



BRONCO CAMPUS MINISTRIES

P.O. Box 19012, Kalamazoo, MI 49019

(The joint ministry of the Reformed & Christian Reformed Churches)

December 2011

We have had a wonderful semester ministering to students. As I write this letter, some students are taking their final exams and others have left town. Many are planning to travel all over the country and world to visit places they have never seen or to spend the three week break with family. A few students will stay in Kalamazoo. We have planned a special gathering for them later this week and then another time before classes begin in January.

Our weekly International Luncheon was attended by an even larger number of students this semester. We estimate that the average weekly attendance was about 20 students more than last year. More important than the numbers, the atmosphere was positive, respectful and students continued to express their gratitude for the luncheon. Our faculty advisor used the luncheon to meet with some of his students outside the classroom environment. We have met many new students at the luncheon this semester. Many feel very comfortable spending time with us and enjoy hanging out.

One volunteer couple has grown especially close to a number of Chinese students. Jan comes each week to the luncheon and has developed many special relationships. As an English teacher, she has used her skill to help many with their English needs. On Sunday some students have gone to church with this couple and then come over for Sunday dinner. Once each month they have invited all the International students to their home for supper. Usually about twenty students attend these special evenings.

Typically students who are interested in Christianity will go from one campus ministry to another to learn what it means to have personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. They will attend Bible Study with us and talk with people associated with our ministry and then do the same with other ministries. Sometimes Christian professors are able to reach out to students and we have a great relationship with the Kalamazoo Christian Chinese Church. Two Chinese students have become Christians this semester. As I was talking to one of them, she said, "I am a new person in Jesus Christ. All my sins have been washed away." The other person was around last year and has continued to struggle with the possibility of becoming a Christian. Recently, just before returning to China, she committed her life to Christ and was baptized. Two other girls have begun attending the Chinese Church and become involved in their music program. We have encouraged their participation because they are learning about Christianity from those who understand their language and culture. One of them was influenced to study Christianity after she realized that all the leaders at our Sunday gathering and at the luncheon were Christians. She said that she did not know much about Christianity since she grew up in communist China and was always taught that God did not exist. We rejoice that because of the Christians in our ministry she wanted to learn more about Christianity.

This semester we have also been planning to start a new Church/Campus Ministry for American undergraduate students. Through prayer and discernments, we are convinced that God is leading us to do this. I have preached in many churches this fall and often hear how our former American campus ministry was helpful for so many students. Realizing that this is a different time and students have different needs today, we are adapting the focus of the ministry toward these new needs and interests. We are planning ways to align our International ministry with the new American ministry. This venture is a great answer to my prayers.

As we close this calendar year, I want to thank all of you who have supported us financially. In September, I reported that our finances were low. During the past few months we have received a lot of nice contributions. As we come to the end of the year, this is the time we seek your help to finish the present year and to receive the financial help to allow us the freedom to minister in the new semester that begins in January. We are seeking to raise at least \$12,000 during the remaining days of 2011. Any gift you can give will be very helpful. Again, we are honored to minister at Western Michigan University.

For Christ, the University and the World, Campus Pastor Ron De Young