

New Classes

A new set of classes have begun! We are still going by the same schedule as last semester, which is just having 2 classes a day. Monday and Wednesdays we have Romans and The Early Church, Tuesdays and Thursdays we have Acts and Spiritual Discipline, Fridays we separate into guy and girl classes and see how we can work in the church.

For the past few weeks, we have had a field presentation every day, sometimes two in the same day. The majority of the time, we'll have the field show us a video about the work they do and then we as a class talk to the coordinators of that field on Skype. Port Elizabeth, South Africa presented their field last week, Michael pretty much presented that field. As far as we've heard, Johannesburg is still deciding if they want to take on another AIM team. We'll find out sometime this week if Johannesburg is open or not. Speaking of teams, this coming Saturday, we will all gather in our class, be given a paper where we put down our top 5 places want to go to with the top 5 people

Trips

This past month has been filled with trips! On the first week of October, we all loaded up in a big bus and made our way to Paducah, Kentucky. Along the way, we stopped in Missouri, Illinois, and Oklahoma..... and probably a bunch of other states! We did stop in Illinois and went to Superman's hometown, that was pretty neat. There was a huge statue of him that we took pictures with. We spent



we would like to work with, on the other side we'll put down the "nightmare list", places we don't want to go to and with people we don't think we can work with. My class is having a very stressful time trying to choose teams, its an emotionally stressful time. Sometimes, I wish that the directors will just put us with a team, but at the same time I'm really glad that we get to choose our teams and see who we can work with. Its definitely been a great growing time as adults for all of us, especially me. We won't find out where and with who we're going until right before we're dismissed for Christmas break. Nonetheless, it's a very stressful process for all of us.

about a week in Kentucky just working with and encouraging the church there. Three or four days after we got back to Lubbock, we set off again, this time for Dallas. In Dallas we got the opportunity to attend the World Missions Conference. What it was was a chance for people from missionaries from all over the world to come there and share what kind of work they do in hopes of recruiting others.

Some of the countries and places that presented were: Ghana, South Africa, Nigeria, China, India, Europe, etc. There was not a Romanian presentation. Along with that were classes (throughout the day) on how to start ministries and continue them and how to make things in the church run smoothly.



A few of my classmates and I, the one in blue is my roommate, the one behind me is my other roommate.

At the conference, I ran into Pete and Tammie and Ben Baker! It was so good seeing them all again and getting to catch up on Alaskan and AIM things. Definitely a blessing to see them all again, it was a little part of Alaska I saw :)

Things have definitely slowed down since our trips, I'd say we have a pretty set schedule right

now, its mainly just school and all the things that come with it, like teaching a small group. Tomorrow is going to be my first time leading a small group, I'm really nervous about it, but am hoping for the best. As of right now, the only people in my small group are a few girl AIMers and a past AIMer.

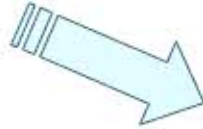
Encounters

While in Kentucky, I got the opportunity to help out in the church's Benevolence program, that included organizing the food pantry and then sitting down with the people who came there looking for food and clothes and talking with them, praying for and with them and helping them out in any way we could. One man I met there, his name is Jason, is part mentally challenged, we sat with him and talked and then prayed for him. He asked if there was anything he could pray for us for, and then prayed for me and my partner. After saying goodbye to him and talking to everyone else, he comes back in to give me his email address so I can email him about my time in AIM. How neat!

At my area church, Denver City, there is a church member named Rebecca. Rebecca is around 35 years old, her husband left her and her two daughters about a year ago, leaving her a single mom taking care of a 8 and 2 year old girls. We went to her house after church to clean up her yard, she invited us into her house afterwards, I have never seen a house that messy in a long time. My respect for her went up a lot when I saw that she really put her girls first and was really doing her best to take care of them. In a short week, we have formed a strong bond with her and her girls.

This one took place at a carnival in Denver City at their local high school, while I was getting my face painted actually. A senior girl named Sydney started asking where I was from, of course that leads to "What are you doing in Texas?" Through my conversation with her, I found out that she does not go to church, is passionate about other people's passions, and dreams of majoring in theater after high school. Throughout our short conversation, she kept asking about missions, one question she asked me was "At the end of the day, what do you accomplish? What's in it for you?" She's looking for God, she's really looking. I do wonder if her question was a test or not. How do you answer something like that? I told her " I hope to walk away at the end of the day knowing that I helped someone see God's love, to give them hope if they didn't have it before". I wish I could have talked to her longer, I still praise God for the opportunity to have talked to her.

This is my area church group. One Sunday, a member from the Denver City Church of Christ took us all he wearing sunglasses and a cap. Every year, they take the AIM group that's out there shooting, sometimes more than once!



Prayer Requess

Sydney

Jason

Thelma

AIM 2011 teams

AIM 2011 classes

Michael and Maria

For me to not get so homesick

In Him,

Beta Katkus