an open invitation to those coming to Salt 'n' Light. I think in the future it would be nice to incorporate world music styles into Salt 'n' Light chapel. Though most of our speakers for Salt 'n' Light were excellent, I was surprised by the approach to one topic. In the future I hope to make more of a connection with our speaker beforehand regarding the purpose, focus, and expectation of Salt 'n' Light chapel.

*Member Meetings* were another primary focus. They were held each week on Tuesday nights for an hour. Though attendance varies from topic to topic, there are those who come faithfully each week. Our purpose for member meetings was to focus on a different area of the world each meeting, to become educated, and to educate others about this area. We also took part in discussion with members about these areas and looked at some of the prayer needs each week

and lifted them to God. This was a great time to involve the larger group in a prayer ministry for the nation. Each member came with different interests and passions that strengthened the group. At the beginning of the semester, the council and I shared our primary interests and concerns for the world. Each council member was then given a week to share this desire and passion in an educational and prayerful way. In addition, we also spent one week focusing on the persecuted church. While we most often discussed and prayed for the nations in these member meetings, we also organized two letter writings on behalf of the oppressed around the world. People were genuinely concerned about the issues we were writing about. They had a good time, and found it really interesting. Active participation in these issues seemed to be rewarding for those who attended.

*Tsunami Relief* was a great way to unite some of the various groups on campus for a common purpose of tangibly reaching out to the world to aid tsunami victims. Much was done by the campus as a whole to raise financial support and awareness. WCF was a part of this relief effort by assisting in the planning of the campus efforts as a whole. WCF also helped raise awareness of this cause through publicity and focused one prayer-based member meeting entirely to South East Asia and the effects of the tsunami. WCF also organized a chapel offering for Tsunami Relief. All donations were handled through WCF's account, and the fundraising total came to \$4,549.68, which was then given to the Mennonite Central Committee, who sent the money to South East Asia to help in the relief efforts. Praise God!

*Chapel offerings* were not the most effective way of collecting money for organizations this past semester. Oftentimes it was due to extremely short notice, and a lack of knowledge about what the offering was going to. I think that people would be more likely to give money if they were aware of the organization(s) they were giving money to prior to attending chapel. One way to do this is to make an announcement about the offering and where the proceeds are going to, at the chapel prior to when the offering will be taken. Often times it is mentioned in the e-mails but people tend not to read through the e-mails and skip over the details. We could also post a few signs around campus or have a little blurb about the organization outside of Lottie Nelson Dining Hall a few days before the offering is taken. It is really important that people are more informed of where their money is going. This can be seen in the effective efforts of the 30 Hour Famine, Canoe-a-thon and Tsunami Relief fund. Publicity plays a key role in fundraising and collecting money for offerings.

*30 Hour Famine* was a great success this year. It was held on April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. There was a strong emphasis on prayer and unity this year and many people were blessed by it. We raised over \$1,000 for the 30 Hour Famine which we sent to World Vision. Our Fundraising Coordinator and MAW Co-coordinator worked together in the planning for this event. The motto for the 30 Hour Famine this year was "Pray for our College, Pray for our World." It became much more than a motto as several other ministries from the college became a part of putting the event together. The Famine consisted of an opening worship time on Friday night that was well attended. Powerhouse led worship and Seek His Face and another prayer ministry on campus led a time of hearing the Word and a time of prayer. Saturday there was a group of ten or so that went into Harrisburg to the Catholic Worker House to serve. Another group of ten or so stayed on campus and did prayer walking. Saturday afternoon there was a session focusing on each of the two things we were praying for during the 30 hours: our college and our world. A closing time of worship and prayer followed. Throughout the entire time juice was available to students

who were fasting in Larsen 237. Thank you to Dining Services, who provided the juice and our closing break-fast meal free of charge.

*International Dinners* were scheduled for the semester to be based around themes of what the Council wanted to discuss in weekly member meetings. This spring semester we chose China/Japan, a Hunger Dinner, and Latin America. Finding a lot of people to help out with these dinners is really beneficial. Typically three to four cooking helpers, plus people who know something about the food from that area worked well. For China/Japan, international Japanese students made a couple dishes, and Joe Fang, our Worship Coordinator, made some Chinese dishes. Dan Mercado, a Hispanic student helped with the Latin American dinner. Through all of this, our Program Coordinator needed to learn to be flexible to follow the lead of the cooking helpers. In networking with the International Student Association/MuKappa, Jenna was able to find consistent help each time. This was also a great opportunity to get to know them better as well. These International dinners were tough and challenging, but a ton of fun. There were great responses on the quality of the food in all of the dinners, and all of the volunteers had a good time as well.

*Prayer groups* didn't go well this past semester. There just wasn't a great response or interest this semester. Prayer bulletins for our weekly member meetings, however, did go very well and there were committed pray-ers who would intercede in our member meetings each week. Some useful sites where we learned about various concerns in the world to pray for were:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/>

<http://www.nytimes.com/>

<http://www.persecution.org/newsite/index.php>

<http://www.persecution.com/>

<http://www.gfa.org/gfa/>

Our prayer coordinator also signed up for many free weekly email newsletters from organizations such as Open Doors, GFA, VOM, IJM, and The Jerusalem Prayer Team. Whenever information on a certain country was hard to find, she used the book "Operation World," which is very helpful in looking at the concerns for every country in the world. In the future, weekly email prayer updates would be a wonderful thing to implement. More letter writing sessions would also be valuable as we find tangible ways to care for the world in addition to our prayers.

### **Suggestions for the future**

I think the top priority of WCF should be to work together more as One Body. Communication with one another should have been more consistent and we could have gotten everything done more effectively had we worked with one another more closely, rather than having particular duties to fulfill under our job descriptions. Another way to bond is through prayer, which also seemed to be lacking this semester. Perhaps if the council could make time (not just at council meetings) to really connect in prayer with one another, we may be stronger and more able to complete the tasks for which God has placed before us. Another area that needs more emphasis is a stronger focus on the vision for WCF. Also, we need to further educate ourselves with the news in the world to be able to better serve and inform other Messiah College students. One thing to consider for WCF is perhaps having more alternate chapels.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, this year proved to be a great one for WCF. It has been busy, insightful, and rewarding! I believe that this semester has taught all of our council a lot, even about the behind the scenes view concerning our passions for missions. We are currently refocusing on what our specific vision and purpose is for WCF, our role in serving Messiah College and the world. I am looking forward with eager anticipation to all that God has in store for us in the fall in light of our growth this year. My prayer is that He might use us in the here and now on Messiah College grounds, so that we will be able to bless, pray for and speak Truth to the world as our hunger grows for Christ and for His heart for the world.

**Annual Report for Spring 2005 respectfully submitted by Stefanie Moser**



# **S.A.L.T. HOUSE**

**(SERVING AND LIVING TOGETHER)**

Kate Bauer, Director

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The 2004-2005 academic year was a year full of growth, challenge, change and excitement for the SALT house. The year started with five men and four women living in the house, excited for the experience of community life and already greatly involved in service through the Agapé Center. This was my second year as live-in house advisor. In my role as house advisor/leader and Local Community Service Assistant Director at the Agapé Center I have been able to link the SALT house more closely with Agapé Center programming. This was an exciting year in that house members displayed a strong passion for service through their extensive involvement through the Agapé Center. Both the director of Outreach and the director of Service Trips were members of the house and other house members had already been active volunteers in past years through the Agapé Center.

House members started the year committing to a two hour weekly community meal and community time on Wednesday evenings, one group service project per semester, and individual weekly service through the Agapé Center programs. Each person actively participated in service through programs such as Habitat for Humanity, Hispanic Center After-school program and ESL, Allison Hill Community Ministries, Danzanté, Best Buddies, Crisis Pregnancy Center and Service Trips. For our house service project in the fall we went to Allison Hill Community Ministries After-school Program Christmas Production and cooked and served a meal to the children and families attending the production. Our spring service project was unfortunately canceled due to weather and we were not able to find a different time to reschedule. House members also participated in the Agapé Center orientation retreat in August 2004 and the spring retreat in February 2005.

Weekly community meals were important times of fellowship for house members. We met each Wednesday for a hot meal, usually the best meal of the week, and spent time together catching up and discussing various topics. In the Fall semester I asked each house member to lead a discussion after community meal. Everyone chose a subject of importance to them and we had many lively discussions on topics ranging from leadership to racism to peace and justice. Throughout the year we invited speakers to our meal. Faculty members Eric and Alice Seibert, Gordon Brubacher, and PA Campus Compact VISTA Director Madeline Yates were some of the speakers hosted at our house meals and community time.

A challenge this year as in the past year has been the transitions that occurred from Fall to Spring semester. We were surprised when one male student was unable to return in the Spring leaving an empty space in the house. We also had a difficult changeover as one of our female students moved onto campus as a new female student moved in after returning from studying abroad. Originally there were supposed to be two female students moving in but one decided in February not to return. The transition was challenging for house members and it was one I would have avoided if I could. At the same time, it was an important experience for the house as it prepares us all for the many changes in life.

An exciting element of our year as a house was the beginning of a nightly event we called "Tea and BBC." In the fall semester, house member and friends began meeting Monday through Thursday nights at 11 p.m. to watch BBC world new and drink tea together. The news would often times be followed with discussion as we processed the events of the world, systems which are in place that create various forms of poverty, and our responses to these things. Conversations would often last until all hours of the morning as we wrestled with many important issues together. "Tea and BBC" became a safe place for students to think through important questions and to challenge each other. This is an event next year's house members plan to continue.

As the live-in house advisor, I intentionally created more time for the house to be together this year. This had advantages and disadvantages as house members were glad to have the time together but sometimes felt overwhelmed as many of them were extensively committed to school work, clubs, jobs and organizations on campus. As I recruited and interviewed students who will be living in the house this coming year, I looked specifically for students who had fewer commitments for the year. I am excited to be a part of the house for another year as I have decided to stay for the 2005-2006 academic year. I trust that the house will continue to be a place of growth and challenge as well as peace and hope in the coming year.

**Annual Report 2004-2005 respectfully submitted by Kate Bauer**



# DOKIMOI ERGATAI

Lindsay Reilly, Director

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## Opening Remarks

Dokimoi Ergatai (DE) has been on a blessed and rocky journey this year. While trying to manage massive organizational growth (75 members), we sent a non-typical team to Burkina Faso, and learned valuable organizational lessons along the way. Throughout our year, the following proverb became clear: “Many are the plans in a man’s heart, but the Lord’s purpose shall prevail.”

## Year Overview

The year began energetically for DE with our third annual Leadership Workshop and two teams coming back from trips to Zimbabwe and Burkina Faso. At the Leadership Workshop we focused on time management, leadership styles, and team unity. Our goals for the year were: Communication, Unity, Relations within & outside the College, and a holistic viewpoint.

**Pump Team:** Excited from the research and information gained from the summer trip to Burkina Faso, the pump team set out to expand their current ideas. Some of those ideas included new projects such as a treadle pump, and a micro-enterprise aspect of the team.

**Trike Team:** After introducing the first motorized tricycle to a twelve-year old boy debilitated by cerebral palsy at the Handicap Center, the trike team started the year with new energy and focus. Several new members joined the trike team this year, and many of them have already caught on to the vision of the trike team.

**Energy Team:** Our largest subproject, the energy (formerly solar) team sent seven members to Mahadaga this past January to install a solar power system for the *Handicapes en Avant* center (sponsored by SIM Ministries). Upon completion of that system, they split into two groups to explore new possibilities. One group continues to partner with SIM in Burkina Faso. They are considering the development of solar power systems in other towns that have energy needs. The second group is partnering with the Theological College of Zimbabwe (TCZ) in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. TCZ hopes to stabilize and reduce its operating costs by moving from reliance on the national power grid to solar power. Two DE students will spend the summer in Bulawayo exploring this possibility.

**Staff Team:** Yet again the Staff team exploded this year with new members. Nick Hoefel took over the role as DE’s new staff manager, after the sad departure of Chad Gillenwater. Staff has successfully developed and implemented new teams. Under Public Relations, there is now a marketing team which is focusing on building relations inside and outside the College.

**Water for the World:** It has been a privilege to serve God’s kingdom with Water for the World. It has been a year since Water for the World merged with DE, and it has brought nothing but blessings. Water for the World has been working on two major projects: a water purification

system for the school they have partnered with in Guatemala, and an arsenic filter. The arsenic filter will be entered into a contest, for a grand prize of one million dollars, for the current arsenic problems in Nepal.

### **Planning For Next Year**

Our biggest upcoming challenge is to figure out DE's role within the Math, Engineering, and Business department so that we can meet a broader range of our clients' needs. Internally, we plan to revamp our entire training process for our leaders to more effectively equip them. According to the new model, they will engage in long-term training sessions spaced throughout the year that will deal with relevant topics as they arise. We hope this will give our leaders the resources they need to guide their teams and projects.

### **Focus Points**

With all the transitions of the past year, DE has experienced a number of growing pains. The following are some suggested areas of focus to help new and old aspects of the project interconnect:

- An increased focus on continuous leadership training and support
- An organized information-management system that will reduce confusion and lost documents/policies
- Continued effort to recruit advisors
- A conscious attempt to ensure that every member of DE knows and believes in our mission and vision

**Annual Report 2004-2005 respectfully submitted by Lindsay Reilly**