



The Doorstep

SERVING INTERNATIONALS ON CAMPUS

A new child of God

by Jane Boye, ISM Director, Tempe, AZ

In August 2012, my husband, the Rev. Gary Boye, started to work with Shan Lu (American name "Lucien") following an incident when he was kidnapped, beaten and robbed in his home near the Arizona State University (ASU) campus. Together they made three trips to meet with his lawyer. Because Lucien was a regular attendee in the Sunday evening Bible class, sponsored by the International Friendship House (IFH),



Lucien with Jane and Pastor Boye.

they would often have conversations about having faith in God and baptism.

During this difficult time, others at IFH were conversing with him and praying for him. Several families, including our own, befriended Lucien and often invited him for meals and special family occasions.

Lucien received a job offer in communications engineering from the company in Los Angeles where he had interned during

the summer of 2012. He accepted the offer and was ready to move this last spring.

Now was the time when my husband decided to talk with him again about baptism. Lucien's heart was open and on the Saturday evening before his departure, he received Christ into his life and was baptized at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Tempe.

Recently, we made a trip to Los Angeles to spend time with Lucien and took him to a nearby Lutheran church in Hacienda Heights. We spoke with the pastor before our arrival and at the worship service, Lucien was welcomed with open arms and is now attending service in both English and Chinese.

We are praising God for bringing Lucien into our lives and for the work of the Holy Spirit who brought him to the waters of baptism!

The best time of the week

by Ana Paula Lima Batista, Ames, Iowa



Bible study friends Wei Li (left) and Ana (right) visited the Omaha Zoo together last March with others from ISM in Ames.

Living far away from my family and my country has been a big challenge for me. I'm getting through this because I found good friends, friends that I have here at this church and who make me feel very welcome.

I'm a PhD student in Brazil, and I came here as a visiting scholar for ten months. At the very beginning and for several times, the only thing in my mind was about getting back to

my home country. I used to feel very, very homesick and sad.

One night, after work, I decided to check for English classes and groups for international students online. At that time, I found the Memorial Lutheran Church website and right there, a magic contact - Hannah's e-mail! I sent an e-mail to her asking about the English class and costs. I was very excited to get an answer; and I felt so happy when I got it! She answered me in a friendly way and right away invited me to a group meeting at the church! I was very happy. Finally, I could meet many new friends.

Since my English was very limited and I was afraid they would not understand me, I was very nervous. Anyway, I went there and I met Hannah; and now, what can I say? Well, I'll

This Bible study meeting is the best time in my whole week!

try to explain ... she just made my day. She introduced me to other girls at the Bible study group, and since then I have met a lot of nice people at the church and they have been making my stay here go so much more smoothly!

I started going to the free English classes and I felt my English getting better. Even now, when my work has been so time consuming, I keep going to the Bible study group. This Bible study meeting is the best time in my whole week. Going there gives me strength, and my friends there are amazing people! I wish I could take them to Brazil when I go back. I'm serious!

I would like to thank everyone from the Memorial Lutheran Church. They really care about us and try to do everything to help! I'm very thankful to come here all this time.

Time flies and God grows

by Dr. Carl R. Selle, ISM board member

I remember 1979 because it was the beginning of the first “International Friendship Center” in Madison, Wisconsin. Calvary Lutheran Chapel was blessed with Marge Kemp, a lay staff person, who had a heart for international students. On the lower level of the chapel building, she set up a special area where international students could come, learn and develop meaningful relationships.

From that beginning, the outreach among internationals has grown to almost 100 sites scattered all around the United States. Both paid and volunteer staff energetically connect with our international friends: students, spouses, children, Fulbright scholars, visiting professors, and occasionally visiting family members.

The joy of the ministry is to have seen the ground worked, seeds planted and cultivated, and a harvest reaped. Our newsletter, *The Doorstep*, has covered some of those stories and we have given thanks and praise to God.

But there are many more international students and family members who are in need of love and care. Our challenge is to personally reach out and then encourage others to get on board with a passion to share relationships with some of the most important people in the world.

Just recently I read that President Xi Jinping of China had once been a student in the United States. Would our world be different if he had come to know Jesus or even had a relationship with a Christian family?

Thank you for your prayers for this ministry and for all who are serving and those who are served. Thank you also for your gifts that buoy up our ability to encourage and care for the directors and volunteers.

“Foreigners living among you will be like your own people. Love them as you love yourself.”
Leviticus 19:34



Thrivent ‘Choice Dollars’ change

Our many thanks to those of you who have generously chosen to support *International Student Ministry, Inc.* through your Choice Dollars. In 2012, ISM supporters designated over \$3,000 for our work of sharing Jesus with international students and their families.

In the past you have been able to set up a recurring direction of dollars to ISM, Inc. each time they were available. At this time, the recurring direction of Choice Dollars is no longer possible. This means that members need to manually direct their gift to ISM, Inc. by using this name for the organization: International Student Ministry, Stevens Point.

This can be done very simply with a phone call to (800) 847-4836 or at www.thrivent.com. The Internet option gives you full access to your balances, all available recipient organizations, and a simple way to direct your dollars at any time you would like.

Thanks for remembering ISM, Inc. with Thrivent Choice! Your choice is a huge blessing as we partner together in ministry to share God’s Word and grow His kingdom!

ISM Peer Associates share thoughts

Memorial Lutheran Church and Student Center supported two ISM Peer Associates, Sarah Day and Tom Maaske. Each of the students spent about nine hours per week piloting new aspects of the ministry and one hour per week with ISM Coordinator Hannah McCulloh focusing on their own personal and spiritual growth.



Sarah, second from left, with friends.

Sarah writes, “This past year God granted me the opportunity to work as an ISM Peer Associate. I spent much of my time working among the vibrant Hispanic community in Ames. This year has not been without its ups and downs,

but the relationships that have formed made it all worth it.

“Through this experience, God has shown me that He can use me. From a young age, I thought about moving to South America to become a missionary, but I never felt capable or good enough. This past year He has shown me that I am capable and can be a part of His ministry even here in Iowa. I have learned to trust and listen to Him each day, something that is not always easy.”

Tom responded, “This past year I had the privilege to work as an ISM Peer Associate. Originally, I thought I would be helping internationals move, helping Hannah in the office and trying to coordinate the Facebook page. Little did I know I would grow so much in leadership while helping others find faith and growing in my own.



Tom enjoying pizza with internationals.

“I met a lot of new friends in starting a Friday International Student Fellowship group and began doing individual Bible study with a student who had a deep thirst for Scripture. His provoking questions clarified my trust in God’s Word.

“Through the experiences these last two semesters, I have learned and grown so much. Not only in my own personal knowledge of the Bible but in my faith in God. As the summer ends and the internationals come back, I cannot wait to meet them again and continue to teach them about God’s glory.”

(Reprinted with permission from the 2013 summer issue of “Bridges,” the ISM newsletter from Memorial Lutheran Church in Ames, Iowa.)

Your ISM, Inc. Board of Directors

The ISM, Inc. Board of Directors is a volunteer group of God's people who have a heart for international students and the promotion of this ministry in the LCMS. The board meets face-to-face once a year and via conference calls throughout the rest of the year. Each board member serves in a leadership role to fulfil the goals of the organization.



Board members, from left, Carl Selle, development coordinator (Rosholt, WI); Linda Steinbart, treasurer, (Apache Junction, AZ); Liz Beikmann, president, (Manhattan, KS); Sherrie Smith, site contact coordinator, (Justice, IL); Karl Lenser, site leadership development chairman, (Conway, AR); Lee Meyer, strategist, (Mesa, AZ); Trish Kelm, vice president, (Austin, TX); Karol Selle, public relations director, (Rosholt, WI); (not pictured) Judy Tang, site recourse chairman, (Madison, WI) and Keith Haney, advisor, (Popular Grove, IL).

Also, providing special services to the Board are Bethel Larson, thank you letter author, (Lakeview, MI); Pat Muehrer, coordinator of gift records, (Neshkoro, WI); and Bill Benson, Thrivent gift thank you letters, Coralville, IA).

Please Note: If you are interested in serving on the ISM, Inc. Board of Directors, contact Karol Selle at isminc@isminc.org.

Wausau reaches out to international students



St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Wausau, Wis., hosted a dinner for the Northcentral Technical College (NTC) international students. Present were 39 appreciative international students from Central America. Also attending were their counselors, host families and members of the congregation – making the total attending 96.

After the meal the students and others enjoyed various activities and games. Many of the NTC students were graduating and returning to their home countries. They expressed their gratitude with hugs and words of thanks in appreciation for the friendship and fellowship extended to them at the four dinners hosted by the Evangelism Ministry of the church. At the end of the evening, Carol Barton, a strong supporter of ISM, Inc., responded, "All glory to God!"

From Manhattan, KS

by Liz Beikmann, ISM director

'Go Teacher'

"Go Teacher" is an English language program at Kansas State University for teachers from Ecuador. It is a seven month program designed to improve their English and classes on how to teach English in Ecuador. The program is between the Ecuadorian government and Kansas State University. The teachers are provided with scholarships for the program from their country.



St. Luke's Lutheran Church, one of the associated members of Helping International Students (HIS), helped provide a welcome dinner for the 80 Ecuadorian teachers in May. Bibles were available in Spanish and English as well as information on Bible study groups, other Christian resources and information on transportation.

Teachers wishing an American friendship were invited to sign-up during the event. The Americans will help them feel at home, invite them to their homes for dinners, meet them for coffee, speak English with them, help them become acquainted with the American culture and invite them to be a part of a Christian home.



Airport pickup

Arriving in a foreign country for the first time and not knowing how to get to your destination that is 2 ½ hours away and with no public transportation, creates a problem for incoming international students at Kansas State University (K-State) in Manhattan.

This is where our Helping International Students (HIS) program through St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Manhattan helps. Through former

exchange students from Prague, Czech Republic, new students have learned to contact the ISM site in Manhattan. Flight information is shared and families are



found to meet the students upon arrival at the airport. Not only are students met at the airport, but are offered a homestay with the family until university housing opens. The same family often is their American friend/host family for the duration of the exchange.

Through this program, friendship bonds are quickly established and life-time friendships are developed. Many lives, both American and international, are touched through this specialized ministry.

Prayer Requests and Praises

Sept. 1-7, 2013: ISM Lansing Area

Rich Bearup, director

Praises God for a summer semester packed with classes and international students. We are grateful to God for leading these wonderful people to our door and permitting us the privilege of being of service to them.

Thanksgiving for Mary Lou's successful cancer treatments and for Kaye's strong improvement as her cancer is arrested.

For Wes Thorp for the two years of amazing, selfless service he gave as our Volunteer Communications Director. He moved us into -- deeply into -- the world of social media and interactive web-based communications. God has been so good to us as He brings forward donors of all description to help us sustain and grow His ministry here.

For the Lord's special guidance as we commemorate our 20th anniversary in East Lansing and ask individuals, congregations and others to consider a thankoffering this coming September. We ask for prayers of blessing to each of our ISM, Inc. partners and His work through them.

ISM Tempe, AZ

Jane Boye, ISM director

ShuWei and Riyo, a young Chinese couple, just found out that they are pregnant. He has not found a job and they do not have insurance and are not eligible for help from the state of Arizona. Pray for a job for ShuWei, health insurance for the couple, and a healthy pregnancy since Riyo has RH factor issues.

Sept. 8-14, 2013: ISM Conway, AR

Karl Lenser, director

Our Lutheran Student Fellowship (LSF) at Peace Lutheran Church, asks that God continue to grow this ministry. Last year we had a record number of students participate and we pray that this trend continues in this school year. May He give us spiritual vim, vigor and vitality that will enable our current LSF students to ask other college students, both American and international to join our LSF.

Prayers for our ISM at Peace. We ask that the Holy Spirit would lead more members of Peace to participate in this ministry of love and caring.

Praise for our wonderful summer of developing relationships with new students from Saudi Arabia, Japan and China. We ask that God continues to work through us to let these students know that Christ's love is shown by what we say and do.

For a successful ISM Ice Cream Social and Game Night that will be held this month.

Special prayers for Grace and Haley, who are from China, and have come to worship services and have made wonderful connections with several families. Grace is a Muslim and Haley has no religious affiliation that we know of. We pray that the Holy Spirit works through us to bring them to our Rock and our Redeemer.

ISM LaCrosse, WI

John Jaeger, volunteer

For Leah, a student who is "exploring" Christianity and is going through the pastor's instruction class. Pray that she might respond to the work of the Holy Spirit and the Word.

Sept. 15-21, 2013: Chinese Outreach, St. Louis

Becky Shaw, ministry assistant

Praise that we have two women's ESL Bible studies.

For the Women's ESL Bible study participants to understand the Bible better and believe in the Savior.

Praise for the visiting scholars who have been invited to Light of Christ and continue to attend. For them and the accompanying family members to hear and believe the message of salvation.

For volunteers to help with driving lessons.

ISM Stevens Point, WI

Andy Weden, pastor

Thanksgiving for the success of our annual Crossing-Cultures Corn Roast held on August 25. There was great food, great interaction between Americans and international students. The community support was tremendous as they shared the love of Jesus to those at the university, especially to our international friends.

For the annual Thanksgiving event where international students are invited to experience a traditional T-day meal. May the evening of Sunday, November 10, be a time of welcoming and an invitation for international and American students to engage in conversation in the hopes of building long-lasting friendships.

For wisdom as to how to continue to effectively strengthen relationships between American and international students. May the Lord bless the Peace community with servant hearts as we look to reach those who don't know Jesus.

Sept. 22-28, 2013: ISM Wichita, KS

John Tape, director

Thanksgiving for the car that is being donated to the Lutheran Student Center (LSC). It will be used to teach driving lesson to the international students.

Thanksgiving that God has so richly blessed the ministry here at the LSC with the talents and dedication of Debra Rose Ramesh Devineni and Ellen Patterson.

That God would bless our efforts to write and design an interactive Bible study for our Web site that will introduce the basic teachings of the Christian faith.

ISM St. Louis, MO

Vicki Jameson, director

Praise God for the baptism of A! May the Holy Spirit continue to nurture her faith in Jesus and inspire her to openly tell others about her Savior.

For the weekly international student Tuesday lunches at Washington University. May God provide congregations to bring meals and volunteers to share God's love and invite students to other ISM-St. Louis activities.

Pray for our new ISM Friendship Club potlucks. May the Lord lead students and volunteers to participate and may God bless these evenings with eternal fruit.

Give thanks to God for our volunteers! May the Holy Spirit inspire us as we share God's love with international students.

For D, J and S who moved to Singapore this summer and for L and D who will be returning home to China this month. Thank God that they have heard The Good News. May the Holy Spirit continue to work in their hearts, bring new Christian friends into their lives and help them know and trust Jesus as their Savior.

Prayer Requests and Praises

Sept. 29 - Oct. 5, 2013: ISM Lincoln, NE

Mark Meyer, director

That we would be able to connect new students to English classes and Bible studies.

That we would be able to do a good job of discipling the new Christians.

For encouragement and perseverance for our teachers and volunteers.

That we would be able to build deeper relationships with some new Vietnamese students we met.

That the Gospel would transform the hearts of the Iranian students who are coming to Bible study.

ISM College Station, TX

Paul Hoemann, pastor

Thanks and praise for Hannah Galvan, our new co-director, who will team with Ashley McKenna, beginning this semester.

For the salvation of Claire and Quanrong; Pham and his family; Dilzar and Zarah; Kevin and his family; and Ellie and Jeff.

Pray that God would raise up local volunteers who can help expand our conversation partners program.

As we put into place our program that the Holy Spirit would guide and direct us.

Oct. 6-12, 2013: 2013: ISM Manhattan, KS

Liz Beikmann, coordinator

Thanksgiving for the families who stepped forward to do homestay and be American host families.

Thanksgiving for the safe travel and arrival for the new international students.

Thanksgiving for the opportunity to work with the Ecuadorian teachers attending Kansas State University as part of the "Go Teacher" program.

For guidance in working with St. Luke's American campus group to minister among the international students.

Thanksgiving for the Northern Illinois District LWML grant for Bibles and Christian resources.

ISM Milwaukee

Bessie Fick, director

Thanks for the assistance of Erica Wieting in directing the summer program and for the participation of ten children in the activities. Also, give thanks for all the volunteers who assisted in the summer program and in the English conversation classes.

For the blessing of the opportunity I had to visit friends who have returned home to Taiwan and China. May God continue to help them find other Christians to help them grow in faith.

Thanks for the seven who have completed catechism classes. May they continue to seek opportunities to grow in God's Word as they move to other areas. May we be faithful in putting them in contact with other Christians in the communities where they are relocating.

That more volunteers will come forward to assist with the fall English programs and with the fall children's program.



Oct. 13-19, 2013: ISM Honolulu, HI

Janelle Dryden, director

That O and I would be renewed and greatly strengthened in their faith as they spend time here in Hawaii and get back into a faith community.

That M and A would come to church with their 9-month-old baby girl who they want to have baptized.

That C would attend worship, read his Bible and allow Jesus fully into his heart!

That God would lead me to many more international students in the coming semester.

For funding for Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Hawaii.

ISM Detroit

Bob Dickhudt, director

For the new treasurer of ISM Detroit. May the transition go smoothly. Also, thank you to David Tirsell of Lutheran City Ministries who has served us so faithfully.

Oct. 20-26, 2013: ISM Austin, TX

Marcia Mittweide, director

Thank the Lord for the opportunity to once again share the Gospel with students in this new academic year. Ask Him to bring those He wants to our program.

Please ask the Lord to continue drawing students to Himself

Pray especially for A & C - that they would be baptized. Pray for Trilby, Wayne, Mark, Shannon, Tami, Marge, Adrienne, Tricia, Walt, Greg and Ellen as they interact with students. May their lives reflect the love of Christ.

Thank the Lord for St. Paul Lutheran and Redeemer Lutheran who host our group classes.

Ask the Lord to continue providing volunteers to be conversation partners with students. This is a low-demand way to volunteer which the students really value!

Oct. 27-31, 2013: ISM Ames, IA

Hannah McCulloh

For Tommy and Andrew, our two American ISM peer assistants, this fall semester.

For the many new students and families arriving in Ames for a new school year.

For the large group of Turkish and Chinese scholars who are only here for three months and have been coming to Bible study.

For Kear, Ayon, Ashok, Fiorella, KiJune and Alexis involved in confirmation class this fall and for the families of other middle school international youth considering it.

Praise and thanks for the continued blessing of new volunteers.

For God to work mightily in friends from Egypt and South Sudan in the midst of anxious political turmoil back home.

ISM Board of Directors

Give praise and thanks for the Lord giving us 10,099 praying partners! It is only through prayer that we move forward and accomplish the goals God has set for us.

ISM, Inc. needs to find a person with good computer skills to manage our database. May the Lord provide this person.

For the planning of the 2014 Equipping Conference for ISM workers and volunteers to be meaningful for participants.

 International Student Ministry, Inc.
- a recognized service organization of the LCMS -
P.O. Box 22
Stevens Point, WI 54481-0022

Address Service Requested

Inside this Issue:

- **God at Work through ISM sites**
- **Prayer Partners=more than 10,000**
- **2014 Equipping Conference set**
- **Prayer Requests and Praises**



Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Wisconsin Rapids, WI
Permit No. 31

2014 ISM Equipping Conference in Illinois

Plans are underway for the
**2014 Equipping Conference for ISM Workers
and Volunteers.**

Mark your calendars today!

WHEN: Thursday, May 22, 2014 - 6 p.m. to
Saturday, May 24, 2014 - 3 p.m.

WHERE: Lady of the Snows, Belleville, IL
(<http://www.snows.org>)
Just east of St. Louis, MO
(Airport pickup will be arranged.)

WHAT: The national conference of ISM, Inc.
offering sessions for equipping and
encouraging ISM servants

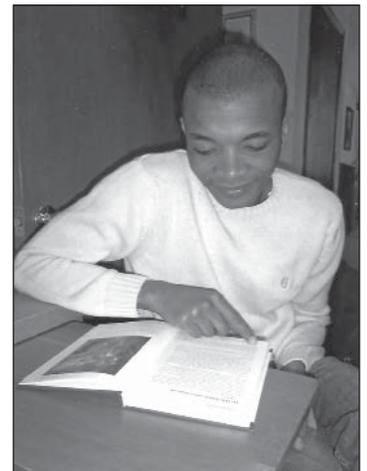
COST: \$150 for lodging and meals

Watch for more information in future issues of the
newsletter and at www.isminc.org.

From Slippery Rock, PA
Augusta Mennell, director

David Vrazia from the
Congo enjoyed his time at
All Saints Lutheran Church
and Student Center during his
years at Slippery Rock Uni-
versity. He enjoyed the Bible
studies at the center and other
activities. David graduated
in May and will be greatly
missed!

The ministry continues
to grow for us and the Lord
blesses and blesses!



The Doorstep is the official publication of ISM, Inc., a Recognized
Service Organization of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod,
dedicated to encouraging ministry among international students.

International Student Ministry, Inc.

P.O. Box 22, Stevens Point, WI 54481-0022

Phone: (715) 677-4877

E-mail: isminc@isminc.org ~ Website: www.isminc.org

Facebook: *ISM, Inc.*

Editor: Karol S. Selle