

BRIDGES OF FRIENDSHIP IN CHRIST

July 2016

International Student Ministry, Luther Memorial Chapel, 3833 N. Maryland, Shorewood, WI, 53211, Bessie.Fick@yahoo.com

1 Peter 1:23 "You have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God"



Deirdre Christiansen and her Team of Volunteers



Thursday World View Class



Thursday Children's program level one class



Strawberry picking

International Student Ministry is a Ministry of friendship and hospitality. It is a wonderful privilege to serve the internationals and their families in the Milwaukee area. Many of our activities are to help the internationals get opportunities to meet and interact with others in our community. These students, separated from family and friends, often feel lonely and isolated and are unsure about how to relate to America's culture and its people. What a blessing we have to build bridges of friendship so that we might have opportunities to share God's message of salvation in Christ. Below A. shares his experiences this summer:

We offer many fun and interesting activities during summer for the internationals students and visitors in addition to the Bible classes and worship. Nine internationals attend worship services on Sunday mornings and seven internationals attend the Sunday Bible Reading class. Dierdre Christiansen is our Children's Program assistant. She leads the international Thursday night children's program with the help of our wonderful volunteers. The Thursday night's Children's program has three different levels. The level one class is for the children that are not comfortable with speaking English, level two is for lower elementary children and, level three is for middle school children that are comfortable speaking English. All of these three classes are focused on the teachings of the Bible

On Tuesday and Thursday mornings we have two different conversation classes for advanced English speakers and for basic level English speakers. Following the English conversation classes we invite the international scholars and visitors to the Bible reading classes. The scholars who attend these Bible reading classes learn about God's Word. We pray that they will continue to seek to learn more about God's Word on their return home and share the teachings of the Bible with their family and friends.

Each month in the summer we have many special events, meals and tours. In June, volunteers helped us transport internationals to the Polish Fest, the Dairy Farm Tour and to strawberry picking.

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Picnic at the Lake



Dairy Farm Tour



LMC 100th anniversary church picnic

In the middle of July, with the help of volunteer drivers, internationals went to John and Nancy Wolck's home at Pewaukee Lake for a picnic. About 68 people attended this event. Besides the delicious pulled pork that John Wolck had prepared, the Chinese internationals brought Chinese food for the others to share. After the meal, the Wolcks and their neighbors took the internationals on boat rides. One of the Chinese visitors said that he had never ridden in a boat before in his life. After multiple boat rides, Nancy started a campfire and taught the internationals how to make S'mores. Since the kids could make something on their own, they enjoyed this part of the picnic. Along with these fun activities, there were outdoor games set up for the children. It was a perfect day for the internationals.

We are thankful for many volunteers who assist with the conversation classes, the Bible studies, and the children's classes. Volunteers come from Luther Memorial, area Congregations and from different age groups: retirement age, college age, high school age and in-between. We are always in need of more volunteers. Volunteers can serve for one day or on a regular schedule. If you would like to help, please contact: Bessie.Fick@gmail.com.

St. John, Port Washington and Beautiful Savior, Milwaukee provided many household goods and winter clothing. If you have any gently used household items or winter clothing, baby items, or bicycles please contact Bessie at 414-477-9448.

English Classes are a wonderful way to help our international friends. We are in need of Conversation leaders and Bible conversation leaders. We also would like to begin a children's class while the mothers study. If you can assist in these ways we would love to hear from you.

If you would like to contribute to the support of this ministry, please send contributions to:

International Student Ministry
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