

Volume XXX, No. 29

And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

August 6, 2009

—II CORINTHIANS 3:18 (NRSV)

Intercom deadline

The deadline for each issue of the **Intercom** is **4 P.M. Tuesday**. To help us ensure the speed and accuracy of production, please use the Intercom e-mail address, intercom@messiah.edu, or the user-friendly submission form on the Intercom website at www.messiah.edu/intercom/submit.html to send in information. If you have questions, please call the office of marketing and public relations at ext. 7342.

Campus people

Messiah College welcomes the following new employees: **James A. Cook**, groundskeeper crew leader; **Julian N. Forth**, lecturer in biblical and religious studies; **Jeremy R. Kauffman**, lecturer in health and human performance/head athletic trainer; **Sara Cho Kim**, assistant professor of psychology; **Margaret E. Ramey**, assistant professor of biblical and religious studies; **Justin L. Reese**, School of Education and Social Sciences community engagement coordinator, **M. Katharine Rousopoulos**, residence director, Naugle Hall; **Hannah S. Tims**, assistant professor of chemistry; and **Kelly J. Waltman-Spreha**, lecturer in criminal justice. Welcome to the community!

Jenell Williams Paris, professor of anthropology and sociology, gave a plenary talk titled “Gender in Christian Media and Advertising” at the Christians for Biblical Equality conference in St. Louis, Mo., July 25. She also led a workshop and participated in a panel discussion.

Department of safety to hold annual bike auction

The department of safety will hold the annual bike auction from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 11 from on the lawn of the Eisenhower Campus Center. Bikes will be offered on a silent auction basis and results will be announced the same day but later in the afternoon. A variety of other items will be auctioned, as well, with proceeds benefitting the summer mission program at Messiah.

Reminders working outside around poisonous plants

Whether working outside, at home, or on campus, you may come across some poison plants (ivy, Sumac, etc.). Please read the attachment at the end of this “Intercom” for information regarding poisonous plants. The attachment helps to identify poisonous plants, how to avoid exposing yourself to them, and how to treat yourself in the event you have an allergic reaction when coming into contact with a poisonous plant. If you have any additional questions, please contact Hilary Kreider, environmental health and safety manager, at hkreider@messiah.edu.

Discounts offered to Messiah employees

Just in time for back to school, Kohl’s Department Store has provided Messiah with coupons for 15 percent savings on everything in the store Friday, Aug. 7 to Sunday, Aug. 9. Coupons will be mailed to departments, or you can contact the purchasing department for one at ext. 2100.

The purchasing department also has coupons for half price tickets (\$24.95) to Six Flags America good through Sunday, Sept. 20, and Saturdays and Sundays, Oct. 3 thru Nov. 1 at any Six Flags location. Call ext. 2100 for more details.



HUMAN RESOURCES

► **Positions available**

Textbook Express Temporary Employees, Welcome Week

► **Birthdays**

Textbook Express Temporary Employees, Welcome Week — The Textbook Express currently has a need for temporary employees during Welcome Week. The dates and times needed are:

Thursday, Aug. 27 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; 8:30 a.m. – 7 p.m.; or 4:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Monday, Aug. 31 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 1 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and 12:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 2 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. or 12:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Temporary employees who have never worked for the Textbook Express must attend one of the two mandatory paid training sessions which will be held Thursday, Aug. 20 from 2 to approximately 3:30 p.m. and Friday, Aug. 21 from 9 to approximately 10:30 a.m. General qualifications include: good customer service skills; ability to learn quickly; ability to stand for extended periods of time; and the ability to handle high volume, high stress situations. The ability to do minimal lifting (up to 50 lbs.) is a plus but is not necessary. Previous cashier experience is a plus but is also not necessary. If interested, please complete a Messiah College General Application Form, which can be found at

www.messiah.edu/offices/hr/forms/General_Empl_Appl.pdf. Applications and questions should be directed to Sharon Robinson, human resources specialist, box 3015 or srobinso@messiah.edu.

Happy birthday!



08/10: Belinda Conrad, Joseph Huffman, Mindy Lange, Jenell Paris, Kim Phipps, Michael Zigarelli

08/11: Carla Gross, Lili Hagenbuch, Seleena Lindsey, Jolene Ness, Phil Thuma, Nancy Woods

08/12: Amanda Cresswell, David Dzaka, Heather Greer, Aaron Stine

08/13: Bryan Engle, Colleen Jones

08/14: Dorca Kisare-Ressler, Martha Smith

Announcements

Wanted:

Storage cabinet — The department of sound and lighting is looking for a storage cabinet or storage shelf unit to help with post-flooding reorganization. If you have something available that may meet this need, please contact Jonathan Bert at ext. 7394 or jburt@messiah.edu.

For sale:

House — Serene four bedroom, 2.5 bath colonial house in Timber Ridge, off Rt. 114, West Shore School District. Features hardwood floors from living to dining room; a large family room; formal dining and living rooms; two fireplaces; lots of beautiful crown molding; and two furnaces. The deck overlooks a wooded lot, creating a tranquil and private outdoor oasis for entertaining and relaxation. An absolute must-see! Asking \$309,900. Contact Shirley, who assists faculty with housing, at groff@messiah.edu.

Sofa bed — Gently used sofa bed in good condition, \$50. Pictures available by e-mail to interested persons. Contact Bill Strausbaugh at strausba@messiah.edu.

Electric typewriter — The business office has a Panasonic KX-E708 electric typewriter which is no longer needed. Asking \$25. Contact Irene Fabry at ext. 5237 for more information.

Reflection

When people talk, listen completely. Most people never listen.

ERNEST HEMINGWAY

U.S. author

Scroll down for attachment

Poisonous Plants

Overview

Many native and exotic plants are poison to humans when ingested or if there is skin contact with plant chemicals. Poison ivy and sumac release oil, urushiol, when the leaf or other plant parts are bruised, damaged, or burned. When the oil gets on the skin an allergic reaction occurs in most exposed people as an itchy red rash with bumps or blisters. When exposed to an amount less than one grain of salt, 80 to 90 percent of adults will develop a rash. Although over the counter topical medication may relieve symptoms for most people, immediate medical attention may be required for severe reactions, particularly when exposed to the smoke from burning these poisonous plants. Burning these poisonous plants can be very dangerous because the allergens can be inhaled, causing lung irritation.

Plant Identification

The saying “Leaves of Three, Let it Be!” is a helpful reminder for identifying poison ivy, but not poison sumac. Poison sumac usually has clusters of 7-13 leaves. Even poison ivy may have more than three leaves and their form may vary greatly depending on the exact species encountered, the local environment, and the season. Being able to identify local varieties of these poisonous plants throughout the seasons and differentiating them from common non-poisonous look-a-likes are the major keys to avoiding exposure.

Poison Ivy



Photos courtesy of U.S. Department of Agriculture

- Eastern poison ivy is typically a hairy, ropelike vine with three shiny green (red in the fall) leaves budding from one small stem.
- Western poison ivy is typically a low shrub with three leaves that does not form a climbing vine.
- May have yellow or green flowers and white to green-yellow or amber berries.

Poison Sumac



Photos courtesy of U.S. Department of Agriculture

- Woody shrub that has stems that contain 7-13 leaves arranged in pairs.
- May have glossy, pale yellow, or cream colored berries.

Exposure

Workers may become exposed to urushiol through:

- Direct contact with the plant.
- Indirect contact, such as touching tools or clothing that has urushiol on them.
- Inhalation of particles containing urushiol from burning plants.

Symptoms

Signs or symptoms associated with dermal contact with poisonous plants may include:

- Red rash within a few days of contact.
- Possible bumps, patches, streaking, or weeping blisters.
- Swelling.
- Itching.

Exposure Prevention

Workers can prevent contact with poisonous plants by following these steps:

- Wear long sleeves, long pants, boots, and gloves. (Wash exposed clothes separately in hot water with detergent.)
- Barrier skin creams, such as a lotion containing bentoquatam, may offer some protection before contact. (Barrier creams should be washed off and reapplied twice a day.)
- After use, clean tools with rubbing alcohol or soap and lots of water. Urushiol can remain active on the surface of objects for up to 5 years. (Wear disposable gloves during this process.)
- Do not burn plants that may be poisonous. (Inhaling smoke from burning plants can cause severe allergic respiratory problems.)

First Aid

Workers who have come in contact with poisonous plants should:

- Immediately rinse skin with rubbing alcohol, specialized poison plants washes, degreasing soap (such as dishwashing soap), or detergent, and lots of water. (Rinse frequently so that wash solutions do not dry on the skin and further spread the urushiol)
- Scrub under nails with a brush.
- Apply wet compresses, calamine lotion, or hydrocortisone cream to the skin to reduce itching and blistering.
- An antihistamine (such as benadryl) can be taken to help relieve itching. (Do not take at work, as drowsiness may occur)
- In severe cases, or if rash is on face, seek professional medical attention.
- Call 911, or go to the hospital ER, if the worker is suffering from severe allergic reaction, such as swelling or difficulty breathing, or has had a severe reaction in the past.